Dear all,

In this bulletin, you will find information on:

- SFI 'Women in Science' Discussion Group - 2nd April 2009
- WiSER Director is the Irish National Expert for the EU Helsinki Group on Women and Science
- WiSER current and past events
- Do you have experience of Systematic Review?

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Invitation: SFI 'Women in Science' Discussion Group, 2nd April 2009, 2-6pm

SFI would like to invite you to an informal Discussion Group on their current Principal Investigator “career break” programme (PICA). The Discussion will be held on Thursday, 2nd April 2009 at 14.00 -18.00 at Science Foundation Offices, Wilton Park House, Dublin 2.

The objective of the Discussion Group is to get some feedback from the research community on this programme and on other initiatives which could be helpful in terms of supporting Women in Science and Engineering Research and SFI kindly invites your participation.

The informal discussion will comprise of brief presentations by Caroline Roughneen, WiSER, Ann Fitzpatrick – WITS, and Ruth Freeman on behalf of SFI and an open debate-brain storming session with all participants to be chaired Prof. Jane Grimson – Head of Computer Science Dept. Trinity College Dublin. Participation is limited and will be confirmed on a first come basis. Please do pass on the date and information on the Discussion Group to your colleagues including non-SFI Researchers who may find participation in the discussion useful.

If you would like to participate, could you please indicate by return email to Avril Coyle (E-mail: avril.coyle@sfi.ie). SFI would welcome any points that you would like to add to the discussion and to include these points on your confirmation of participation. If you are unable to participate and would like to add some points to the discussion, they would be delighted to receive your input and will submit for discussion.

Please note that you do not have to be a SFI-funded researcher to contribute to this important discussion.

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News: WiSER Director is the Irish National Expert for the EU Helsinki Group on Women and Science

The Director of WiSER, Caroline Roughneen, has been invited by the European Commission to be the Irish expert for the Helsinki Group on Women in Science. This group was set up by the European Commission to bring together national representatives from all the EU Member States and countries associated to the Framework Programmes.

The Group aims to promote the participation and equality of women in the sciences on a Europe-wide basis. They meet twice a year and provide an important forum for dialogue about national policies. The main tasks of the Group are set up in the Mandate voted in 2007.
The next meeting is in mid-May so I will be contact with the network in advance for any comments that could feed into the Group. Further details:

WiSER Current and past events
Springboard Programme, 8th April 2009
The next Springboard workshop for the registered participants will be held on Wednesday, 8th April 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. Further details on Springboard:
http://www.tcd.ie/wiser/activities/springboard.php

‘Retaining Scientific Excellence through Mentoring’ Review, 23rd April 2009
The pilot mentoring programme has been running since October 2008. WiSER will be having a six-month review session with all mentees and mentors to learn how the programme can be improved upon. If you missed signing up for this exciting programme, we intend to run it again at the start of the next academic year. Further details on mentoring http://www.tcd.ie/wiser/mentoring/index.php

International Women’s Week, March 3rd – 8th 2009
Earlier this month, many activities and events were held around College to celebrate International Women’s Day 2009. There was great interest in the events and I would like to thank everyone who was involved in the week. Events included talks by women in business, government and music, inspiring women entrepreneurs, discussions about whether science is not gender-neutral and many more events. Further details on IWD in College: http://www.tcd.ie/wiser/news/iwd2009.php

Sharing your skills and knowledge in College
Do you have experience of Systematic Review?
On June 15-16th, the third annual postgraduate summer school is taking place (see http://www.tcd.ie/CAPSL/academic_practice/index.php?page=postgrads#News)
Last year CAPSL ran a session on the application of approaches to literature reviewing, based on the systematic review process, which proved very popular and received good feedback from student participants. CAPSL would be really interested to hear from anyone in College with experience of systematic review, in any field or discipline, who would be interested in further developing and co-presenting the session for this years’ summer school. Please contact Jacqueline Potter, potterj@tcd.ie, x3171

The workshop outline from last year - Systematic approaches to literature reviewing: This practical workshop explains the systematic review process as a literature review technique. Used in a growing number of disciplinary fields for evidence-based decision making, we’ll explore how the technique can be used or adapted more widely as a methodology for literature reviewing within a dissertation or thesis framework. It is intended for students in the earlier stages of their research.
Best wishes,

Caroline

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