

# Women in Science and Engineering Atlantic Region

Winter 2017/Issue 15

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.

# What's Coming Up:

#### The Mount's Girls Conference 2017

On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 Mount Saint Vincent University and the Alexa McDonough Institute for Women, Gender, and Social Justice will welcome junior and senior high school girls from across the province to the Girls 2017 Conference. Young



women at the conference will have the opportunity to participate in workshops and activity sessions which include confidence building, leadership skills, personal and professional growth, and developing stronger minds and bodies. WISEatlantic will hold a session entitled 'Meet Your Mentor'. Visit **www.msvu.ca** for further details.



### Our 5<sup>th</sup> Girls Get WISE Science Retreat at the Mount!

Our annual **Girls Get WISE Science Retreat** will take place **Saturday, April 1, 2017**. Girls in grades 7-12 are invited to participate in this hands-on science event and will have the opportunity to chat with female role models in various STEM careers. Early registration opens March 1<sup>st</sup> for African Nova

Scotian and First Nations students at <u>www.WISEatlantic.ca.</u> General registration opens March 8<sup>th</sup>. Space is limited - Register early!

# In the Pipeline...

- International Women's Day - March 8
- Girls Get WISE Science
   Event in Cape Breton March 25
- Atlantic Cybermentor -Call for Mentors
- NSERC Science Odyssey
   Week May 12-21

## **Step Up Workshop**

An academic advancement workshop for female faculty in STEM will take place on **Friday, March 17**th, **2017** and will be held at





the **Hilton Hotel in Saint John, NB**. The workshop will focus on teaching, research and service. Travel subsidies are available, email us at WISEatlantic@msvu.ca to find out more.



Advancing Women in SETT

#### Atlantic ConnecTions Conference 2017

The second biennial Atlantic ConnecTions Conference is scheduled for May 3 & 4 2017 at Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax, NS. The Atlantic ConnecTions Conference provides an opportunity for women in SETT from Atlantic Canada to share their experiences of studying and working in male-dominated fields, to network with others,

and to develop action items with the goal of advancing women in SETT. Women and their male colleagues in SETT from a cross-section of industries, education, government, and not-for-profit organizations are invited to attend. Early bird registration opens February 15, 2017 on <a href="www.AtlanticConnecTions.ca">www.AtlanticConnecTions.ca</a>. Additional professional development workshops will be held on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

# What We've Been Up To:

## **Lets Talk Science Event**





On October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016 we co-hosted the Let's Talk Biochemistry WISEly Symposium at Mount Saint Vincent University. Over 75 students in grades 7-9 participated in this fun filled event. The students had the opportunity to hear from three Professors in Biochemistry and related fields. Dr. Kyly Whitfield in the Applied Human Nutrition Dept. at the Mount was one of the speakers. She talked to the students about her research with fish sauce fortification in Cambodia.

## **Girls Get WISE in Technology Workshop Series**

WISEatlantic and Ladies Learning Code hosted our first Girls Get WISE in Technology workshop series in Truro, NS. This workshop featured three sessions on webmaking with HTML and CSS, held on November 5<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> & December 10<sup>th</sup>. Eleven girls attended the sessions and learned how to create their own websites!

\*ladies learning code







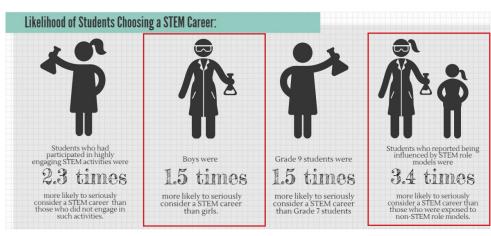
## **Research Study Results**

The WISEatlantic Survey Team presented their latest results on Youth Perspectives on STEM Education, Career Choices and Influencers in Atlantic Canada on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016. The survey was conducted with students in grades 7-9.

If you are interested in viewing the executive report please visit www.WISEatlantic.ca/researchteam.asp.

Provincial reports are also available upon request.





## **Role Model Videos**

In early December we created another video for Techsploration's Women in Action video series. This video features Dr. Danielle Cox, a Mathematician at Mount Saint Vincent University. Dr. Cox is passionate about math, and math outreach to students which comes across very clearly in the video. Dr. Cox was the former director of Math Circles, and she currently organizes the Mount's Science Circles program. Check-out the video at www.WISEatlantic.ca/videos.asp.





## **Call For On-Line Mentors**

WISEatlantic is gearing-up to launch the Atlantic Cybermentor Program for girls in junior and senior high school in Atlantic Canada. Cybermentor is a free online mentoring program for grade 7 to 12 girls in Atlantic Canada, who like science and

want to make a difference in the world. Women in STEM who are interested in mentoring girls are encouraged to sign-up at <a href="http://atlantic.cybermentor.ca/">http://atlantic.cybermentor.ca/</a>. Once you register on the website, we will be in contact regarding completing your

application (which involves a criminal records check). By building a relationship with a successful female role model, girls will discover new career paths in science, technology, engineering, and math, and hopefully be inspired to take science and math subjects.

We aim to launch our new **Atlantic Cybermentor** program in September 2017 with recruitment for girls beginning August 2017.

# **Women in Science Speaker Tour**

The first Women in Science Speaker Tour, a collaboration between WISEatlantic and Science Atlantic, is underway. **Dr. Catherine Lovekin, Assistant Professor in the Department of Physics at Mount Allison University**, gave her first public talk at Acadia
University on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Dr. Lovekin discussed her work in
Asteroseismology. Her next research seminar is scheduled for

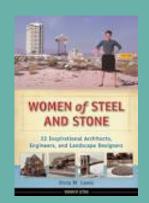


January 12<sup>th</sup> at the University of New Brunswick and on January 24<sup>th</sup> she will be at Mount Saint Vincent University.

# Science Atlantic connecting science education and research

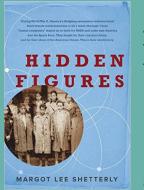
# WISEatlantic Chair Reading Picks

Grab a cozy blanket and a coffee...



Women of Steel and Stone: 22 Inspirational Architects, Engineers, and Landscape Designers

By Anna M Lewis



Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race

By Margot Lee Shetterly

# **News from Across the Region**

#### **Nova Scotia**

- Techsploration's first Techsplorer Event of 2017 will take place April 6 & 7<sup>th</sup> at NSCC Strait Area Campus, Port Hawkesbury, NS. Visit <u>Techsploration.ca</u> to learn more about the program and their amazing impact!
- The Nova Scotia Institute of Science (NSIS) series of public lectures for 2016-2017 features 50% female speakers! See list of female speakers below. Visit <a href="mailto:nsis.chebucto.org">nsis.chebucto.org</a> for times and locations. Dr. Tamara Franz-Odendaal is the current Vice-President of NSIS.
  - January 9, 2017 Dr. Hilary Moors-Murphy, Listening in on the Deep: The Story that Whale Sounds can Tell
  - March 6, 2017 Dr. Danielle Cox, That's Math?!
  - May 1, 2017 Tara Imlay, Where Have all the Swallows Gone?
- Acadia University is offering a new course called 'Women in Science'. As a part of the course requirement, students
  will be asked to interview women working in STEM fields. If you would like to learn more or are willing to be
  interviewed, please contact Dr. Randy Lynn Newman at randy.newman@acadiau.ca or 902-585-1405.

## **Newfoundland**

• The WinSETT Centre is offering the full series of Women in SETT Leadership Program workshops in St. John's, NL, with the first workshop starting January 14<sup>th</sup>. WISEatlantic is a proud sponsor of this event.

#### Topics include:

- -Becoming Leaders: An Introduction to Leadership Skills and Strategies
- -Effective Communication for Women in SETT
- -Negotiating for Success
- -Navigating the Politics of the Workplace
- -Networks, Mentors and Sponsors
- -Towards a Gender Inclusive Workplace

# Winsett Centre Canadian Centre for Women in Science, Engineering, Trades and Technology

## **National**

- LOGIC Retreat on Becoming a Confident Chemist and Future Leader prior to the 100<sup>th</sup> Canadian Chemical Conference will take place May 26-28th, 2017 in Toronto, ON. Visit <a href="http://www.chem.utoronto.ca/wp/womeninchemto/logic-retreat/">http://www.chem.utoronto.ca/wp/womeninchemto/logic-retreat/</a> for more info.
- Save the Date: The North American Gender Summit is coming to Canada for the first time in 2017. From November 6 to 8, 2017, close to 600 advocates of gender equality from science, innovation and development will participate in the Gender Summit North America 2017, to be held in Montréal, Canada. Watch for further information in the next newsletter.
- Funding for national Women in Science and Engineering activities will be available soon - watch for a twitter announcement in the coming months or contact us!

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

#### Contact us:

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#### **Stay Connected:**

For resources, videos, and info about upcoming events: <a href="www.WISEatlantic.ca">www.WISEatlantic.ca</a>





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