



Women in Science and Engineering Atlantic Region Newsletter



Spring 2014 Issue 7

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

WISEatlantic is partnering with Engineers PEI, IslandWISE and Itap to host a **Girls Get WISE Science Retreat at UPEI on May 2, 2014**. This event is for girls in grades 7-9. Sold out!

Professional Development Workshop - Effective Communications

Communicating effectively in the workplace is an essential competency. Join us on **Thursday, May 15, 2014 at The Mount** from 8:00am-4:30pm for this WinSETT workshop. Registration is available on our website and is limited to 25 participants. In partnership with Digital Nova Scotia. Don't miss this opportunity!

Girls Get WISE Science Retreat - Saturday, May 17th 2014 from 10:30 am-3:15pm at The Mount. Grades 7-12. Experience hands-on science and chat with role models in science related careers. Sold Out!

Girls Get WISE Science Summer Camp - July 7-11, 2014 at the Mount. Register online or call 457-6294. For girls entering or finishing grade 7 & 8. Limited spaces available!

Step-Up: A Promotion Workshop for Female Faculty will take place on **October 3, 2014** at The Westin Hotel, Halifax. Visit our website for more details and email us if you are interested and want to stay up-to-date. Sponsored by NSERC Chairs for Women in Science and Engineering Network.



CCWESTT 2014 is fast approaching - Regina **May 22 to 24, 2014**. A detailed agenda is now online and highlights include Dr. Stephen Lewis, former UN Ambassador, and Hayley Wickenheiser, four time Olympic gold medalist and much more. Find out more at www.ccwestt.org.



Our Sponsors:



WISEatlantic Past Events

The first phase of our research study “**The Career Choices and Influencers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math: An Analysis in the Maritime Provinces**” was released on January 23, 2014. The Executive report is available on our website.

WISEatlantic hosted an **Explore Science Research** event for students in grades 9-12 at the Mount as part of Science Atlantic’s Aquaculture & Fisheries & Biology Conference, March 14-16, 2014.

The **Science Communication and Gender Stereotypes** panel discussion was held at Saint Mary’s University on March 6, 2014. Sponsored by Encana and Hypatia Association. Keynotes were Kathryn O’Hara and Mary-Ann Moser.

WISEatlantic ran an IT session at the Mount’s **2014 GIRLS Conference** on March 4 and 5th.

WISEatlantic hosted two **Girls Get WISE Science Retreats** for **Girl Guides** on March 1 and April 12, 2014. Both were a huge hit!

Dr. Franz-Odendaal held a **workshop** for **science students** at the Mount on how to improve their CV’s for a science career on February 28, 2014

WISEatlantic held a **Science and Math webinar** with Quispamsis Middle School, NB, February 27, 2014 and an **IT webinar** in January 24, 2014 with Astral Drive Jr. High School, Dartmouth.

WISEatlantic hosted a booth at Mic Mac Mall, Dartmouth as part of the popsicle stick bridge building competition for **National Engineering Week**.

Dr. Franz-Odendaal visited WISE NL as a guest speaker for their **Statoil speaker series** on April 16, 2014.



Girl Guides Science Retreat
March 1, 2014



Explore Science Research,
March 15, 2014



WISEatlantic Celebrates Two Years!

It has been a busy and rewarding two years and we have accomplished amazing things since 2011. We have engaged 1,735 girls with 149 female role models through our Girls Get Wise Retreats, Science Camps, role model panel sessions in local libraries, online webinars and school classrooms visits. We also hosted two professional development workshops (Becoming Leaders Workshop and Negotiating for Success) providing training to 33 women in STEM fields.

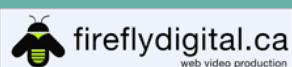
We celebrated by having a party on March 20th that included sponsors, past camp and retreat participants and staff.

The report is available on our website.

Thank you for your continued support.

8,201 individuals have been exposed or engaged in the past 2 years

THANK YOU



Get Involved!

Atlantic Connections Conference for Women in STEM June 2015!

The goal of the conference will be to connect women in STEM fields across disciplines and career stages in Atlantic Canada. Have an idea for this conference? Get in touch with us at WISEatlantic@msvu.ca.

Watch Our New Role Model Video

A new career role model video featuring, Kirsten Tomilson, President/CEO of **4th Monkey Media** has been recently added to the WISEatlantic website.

Over 2 years, WISEatlantic has produced four other role model videos for the Techsploration Women in Action video series: a Veterinarian, a Paleontologist, a Research Biologist, and an Engineer.

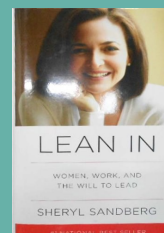
If you are interested in participating in a role model video, please contact us.



News from Across the Region

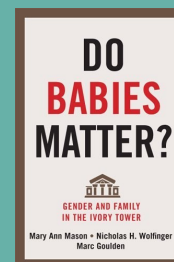
- ♦ **WISE NL** - From Apr. 10-13, 2014, Women in Science and Engineering Newfoundland and Labrador (WISE NL) hosted 15 Aboriginal students from across Labrador in grades 10-12 at a conference in Happy Valley, Goose Bay. See more on their website www.wisenl.ca
- ♦ **Techsploration Techsplorer Event** was held on April 10-11, 2014 at the NSCC Straight Area Campus, Port Hawkesbury. During the two-day Techsplorer Event, young women from across the province gathered with their teachers and role models to participate in exciting, interactive presentations and workshops. Upcoming Techsplorer events will be held at Saint Mary's University **May 8-9, 2014** and the NSCC, Truro Campus, Truro **May 15-16, 2014**.
- ♦ **A Bold Vision Conference - September 24-26, 2014**, Charlottetown, PEI. Twenty-three visionary women will share their vision for Canada for the next 150 years. Visit their website at www.aboldvision.ca
- ♦ **Women in Engineering PEI Networking Event** was held March 28, 2014 to celebrate National Engineering Month. Participants learned about the Engineers Canada 30 for 30 initiative, projects underway in other provinces and ways we can make the engineering profession better for everyone. Hosted by Engineers PEI.
- ♦ **Digital Discovery Camp - August 11-15 and August 18-22** - perfect for budding tech enthusiasts, problem solvers, coders, and video gamers. Catering to youth ages 10-15, Digital Discovery Camp will encourage curiosity in technology and innovation, all while increasing confidence in technology skills and supporting collaboration with peers. Visit their website at www.digitalnovascotia.com
- ♦ **APEGNB** president strikes a Task Force to determine strategies to reach 30% more female engineers by 2030, an Engineers Canada goal.

WISEatlantic Chair Book Picks!



Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead

by Sheryl Sandberg:
this book has some great tips and strategies for career women. If you haven't read it, you should!



**Do Babies Matter?
Gender and Family in
the Ivory Tower** by
Mary Ann Mason: this
book is about women as
academics and is a
fantastic read.

NSERC Awards Ceremony in Rideau Hall, Ottawa

On February 3, 2014, the NSERC Chairs for Women in Science and Engineering were invited to attend an awards ceremony hosted by His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada at Rideau Hall, Ottawa. The ceremony celebrated Canada's top natural sciences and engineering researchers. NSERC chairs were pleased to meet with delegates and researchers from across Canada.



Photo credit MCI Vincent Carboneau

Dr. Tamara Franz-Odenaal, Atlantic Chair, Dr. Elizabeth Croft, BC & Yukon Chair, Dr. Annemieke Farenhorst, Prairies Chair, and Dr. Catherine Mavriplis, Ontario Chair with His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston.

WISEatlantic Resources

Our website has lots of resources for parents, students, teachers and role models including:

- * Links to science and math classroom activities;
- * Videos of STEM related careers;
- * Online Webinars linking STEM role models directly to classrooms;
- * Information about STEM upcoming camps and retreats across Atlantic Canada;
- * Documents on gender equity in STEM fields in Canada.

Feedback

We value your comments on this newsletter and the activities of our WISEatlantic Team. Please contact us with your feedback and suggestions on how we can help you. If you no longer want to receive our newsletter, please email us with the subject "unsubscribe".

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 guidance counselors 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 and retreats for girls.
- Developing role model videos as a resource for students, parents, and teachers.

Congratulations to Sally Burke, WISEatlantic Program Co-ordinator and Jeanette McPherson, Program Assistant who are both celebrating a one year anniversary with our team.

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