



Women in Science and Engineering Atlantic Region Newsletter



September 2012/Issue 2

WISE Atlantic was established October 2011 with the primary goal to encourage young women to consider careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, and to work towards the retention of women as valuable contributors to these fields. WISE Atlantic delivers and supports innovative outreach, research, networking, and advocacy initiatives.

www.WISEatlantic.ca

Girls Get WISE Science Camp August 13-17, 2012

WISE Atlantic launched its first all girls Science Summer Camp this summer. Junior high school girls gathered for five intensive days of science-related workshops, games, demonstrations, and lab activities.

The camp used Zebrafish as a teaching tool during the camp. Other highlights included water challenges, fun with geometric shapes, and group discussions about population dynamics and global warming with women in science, technology, engineering, and math-related (STEM) fields.

Teachers can find out how they too can use Zebrafish in the classroom by attending the Association of Science Teachers Provincial Conference on Oct. 26th in Halifax



"The whole camp was so much fun! I can't believe it's already over!"
Gr. 7 Summer Camp 2012 participant



WISE Atlantic Resources

We have launched a new section of our website where you can find out about science related resources throughout Atlantic Canada. There is lots of valuable information for parents, students and teachers.

Consider Mentoring A Robotics Team



We have two First Lego League (FLL) Mindstorm robots that are available for loan. Why not coach a group of creative 9-14 year old girls who want to work together as a team in the next 2012 Senior Solutions Challenge? The LEGO MINDSTORM robots encourage student's interest in math, science, engineering and technology. Teams need 50% girls to qualify for one of these robots.

Go to First Robotic Canada [First Robotics Canada](http://www.firstroboticscanada.com) to watch videos and learn more.

For more information about robotic funding go to [WISE Atlantic's website](http://www.wiseatlantic.ca) or contact us for details.

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WISE Atlantic Past Events

Engaging Students...

GIRLS GET WISE Science Retreat May 26th - Over 40 girls spent a day at MSVU doing hands-on activities on campus. DNA extraction, bridge building and computer programming were the main attractions. Girls spent time with eight professional women talking about their careers and why they love their jobs. *Don't miss next Spring's Retreat!*

GIRLS SCIENCE SUMMER CAMP – August 2012

Watch our website for our next summer camp, or sign up in the student section of our webpage. Space is limited.

"Every day our daughter would go into detail about everything she did and learned at camp. It was a learning experience for us too!" *Parent Gr. 7 Student*

Webinar "20 Careers in 60 Minutes"

June 11th Over 80 students and their teachers from Prince Andrew High School and Sydney Academy connected with role models over the web to hear about Science, Engineering, and Technology careers.

Other activities:

Dr. Franz-Odenaal attended and judged projects at the **Canada-Wide Science Fair (CWSF)** held at the University of Prince Edward Island on May 14th. Nearly 500 students were in attendance showing off their projects, while approximately 2,500 students had the opportunity to tour the exhibits.

Dr. Franz-Odenaal **mentored** some amazing young women from **Pictou Academy** during the past year, which wrapped up in May at the **Techsploration Goes to School** team presentations held at the NSCC in Truro.



Engaging Professionals...

Becoming Leaders Workshop - WISE Atlantic hosted a WinSETT professional development leadership workshop on May 30th. Fourteen female engineers, scientists and technologists attended and planned their careers for leadership.

CCWESTT 2014

The 14th Biennial CCWESTT Conference "Inspiring a SeaChange...Moving Forward Together," was a great success May 3-5, 2012 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The 15th Biennial CCWESTT Conference "Open Opportunities: Mentoring the Future" will be held May 20-25, 2014 in Regina, Saskatchewan. Visit www.cwestt.org for more information.

THANK YOU



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WISE Atlantic Upcoming Events

October 1, 2012, 7:30 p.m. – Community Event - Dr. Franz-Odendaal will be presenting a talk "GIRLS and Science: why it's important and how you can support them" at the Museum of Natural History, Halifax, as part of the Nova Scotia Institute of Science Lecture Series

October 25, 2012 - School Counsellors Symposium at MSVU – WISE Atlantic will be hosting a session entitled "Promoting Science, Engineering, Trades and Technology (SETT) to Junior and High School Girls."

October 26, 2012 – Association of Science Teachers Provincial Conference 2012 - Dr. Franz-Odendaal will be presenting a session on integrating hands on activities in the classroom including the use of Zebrafish in the classroom. Visit <http://ast.nstu.ca/> for more information.

November 17, 2012 – Science Retreat for Girl Guides Nova Scotia –Pathfinders come and learn about science careers and participate in fun hands-on science activities. Contact the Nova Scotia Girl Guides for more information.

November 29, 2012, 7 - 8:30 p.m. WISE Teen Community Session at Woodlawn Public Library where teens can explore careers in science and engineering.

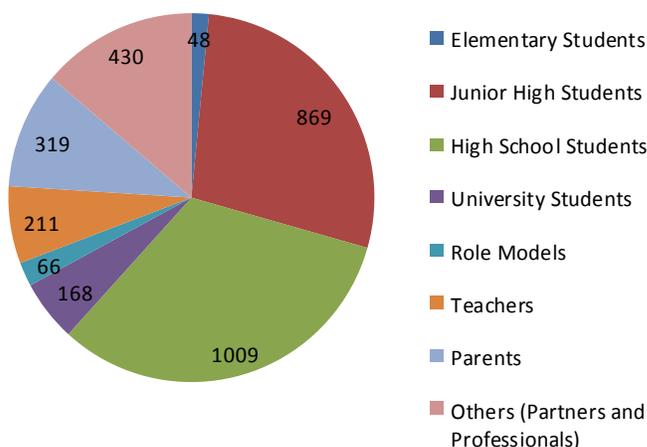
The program of activities for the NSERC Atlantic Chair for Women in Science and Engineering includes:

- Establishing a network for junior and senior high school girls to meet female role models working in science and engineering fields.
- Developing and launching webinars across Atlantic Canada for teachers, school counsellors and students to broaden their knowledge of careers in science and engineering.
- Holding community seminars for parents, teachers and students.
- Conducting surveys to assess how girls perceive careers in science and engineering and how they make their career decisions.
- Launching science camps for girls.
- Developing role model videos as a resource for students, parents, and teachers.

Outreach

- Five webinars with over 100 students and 25 STEM role models.
- Three community library events exposed teens to 10 role models.
- Dr. Franz-Odendaal visited eight schools

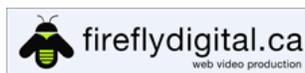
WISE Atlantic Outreach Oct 13, 2011 - Aug. 31, 2012



Teachers & Outreach Groups

We have a database of role models willing to speak to individuals and classes in person, via webinars, phone or e-mail, about their professions and career options. Contact us!

for your ongoing support...



Dates of Interest

October 11 2012— National Day of the Girl—The United Nations has declared October 11, 2012 as the world's first [International Day of the Girl](#).

October 12-21 2012—National Science Week -The week aims to raise awareness about the importance of science and technology in today's world while celebrating Canada's historic and ongoing role as a leader in innovation.

Like Our Page!



Keep a look out for pictures from our events!

Our website has welcomed over 2,000 unique visitors since its launch.

www.facebook.com/WISEAtlantic

View Role Model Videos!

Local females in STEM careers talk about their jobs.

If you have a recommendation for a future video candidate, please let us know.

Upcoming Research Career Survey

WISE Atlantic is about to launch a school-based research initiative regarding student's choices for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) careers. Watch out for notices at school and please participate. It is important for us to gather information on what students in Gr. 7-12 are thinking when it comes to their careers so that we can better assist them along the way.

WISE Atlantic At a Glance...help us connect you!

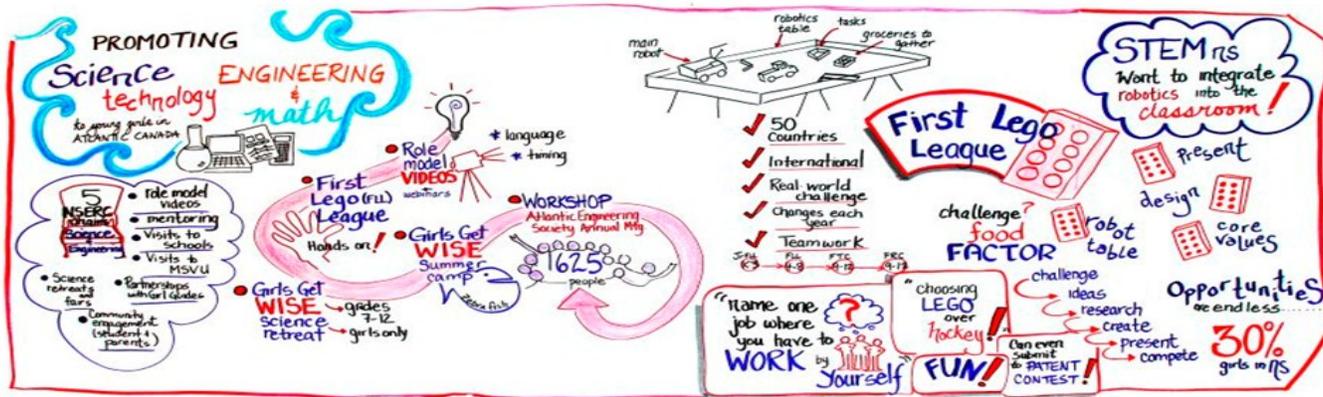


Image by www.seewhatyoumean.ca

Contact Us:
Tanya Poulton, Program Coordinator
 Mount Saint Vincent University
 166 Bedford Highway
 Halifax, NS B3M 2J6
 Tel: 902.457.6294 Fax: 902.457.6455
 Email: WISEAtlantic@msvu.ca
www.WISEAtlantic.ca



Tamara Franz-Odenaal, PhD
 NSERC Chair Holder
 Email: tamara.franz-odendaal@msvu.ca

