



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

Upcoming WISE Atlantic Spring Retreat and Summer Camp

Girls Science Retreat

Date: Sat., June 1st, 10:30 a.m.—3:15 p.m.

Location: MSVU

Who: Junior & Senior High School Girls

Fee: \$10—includes lunch

"I'm motivated to consider a career in science after seeing other accomplished successful women in careers in science" Past retreat participant 2012



The camp is run by the WISE Atlantic Chair, Dr. Tamara Franz-Odendaal. Please contact 457-6294 or WISEatlantic@msvu.ca to register or to volunteer! Science teachers welcome.

Twenty Girls' Compete in Girls' Tech League for Winning App

The Girls Tech League, a programming competition for junior high school girls, held its championship at Mount Saint Vincent University on April 13th. Four teams – from Highland Park Junior High School, Fairview Junior High School and two from Bicentennial Junior High School – took part in an after-school program for eight weeks. Each team produced a business plan and short video on their app to a panel of judges. Congratulations to the first place team, the Fairview Appstronauts. The league was supported by WISE Atlantic, Comp Camp, Students in Business and MSVU. You can view the visual programming tool called the MIT AppInventor used in the Girls Tech League at <http://appinventor.mit.edu/>. To find out more contact WISE Atlantic.



The Fairview Appstronauts with volunteer mentors, Karen Smyth, Director of IT & Services, MSVU (far left) & Ozge Yeloglu, Dalhousie Computer Science PhD student (far right).

FLL Registration Opens May 6, 2013

The annual Robot Programming Competitions for the 2013-14 season will be held on Saturday, February 15, 2014. Registration for the First Lego League (FLL) Robotic competitions will open in May 6th, at 1 p.m. If you need a ROBOT or funds for your field setup kit or pre-paid registration fee, please visit the WISE Atlantic student page on our website for an application or call 457-6294.

Inside This Issue:

- 1 • Upcoming Girls Science Retreat and Summer Camp • Girls' Tech League • FLL
- 2 • New Role Model Video • Research News • Farewell
- 3 • Supporting Youth • Engaging Professionals • In the News
- 4 • Making Connections • Facebook • Survey Update

Our Latest Role Model Video



Shalyn Williams, Electrical Systems Engineer

Watch for our next career role model video featuring Shalyn Williams, who completed her electrical engineering degree from Dalhousie University in 2010. Shalyn has roots in East Preston, Halifax, and New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, and she is the first African Nova Scotian female engineer. She is currently employed with Lockheed Martin Canada working as an electrical hardware engineer on their navy patrol frigate contracts, as well as working part-time with the Army Reserves.

Research News

The State of Canada's Science Culture

Dr. Tamara Franz-Ondendaal has been appointed as a member of the Council of Canadian Academies Expert Panel on "The State of Canada's Science Culture"

For more information on this expert panel, please visit:

<http://www.scienceadvice.ca/en/assessments/>

Atlantic Chair Recognized for Research

Congratulations to Dr. Tamara Franz-Ondendaal, who received the Association of Anatomists Young Investigator Award in Morphological Sciences for her contribution to biomedical science through research in April 2013.

You can watch Dr. Franz-Ondendaal's video on our website.

Atlantic Chair Research Study "The Choices of Girls and STEM Careers"

WISE Atlantic's research study investigating the choices students make regarding science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) subjects is currently underway in selected schools across the Atlantic Provinces. Stay tuned for details and reporting.



Farewell to Tanya, WISE Atlantic Program Coordinator

WISE Atlantic bids farewell to staff member Tanya Poulton, who has been with the WISE Atlantic program since it was first established in October 2011. After May 4th, Tanya can be found on campus in the Seton Annex where she will be joining the Cooperative Education Team at the Mount. We wish Tanya all the best as she takes on her new role! She will be greatly missed.

Beginning May 6th, Sally Burke will take over as Program Coordinator for WISE Atlantic. Sally is a recent graduate from the Bachelor of Education program at the Mount. Sally volunteered during our August 2012 Science Camp. Welcome aboard Sally!

THANK YOU



Women in Science and Engineering Atlantic Region Newsletter

WISE Atlantic is involved in many ways with so many different activities. Here are some of the most recent highlights:

WISE Atlantic Supporting Youth:

Junior High, High School, and University Students:

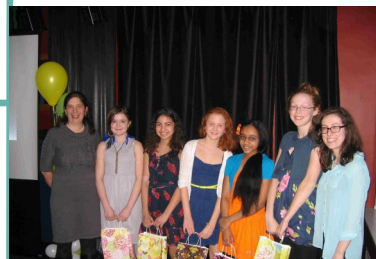
- WISE Atlantic visited Highland Park Junior High school and the after-school Girls' Tech League mentors and participants.
- Over 100 junior high and high school students from across HRM visited the WISE Atlantic booth at the Mount during Girls 2013, a conference held during International Women's Week, on March 6th.
- Students from across the province visited the WISE Atlantic booth at the Mount during Open Campus Days on March 8th.
- WISE Atlantic participated in a panel session on April 2nd for Girls Talk Tech (GTT), an event hosted by Dalhousie's WiTS which focuses on Women in Technology
- WISE Atlantic supported Cape Breton University's 3rd Annual Women in Science event held on April 6th

WISE Atlantic Engaging Professionals

- Dr. Franz-Odendaal gave a presentation on *Sharing Our Strategies* to 50 women in Science and Engineering in South Africa on March 7th.
- A networking and discussion event for female engineers took place on March 21st in Halifax. Sarah Devereaux, P.Eng (Engineers Nova Scotia, President) spoke on *Encouraging Women to Enter the Field of Engineering*.
- Dr. Franz-Odendaal shares ideas on how to encourage more women to be nominated for the Discovery Centre Awards for Science and Technology. The deadline to nominate is May 31st.

WISE Atlantic in the Media

- March 27th on-line feature profiling Dr. Tamara Franz-Odendaal, "Mount prof paving way for more women in sciences"
- April 11th article in The Chronicle Herald "Girls talk tech buzzing at Dalhousie" on the 'Teaching Women in Tech' panel with mention of speaker Tanya Poulton, WISE Atlantic.
- April 9th Press Release, "Girls' app Competition was featured on the Comp Camp website as well as a Press Releases in the AllNovaScotia.com.
- Danielle Grandy, Junior Communications Officer, Formation Construction Engineering included WISE Atlantic in an article in their March newsletter, Women in the Engineering Field.



Top - Dr. Tamara Franz-Odendaal (far left), and Rose Behar, Co-Founder, Comp Camp (far right), with Highland Park Junior High Girls' Tech League team.
Middle - Judges, Suzanne Diab, Ulrike Bahr-Gedalia, and Sreejata Chatterjee
Bottom - Mentors, Karen Smyth, Ozge Yeloglu, & Shali Liu



Girls' Talk Tech (GIT) Panel at Dalhousie (left) Emily Boucher, CanWIT; Tanya Poulton, WISE Atlantic; Rachel Aaron, Innovacorp, & Rose Behar, Comp Camp

for your ongoing support...



WISE Atlantic...like our page and help us connect you!



One of the ways the Chair defines success is the strength and number of connections we make and maintain. We encourage you to share your feedback on our program activities. We depend on your support and guidance as we strengthen our networks and grow.

Please stay connected with us through facebook and by email at WISEatlantic@msvu.ca.

www.facebook.com/WISEatlantic

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 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

WISE Atlantic Connects

Let us know how WISE Atlantic can help connect youth with mentors, and connect mentors to each other, with the goal to increase the participation of women in science and engineering. Here are just a few of the ways we've been connecting with groups over the past few months:

Ladies Learning Code:

- WISE Atlantic connected with Ladies Learning Code, to investigate the possibility of hosting a Girls Learning Code Camp here in Halifax. Ladies Learning Code, a national not-for-profit organization that aims to teach women and girls the basics of coding. The organization, which recently opened a chapter in Halifax, will hold its first workshop for women, Javascript, on May 4th.

Comp Camp:

- WISE Atlantic partnered with Comp Camp to run Girls Tech League in selected schools in HRM from January through April, and hosted the final competition on April 13th.

Saint Mary's MTEI Program

- WISE formed a partnership with the new Master of Technology Entrepreneurship and Innovation program. Visit <http://www.smu.ca/academic/sobey/mtei/> for more information. Their launch event is on May 6th at Saint Mary's University.

Website Visits

Our website has welcomed over 600 new visitors in 2013 with over 2,000 page views.

Feedback

We value your comments on this newsletter and the activities of our WISE Atlantic Team. Please visit our website and contact us with your feedback and suggestions on how we can help you.

Contact Us:

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