



Women in Science and Engineering - Atlantic Region

JULY 2021/ ISSUE 31



Senior Camp 2019



SCIENCE
LITERACY
WEEK

WHATS COMING UP:

Girls Get WISE Science Summer Camps

There are still a few spots left for our Senior Girls Get WISE Science Summer Camp. This camp is for girls 15 & 16 years old, and will take place August 16-19, 2021 at Mount Saint Vincent University. For full camp details, regulations, and registration information, visit WISEatlantic.ca/ggwcamps/

Science Literacy Week

Science Literacy Week, a time when kids and families across the country can explore the diversity of Canadian Science, will take place September 20-26, 2021. The theme for this year's festivities is Climate. WISEatlantic will be planning an event, stay tuned and keep checking our website for more details! You can always visit www.scienceliteracy.ca for more details about the week and to find events taking place in your area.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO:

Colouring the Galaxy Virtual Event

On May 14th we celebrated Science Odyssey Week with three Junior High Teachers and their students during an online event where we explored concepts of light and the electromagnetic spectrum. Participants learned how scientists add colour to monochromatic images of celestial objects taken with powerful telescopes, like the one at the Burke-Gaffney Observatory in Halifax, and got to try making their own colouring images! Thanks to WISEatlantic Educational Assistant Tiffany Fields for facilitating.

Partnerships Events

On May 27 and June 2, several Atlantic Canadian organizations that participated in our recent Spotlight Series joined us for a virtual networking event. It was a great opportunity to get to know the faces behind the various STEM organizations, and to discuss common challenges and best practices of running not-for-profit STEM organizations in Atlantic Canada.

SCIENCE ODYSSEY



FEATURES:

Save the Date - Fall Skill Builder Workshops

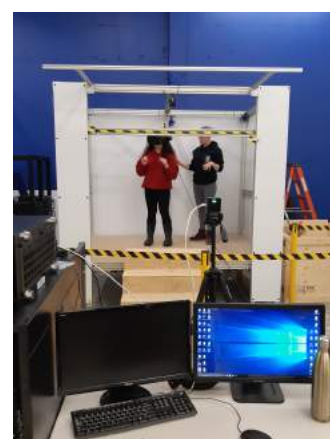
Early this Fall, we will be hosting two WinSETT virtual Skill Builder Workshops for Graduate students and Postdocs. Skill Builders focus on introducing crucial leadership skills in an interactive 90 minute virtual session. They are open to all genders. We plan on offering the Allyship for Everyone and Microaggressions workshops. These workshops will be FREE to participants, but seating is limited. To learn more about these workshops, please visit winsetcentre.org/leadership-program/skill-builders/. Please continue to check WISEatlantic.ca/events for dates and information on how to register.

CAGIS Halifax

We had a great year with our Halifax Canadian Association of Girls in Science (CAGIS) Chapter. We were able to partner with other CAGIS Chapters in Ontario to provide monthly virtual STEM programming for our members, on top of CAGIS Virtual's national programming. Programming will continue to be virtual for Fall of 2021 after which we will re-evaluate. If you are considering joining, there is a special offer right now, **those who purchase a full CAGIS Virtual Membership will receive a Chapter membership for FREE!** Full details on both memberships is available at girlsinscience.ca/join/



Past WinSETT Workshop at MSVU



CAGIS participants using VR technology at event in 2019

WISEATLANTIC BLOG!

2SLGBTQ+ STEM Professionals' Experience

BY DREW BURCHELL

Diversity in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) drives innovation and creative ideas in the field, because people with different backgrounds and perspectives can find new ways to solve problems. Increasing representation and inclusion of marginalized groups in this field would increase opportunities for these groups and advance equity. Moreover, increasing participation of different groups in this field would grow the field overall, contributing to the economy and scientific advancement. However, STEM fields have historically been male-dominated and associated with masculinity in the minds of many. While there is a substantial body of literature on women's inclusion in science, LGBTQ+ representation in STEM is something we know less about.

A new study by Cech and Waidzunas (2021) details the disparity in STEM experiences between LGBTQ+ people

and their straight counterparts in the US. In surveying a sample of 25,324 full-time STEM professionals, 1,006 of whom were LGBTQ+, they found LGBTQ+ individuals were having worse experiences in STEM across a number of dimensions. The factors they examined were career opportunities, harassment, professional devaluation (colleagues devaluing or discrediting their STEM expertise), social exclusion (not "fitting in" or being invited to things), health and wellness, and intentions to leave STEM.

This story continues online at
WISEatlantic.ca/wiseatlantic-blog/

If you are interested in contributing a blog post, contact us at WISEatlantic@msvu.ca with your idea!