

WISP Wire

Technology?

"If it's green,
it's biology,
If it stinks,
it's chemis-
try, If it has
numbers it's
math,
If it doesn't
work, it's
technology."

--Unknown



Stephanie Forrest, Ph.D.

Speaker at Outstanding Women Scientists lecture series

Why a Computer Needs an Immune System and Why an Immune System Needs a Computer...

The WISP Outstanding Women Scientists Lecture Series recently featured **Dr. Stephanie Forrest**, professor of Computer Science at the University of New Mexico. In her presentation, "Why a Computer Needs an Immune System and Why an Immune System Needs a Computer," Forrest discussed her creative and groundbreaking research in applying biological concepts to the world of computing and vice versa. According to Forrest, the human immune system represents a form of information processing taking place in the body. She recently used this concept to contribute important knowledge to the

field of immunology by utilizing computer modeling to explain why patients who get flu vaccines for the first time sometimes fare better than those who receive multiple vaccinations. Currently, she is applying biological models to create computer security systems that can detect and respond to viruses with the effectiveness and flexibility of the human immune system.

In addition to the lecture presentation, Forrest spent time meeting in smaller groups with computer science professors and students on campus. Impressed with the presence of women at IU in the field, she proclaimed, "I've met more women computer scientists today than in a whole month at my university." Read more about Forrest's work at <http://www.cs.unm.edu/~forrest/>.

OUTSTANDING WOMEN SCIENTISTS LECTURE SERIES — UPCOMING SPEAKER

Watch for details on our next outstanding scientist, Dr. Caty Pilachowski. A Professor in the IUB Astronomy Department, she will speak on April 5 about "Modern Telescopes and Ancient Skies: New Views of the Universe." Dr. Pilachowski has served for more than 20 years on the scientific staff of the National Optical Astronomy Observatory (NOAO) in Tucson, Arizona. Her research interests involve stellar compositions, their evolution, and stellar seismology. You can learn more about her at <http://www.astro.indiana.edu/newastro/catyp.shtml>.

MEET TWO MEMBERS OF THE WISP ADVISORY COMMITTEE ...



Christine Ogan, Ph.D. Professor of Informatics Indiana University

Phone: (812) 855-1699
Email: ogan@indiana.edu
<http://www.informatics.indiana.edu/research/profiles/ogan.asp>

Professor Ogan holds a joint appointment in the School of Journalism. Her courses center around domestic and international issues in social informatics. She is interested in researching the area of social informatics that focuses on uses of new communication technologies in the United States and also in other parts of the world, with a special focus on Turkey.

Professor Ogan is part of an IU-based team of researchers that received a NSF grant to study educational environments for men and women who wish to enter information technology fields and which type of environment shows the most promise for the recruitment and retention of women.



Kay Connelly, Ph.D. Assistant Professor of Computer Science

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<http://www.cs.indiana.edu/~connelly/>

Professor Connelly's teaching interests include pervasive computing, computer security, system security, and ubiquitous computing. She leads the Security for Ubiquitous Resources Group (SURG) in the Computer Science Department. She is the Associate Director of Indiana University's Center for Applied Cybersecurity Research, and is a member of the Pervasive Technology Labs. She is an active faculty advisor to the Women in Computing (WIC) group.

Office for Women's Affairs

WISP Wire

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Research Day

On Wednesday, March 2nd, the Office for Women's Affairs is hosting its seventh annual WISP Research Day at the IMU Frangipani Room from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Undergraduate and graduate women from all sciences will once again have the opportunity to display their research to fellow WISP members and other students, staff, and faculty through poster presentations. Awards will be given to the best undergraduate and graduate research posters. For more information contact wisp@indiana.edu

~~~ REGISTRATION FORM ~~~

To participate in the WISP Research Day, please email the following information to: wisp@indiana.edu. **no Later Than Friday, February 18.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Co-Authors (if any) Names: _____

Title of research (poster) presentation: _____

Category (please circle): Natural Sciences Social Sciences Technology

Level (please circle): Undergraduate Student(s) Graduate Student(s)

WISP Mission

The **Women in Science Program** (WISP) seeks to develop and implement programs that promote the participation of women in science, mathematics and technology (SMT) at Indiana University.

WISP works to create a supportive and proactive learning and working environment in which women in science can thrive and succeed. Faculty in SMT serve as members of the WISP Advisory Committee.

Websites of Interest

ACM Committee on Women in Computing:
<http://www.women.acm.org>

Center for Women & Information Technology:
<http://www.umbc.edu/cwit/>

Women and Computer Science:
http://www.mills.edu/ACAD_INFO?MCS?SPERTUS?Gender/gender.html