

ADVANCE: WISE@OU NEWSLETTER

WOMEN IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING AT OAKLAND UNIVERSITY
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MAY 2014

WISE@OU and CETL

This academic year, WISE@OU co-hosted four workshops with OU's Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL). These events provided valuable information and fostered discussion between professors in many departments. The workshops have focused on mentoring and work/life balance topics, including:

- Mentoring in the STEM Fields (October 9, 2013)
- Balancing Teaching and Research in STEM (November 25, 2013)
- Mentoring Undergraduates/Graduate Students in STEM Research (February 18, 2014)
- Balancing Academic Careers and Life Demands (April 7, 2014)



WISE@OU would like to thank the faculty members that participated in the panels at these events. WISE@OU leadership team members **Laila Guessous** (Mechanical Engineering) and **Brad Roth** (Physics) facilitated our panel discussions in November and February, and **Kathy Moore** helped facilitate our discussion in April. **Beth Zou** (Mechanical Engineering) and **Anna Spagnuolo** (Mathematics and Statistics) shared their tips for managing their teaching and research schedules and obligations at our second workshop. **Amy Banes-Berceli** (Biological Sciences), **Gary Barber** (Mechanical Engineering), and **Xiangqun Zeng** (Chemistry) shared their tips about mentoring students in STEM during our third workshop. The workshops were open to all faculty, and we were pleased to have a diverse audience of non-tenured and tenured faculty members at our discussions. Recordings of each session can be found under the "Workshops" tab on the CETL website: www.oakland.edu/cetl.



We are pleased to continue our partnership with CETL for the 2014-2015 academic year. In future workshops, we may also address mid-career or post-tenure career plans as well as managerial skills for grants and supervising labs. We welcome any suggestions for what you would like to see from a workshop—e-mail Leanne DeVreugd at ldevreugd@oakland.edu if you would like to share your input. Stay updated about these workshops and other WISE@OU events on the WISE@OU Events webpage: www.oakland.edu/advance/events.

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**WISE@OU CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, NSF CAREER AWARD WEBINAR,
FACULTY GRANTS, NIH GRANT TIPS**

WISE@OU Conference Presentations

The WISE@OU leadership team attended the Michigan Academy of Science, Arts, and Letters conference at Oakland University in February. The team attended various panels and presented a poster focused on our activities related to recently hired STEM faculty.



In March, **Kathy Moore**, **Julie Walters**, and **Leanne DeVreugd** attended the 2014 ADVANCE Program Workshop in Alexandria, VA; the annual NSF conference which aims to provide opportunities for ADVANCE grant PIs and their teams to share their knowledge and findings. The theme was “Driving Institutional Change Through Research Innovation.” Topics from the workshop included the integration of work and life demands, family-friendly policies, and the importance of anti-bias training for department chairs and faculty members. WISE@OU has been and will continue to work on including some of these ideas into our activities, as well as in our recommendations to the university administration.

The poster that WISE@OU presented at both conferences focused on the recently hired STEM faculty and the activities that we hosted to support this group. There has been a recent growth of female representation in the STEM departments, attributed especially to the 2012 cohort which included 5 females and 3 males. WISE@OU works to ensure that newly hired faculty are introduced to the various grant and research resources available on campus during their first semester. We host networking opportunities for these faculty members each semester, usually as informal lunches where colleagues can share experiences with each other. We have also had special guests during lunches, including Grant Officer **Bonnie Kwit** and the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, **James Lentini**.



Additional WISE@OU resources for faculty include the Guide for STEM Faculty and workshops that focus on STEM-related topics such as funding for fellowships, grant applications, mentoring, and work/life balance. In addition to our CETL workshops, we also partnered with Sigma Xi for an event each semester. In the Fall, members of Sigma Xi, WISE@OU, and faculty discussed interdisciplinary research opportunities at OU. This Winter, we assisted with hosting Dr. Diandra L. Leslie-Pelecky from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, who gave a presentation about the physics of NASCAR to STEM faculty and students as the guest speaker for the Annual Sigma Xi Lecture.



Photo Credit: Sarah Blanchette

NSF CAREER Award Webinar

Are you considering applying for an NSF CAREER Award? WISE@OU recently hosted a viewing of a webinar focused on this award, and **Ferman Chavez** (Chemistry) shared his experience as a recipient of a CAREER Award with faculty members. The discussion during this event focused on some of the best practices for applying for this award.

Dr. Chavez and other faculty recommend participating in grant review panels to help you see the dynamics of the review process. Participating in a panel allows you to review other grants, and you may consider applying the feedback from the panel to your own applications. Dr. Chavez encourages faculty members to take advantage of the multiple tries (up to 3 times) to apply for the CAREER Award. “Feedback is golden,” he states. “You’re looking for common themes in the reviewer comments.” Dr. Chavez also emphasized the importance of a well-developed education plan for the CAREER Award application. The plan needs to be “completely plausible and believable,” he says, and he recommends using the existing resources on campus, such as contacting staff at the Office of Research Administration and the School of Education and Human Services, to help you develop your budget and a focused plan for education programs.



Contact **Leanne DeVreugd** at ldevreugd@oakland.edu to access the NSF CAREER Award presentation information.

CETL invites faculty to participate in the Lilly Conference Series on College and University Teaching and Learning in Traverse City, from October 16-19, 2014. Applications for travel grants will be accepted until June 10 and can be found at oakland.edu/cetl.

NCI Grant Awarded to Dr. Gerard Madlambayan

Assistant Professor **Gerard Madlambayan** (Biological Sciences) received a grant from the National Cancer Institute (part of the National Institutes of Health) for studying how endothelial cell activation regulates AML (acute myeloid leukemia) growth and relapse. The project began on February 4 and he received funding of \$430,000 for his research over the next three years.

Through clinical analysis of leukemia patients, increased endothelial cell activity in these patients suggests a role of these cells in the pathogenesis of the disease. Dr. Madlambayan's research will elucidate how the inflammatory response of endothelial cell activation participates in leukemia progression and relapse. His long-term goal is to develop novel treatment strategies that aim to eliminate proliferating

leukemia cells and prevent relapse. *More information about the grant and research can be found [here](#).*



Dr. Gerard Madlambayan

ABOUT WISE@OU:

- ◆ WISE@OU is supported by a four-year National Science Foundation ADVANCE Partnerships for Adaptation, Implementation, and Dissemination (PAID) grant ([Award Number 1107072](#)).
- ◆ The program focuses on institutional analysis, recruitment, retention, and promotion of women and under-represented populations in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) areas.
- ◆ The main goal of the project is to increase the diversity of search pools and the number of women and under-represented populations in STEM tenure-track positions.
 - ◆ Visit our website at www.oakland.edu/advance.

Dr. Mi Hye Song Receives NIH Grant

Assistant Professor **Mi Hye Song** (Biological Sciences) received a \$200,00 grant from the National Institutes of Health on April 4 of this year. With the grant, her research will use the *C. elegans* embryo as an in-vivo model to study centrosome assembly. Dr. Song will use genetics, biochemistry, high-resolution imaging, and phosphoproteomics to achieve the aims of her project. She expects to identify phosphorylation sites of SAS-5 and their physiological roles responsible for proper activity

of SAS-5 in centrosome assembly. The molecular and biochemical mechanisms of regulated levels of centrosome proteins in *C. elegans* are expected to enhance the knowledge of the centrosome regulation in human diseases. As this research aims to understand the mechanisms of centrosome assembly, it will likely provide insight relevant to the diagnosis and treatment of human diseases such as cancers and ciliopathies that are associated with centrioles/basal bodies, in addition to

fundamentally advancing the field of centrosome biology. *More information can be found [here](#).*



Dr. Mi Hye Song

Specific Tips for NIH Grant Applications

Updated Application Policy

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) announced a change in policy on application submissions. Effective immediately, for application due dates after April 16, 2014, following an unsuccessful resubmission (A1) application, applicants may submit the same idea as a new

(A0) application for the next appropriate due date. See more at the [NIH website](#).

Early Career Reviewer Program

If you are interested in becoming a grant reviewer, consider this program which trains qualified scientists to become effective reviewers. To qualify, you must be a full-time faculty member, show evidence of an active independent research program, and have recent senior author

research publications in peer-reviewed journals. See [website](#) for additional information.

"Peer Review Revealed" Videos

The NIH Center for Scientific Review created a series of videos to show how scientists across the country review NIH grant applications. View [these videos](#) to learn more about the review process.

WISE@OU Values Your Feedback

Questions? Comments?
We want to hear from you!
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