



Women in Science and Engineering Atlantic Region Newsletter



Spring 2015 Issue 10

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



Atlantic Connections Conference

Atlantic Connections Conference - June 4-5, 2015

Women in SETT from a cross-section of industry, academia, and government sectors will gather to share and learn from their experiences in the workplace. Our guest speakers will share the latest ideas about what we can do to shift our systems to be more inclusive. You will be invited to set the agenda for a highly participatory process called open space technology. Come with questions that you care about, and opportunities that you'd like to explore. This event will be held at Mount Allison University in Sackville, NB.

Register now at www.AtlanticConnections.ca

Towards a Gender Inclusive Workplace Workshop takes place on June 3rd. See page 3 for further details



pH testing - Summer Science Camp

Girls Get WISE Science Summer Camp - July 6-10, 2015

We are Full!

Our week-long science summer camp gives girls in Grades 7 & 8 the chance to study zebrafish development, do experiments in chemistry and physics, explore engineering and information technology, and most of all, have fun! We look forward to welcoming this year's participants.

Career Webinar - NSCC Truro Campus May 13, 2015

Free online webinar: **Hobby VS Career**: Guiding your daughter in subject selection for a career in STEM. WISEatlantic Chair, Dr. Tamara Franz-Odendaal will lead the webinar which will take place at **NSCC Truro campus on May 13, 2015**. You can also join online - contact us to find out how.

In the Pipeline...

- ♦ **Women in SETT Leadership Workshop Series**— Contact us if you are interested in co-hosting a workshop towards supporting women in STEM in the workplace.
- ♦ WISEatlantic supports the newly-formed **Peer Mentoring Network— Physics**, a chance for female physics professors in Atlantic Canada to network.

Our Sponsors:



WISEatlantic Past Events

Girls Get WISE Science Retreat - April 11, 2015

Girls Get WISE Science Retreat was a huge success! Girls spent the day doing hands-on experiments in the MSVU Science labs conducting DNA experiments, learning about ecosystems and meeting women in the science, technology and engineering fields. One participant commented that she *"loved the role model session when we talked about birds. It was interesting and inspiring"*, while another participant said it was *"really fun and interesting and gave me great idea for future career options"*.



Girls Get Wise Science Retreat - Halifax

Girls Get WISE Science Retreat - Truro - March 11, 2015

WISEatlantic supported a Girls Get WISE Science Retreat in Truro in March. Girls got to dissect lobsters, feed bees and talk to role models. One participant said it was *"cool to see scientists from all different sorts of professions in science"*.



Dissecting lobsters @ Science Retreat - Truro

Through these two events, 73 girls were exposed to 20 female role models in STEM careers!

Women in Science Day- CBU - March 28, 2015

WISEatlantic sponsored **Women in Science Day** at CBU in an ongoing effort to get girls interested in jobs in science & technology. The guest speaker was Sara Basson, who's an international director for IBM's research division. She's a world leader in speech technology and accessibility.



Women in Science Cape Breton

Girls Conference - the Mount - March 6, 2015

WISEatlantic delivered a career session at the 4th Annual Mount Girls Conference. Special guest speaker and motivator Denise Fitzgerald shared her life-changing story and how she made what seemed impossible, come to



Negotiating for Success - Halifax

Negotiating for Success Workshop - April 20, 2015

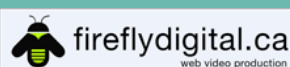
This WinSETT workshop was delivered to senior graduate students and post-docs and was sponsored by several Deans from Dalhousie University.



Kudos to all the girls who are part of Team Nova Scotia going to the 54th Canada-wide Science Fair.



THANK YOU



TECHSPLOATION

nscc



Girl Guides of Canada
Guides du Canada



Research News!

Phase two of our research study, "Career Choices and Influencers in STEM: an analysis in the Maritime Provinces" is almost complete. Thanks to all of the staff and students who have already participated and taken the survey.

News from Across the Region

Nova Scotia:

- ♦ **Acadia University** - over 60 women gathered at Acadia for the March Mixer where they launched their new WISE group website and Facebook page. wise.acadiau.ca; and [Facebook.com/WISEacadia](https://www.facebook.com/WISEacadia);
- ♦ **Dalhousie University - Truro campus** now has an active WISE group that meet regularly.
- ♦ **Screening of Big Dream movie** – WISEatlantic co-hosted the first approved Canadian screening of the Big Dream movie, "Empowering women to pursue a future in STEM" on March 28 at Dalhousie University. Over 80 people attended this event.
- ♦ **Sylvan Learning** now offers robotics and coding workshops and camps for children in grades 2-6; 902-425-2223 or director@sylvanlearning.ca for more information.

New Brunswick:

- ♦ WinSETT Managers half day Workshop entitled **Attracting and Retaining Top SETT Talent : Towards a Gender Inclusive Workplace** - June 3, 2015, Mount Allison - for managers, leaders and HR professionals in science, engineering and technology responsible for hiring and retaining top talent.

Prince Edward Island:

- ♦ Another **Girls Get WISE Science Retreat** is planned for May 23, 2015 in PEI. This will be the second retreat on the island.

Other News

Eight provincial regulatory bodies are recognized by **Engineers Canada** as officially endorsing the "30 by 30 Goal". Four are in Atlantic Canada! Read more at www.engineerscanada.ca

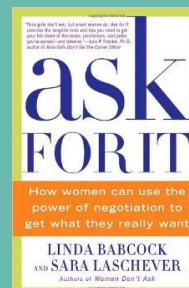
Girl Guide Engineering Badge Day - May 2, 2015

Engineers Nova Scotia is pleased to present the Girl Guide Engineering Badge Day. Open to 100 girls aged 9-11, we are excited to explore engineering concepts and technologies while inspiring the next generation of female engineers.

Two top Canadian scientists resigned from the selection committee of the Canadian Science and Engineering Hall of Fame over concerns that, for the second year in a row, there are no female candidates among the finalists.

<http://www.macleans.ca>

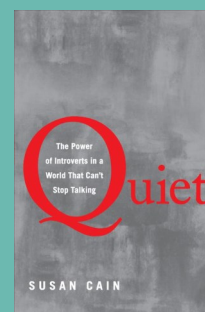
WISEatlantic Chair Reading Picks!



Ask For It

How women can use the power of **Negotiation** to get what they really want

By Linda Babcock and Sara Laschever



Quiet

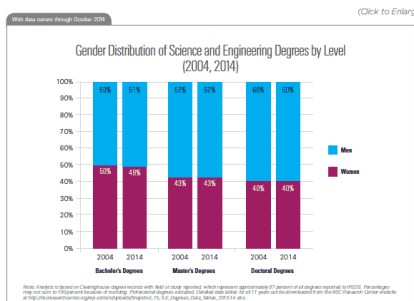
The power of introverts in a world that can't stop talking

by Susan Cain

for your ongoing support...

For more reading recommendations look at the past versions of our newsletter at www.WISEatlantic/newsletters.asp

Data from the US on Science and Engineering Degrees comparing women and men over a 14 year period. **The numbers have not changed much in 14 years!**



Congratulations to the Charles P Allen High School FLL Robotics Team - Cheetahs!

WISEatlantic is supporting the **Cheetahs**, a team of **6 girls** and 1 boy, to go to the world FLL championship in May in Southfield Michigan, USA. We wish them all the best!

New Role Model Video



Watch our latest career role model video featuring Megan Dufton, Embryologist on our website www.WISEatlantic.ca/rolemodels.

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

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.



WISEatlantic.ca/Resources.asp

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 camps and retreats across Atlantic Canada;
- * Documents on gender equity in STEM fields in Canada.

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Contact Us:
Program Coordinator: Sally Marchand
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

Dr. Tamara Franz-Ondendaal
WISEatlantic Chair

Email: tamara.franz-ondendaal@msvu.ca
Tel: 902.457.6140



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Feedback

We value your comments on our activities. Please contact us with your feedback and suggestions on how we can help you **empower women and inspire girls!**