

Creating Connections 2013

Working Together to Transform our World

May 10 & 11, 2013 | University of British Columbia | Vancouver, BC

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Professor Stephen J. Toope
President and Vice-Chancellor

Greetings and warm welcome to all of the delegates of *Creating Connections: Working Together to Transform Our World*. The University of British Columbia (UBC) is delighted to again host *Creating Connections*, a forum for dialogue and discussion about the role of women in science, engineering, and technology.

Women continue to be underrepresented in these fields. From academia to industry, attracting and retaining a diverse pool of the best and brightest minds is essential to building Canada's knowledge economy and moving us forward. To secure our economy, it is imperative to break down barriers to women participating and succeeding women in science, engineering, and technology.

Diversity is core to achieving an excellent student, staff, and faculty body at UBC. The University is proud to be one of Canada's Best Diversity Employers for the fifth consecutive year. By expanding equity, access, and diversity training and programs and engaging in a review of employment systems to identify barriers, UBC has taken a huge step forward in creating an inclusive university community.

Opportunities like *Creating Connections* provide a place for dialogue, discussion, and sharing of ideas among colleagues. Over the course of the day, I hope that you make meaningful connections with your colleagues and find inspiration in each other.

Please accept my best wishes for a successful and rewarding conference.

Stephen J. Toope
President and Vice-Chancellor
The University of British Columbia



Greetings from our Honourary Chair
 Professor Stephen J. Toope, President and Vice-Chancellor, UBC

2013 Planning Committee

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Conference Staff Chair: Jennifer Pelletier
Conference Student Chair: Anoushka Rajan
Conference Assistant: Noor Teja
Conference Assistant: Justin Yang
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To all of the other volunteers, supporters, helpers, and champions of Creating Connections:

Thank You!

Welcome to Creating Connections 2013: Working Together to Transform our World.

We are excited to have you join us.

Creating Connections grew out of the 2007 “Building Communities Symposium,” where 120 women in engineering attended a weekend retreat in Maple Ridge. Since then, the bi-annual event has evolved and grown beyond our original expectations.

This year we welcome over 300 people to the UBC Point Grey campus for an evening reception and a full day of sessions. We welcome anyone and everyone who wants to participate in a conversation on gender diversity in science, engineering, and technology. The program reflects this diversity, and approaches the ideas from many directions, both directly and indirectly. We hope that we have maintained the unique sense of openness and welcome that has marked our previous events - we all must work together to transform our workplaces and communities.

An excellent example of working together was demonstrated by the planning committee. Members are drawn from across institutions, organizations, and regions. We encourage you to find ways to connect, reconnect, and collaborate across all horizons. There are many amazing initiatives underway in our region, and we can be much more effective when we work on them together.

We leave you with three goals to accomplish today:

1. Connect with three new people and learn their stories;
2. Discuss the value gender diversity brings to our organizations;
3. Let yourself be inspired.

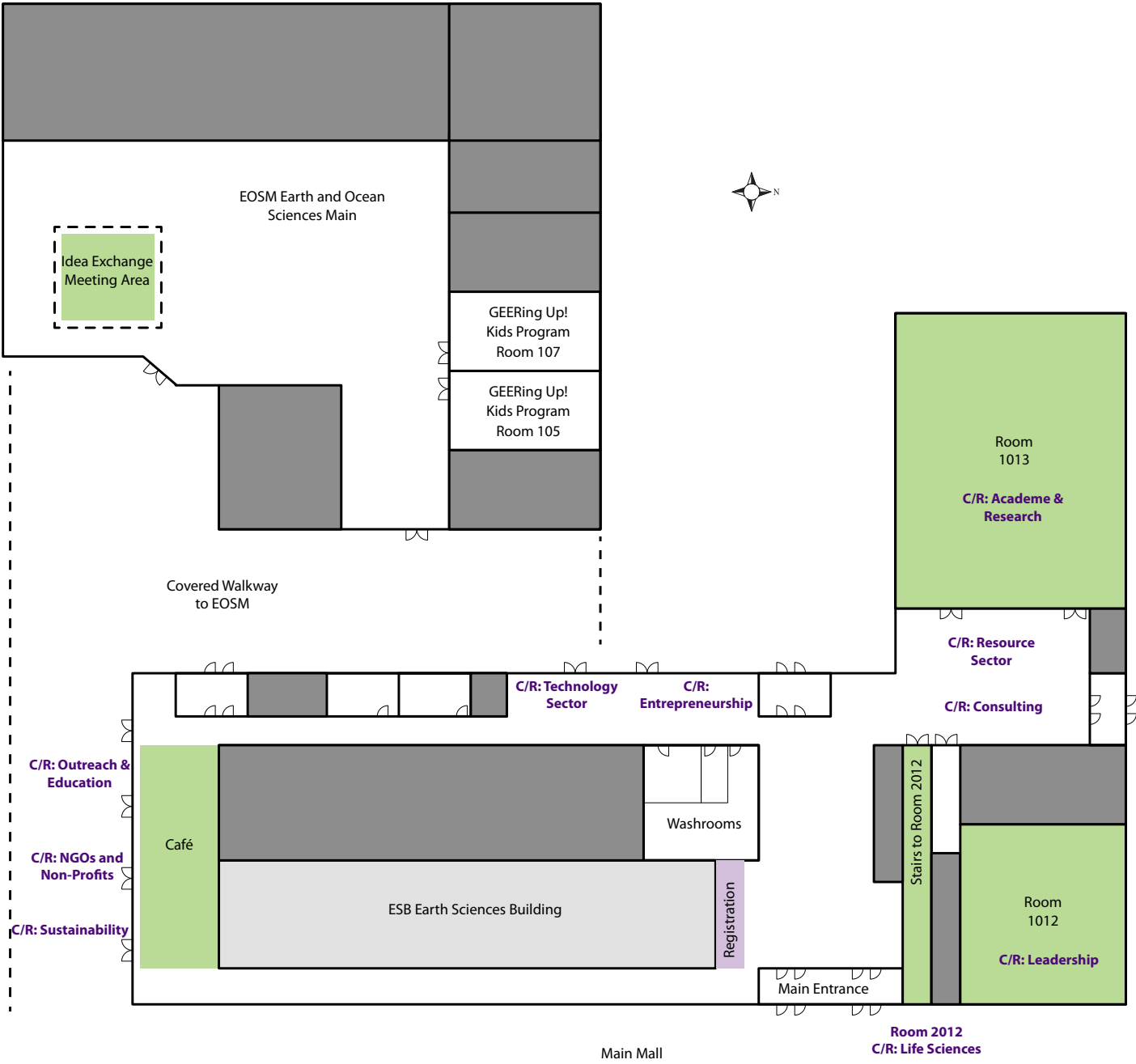
Thank you for joining us. Together, we will transform our world.

- Your 2013 Planning Committee

Interested in making Creating Connections 2015 a reality?

Express your interest, and let us know how you can contribute, by emailing wwest@mech.ubc.ca. Can you offer sponsorship? Resources? Time and skills?

Planning starts again soon!



#creatingconnections

Moving the conversation online? Please tag us!

Building Map ESB & EOSM

An Introduction to Our Program

Today is about change. It’s a dialogue about gender diversity. Our goal is ambitious. Together we will build capacity in each other to create personal and organizational transformative change. We are going to create a world where gender diversity in SET workplaces is a given, and everyone can belong.

The program underlines the value of diversity at multiple levels. To support personal change, many of our sessions are focused on professional development. The connect and reconnect sessions provide opportunities for meeting new people and fostering a sense of community. Finally, through the ideas inspired and refocused by our keynotes, and developed in our conversations and world café sessions, we will kindle a change larger than ourselves.

We hope that participants take values, ideas, and connections from today and bring them into their daily lives: their workplaces, schools, organizations, families and communities.

The program includes four types of sessions, and each has a distinct nature:

Panel Discussions

Panel discussions feature three or more panelists and a moderator. Panels will each have unique format characteristics, but you can expect to hear about the session subject from people with a wide range of backgrounds and perspectives. Most panels will include question and answer sessions at the end.

Interactive Workshops

At an interactive workshop, one or more speaker will engage participants with the topic. There may be some prepared information, but be ready to actively contribute to the session, either through individual reflection, group work, practice, or other facilitated activities. Some interactive workshops will have limited sizes, available first-come, first-served at the time of the session.

World Café

Don’t let the title fool you – there are no extra cookies here. In World Café sessions, a global facilitator will lead participants in guided, specific brainstorming and discussion around pre-arranged questions. Depending on the size of the session, the global facilitator may have additional volunteers working with sub-groups. Typically, this format has each table focus on a unique topic for a fixed amount of time, then table members move on to different tables of their own choosing. At the end of the session, the discussions are summarized for the whole group.

Idea Exchange

This is a very informal session, with no pre-defined questions or content. Anyone interested in the topic can join the group at a defined meet-up area for an informal, unguided discussion.

Connect / Reconnect Groups

Connect / Reconnect Groups are dedicated times to meet new people with whom you share an interest.

At the Connect group time, please go to the designated meeting area (see map) for the interest group you selected at registration (also noted at the bottom of your nametag). When you arrive at the meeting area, find two or three people that you don't know, and start a conversation as a small group. Two questions are listed below to start you off.

At the Reconnect time, return to the same location and pick up the conversation with your group.

Connect Group Questions:

- » Icebreaker: Introduce yourself: who are you, how do you spend your time, and why do you relate to this interest group?
- » Why did you decide to come to Creating Connections? Name one thing that you want to take away from today’s event.

Reconnect Group Questions:

- » What is the key thing that you are taking away from your experience today?
- » What one thing will you do or change as a result of your experience today?



Program Grid

Friday					
4:00 PM	Registration desk opens. Standby tickets will be distributed for the public lecture.				
5:00 PM	Lecture doors open to conference pass holders.				
5:10 PM	Lecture doors open to public lecture standby ticket holders, then for any remaining seats.				
5:20 PM	Doors close; no late entrance.				
5:30 PM	Public Keynote: The Role of Gender in Science Communication Moderator: Dr. Jennifer Gardy Panelists: Bob McDonald, Dr. Carin Bondar, Cam Cronin				
7:00 PM	Networking Reception				
Saturday					
8:00 AM	Registration and Continental Breakfast <i>Breakfast sponsored by the Faculty of Applied Science at the University of British Columbia</i>				
9:00 AM	Opening and Keynote Speaker Dr. Roberta Bondar				
10:15 AM	Transition				
10:30 AM	Connect Group See facing page for details.				
10:50 AM	Transition				
11:00 AM	Entrepreneurship: Getting Started On Your Own (ESB 1012)	Navigating Uncharted Waters: Discovering Opportunities (ESB 1013)	Diversity is Great - But How Do We Do It? (ESB 2012)	(Café closed to prepare for lunch event)	Applying for Academic Jobs (EOSM Atrium)
12:00 PM	Box Lunch - distributed in the Atrium <i>Sponsored by the Faculty of Science at the University of British Columbia</i> Choice A: Spanish rice salad, cherry tomatoes, celery, and fresh mint with roasted chicken breast; side of edamame and chickpeas; Blue Chip cookie Choice B: Vegan & Gluten-Free: Quinoa salad with fresh cucumber, garden herbs, sweet corn, red onions, red peppers & dried apricots; side of sliced fruit; gluten-free vegan cookie				
	Optional Session: World Café: Getting to 30 by 30 - Strategy Session If you wish to participate in this session (first-come, first-served) please proceed directly to the Café area. Lunches will also be available there.				
12:45 PM	Keynote Speaker Anna Tudela				
1:30 PM	Transition				
1:45 PM	Ignite Your Career (ESB 1012)	Dual-ling for Success: Making a Two Career Household Work (ESB 1013)	Mentorship in the Workplace that Works (ESB 2012)	Entrepreneurship (Café)	Cultural Diversity (EOSM Atrium)
2:45 PM	Coffee Break <i>Sponsored by the Faculty of Applied Sciences at Simon Fraser University</i>				
3:15 PM	A Cocktail Reception Survival Guide (ESB 1012)	Managing Up: Helping Them Help You (ESB 1013)	Leaving the Yellow Brick Road: Alternate Paths to the Emerald City (ESB 2012)	Surviving Grad School and Planning for Your Future Career (Café)	(EOSM Atrium closed for the day)
4:15 PM	Reconnect Group See facing page for details.				
4:45 PM	Closing Keynote Speaker Dr. Amiee Chan				
5:30 PM	Please hand in your survey as you leave Main Atrium				

Keynote: The Role of Gender in Science Communication



Dr. Jennifer Gardy (Moderator)

Dr. Jennifer Gardy is both a scientist and science communicator. By day, she is fulfilling her childhood dream of being Dustin Hoffman in “Outbreak”, working in the Communicable Disease Prevention and Control Services group at the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control. As Senior Scientist, Molecular Epidemiology, Jennifer leads BCCDC’s Genome Research Laboratory, where genomics and genome sequencing are used to understand how outbreaks of infectious disease begin and spread. Her group was the first to use genome sequencing to reconstruct a large outbreak of tuberculosis, and she is continuing to apply this novel technique to other outbreak scenarios. She is also involved in other genomics-related research, including metagenomic surveys of human and environmental samples and the development of point-of-care devices for pathogen detection. By night (well, on days off work, really) Jennifer works in science communication. She’s hosted an 8-part science documentary series for CBC Television, multiple episodes of The Nature of Things, and is a regular guest host on Discovery Channel Canada’s flagship science newsmagazine, Daily Planet. She’s also blogged and written for the Globe and Mail, and runs a series of workshops on how to communicate science effectively. Jennifer completed her B.Sc. in Cell Biology and Genetics at the University of British Columbia (2000), and her PhD in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry at Simon Fraser University (2006).

Dr. Carin Bondar

Carin Bondar is a biologist with a PhD in population ecology from the University of British Columbia. She is an online writer, host and producer with Scientific American, Science Alert and Earth Touch Productions, and a television presenter for Discovery International and National Geographic Wild. Her independent web series ‘Wild Sex’ (on the unique world of the evolution of sexual behavior) has amassed over 5 million views in its first four months online. Dr. Bondar is currently in French Polynesia shooting a series on the biology and ecology of the Tahitian islands. She will next appear as a speaker at TED Global in Edinburgh, Scotland in June 2013.



Cameron Cronin

He’s not a scientist, but he’s played one on TV. Cam started out in the field of space science in a rather unorthodox way; by auditioning for it. As a graduate of UBC in Theatre (Acting), he answered an audition request from the HR MacMillan Space Centre for a new space show that they were developing. That was 1996. Since landing that job, Cam has been working at the Space Centre in different capacities from a writer, producer, programmer, and spokesperson to a hands-on science facilitator. He has helped produce dozens of science programs, collaborated with almost all of the Canadian astronauts and helped bring special events like Iron Science Teacher, and Yuri’s Night to Vancouver. He has worked extensively with the Canadian Space Agency, NASA, SETI, and many Science and Planetariums across Canada and the United States. Cam also developed a Skype program to allow space science to reach into geographically remote communities throughout BC and across Canada. His role in these adventures is to take complex, scientific data and make it understandable, engaging and most of all accessible to everyone.

Bob McDonald

One of Canada’s best known science journalists, Bob is a regular science commentator on CBC News Network, and science correspondent for CBC TV’s The National. Bob was the host of CBC’s children’s science program Wonderstruck and TVO’s children TV science series Heads Up! He is currently the host of Quirks & Quarks. Bob has been personally honoured for his contributions to the public awareness of science: 2001 Michael Smith Award for Science Promotion from NSERC, the 2002 Sandford Fleming Medal from The Royal Canadian Institute, 2005 McNeil Medal for the Public Awareness of Science from the Royal Society of Canada, completing the ‘triple crown’ of medals for science communication in Canada. In 2010, Bob was named as an honorary life member of the Sigma Xi Society, the first Canadian to be so honoured by America’s oldest scientific body. In November, 2011, Bob was made an Officer of the Order of Canada. Bob McDonald has been awarded 6 honorary degrees – the most recent being an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Calgary and an honorary Doctor of Science degree from the University of Winnipeg – both awarded in June, 2010. Previously, Bob was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Science from McMaster University in June, 2008 and a Doctorate of Letters from Laurentian University in Sudbury in October, 2007.



Keynote: Dr. Roberta Bondar



The world’s first neurologist in space, Dr. Roberta Bondar is globally recognized for her pioneering contribution to space medicine research. Aboard the Discovery mission STS-42 in 1992 she conducted experiments in the shuttle’s first international microgravity laboratory.

For more than a decade at NASA Dr. Bondar headed an international research team, continuing to find new connections between astronauts recovering from the microgravity of space and neurological illnesses here on Earth. Her techniques have been used in clinical studies at the B. I. Deaconess Medical Center, a teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School and at the University of New Mexico. Dr. Bondar served two terms as Chancellor of Trent University in Peterborough, Ontario.

A true renaissance woman, Dr. Bondar is an acclaimed photographer of the environment. She is the author of four best-selling photo essay books featuring her stunning photography of the Earth. Her photographic works may be found in private, corporate and institutional collections in Canada, the U.S. and England.

An author, environmental educator and celebrated landscape photographer, Dr. Bondar has also earned a reputation as a leading speaker and consultant within the medical and scientific communities, and in the field of corporate social responsibility and care for the Earth’s environment. She co-founded The Roberta Bondar Foundation, a charitable organization to improve our understanding of the environment www.therobertabondarfoundation.org

Dr. Bondar has been recognized with the NASA Space Medal, inducted into the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame and into the International Women’s Forum Hall of Fame for her pioneering research in space medicine. She is a recipient of the Order of Canada and the Order of Ontario and has received 24 honorary doctorates from North American universities. In 2003 TIME magazine named her among North America’s best explorers. In 2011, Dr. Bondar received her own star on Canada’s Walk of Fame.

For more information about Dr. Roberta Bondar or to contact her office: www.robortabondar.com

This keynote was made possible by the generous support of our Presenting Sponsor:



Entrepreneurship: Getting Started on Your Own

Your dreams, incorporated. 36% of small businesses in BC are owned and operated by women. A panel of experts - from angel investors to successful entrepreneurs - talk about the need for diversity in the entrepreneurial world and finding your niche. Let them demystify what it takes to launch your ideas into reality.

Moderator: Anja Lanz

Anja Lanz, B.A.Sc. (UBC Engineering Physics) is a founding member of the Women in Engineering (Vancouver Region) group, and is currently President. Anja is also the incoming Chair for the Division for the Advancement of Women in Engineering and Geoscience of APEGBC.

Janet Benjamin



Janet graduated in Engineering from McGill University in 1976. She worked in Toronto at Bell Canada, Procter & Gamble and Northern Telecom. She returned to her home town of Vancouver in 1986, where, to balance her career and small children, she started a consulting business. Projects included co-founding of Power Smart Inc. and consulting in energy efficiency across Canada and internationally. She was appointed to the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy in 2006. Janet was elected President of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia in 2007-8. Most recently, Janet started Vireo Technologies, a company to develop continuously variable transmissions for electric and hybrid vehicles, and a variety of industrial applications from the oil patch to wind turbines.

Mike Volker



Michael Volker is an Entrepreneur active in the development of new high technology ventures. A University of Waterloo Engineering grad, Mike started his own company (Volker-Craig Ltd) in 1973. He sold this company in 1981 and then decided to work with entrepreneurs in building new companies. He is presently the director of Simon Fraser University's Innovation Office. Check out his latest two projects: Greenangel Energy Corp, [GAE.V] a public company that invests in green technologies and WUTIF - the Western Universities Technology Innovation Fund – an “angel” fund for start-ups. To further encourage tech entrepreneurship, Mike runs the Vancouver Angel Network, VANTEC and the Vancouver Chapter of the Keiretsu Forum. He's on the Board of New Ventures BC - an annual business competition. Mike was chairman of the Vancouver Enterprise Forum for several years. In 2009, Mike was named Canadian Angel Investor of the Year by the National Angel Capital Organization (NACO) as well as B.C. Angel of the Year by the B.C. Angel Forum. He is a director of NACO and chairs its Policy Committee.

Catherine Boivie



Dr. Catherine Aczel Boivie is a widely respected executive with more than 20 years of experience in the leadership of information technology, most recently as SVP IT for Vancity Credit Union. Catherine is the CEO and Chair of Canadian Women in Technology (CanWIT) and Executive in Residence at the Beedie School of Business at Simon Fraser University. She also an experienced board member having served on several boards, including those of Insurance Corporation of B.C. (ICBC), Certified General Accountants Association of Canada, the Burnaby Board of Trade and is the Founding President of the Chief Information Officers Association of Canada (CIOCAN). Dr Boivie has been publicly recognized for her contributions, including the University of Waterloo Mathematics Alumni Achievement Medal and was named one of Canada's top 100 most powerful women by the Women's Executive Network in the “Trailblazers and Trendsetters” category and has recently received the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee medal for being a “catalyst for technology transformation”.

Dr. Ged Mclean



Dr. Gerard McLean, PEng, is a triple graduate of Systems Design Engineering at the University of Waterloo who has spent his career immersed in technology R&D while simultaneously using his experiences to learn about the design of products, systems, devices and services. In 2001, Dr. McLean founded Angstrom Power Inc. to develop micro-structured fuel cell technology for portable power applications. Angstrom has developed the most advanced micro fuel cell systems in the world, leading to its acquisition by BIC Inc. in 2011. His extensive research in PEM fuel cell systems design has produced over 50 patented inventions related to fuel cell architecture, manufacturing, systems and controls. Prior to founding Angstrom, Dr. McLean was the Director of the Institute for Integrated Energy Systems and Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Victoria where he guided undergraduate students to receive over 20 Provincial and National awards for their designs of assistive devices for people with disabilities, and was twice the recipient of the 'Best Professor' award as voted by students. Dr. McLean has a broad background in engineering design with applications beyond fuel cell technology that include bicycle components and testing, embedded systems for structural monitoring, machine vision, automated photogrammetry and assistive devices for people with disabilities. Dr. McLean is a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering.

Navigating Uncharted Waters: Discovering Opportunities

When you are new in your job, field, or company it can be hard to find the secrets in the depth of this “ocean.” Like the ocean, it can look like a vast, blank expanse; but it is filled with a rich diversity of opportunities. Our panelists have all gotten their feet wet in uncharted waters completely unfamiliar to them. Learn how they found hidden opportunities and steered their boats to success.

Moderator: Anna Stukas



Anna Stukas is the Manager of Intellectual Property and Regulations at BIC Inc, part of the BIC Group. The BIC Group of companies comprise an international consumer products corporation committed to delivering simple, inventive, and reliable products for everyone everywhere. Her responsibilities at BIC include patent portfolio management, technology licensing, standards development and creation of international regulations for micro fuel cells for portable power applications. She has been instrumental in the creation of international regulations that now allow carriage of fuel cell powered portable devices onboard passenger aircraft, chairs multiple international industry committees, and has represented the fuel cell industry to the United Nations and the International Civil Aviation Organization. Previously, Anna worked with Angstrom Power Incorporated, a privately funded North Vancouver-based R&D start-up focused on developing micro fuel cells for portable power applications, and was a key member of the team that negotiated the successful acquisition of Angstrom by BIC Inc. Anna's belief in the need for strong, positive role models to inspire women and girls to enter, and stay, in non-traditional fields lead her to join the Board of Directors of the Society for Canadian Women in Science and Technology (SCWIST) in 2009, to work with to further its mission to promote, encourage and empower women and girls in science, engineering and technology. Anna is now the Past President of SCWIST and remains an active member of the Board. Anna received her Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering (Co-op, with Distinction) from the University of Victoria. In her spare time, Anna volunteers as an assistant instructor at Vancouver West Aikikai teaching aikido, a Japanese martial art; coaches girls field hockey; and spends as much time as possible racing sailboats on the waters of English Bay.

Ann English



As Chief Executive Officer and Registrar of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC (APEGBC), Ann English is responsible for all aspects of the Association's operations and works closely with Council and staff to advance the Association through the implementation of a dynamic strategic plan that reflects the Association's vision and values. As the primary support to the President and Council, Ms. English enables the fulfillment of their governance functions. Prior to joining APEGBC, Ms. English was Director of Interconnections with BC Hydro and has significant experience in the private industry, with nearly 20 years at Foster Wheeler, a large utility equipment, engineering and construction company. Ms. English has an in-depth understanding of the regulatory environment as well as demonstrated leadership, business development, and project management experience. She is a graduate of the University of Manitoba with a degree in mechanical engineering and a graduate of the University of Toronto with a degree in physiology. Ms. English is also a registered

Professional Engineer with APEGBC. Apart from her professional pursuits, Ms. English has also been involved in her community serving as a member of various boards and councils.

Dr. Simon M. Peacock



Dr. Simon M. Peacock is Dean of the Faculty of Science and Professor of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences at the University of British Columbia (2006 – present). As Dean, Dr. Peacock focuses on advancing the physical, life, and mathematical sciences, transforming undergraduate science education, enabling research opportunities, building interdisciplinary science education and research programs, and enhancing the diversity of science faculty. Prior to joining UBC, Dr. Peacock served as Divisional Dean of Natural Sciences and Mathematics (2004-2006), Interim Associate Dean (2003-2004), and Chair of the Department of Geological Sciences (1997-1998; 1999-2003) at Arizona State University. Dr. Peacock earned B.S. and M.S. degrees in Geology from the M.I.T. (1981) and a Ph.D. in Geology from the U.C.L.A. (1985). Dr. Peacock has taught courses that collectively span most of the earth sciences and include introductory, undergraduate, and advanced graduate courses. Dr. Peacock's research focuses on understanding the tectonic structure of subduction zones. He has published more than 50 articles in peer-reviewed journals including Science, Nature and the Journal of Geological Education.

Sheri Plewes



Sheri Plewes is a Professional Engineer and Vice-President, Infrastructure Delivery. Sheri has responsibility for the Port's major infrastructure projects, including the Container Capacity Improvement Program and Trade Areas development, and major contracts. Prior to joining Port Metro Vancouver, Sheri held the position as Senior Vice President for SNC-Lavalin's Transportation Division. Prior to this, Sheri was a member of TransLink's executive team where she was Vice-President, Capital Management and Engineering, responsible for developing and implementing capital programs for the transportation authority and its subsidiary companies. Her responsibilities included facilities planning and construction, bridge construction and maintenance, regional road construction and maintenance, rail infrastructure planning and construction and emergency planning. During her 30-year career, Sheri has also held engineering and major project roles with the City of Vancouver and the Alberta Ministry of Transportation. Sheri holds a Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Civil Engineering from the University of Alberta.



Navigating Uncharted Waters, continued

Karimah Es Sabar



A highly-recognized Canadian life sciences leader, Karimah Es Sabar brings 30 years of dynamic global business experience to her role as President and CEO of The Centre for Drug Research and Development (CDRD) headquartered in Vancouver, British Columbia. She previously held the position of Senior Vice-President, Business and Strategic Affairs at CDRD, responsible for ensuring the organization’s long-term sustainability, while leading its business functions and successfully building the many national and international alliances and strategic partnerships which are now contributing significantly to advancing the goals of CDRD. Prior to joining CDRD, Ms. Es Sabar took on the role of leading BC Biotech in 2005, re-engineering and rebranding the organization to LifeSciences BC. As President, she led the organization to its greatest levels of success as a strong business development organization for the life science industry and the scientific research community. Ms. Es Sabar has also held senior management positions with international multinational companies, most notably as Director International Division, and later Director Marketing and Business Development at Connaught Laboratories Limited [Sanofi Pasteur] based in Toronto. Ms. Es Sabar also served as Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for a Vancouver medical devices company, Medsurge Medical Inc., and was the founder and Managing Director of SAL Healthcare Limited, a leading healthcare organization in Kenya specializing in pharmaceutical marketing, distribution and healthcare consulting services. Ms. Es Sabar currently serves as Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Providence Healthcare Research Institute, and also sits on the Boards of a number of organizations including the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR); the Prostate Centre Advisory Board, Vancouver General Hospital; the Prostate Centre’s Translational Research Initiative for Accelerated Discovery and Development (PC-TRIADD); NRC – IRAP Advisory Board; and also Chairs MOSAIC, a multilingual non-profit organization dedicated to addressing issues that affect immigrants and refugees in the course of their settlement and integration into Canadian society. She has also lent her leadership expertise by participating in a number of advisory committees for organizations such as the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC); MITACS; the British Columbia Institute of Technology / University of British Columbia Biotechnology Degree Program; The Indus Entrepreneurs (TIE); India Market Advisory Committee, and the British Columbia Asia-Pacific Trade Council. She is also a former board member of LifeSciences British Columbia, the Aga Khan National Economic Planning Board of Canada and Aga Khan National Health Boards in Canada and Kenya. In 2007, Ms. Es Sabar received Canada’s Gold Award for Business Excellence (CABE) while at Sanofi Pasteur, was the recipient of the YWCA Women of Distinction Award in 2010 for Industry, Science and Technology, was included amongst “The Vancouver Power 50” listing of the most influential people in BC by Vancouver Magazine, and in “BC’s Top 100 Women of Influence” by the Vancouver Sun. Ms. Es Sabar holds a BSc. Joint Honours degree in Biochemistry/Chemistry from the University of Salford, England, and a MSc. degree in Neurochemistry from the Institute of Psychiatry, University of London, England.

Cynthia Shippam



Cynthia Shippam, PhD is the in-house Patent Agent with SWITCH Materials, a spinoff company from 4D Labs at SFU. Before joining SWITCH, Cynthia spent several years with UBC’s University-Industry Liaison Office and was a Patent Agent with a national law firm. Her experience in management, strategy and licensing of intellectual property, as well as drafting, filing and prosecution of patent applications in Canada, the U.S., and around the world provides her with a unique perspective of the intersection of law, business and science. To expand on this skill set, she is presently working toward her MBA. She is a member of the ‘Bank of Speakers’ for the Canadian intellectual property Office educational programs, and presents regularly to Executive and academic audiences.

Diversity is great - but how do we do it?

Recognizing the value of diversity in a workplace is an easy first step. Identifying the issues of your particular workplace, and then addressing them, is a much more challenging process. In this interactive workshop, suitable for people at any level in an organization, we will explore tools to identify issues and work towards solutions.

Dr. Elizabeth Croft



Elizabeth Croft is Professor and director of the Collaborative Advanced Robotics and Intelligent Systems Lab at UBC, and NSERC Chair for Women in Science and Engineering, BC-Yukon at the University of British Columbia, and a registered Professional Engineer in the Province of British Columbia. Her research investigates how robotic systems can behave, and be perceived to behave, in a safe, predictable, and helpful manner. Applications of this work range from manufacturing assembly to healthcare and assistive technology. She leads a multi-institution project on robotic assistants for manufacturing (with GM) and an industrial visual serving project (with Hyundai Heavy Industries). She received a Peter Wall Early Career Scholar award in 2001 and an NSERC Accelerator award in 2007. She was named Fellow of Engineers Canada (2008) and of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (2009). As NSERC Chair for Women in Science and Engineering, BC & Yukon (2010-2015), Croft founded Westcoast Women in Engineering, Science, and Technology (WWEST) in order to: attract, recruit, and retain women in engineering and science.

Jennifer Pelletier



Jennifer Pelletier is the Manager of Westcoast Women in Engineering, Science, and Technology (WWEST), the operating name of the program run by the NSERC Chair for Women in Science and Engineering (BC / Yukon). She also holds the position of Manager of Undergraduate Affairs and Special Projects for the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of British Columbia. Jennifer has been involved in organizing the regional women in SET conferences, now known as Creating Connections, since they began in 2007. Her educational background is in the fields of Adult Education and Project Management. She has been recognized with a UBC Applied Science 2012 Dean’s Award for Excellence in Service and a UBC 2010 President’s Staff Award in the category of Enhancing the UBC Experience. Jennifer was a member of the Board of Advisors for GEERing Up! UBC Engineering & Science for Kids from 2006-2012. GEERing Up! is a non-profit organization dedicated to engineering and science education and outreach for the children and youth of British Columbia, particularly those in areas traditionally under-represented in engineering and science.



Applying for Academic Jobs

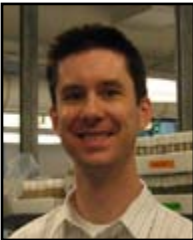
This session is designed for postdoctoral fellows and/or graduate students who are getting ready to apply for academic positions. Come talk to newly recruited faculty members who will chat about their experiences (both good and bad) to help mentor postdocs and graduate students on applying and interviewing for academic positions.

Dr. Jennie McLaren



Jennie is currently a post-doc in Arctic Plant Ecology at the University of British Columbia in the Biodiversity Research Centre. Jennie completed her PhD at UBC in 2010, and spent the next 2 ½ years at the University of Texas in Arlington for a post-doctoral fellowship, conducting her field research in northern Alaska. She moved back to UBC last fall for a second post-doc, and to continue her job search for an academic position. Jennie spent 2 years on the academic job market, was invited for a number of both phone and on-campus interviews and has recently accepted a position as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Texas in El Paso.

Dr. Michael Gordon



Dr. Gordon is a neuroscientist and Assistant Professor in the Department of Zoology at UBC. He received his BSc at McMaster University in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, my PhD from Stanford University in Developmental Biology, and did postdoctoral research in neuroscience at University of California Berkeley. His lab works on understanding how the insect brain processes sensory information and he teaches neurobiology to UBC undergraduates.

Dr. Georgia Perona-Wright



Georgia is a new Assistant Professor in the Department of Microbiology & Immunology at UBC. She arrived here by way of postdoc positions in Scotland and upstate New York, and a rollercoaster application process including interviews in three countries. Her research studies the immune response to infection, and the cross-talk that happens when more than one infection occurs at once.

Dr. Katherine Ryan




Dr. Ryan is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemistry at UBC. She studies the biosynthesis of natural products using chemical and biological techniques. She joined UBC in 2011.

Getting to 30 by 30 - Strategy Session

Engineers Canada has set a strategic objective to achieve a national licensure rate of thirty percent women by the year 2030. It is an ambitious, stretch goal that will require significant investment and effort. In this guided discussion, conference delegates can provide input on provincial and national strategies and action plans. This session has limited space, and is open to all delegates on a first-come, first-served basis.

This session will be led by Dr. Elizabeth Croft, NSERC Chair for Women in Science & Engineering, BC/Yukon. Please refer to page 13 for her biography. The reference material for the session is below.



STRATEGIES AND GOALS FOR WOMEN IN ENGINEERING ACTIVITIES

Background

At its May 2011 meeting, the Engineers Canada Board accepted the recommendations of the Women in Engineering Task Force. As a result, the Task Force was stood down, an action plan was approved, and the Women in Engineering Committee was created to oversee Engineers Canada’s women in engineering activities going forward.

The action plan that was developed provides recommendations on appropriate activities to implement the Board-approved strategies in this area. Women in engineering activities will thus address one of the following seven areas of strategic focus:

STRATEGY	GOAL
1. Continue efforts to ensure that the supply of licensed engineers in Canada meets the needs of the Canadian market.	Achieve a national engineering licensure rate of thirty percent women by the year 2030.
2. Raise the profile and improve the image of the profession.	Increase the visibility of the engineering profession; highlight career opportunities; emphasize the social and environmental components of engineering.
3. Demonstrate the value of diversity in engineering education and in the workplace.	Promote the business value of gender diversity; build awareness and identify common hurdles that need to be overcome.
4. Help better prepare engineers for a diverse workforce.	Develop, publicize, and improve access to training programs for engineers.
5. Work with industry on methods to help improve the retention of female engineers in the workforce and diversity in general.	Build awareness of effective methods; promote organizations that support a diverse workforce.
6. Explore how the engineering curriculum and its delivery could become more attractive to a greater diversity of students and women in particular.	Foster greater flexibility in the delivery of the engineering curriculum; attract a greater diversity of students in engineering programs.
7. Promote information-sharing on mentorship programs and the importance that mentors have in the attraction and retention of women in engineering.	Provide assistance and encourage the use of mentorship programs; encourage public recognition of engineering role models and accomplishments.

Reprinted from: http://www.engineerscanada.ca/files/w_wie_Strategies_and_Goals.pdf



Keynote: Anna Tudela



Anna Tudela has more than 25 years of experience working with public companies in the securities and corporate finance areas, both in the USA and Canada. In her role as the Vice-President of Regulatory Affairs and Corporate Secretary of Goldcorp Inc., she ensures that Goldcorp is in compliance with all securities filing requirements. In her role as Corporate Secretary she ensures that the Board has the proper advice and resources for discharging its fiduciary duty under corporate law, and ensures that all records for Goldcorp and its subsidiaries are in order. Anna leads a team of corporate services coordinators, long-term incentive plan administrators and executive assistants. She joined Goldcorp in 2005 and was actively involved in the subsequent acquisitions and/or mergers with Wheaton River Minerals and Goldcorp Inc. in 2005; Placer Dome Canada, May 2006; and Glamis Gold Ltd. in November, 2006 and other post acquisitions. Prior to joining Goldcorp, Anna worked at the law firm of Davis LLP in the Securities and Corporate Finance Department, working in mergers and acquisitions, and related general corporate and commercial transactions, working with junior companies listed on the TSX Venture Exchange and for senior companies listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange. Anna also worked as the Corporate Secretary of Diamond Fields Resources Inc. in 1995-1996, at the time of the Inco/Falconbridge bidding war for Voisey's Bay nickel deposits and the subsequent plan of arrangement with Inco Ltd. Anna is a member of the National Association of Corporate Directors (USA); the Canadian Society of Corporate Secretaries, the Institute of Corporate Directors (Canada), the BC and Yukon Chamber of Mines, the Forum for Women Entrepreneurs, the Rocky Mountain Mineral Foundation and a member of Women on Board. Born and raised in Lima, Peru, Anna made the life choice to move to North America, lived in San Francisco for 4 years where her son, Gonzalo was born and then moved with her family to Vancouver, Canada in 1987. Before Anna left Peru, she was an avid student of Peruvian history with an interest in archaeology, gold artifacts in particular, she worked for the Gold of Peru museum as General Coordinator traveling in the Americas setting up exhibits of Inca era gold artifacts.

Ignite Your Career
Getting Unstuck and Getting More of What You Want in Your Career

Is your career on-track? Are you doing work that energizes and fulfills you? Do you need a career jump-start? Join us for an inspiring and interactive session with Joanne Loberg, Career Consultant and Executive Coach of JL Careers (www.jlcareers.com). During this session, you will:

- Clarify what you really want
- Explore what's standing in the way
- Develop strategies to eliminate roadblocks to your success
- Build a Career Action Plan – to keep you on track!

Joanne Loberg



Joanne Loberg, BA, CEC, CMP is a Certified Executive Coach, Internationally Certified Career Management Professional and highly skilled Facilitator with over 20 years' experience in the career management field. She has coached over 1,000 professional and executive clients, and facilitated over 450 career workshops. She is highly skilled in helping her clients build highly rewarding careers. Her website: www.jlcareers.com highlights her services, key clients and selected testimonials.



Mentorship in the Workplace That Works

Why should you want a mentor and how do you find one? For a professional at any stage in her or his career, mentors help to establish new contacts as well as navigate the challenges and opportunities that occur in the workplace, helping the mentee to grow in their career. For an organization, the inclusion and development of an in-house mentorship program can be used to retain the best and the brightest, and improve diversity. Listen to our panellists discuss the benefits of creating and participating in mentorship programs, both as a mentor and mentee.

Moderator: Dr. Dana Grecov



Dr. Dana Grecov is an Associate Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of British Columbia. She received the B.A.Sc. degree in Mechanical Engineering from University “POLITEHNICA” Bucharest, Romania and the Ph.D. degree from National Polytechnic Institute Grenoble, France. She was a postdoctoral fellow and associate researcher at McGill University. Dr. Grecov received a Peter Wall Early Career Scholar award in 2007. Her expertise is in the areas of fluid mechanics and rheology, with applications to industrial flows, biofluid mechanics and advanced materials. She has authored or coauthored more than 100 conferences and journal papers.

Dr. Dominique Weis



Dominique Weis is originally coming from Belgium, where, as a scientist, she was involved in the early stages of the European Union policy making for “Women and Science”. She is a Canadian Research Chair Tier I, director of the Pacific Centre for Isotopic and Geochemical Research at UBC and she studies the Earth’s mantle, oceanic volcanoes and the origin and faith of metal pollutants in the environment with mass spectrometry (technique of “isotope fingerprinting”).

Rabab Ward



Rabab K. Ward is a Professor in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department at UBC. She is presently appointed in the Office of the Vice-President Research Office as the sciences and engineering research coordinator. Her research interests are in the areas of signal, image and video processing and their applications to multimedia, medical images and brain computer interfaces. She is Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, IEEE, CAE and EIC.

Anna Stukas



Anna Stukas is the Manager of Intellectual Property and Regulations at BIC Inc, part of the BIC Group. The BIC Group of companies comprise an international consumer products corporation committed to delivering simple, inventive, and reliable products for everyone everywhere. Her responsibilities at BIC include patent portfolio management, technology licensing, standards development and creation of international regulations for micro fuel cells for portable power applications. She has been instrumental in the creation of international regulations that now allow carriage of fuel cell powered portable devices onboard passenger aircraft, chairs multiple international industry committees, and has represented the fuel cell industry to the United Nations and the International Civil Aviation Organization. Previously, Anna worked with Angstrom Power Incorporated, a privately funded North Vancouver-based R&D start-up focused on developing micro fuel cells for portable power applications, and was a key member of the team that negotiated the successful acquisition of Angstrom by BIC Inc. Anna’s belief in the need for strong, positive role models to inspire women and girls to enter, and stay, in non-traditional fields lead her to join the Board of Directors of the Society for Canadian Women in Science and Technology (SCWIST) in 2009, to work with SCWIST in furthering its mission to promote, encourage and empower women and girls in science, engineering and technology. Anna is now the Past President of SCWIST and remains an active member of the Board. Anna received her Bachelor’s Degree in Mechanical Engineering (Co-op, with Distinction) from the University of Victoria. In her spare time, Anna volunteers as an assistant instructor at Vancouver West Aikikai teaching aikido, a Japanese martial art; coaches girls field hockey; and, spends as much time as possible racing sailboats on the waters of English Bay.

Laura Erven

Laura Erven is the Division Manager of Transmission in the Transmission Engineering Team at BC Hydro.

Dual-ing For Success: Making a Two Career Household Work

Should it be my turn to do the dishes again tonight? In a dual career household, is there one definition for a “fair” division of labour? Three high-achieving couples will share their secrets to making it work. Discover how they balance work and relationships so that both partners feel successful and supported in their endeavours.

Mike Joy & Judi Hess



Judi took on the role of CEO at Copperleaf in August 2009. In 1995 she joined Burnaby-based Creo Inc. from MacDonald Dettwiler and Associates, beginning as a program manager and rising to become president in 2002, a position she held until Creo was acquired by Eastman Kodak for just under \$1 Billion USD in 2005. As part of Eastman Kodak, Judi took on the role of general manager, workflow and prepress equipment; and vice-president of the graphic communications group. Two years later, her role was expanded to include management of a portfolio of software and start-up businesses and she was appointed a corporate officer and vice-president of Eastman Kodak and the head of Kodak Canada. She is currently a member of the Premier’s Technology Council of British Columbia. Originally from Toronto, Judi and her family live in Vancouver. She holds an honours bachelor’s degree in mathematics from the University of Waterloo, and is an avid downhill skier.

Mike is VP of Product Development at Aquatic Informatics in Vancouver, where he leads a team building software to help manage the world’s water data. Prior to that, he worked at Kodak, Creo, and MacDonald Dettwiler and Associates. He holds a BSc in Engineering Science from University of Toronto, and an MSc in Geography from UBC. Mike is a big fan of soccer, skiing and clean coding. He also holds the honorary title of VP Food Systems, for the Joy-Hess household (i.e. he makes dinner).

Catherine Roome & Bruce Walsh



Catherine believes that people have an extraordinary capacity to contribute to a vision they believe in. Becoming President and Chief Executive Officer of BC Safety Authority in April 2011, Catherine applies her broad experience from other organizations — and in particular her acumen for risk management — to delivering BCSA’s vision of safe technical systems, everywhere. A creative, principled leader, Catherine imagines a better future: the team at BCSA is building physical and virtual networks to connect all those who use, work with or operate technical equipment. She is focused on sharing and building on each other’s knowledge because this is what will advance safety. A professional engineer, and recipient of several business and leadership awards, Catherine received her degree in electrical engineering from the University of Victoria.

Bruce is a Principal of North West Hydraulics, and has worked on or in almost every river system in British Columbia. His greatest enjoyment is working with a multi-

discipline team on complex projects to deliver exceptional designs – Port Mann Bridge being the most recent. His consulting work has also taken him to Bangladesh, Senegal, Bolivia and Brazil. Sailing, modern design and the ‘the beautiful game’ of soccer are his passions, along with his family. He was a volunteer soccer coach for 11 years. Bruce received his masters in civil engineering at UBC.

Sheryl & Julia Staub-French



Sheryl Staub-French is an Associate Professor in the Civil Engineering Department at the University of British Columbia where she teaches and conducts research in the Construction Engineering and Management program. Sheryl received her BS in Civil Engineering from Santa Clara University and her MS and PhD from Stanford University. She has several years of industry experience on building and infrastructure projects in the United States. Much of her experience over the past decade has focused on implementing, evaluating, and promoting the use of 3D and 4D Building Information Modeling (BIM). She has over 15 years of consulting and research experience studying the technological, organizational, and procedural issues of BIM implementation. She is actively engaged with industry to advance BIM adoption, currently serving as a member of the Education and Research Committee of the Canada BIM Council (CanBIM) and the Technical Advisory Committee for the Institute for BIM in Canada (IBC).

As Executive Director at Family Services of the North Shore, Julia Staub-French has overall responsibility for an Agency that has been in existence for over 60 years, has an annual operating budget of 3.1 million, and serves over 7000 people each year. Family Services of the North Shore’s 60 staff and over 300 volunteers provide Counselling, Support and Education so that individuals and families can feel better, do better, and thrive. Julia’s leadership of the Agency is guided by her belief that her team will do their best work if they are a part of a healthy, inclusive organization that values authentic relationships. Julia held the position of Director of Clinical Programs from 2007-2012 before taking on her current role. Julia has a Master’s Degree in Psychology and is registered as a Clinical Counsellor in British Columbia and licensed as a Marriage and Family Therapist in California. She has worked for various non-profit organizations in the U.S. and Canada over the past 16 years in the areas of Program Management and Development, Clinical Supervision, Training & Education, and Psychotherapy Services.



Entrepreneurship

Get involved in an in-depth discussion on entrepreneurship with other people passionate about the topic. This session will use a “World Café” style to bring a diversity of perspectives to the table, and will feature a variety of experts to engage with.

Moderators: Tagg Jefferson and Anja Lanz

Robin McFee

Co-founder of Clinicbook

Angel Pui

CEO & Founder of Weddingful.com

Karyn Zuidinga

Director of User Experience and Principal at Analytic Design Group

Darya Niknamian

Co-founder of Women 2.0

Kimia Niknamian

Co-founder of Women 2.0

Catherine Boivie

Please see page ten for Catherine’s biography.

Cultural Diversity

As the world is increasingly globalized, people of different cultural backgrounds with English as a second language will have a larger presence in the work place and schools. This session will explore challenges that arise with colleagues and clients as a result of cultural differences. The focus of the presentation will be on the differences in communication styles when it comes to different cultures and how it affects the success of the minorities in their field of engineering, sciences and technology. The format will be an “Idea Exchange” and open to everyone from any culture or anyone who’s interested and is in a position to improve the professional or school environment for people of all cultures. We will share experiences in this area and most importantly would like to generate a discussion with the attendees. At the end, we’d like everyone to walk away with some useful take-aways.

Moderator: Mehrnoush Sardasti



Noush graduated from UBC Electrical Engineering in 2003 and started her career with FM Global, an industrial and commercial property insurance company in 2005 as a Field Engineer and has since provided loss prevention services to variety of clients such as mines, sawmills, MDF and plywood plants, warehouses, high-rise buildings, hangars, shopping centers and others. In 2007 Noush accepted the Account Engineering position where she works with clients at the corporate level to achieve consistency in establishing Loss Prevention Programs across their facilities.

Co-Moderator Darya Haefele



Darya Haefele started her career with FM Global as a Loss Prevention Engineer in 2006. She has since worked with a wide variety of clients, including the chemical, pharmaceutical and plastics industry, auto manufacturing, etc. . . . Darya regularly provided loss prevention advice for existing and new facilities and worked with local management teams to ensure their sites were well-protected against fire, natural hazards and other perils. In 2011 Darya took the position of Account Engineer with Affiliated FM, a sister company of FM Global. She now works with corporate clients to achieve consistency in establishing Loss Prevention Programs across all of their facilities and collaborates with underwriters to ensure the most appropriate insurance policies for these clients.



Leaving the Yellow Brick Road: Alternate Paths to the Emerald City

Looking for a meaningful change? Ready to make a move in career or personal life but not sure how to step out into the unknown with confidence? We're told to have a career plan, follow a "career track," and to "manage our careers." The reality is that we live in a world of change, and that careers are not linear pathways. How can we use the chaos of change as an opportunity to identify what's most important? Join career counsellor Sally Halliday for this interactive session on change, career decisions, and thinking outside the traditional career box.

- Apply a practical model of transition to your own life and career changes
- Explore some key questions to prepare you for your next career move
- Engage in a way of thinking about change and career moves so that you can experience them with hope and purpose

Sally Halliday



Sally Halliday, MA (Counselling Psychology) is a registered clinical counsellor who combines her academic research on transition and adult psychology with her practical experience as a teacher, counsellor and leader to support others to navigate the tricky waters of career change and decision-making. Having experienced a major career change herself, Sally counsels others in her private practice and consulting work. Sally has a longstanding relationship with UBC Continuing Studies' Life and Career Programs, as an instructor and member of the LCP management team.

A Cocktail Reception Survival Guide: Networking Out of Your Comfort Zone

Ever walked into a room and felt like the odd one out? When any subgroup is less than thirty percent of an overall group, they feel like outsiders – but that doesn't mean you need to wait until you're in the thirty percent to work the room. Learn how to initiate a conversation when everyone else is already talking to each other and discover what people want to hear in an "elevator pitch." Networking is an integral component of any career – it's essential to establishing your "brand." This interactive workshop will explore tips and tools for surviving, and thriving, outside of your comfort zone.

Andrea Wink



Andrea is a development professional with over 15 years of experience where she has designed and implemented successful fundraising strategies in all aspects of major gifts, campaign planning, planned giving, and annual fund programs. As well, she has lead teams through significant organizational change, long term strategic planning and successful implementation of an annual fundraising program. She is currently the Assistant Dean, Development & Alumni Affairs for the Faculty of Applied Science where she is leading a team of professionals through a transformational campaign to raise over \$140M and increase alumni engagement. Andrea received her honours degree from the University of Waterloo with a major in Art History and a specialization in cultural management. She has lived and worked across Canada for a variety of organizations including the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, the Calgary Opera Association, Theatre Passe Muraille in Toronto and the Arts Club Theatre in Vancouver. She is currently volunteers her time with several organizations, and is the Board Chair for the Dance Centre in Vancouver.

Rose Terzariol

As a highly successful development professional with over 24 years experience, Rose Terzariol has used her networking skills to help clients connect with potential donors, volunteers and other senior organizational leadership. A sought after speaker, Rose has presented at CCAE, CASE, ACCC and many other conferences related to the educational and fund development field. As Vice President for KCI (Ketchum Canada Inc.) she has worked with such diverse organizations as the UBC, University of Guelph, Langara College, Vancouver Community College, Science World, H.R. MacMillan Space Centre, Vancouver Aquarium, Vancouver Talmud Torah, Union Gospel Mission, Royal Columbian Hospital Foundation, and STARS.



Managing Up: Helping them Help you

Do you feel like your manager/supervisor is too busy to help you? Or that you need to develop mind-reading capabilities to figure out what your job is, let alone how to get it done effectively? How can you get the most out of managers and senior leadership in your organization? Join our panel for a discussion on strategies and techniques to effect change from where you are, make a positive difference, and help your manager help you achieve your goals.

Moderator: Dawn Beavon



Dawn is a graduate of UBC’s Integrated Engineering program (BASC, 2009) with a dual-specializing in Mechanical Engineering and Materials Engineering. She is currently registered with APEGBC as an Engineer-in-Training and is working towards her Professional Engineer license. Dawn has worked in high tech and consulting environments. She has coordinated design and manufacture of a prototype magnesium-air fuel for consumer markets, and prepared detailed equipment specifications for major equipment in mines. She currently works for Hatch Ltd., a global engineering consulting firm, as part of the Project Delivery Group in Mining & Mineral Processing. As a Mechanical Package Engineer and Quality Coordinator, she creates equipment specifications, manages inspection & surveillance, and performs quality assurance auditing. While at UBC, Dawn was an active member of the Integrated Engineering student council, holding the position of President in her fourth year. She is currently involved in extracurricular initiatives such as leading United Way Campaigns, coordinating shoreline cleanups, mentoring high school students interested in an engineering career path and is the co-chair of her office outreach committee. In her spare time she enjoys developing her speaking and leadership skills through Toastmasters and is currently the Vice President of Education for her club.

Karen Savage & Alisa Andreeva



Karen Savage is President of Horizon Engineering, a mid-sized geotechnical engineering consulting firm in North Vancouver. Drawing on over two decades of experience, Karen provides geotechnical engineering services to the BC building industry. She has been the geotechnical engineer on projects throughout the province and is known for her hands-on approach and commitment to client care. Areas of specialization include geotechnical design services for foundations, slope stabilization, excavations, shoring and retention systems, pavements, stormwater management, as well as sediment and erosion control especially for LEED projects. Karen has served on numerous boards of directors and industry taskforces. She is passionate about supporting women in engineering and enjoys mentoring young women as they consider, enter and advance in the profession. In 2004, Karen was named one of Canada’s Top 100 Most Powerful Women in the professional category by the Women’s Executive Network. Karen and husband Ben are parents to three children.



Alisa Andreeva was born and raised in the city of Perm, in the central portion of Russia. Alisa has been an amateur paleontologist since she was 14 years old and has won five regional geological competitions held by Moscow State University and Saint Petersburg University. In 2007, Alisa graduated, with honours, from Perm State University in Russia with a Bachelors Degree in Hydrogeology and Geological Engineering. During her last three years in the undergraduate program, Alisa volunteered to assist University researchers with data compilation, literature searches, and literature summaries. After graduation, Alisa came to Canada to improve her English and start the process of becoming a Canadian Citizen. In 2010, Alisa began working at Horizon Engineering Inc as a junior engineer in the field of Geotechnical Engineering. Horizon Engineering is geotechnical consulting company located in North Vancouver and provides consulting services in areas which include: slope stabilization and retention systems, excavation shoring and underpinning, sediment and erosion control, storm water management, and septic systems. She has been exposed to a wide range of engineering works.

Anne Condon & Monir Hajiaghayi



Dr. Anne Condon is Professor and Head of the Department of Computer Science at U. British Columbia, and works in the research areas of algorithms and biomolecular computation. She received her Bachelor’s degree (1982) from University College Cork, Ireland, and her Ph.D. (1987) at the University of Washington. She is an ACM Fellow and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.



Monir Hajiaghayi is a PhD student in the Department of Computer Science at the University of British Columbia. Her research interests include Bioinformatics, machine learning and social network analysis. Currently she is studying the algorithms and computational methods required for the prediction of RNA folding process. She received her Bachelor’s degree (2008) from Sharif University of Technology, Iran, and her Master’s degree (2010) at the University of British Columbia.

Surviving Grad School - and Staying Inspired
Planning for your Future Career in Academia and Beyond

This session is designed for graduate students. Come talk to current UBC faculty members as well as Ph.D.s who have graduated from UBC and gone onto non-academic positions. This is an informal session where each mentor will provide advice on surviving graduate school plus provide an idea of the array of career choices in academia and beyond.

Dr. Kristi Charish



Kristi received her Bachelors and Masters of Science from Simon Fraser University in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, and her PhD in Zoology from the University of British Columbia. After almost ten years in the academic world she now works as the BC Account Manager for the microscope company Carl Zeiss Canada, where she liaises with research labs and imaging facilities throughout BC. In her spare time she writes science fiction and fantasy and is a social media coordinator for the Society for Canadian Women in Science and Technology.

Dr. Mario Kasapi



Dr. Kasapi received his PhD in Zoology from The University of British Columbia in 1998. After 5 years in various private and public companies, he joined The University of British Columbia’s University-Industry Liaison Office in 2002. As Associate Director, he manages the Sponsored Research Group, which negotiates about \$150 million in contracts each year (about 2,000 agreements), and co-manage the Technology Transfer Group, which is responsible for commercializing the University’s intellectual property.

Dr. Janis McKenna



Janis is a Professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at UBC. She did an undergraduate Co-op Honours Physics BSc, followed by a PhD in experimental Particle Physics. She’s lived and worked around the world, conducting experiments at international accelerator laboratories in Canada, Germany, USA and Switzerland.

Dr. Gail Murphy



Gail Murphy is a Professor in the Department of Computer Science at UBC and a co-founder and Chief Science Officer of Tasktop Technologies Incorporated. Her research interests are in productivity and making complex software easier and more fun to build.

Dr. Amanda Vincent



Amanda Vincent is Director of Project Seahorse, an international marine conservation team based at the UBC Fisheries Centre, where she is a Professor. She and her group have won many awards for their effective research, management and policy contributions.



Keynote: Dr. Amiee Chan



Dr. Amiee Chan has over 15 years of experience in executive management and research & development in the telecommunications industry. Offering a rare blend of technical and corporate strength, Dr. Chan’s strategic vision has driven Norsat’s innovative product development program and resulted in consistent revenue growth since her appointment as CEO in 2006.

Through a growth strategy that involves a combination of mergers, acquisitions and organic growth, Dr. Chan has lead Norsat into a period of rapid growth and development. In 2011, she spearheaded Norsat’s \$18.5 million acquisition of Sinclair Technologies, a leading provider of antennas and radio frequency conditioning products with a strong base of commercial and municipal government customers. This successful acquisition moved Norsat into new markets and Sinclair continues to operate with strong revenues. Dr. Chan also drives Norsat’s organic growth, and in 2012 launched Norsat Power Solutions, a new business unit devoted power conversion and energy storage solutions, which furthers Norsat’s goals to reach into the transportation and resource sectors.

Prior to joining Norsat, Dr. Chan worked at Creo Inc. where she guided the company through multiple product developments, beta programs, rollout strategies and product launches . Her strategic approach to business was reflected in the growth of Creo’s \$80 million consumables product division.

In 2012 Dr. Chan won a prestigious Women’s Executive Network Top 100 Award, ranked third in PROFIT/Chatelaine’s list of Top Female Entrepreneurs, and led Norsat to win a BC Export Award for Advancing Technology & Innovation. In 2008, she was a recipient of an Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award and under her direction, Norsat has consistently been ranked among the top technology and export companies in BC.

An accomplished engineer, Dr. Chan’s work has been published over a dozen times. She currently holds three US patents in satellite technologies and has been involved in high level research teams such as the NASA ACTS Terminal Program.

Dr. Chan holds an Executive MBA from Simon Fraser University where she majored in Strategy & New Ventures, as well as an Electrical Engineering Ph. D. in Satellite Communications from the University of British Columbia. . Dr. Chan currently serves Dean’s External Advisory Board for the Beedie School of Business at SFU, and the UBC Engineering Advisory Council. Always dynamic within her community, Dr. Chan is involved with numerous mentoring organizations such as the Ms. Infinity program of Society for Canadian Women in Science & Technology. Dr. Chan currently resides in Vancouver with her husband and two children.

Closing Notes from our Faculty Chair

Dr. Elizabeth Croft, P.Eng., FEC, FASME
Professor, UBC Mechanical Engineering
NSERC Chair for Women in Science & Engineering, BC/Yukon



Thank you for being part of Creating Connections 2013: Working Together to Transform our World. You are part of a wave of change that is moving across our province, our country, and our world as we work together to build inclusive communities in Science and Engineering.

As Canadians, we value diversity. The economic argument for increasing gender diversity in science and engineering workplaces has been well documented. Now, step by step, it is time to make significant, sustained and transformative change to increase the number of women participating in science and engineering careers. There are three key steps that individuals at all career levels can take as they work towards building a culture that welcomes and supports women.

Understand Why

Transformative change occurs when people truly understand the benefits. To successfully achieve gender diversity, individuals, managers and senior leaders must be able see how the participation of women will directly benefit themselves and their organization.

Measure Progress

Successful strategies to increase gender diversity require a broad approach including rethinking recruitment, increasing the available pool of female applicants, breaking down unnecessary barriers to entering science and engineering fields, building a welcoming and supportive environment, and ensuring that career advancement paths are flexible and accommodate the wider set of values. Measuring and reporting on diversity practices ensures organizational progress and keeps leaders focused on moving forward.

Model Diversity Practice

Encourage, mentor, and model work-life balance, and champion changes that support an inclusive and healthy environment. Great leaders demonstrate great humanity and everyone can lead from where they are. Building an inclusive workplace that welcomes women depends on everyone.

Together we can transform our world.

- Elizabeth



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and provides funding and
training to build
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Regional Efforts | National Cooperation



Chair for Women in Science and Engineering
BC and Yukon Region



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Our mission is to advance engineering and
science as welcoming careers that serve our
world through holistic understanding and
creative, appropriate and sustainable solutions.

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The Chair is held by
Dr. Elizabeth Croft, P.Eng.,
FEC, FASME. Dr. Croft is is a
Professor of Mechanical
Engineering at the University
of British Columbia. Her
research is centered
around human-robot
interaction. Dr. Croft
leads the CWSE
National Network.

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are we?**

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