Dear all,

In this bulletin, you will find information on:

1. WiSER Programme and activities
2. Events in Trinity
3. News: Out and About

1. WiSER Programme and activities

Upcoming Events

Springboard Programme, 11th February 2009
The next Springboard workshop for the registered participants will be held on Wednesday, 11th February in the Staff Development Seminar Room, 3rd Floor, House 4 from 9.30am to 5pm. If you missed signing up for the cycle that began in January 2009 the next programme is expected to start next academic year.

WiSER Seminar Series: “Writing an Article for Publication”, 18th February 2009
David Taylor is the editor of a scientific journal “Journal of the Mechanical Behavior of Biomedical Materials” and has experience as an author and reviewer of articles in areas, which are ranging from materials engineering to biomedical science. In this seminar he will facilitate a discussion about the preparation and processing of articles for journals in science, engineering and technology. Topics will include: how articles are processed by journals; what editors are looking for; how to maximise your chances of acceptance; revisions and rejections; open access journals. The seminar will be held on Wednesday, 18th February in the Large Conference Room, from 12.30 to 2pm. To register please either call WiSER at 896 3508 or email wiser@tcd.ie with “Writing Seminar” in the title line and giving your contact details and if you have any dietary requirements. Registration open to all.

Call for ideas and events to celebrate: “International Women’s Day 2009”, March 2nd – 6th 2009
Would you like to be involved in the International Women’s Day 2009? Are you already planning an event to celebrate International Women’s Day during the week from 2nd - 6th, March. If you are interested, please contact WiSER by email at wiser@tcd.ie. Further details on IWD: http://www.internationalwomensday.com/.

Report on past events

WiSER Mentoring Programme 2008-2009
In October 2008 WiSER launched a pilot Mentoring Programme in the Faculty of Engineering, Mathematics and Science. There is strong interest in the programme with 20 mentee/mentor partnerships being formed in the pilot programme.
The programme is closed for the academic year 2008-2009. A second programme will be launched during the next academic year. Further details: http://www.tcd.ie/wiser/mentoring/index.php.

Celebration of Honorary Degrees, December 2008
WiSER hosted a Christmas coffee morning to mark the conferral by College of honorary degrees on two distinguished female scientists, Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell (Astrophysics) and Dame Ann Dowling (Mechanical Engineering), and to give an opportunity for everyone in College to meet informally. Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell is currently Visiting Professor of Astrophysics at the University of Oxford and is the first female President of the Institute of Physics for 2008-09.

2. Events in Trinity

CASPL Workshops: “Improve your writing outputs”, April, 14th and 15th 2009
Dr. Rowena Murray, University of Strathclyde, will facilitate three workshops to improve your writing outputs.
  - Writing for Academic Journals (April, 14th from 9.30am to 12.30pm);
  - Writing a Book Proposal (April, 14th from 14.00pm to 17.00pm);
  - Mini-Retreat for Academic Writers (April, 15th from 9.30am to 12.30pm).
Registration open to all.

3. News: Out and About

Ireland

Dublin – European City of Science 2012
Dublin has been chosen as European City of Science for 2012 by the European Association for the promotion of Science and Technology. Dublin will host Euroscience, Europe’s largest research and science conference, which will attract 8,000 Irish and international delegates to Dublin in July 2012. It will be an opportunity for the delegates to discuss the direction that research is taking in the sciences, humanities and social sciences. Further information on: http://www.euroscience.org/esof-2012,28120,en.html

Boom in uptake of science places
The HEA has reported a 13% increase in the uptake of third-level places in science and computing in 2008 (from 3430 students in 2008 to 3963 students in 2007). Record numbers of students are taking up first-year honours science, and the numbers starting computing degrees have topped 1,000 for the first time in years. Further details on: http://www.science.ie/EN/index.cfm/section/news/news_key/693

United Kingdom
**British Professor wins top women in Science Award**

Prof. Athene Donald FRs of the Cavendish Lab and Director of WiSETi has won the prestigious 2009 L'Oreal UNESCO Women in Science Award for Europe. These awards were established in 1998 as the first international awards dedicated to women scientists around the world and celebrate their achievements in science as well as their commitment to inspire young female scientists. Further details on: http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=43938&URL_DO=DO_PRINTPAGE&URL_SECTION=201.html

**Germany**

**Saxony research Institute starts women support programme**
The Leibnitz Institute for material science in Dresden has received funding from the European Commission to help female scientists combine parenthood with a scientific career. Further details on: http://www.researchresearch.com/news.cfm?pagename=newsStory&type=default&elementID=93088

**Norway**

**Norway proposes earmarked positions for women**
The Norwegian government proposes that about 15 per cent of new doctoral and postdoctoral positions at universities will be earmarked for women. The aim is to increase the number of women in top scientific positions. Further information on: http://www.researchresearch.com/news.cfm?pagename=newsStory&type=default&elementID=92807

**European Union**

**New Commission Package to reinforce women workers rights**
The main objectives of the Package are improving conditions for maternity leave, strengthening social protection measures for the self-employed and achieving better child care. Further details on: http://www.euractiv.com/en/socialeurope/commission-pushes-stronger-rights-women-workers/article-175985

Best wishes,

Caroline

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