

ADVANCE: WISE@OU NEWSLETTER

WOMEN IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING AT OAKLAND UNIVERSITY
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MARCH 2015

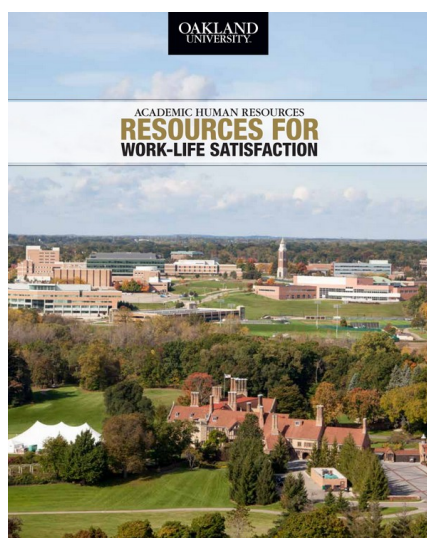
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RESOURCES FOR WORK-LIFE SATISFACTION

Created by WISE@OU and Academic Human Resources (AHR), this brochure shares information about the resources available on campus for work-life satisfaction. Use this guide to find information about leave options, benefits, tenure and promotion, and more. Visit www.oakland.edu/ahr for a copy. Printed brochures available at the AHR Office in 417 Wilson Hall.

Goal Setting Workshop for Mid-Career Faculty

On February 13, WISE@OU hosted a workshop for associate professors that explored various strategies for setting goals in the post-tenure career stage. Over twenty faculty members from across disciplines and schools participated in the event. The attendees were led through the process of examining their career path, individual strengths and weaknesses, and department criteria to provide a foundation on which to formulate their goals. Faculty members took time to discuss their current practices and issues that they faced in their academic careers. Presentation slides and worksheets from this event can be found on the WISE@OU [OU Resources](#) page.



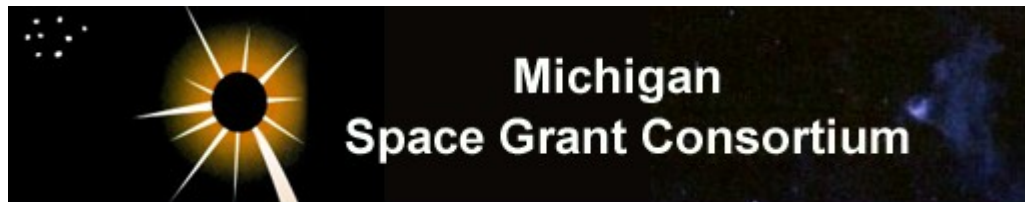
Working with STEM Teaching Assistants

As part of the CETL Teaching and Learning in STEM Series, WISE@OU hosted a workshop about working with teaching assistants in labs and the classroom. Facilitated by Kathy Moore, the panelists **Fabia Battistuzzi** (Biological Sciences), **Clara Castoldi** (Physics), **Darrin Hanna** (Electrical and Computer Engineering), and **Nessan Kerrigan** (Chemistry) described their experiences with teaching assistants and shared their advice for working with students. Specific tips were detailed in a handout and can be found on the WISE@OU [OU Resources](#) page. View a recording of the workshop on the CETL website, under “Workshops,” at www.oakland.edu/cetl.

Michigan Academy Conference

Members of the WISE@OU Leadership Team presented at the Michigan Academy of Science, Arts, and Letters Conference at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, MI, on March 13. Our panel in the Interdisciplinary Studies section focused on the initiatives of the WISE@OU program—including our work with combating implicit bias, mentoring junior STEM faculty, and providing tips and resources for work-life balance. Find out more about the Academy at themichiganacademy.org.

Michigan Space Grant Consortium (MSGC) Seed Grant Winners



WISE@OU congratulates the STEM faculty who recently received research grants from the Michigan Space Grant Consortium: **Fabia Battistuzzi** (Biological Sciences), **Sara Blumer-Schuetz** (Biological Sciences), **Evan Trivedi** (Chemistry), and **Yuejian Wang** (Physics). 10 seed grants were funded out of the 31 applications received.

A graduate fellowship was awarded to **Anais Brown** (who works with Fabia Battistuzzi) and an undergraduate fellowship was awarded to **Michael Culver** (mentored by Fabia and Anna Spagnuolo.) Additionally, **Laura Dinsmoor** and **Chris Kobus** from the SECS received a grant for their outreach and teacher training programs.

WISE@OU Leadership Team member **Laila Guessous** is the Oakland University liaison for the Michigan Space Grant Consortium. For more information about this program, contact her at guessous@oakland.edu or visit the website at www.mi.spacegrant.org.

NSF CAREER Award Winners

National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER Awards are given to junior faculty to excel as both educators and scholars. These prestigious awards, totaling up to \$500,000 each, are to be utilized within the span of five years. Two OU faculty recently received such grants.

Libin Rong, Associate Professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, was awarded an NSF CAREER Award in May of 2014 for his work involving the study of virus infection in relation to HIV latency. Last year, Rong proposed a new mechanism to explain this HIV latency persistence and tested his hypothesis by comparing modeling predictions with experimental data. Results from this experiment explained why adding more drugs to current medication regimens is ineffective. He is also using his award to support the research of undergraduate and graduate students, and is hoping to continue to do so over the next five years. To view the abstract for his award, visit [the NSF's award website](#).



Jing Tang, Assistant Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, received an NSF CAREER Award in February 2015. She will be using the award to investigate "super-correction" techniques in Positron Emission Tomography (PET) imaging to help revolutionize one of the most sensitive *in vivo* molecular imaging modalities when integrated with magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). The project will be an important step toward reaching the full technological capabilities of PET and MRI, extending their capabilities to diagnostic and prognostic benefits for oncologic, neurologic, and cardiologic diseases, thus improving patient care and research. To view the abstract for her award, visit [the NSF's award website](#).



NSF CAREER Award Webinar and Discussion:

Academic Research Funding Strategies, LLC, is presenting a webinar about the NSF CAREER Award, which will detail the application process and expectations for this award. With the support of the OU Center for Biomedical Research, WISE@OU will provide access to this webinar for the month of April and we encourage untenured faculty to watch it. We will host a discussion of the webinar at the end of April, featuring experienced award winners and faculty to help address your questions. Please contact **Leanne DeVreugd** if you are interested in this event and webinar access. Email Leanne at ldevreugd@oakland.edu.

Recent Grants for STEM Faculty

WISE@OU is excited to highlight recent grants, focusing on the research of some of our recently hired STEM faculty.

Biological Sciences



Randal Westrick – American Heart Association, \$231,000.

Westrick's lab uses mouse whole genome mutagenesis and Next Gen sequencing to identify the genes involved in cardiovascular disease. His research focuses on understanding and preventing the development of pathologic intravascular blood clot formation (also known as thrombosis), which is one of the most important medical issues spanning the fields of cardiology, hematology/oncology, and vascular biology. This funding supports the identification and validation of thrombosis modifier genes.

School of Engineering and Computer Science



Megan Conrad (Industrial and Systems Engineering) – Chrysler Group LLC, \$40,000.

This funding supports the Universal Ergonomic Assessment Interface, a software interface integrating all ergonomic tools for job assessments, including, but not limited to, body fat composition measurements, musculoskeletal strain, and static and dynamic work analysis.



Sergey Golovashchenko (Mechanical Engineering) – Department of Energy (DOE), \$251,349 and Chrysler Group LLC, \$110,000.

A prior collaborative project between Pacific Northwest National Lab (PNNL), Ford, and Golovashchenko was successful at extending the formability of aluminum alloys in stamping operations and promoting further implementation of aluminum to reduce the weight of cars and trucks. As a further extension of this work, a new DOE grant, involving PNNL, Ford, OU, US Steel and AK Steel aims to extend the formability of Ultra High Strength Steels to further reduce vehicle weight. The Ford University Research Program sponsored OU to develop stamping dies for trimming Ultra High Strength Steel panels and an automated stamping cell has been jointly developed by OU and Ford at the OU Incubator. The Chrysler grant supports the continuation of the teaching and lab work through the [Chrysler Learning and Innovation Center for Sheet Metal Forming \(CLIC-form\)](#).



Daniel Llamocca (Electrical & Computer Engineering) – Univ. of New Mexico/NSF, \$68,068.

Llamocca works to develop methods that can dramatically reconfigure hardware and software resources in real-time to respond to changing video content, user needs, and available computing resources. This funding supports development of methods that will provide run-time management for video processing and communications. Furthermore, the research findings will be integrated with educational activities for middle school, undergraduate, and graduate programs, covering the broader areas of image processing, embedded systems, and computer architecture communities.

Upcoming Events and Workshops

Center for Biomedical Research/ Sigma Xi Research Festival

Friday, March 27, 2:00-4:00 PM in the hallway outside of 116 Engineering Center (EC)

This event is an ideal opportunity to learn more about research at OU. Undergraduate and graduate students will be presenting posters about their biomedical research. Immediately following the festival (in 116 EC) will be the annual Sigma Xi lecture, featuring Dr. David Ginsburg, who will discuss “Bringing Genetics & Genomics to the Clinic: What, Where, and When.”

Best Practices in Scientific Writing

Part of the CETL Teaching and Learning in STEM Series, co-sponsored by WISE@OU

Tuesday, March 31, Noon–1:30 PM in the CETL Learning Studio, 200A Elliott Hall

This workshop is full. If you have not already registered, please note that recordings of workshops are available on the [CETL website](#). Panelists will share their writing tips and provide information about resources to support writers. Panelists include **Brad Roth** (Physics), **Jo Reger** (Sociology/Women and Gender Studies), **Libin Rong** (Mathematics and Statistics) and **Jennifer Vonk** (Psychology). Our focus will include the STEM areas as well as the social sciences.

Best Practices: Becoming a Full Professor

Special Event for Mid-Career Faculty

Thursday, April 2, 3:30–5:00 PM in 233 Hannah Hall

Faculty and administrators will discuss suggested best practices in the process of becoming a full professor and applying for promotion. Panelists will include **Provost James Lentini**, **CAS Dean Kevin Corcoran**, **SECS Associate Dean Beth Zou** and **Political Science Chair David Dulio**. RSVP is appreciated, but not necessary – e-mail Leanne DeVreugd at ldevreugd@oakland.edu.

CETL's Providing Effective Feedback and Recommendation Workshop Series

Wednesday, April 1 and Thursday, April 9, Noon–1:30 PM in the CETL Learning Studio, 200A Elliott Hall

The **Writing Effective Recommendations for Students and Faculty** workshop (April 1) will provide strategies to help faculty write effective letters of recommendation to students applying to graduate and professional schools as well as letters of recommendation for colleagues. This workshop is facilitated by Christina Grabowski (SOM).

The **Providing Effective Feedback to Students and Faculty** workshop (April 9) will address how faculty and instructors can provide effective, efficient, and constructive feedback to students on various types of work. This workshop is facilitated by Richard Sabina (SOM). Register for each workshop on the [CETL website](#).

ALL ABOUT WISE@OU:

- ◆ The Women in Science and Engineering at Oakland University (WISE@OU) 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. Initiatives are listed on our website.

WISE@OU Values Your Feedback

Questions? Comments? We want to hear from you!

Please contact WISE@OU Program Assistant **Leanne DeVreugd** at ldevreugd@oakland.edu or (248) 370-4516.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.OAKLAND.EDU/ADVANCE



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