



# Women in Science and Engineering Atlantic Region

Fall 2016/Issue 14

The NSERC Atlantic Chair's program for Women in Science and Engineering, WISEatlantic, aims to provide junior and senior high school girls access to role models active in the sciences and engineering fields through mentorships, webinars, science workshops and camps. We network with women from industry and academia, from science, engineering and technology disciplines at various stages in their careers.

## WISEatlantic Upcoming Events

### Women in Science Speaker Tour

In collaboration with Science Atlantic, WISEatlantic will be hosting the Women in Science Speaker Tour this fall.

The purpose of the Women in Science Speaker Tour is to showcase the research conducted by female faculty in Atlantic Canada. Female faculty represent only about 25-30% of all faculty in the physical and life sciences, mathematics, and computer sciences in Canada, but are important role models for female students.

A different scientific discipline will be featured in each speaker tour. Two tours will be run per academic year, with each speaker visiting three or more Science Atlantic member institutions. At least one of these talks will be a public talk. The first tour will be held in the Fall 2016. For further information, visit: <https://scienceatlantic.ca/speaker-tours/wis-tour/>



Science Atlantic  
connecting science education and research

## In the Pipeline...

- **Let's Talk Science Symposium** for students in grades 9-12 will take place at the Mount on Oct. 7, 2016. If you're a teacher interested in bringing students, please contact Jordan at [Its@dal.ca](mailto:Its@dal.ca)
- **Poster Project** - WISEatlantic is creating a series of posters depicting local female STEM role models. We will be distributing the posters at the Association of Science Teachers Conference on Oct. 28 or e-mail us for free copies!
- ACT Conference - May 2017

### Research Study: Executive Release Event



The second phase of the *Career Choices and Influencers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math: An Analysis in the Atlantic Provinces* research study is now complete. An evening event will be held on **November 3, 2016** where the WISEatlantic research team, Dr. Tamara Franz-Odendaal, Dr. Karen Blotnicky, Dr. Fred French

and Philip Joy, will present the latest findings.

The presentation will start at **6:00 pm** in the new **McCain Centre at Mount Saint Vincent University, room 301 & 302**. Light refreshments will be served from 5:30 pm. Teachers and those interested in career influences of youth are encouraged to attend.

Please RSVP to Ms. Marchand at [WISEatlantic@msvu.ca](mailto:WISEatlantic@msvu.ca)

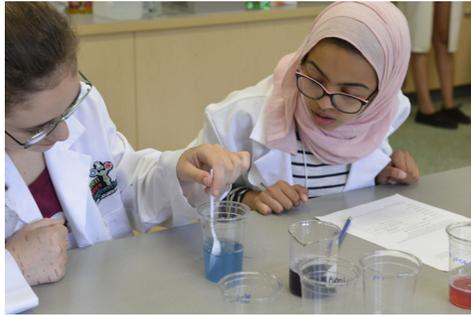
## WISEatlantic Past Events

### 5th Annual Girls Get WISE Science Summer Camp



The fifth annual Girls Get WISE Science Summer Camp took place at Mount Saint Vincent University from July 18-22<sup>nd</sup>. Twenty four girls going into Grades 7 & 8 participated in a variety of **hands-on STEM activities** including: programming robots, regenerating planaria, engineer design challenges, creating polymers, and chemistry experiments, among many others. Participants were also introduced to the scientific approach through the ever-popular zebrafish component of the camp. The girls had the opportunity to chat with female STEM role models including: a Dietician, Aerospace Engineer, Physicist, Chemist, and Business Analyst.

Thank you to our role models, session leaders, and awesome volunteers-- we couldn't have done it without you!



### CCWESTT holds 16<sup>th</sup> biennial Conference in Ottawa

WISEatlantic attended the 16<sup>th</sup> biennial Canadian Coalition of Women in Engineering, Science, Trades, and Technology from May 3-4<sup>th</sup> in Ottawa, ON. The conference theme was **'Sustaining Growth for Innovation: Bringing Women to the Forefront'**. The conference had a broad range of sessions, including some that were focused on women in science, women in engineering, women in technology, and women in trades, as well as professional development sessions that appealed to all conference participants. Dr. Tamara Franz-Odendaal participated in four different sessions: *Engaging Young Girls in STEM Throughout Canada*, *Insight Into Impact: An Analysis of the Impact of the WinSETT Workshops*, *Promoting Women in Academia Through Career Development*, and *Coast to Coast Update of the NSERC Chairs for Women in Science and Engineering*.



### Teach Today for Tomorrow: Teacher's Tech Conference

The Mount was host to the Teach Today for Tomorrow Summer IT Camp for Nova Scotian Teachers from August 3-5. WISEatlantic Chair, Dr. Franz-Odendaal, and Program Coordinator Sally Marchand, gave a presentation to 28 teachers on *Engaging Girls in the Technology Classroom*. The presentation focused on why girls are not engaging in technology classrooms as much as boys. Tips for teachers on how to get girls more involved in tech were shared. If you would like to view the presentation, visit the teachers page of [WISEatlantic.ca](http://WISEatlantic.ca).

## Role Model Videos

Karen Smyth, the Director of Information Technology & Services at Mount Saint Vincent University is our most recent participant in our role model videos. Her video showcases a few different careers in computer science. Check it out on our video page, [www.WISEatlantic.ca/videos.asp](http://www.WISEatlantic.ca/videos.asp).

Thank you to Karen for spending the day with us!

**Teachers**, e-mail us for our Breaking Stereotypes in STEM lesson plans that utilize these amazing videos.



KAREN SMYTH  
Information Technology

## Become Involved!



Atlantic ConnectIons Conference

*Advancing Women in SETT*

The second biennial Atlantic Connections Conference is scheduled for **May 2017** in Halifax, NS. Come and meet local CCWESTT member organizations.

**We are currently looking for interested volunteers to form committees to organize and take charge of the different streams that will be held during the ACT conference.**

The tentative parallel streams are:

- Women in Engineering
- Women in ICT
- Women in Trades
- Women in Academia in STEM
- Managers in SETT

**Interested in being part of a committee?**

For more information, visit: [www.atlanticconnections.ca](http://www.atlanticconnections.ca)

## Women in Aerospace Canada Maritimes

Women in Aerospace Canada has recently formed a group in Nova Scotia. WIA-Canada is a not for profit organization dedicated to expanding women's opportunities for leadership, professional development, and networking.

The organization is open to any woman working in any capacity in the field of aerospace.

To learn more, visit [www.wia-canada.org](http://www.wia-canada.org) or contact Eva Martinez at [maritimes@wia-canada.org](mailto:maritimes@wia-canada.org)

## FREE Viewing of CODE: Debugging the Gender Gap

**Thursday, October 27 6:30 pm**, Room 302, McCain Centre. Visit [codedocumentary.com](http://codedocumentary.com) to watch the trailer. All welcome, but best suited to technology teachers and junior high students or above.

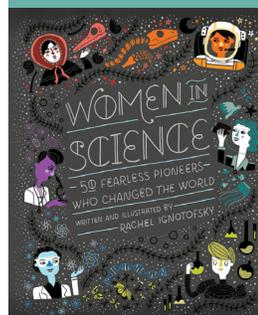
## WISEatlantic Chair Reading Picks

Grab a cozy blanket and a coffee...



**Making Chemistry Inclusive: Proceedings of the CSC Symposium on Equity and Diversity in Chemistry**

*Edited by Nola Etkin*



**Women in Science: 50 Fearless Pioneers Who Changed the World**

*Written & Illustrated by Rachel Ignatofsky*

# News from Across the Region

## Nova Scotia

- On August 18<sup>th</sup> **WISE Acadia** hosted their second Girls Get WISE Science Retreat this year! The focus of this retreat was coding and robotics. The girls also enjoyed a mentoring session by senior undergraduate students. Visit [facebook.com/WISEAcadia](https://www.facebook.com/WISEAcadia) to see photos of the event.
- The 'Call for Nominations' for the **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Digital Diversity Awards** is now officially open with a deadline of March 8, 2017 (International Women's Day). More information is available at: <http://www.digitalnovascotia.com/digitaldiversityawards/>.
- Congratulations to Sarah Devereaux for becoming the new Nova Scotia Director for Engineers Canada.
- **Girls In Tech** Workshops coming to Nova Scotia this Fall. Learn to make a website. Junior high only. Contact us for more information.

## Prince Edward Island

- Congratulations to Amy Hsaio, Associate Professor in the Engineering Department at UPEI, on her new position as Regional Director - Atlantic for the Canadian Engineering Education Association.

## Newfoundland

- WISE NL held another successful Student Summer Experience Program in 2016. 42 work placements were filled by young women in Grade 11.
- WISE NL SSEP presented the SSEP Champion Award recognizing the ideals and mandate of SSEP to Memorial University Faculty of Engineering Dean of Undergraduate Studies. The Long Term Funder Award was awarded to both Hibernia (HMDC) and Husky Energy for their commitment to the program and women in STEM.
- The full WinSETT Leadership workshop series will be offered in Newfoundland starting in January 2017.

## New Brunswick

- The next **Step-up Workshop** supporting the academic promotion of female faculty will be held on March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 in St. John, NB.

## National

- The **11<sup>th</sup> North American Gender Summit** will take place **November 6-8, 2017** in **Montreal, QC**. Their aim is to make gender equality in research and innovation the norm and to embed gender equality as a primary dimension of quality.

If you no longer want to receive our newsletter, email us with the subject "unsubscribe".

### Contact us:

#### Program Coordinator:

Sally Marchand  
902-457-6294  
[WISEatlantic@msvu.ca](mailto:WISEatlantic@msvu.ca)

#### WISEatlantic Chair:

Dr. Tamara Franz-Odendaal  
[Tamara.Franz-Odendaal@msvu.ca](mailto:Tamara.Franz-Odendaal@msvu.ca)

### Stay Connected:

For resources, videos, and info about upcoming events: [www.WISEatlantic.ca](http://www.WISEatlantic.ca)



/WISEatlantic



@WISEatlantic

To our sponsors and partners, thank you for your ongoing support!

