

## **IEEE Women in Engineering Newsletter – July 2006**

In this issue

[IEEE MENTORING CONNECTION NOW AVAILABLE](#)

[IN MEMORIAM, UC-SANTA CRUZ CHANCELLOR DENICE DENTON, 1959-2006](#)

[CALL FOR FEMALE SOFTWARE ENGINEERS](#)

[UK MEMBERS: APPLY FOR YOUNG WOMAN ENGINEER AWARD](#)

[WIE GROUP IN VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA CELEBRATES MAXWELL'S 175TH BIRTHDAY](#)

[CORRECTION: JUNE REPORT ON UAE EVENT](#)

[WIE SENIOR MEMBER WINS INNOVATION PRIZE](#)

[SUMMER BRINGS TECHNOLOGY CAMPS FOR YOUNG WOMEN](#)

[TRANSGENDERED SCIENTIST COMMENTS ON GENDER, SEXISM IN SCIENCE](#)

[NETWORKING AMONG WOMEN FOR WORKPLACE CHANGE](#)

[PROCEEDINGS OF WEPAN CONFERENCE RELEASED](#)

[REPORTS ON DIVERSITY IN ENGINEERING RELEASED](#)

[IEEE WOMEN IN ENGINEERING STATISTICS](#)

[CALL FOR WIE NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS](#)

[WIE NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE](#)

## **WIE AND IEEE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

[IEEE MENTORING CONNECTION NOW AVAILABLE](#)

IEEE is now offering a new benefit to all members above the grade of Student Member: the chance to participate in an online mentoring program! Whether you want to share your wisdom and experience as a mentor, or learn from another IEEE professional as a mentee, this program can provide an enriching partnership.

To learn more or to sign up, visit

[http://www.ieee.org/web/membership/benefits/products/prod\\_mentoring.html?cprod=67099](http://www.ieee.org/web/membership/benefits/products/prod_mentoring.html?cprod=67099)

## **OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

[IN MEMORIAM, UC-SANTA CRUZ CHANCELLOR DENICE DENTON, 1959-2006](#)

Pioneering electrical engineer and University of California at Santa Cruz (UCSC) chancellor Denice Denton died on June 24, 2006. Chancellor Denton was a strong advocate for women and minorities in engineering throughout her illustrious career. More information can be found at

<http://www.mercurynews.com/mld/mercurynews/news/opinion/14928207.htm>

The University of Wisconsin, where Chancellor Denton began her professorial career, suggests that those wishing to contribute to a scholarship in Chancellor Denton's name, recognizing women in science and engineering, can do so by contacting the University of Wisconsin Foundation.

Finally, those who wish to express their sympathy to Chancellor Denton's family may send their messages to

Ashish Sahni, Assistant Chancellor  
200 Kerr Hall  
University of California  
Santa Cruz, CA 05064

## CALL FOR FEMALE SOFTWARE ENGINEERS

The upcoming website <http://www.womeninsoftware.com> is presently looking for women software engineers who are currently working in high-profile positions or who own their own businesses. They wish to interview interested parties and to raise the general profile of women software engineers in the U.S. For more information, contact Evelyn Smith at [admin@womeninsoftware.com](mailto:admin@womeninsoftware.com).

## UK MEMBERS: APPLY FOR YOUNG WOMEN ENGINEER AWARD

Women under the age of 30 are encouraged to apply for the Institution of Engineering and Technology's Young Woman Engineer award. The winner will be recognized at an awards ceremony in London, presented with a £1000 prize, and invited to participate in high-profile events throughout the year. The application deadline is September 15, 2006. For more information, visit

[http://www.youngwomanengineer.org/what\\_is\\_YWE\\_award.cfm](http://www.youngwomanengineer.org/what_is_YWE_award.cfm)

## REGION NEWS

### WIE GROUP IN VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA CELEBRATES MAXWELL'S 175<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY

The IEEE Victorian Section WIE celebrated the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of James Clerk Maxwell with a special lecture entitled "Maxwell Year 2006 – celebrating the man behind the Maxwell equations": [http://www.ieeevic.org/events/docs/141\\_WIE\\_Lecture\\_Einsteins\\_Heroes.pdf](http://www.ieeevic.org/events/docs/141_WIE_Lecture_Einsteins_Heroes.pdf)

The lecture was presented by a well known author and mathematician, Dr Robyn Arianrhod, author of the popular book *Einstein's Heroes – Imagining the World Through the Language of Mathematics*.

James Clerk Maxwell, famous for his equations on electromagnetism, had a great influence on the work of Albert Einstein. The lecture covered Maxwell, the man behind the equations -- looking specifically at his childhood, his university days and then at Maxwell as a budding mathematician, physicist and poet. The lecture chronicled his achievements in formulating the mathematical theory behind electromagnetism.

For decades unheralded in his homeland of Scotland, Maxwell was finally honored as 2006 was named "Maxwell Year." Numerous events commemorating Maxwell's accomplishments have been held in Scotland and internationally.

The WIE-presented lecture on 13 June attracted 80 attendees from industry and academia. Included in the audience were Fred Clerk and his daughter Michelle, direct descendants of the Maxwell family. Dr Arianrhod's insights into Maxwell's life, relationships and work brought to light a complex and fascinating individual. A special cake with Maxwell's Equations was served as a part of the after-lecture refreshments.

This WIE event has also been recorded on the Maxwell Year 2006 web-site along with other events world-wide:  
<http://www.maxwellyear2006.org/html/events.html>.

## **CORRECTION: JUNE REPORT ON UAE EVENT**

The United Arab Emirates WIE affinity group's anniversary celebration, announced in the June newsletter, was held in both Abu Dhabi and Dubai. The opening celebration was in Abu Dhabi, and the reception at Dubai.

## **WIE MEMBERS IN THE MEDIA**

### **WIE SENIOR MEMBER WINS INNOVATION PRIZE**

Monash University Associate Professor Jean Armstrong won the award for "Most Outstanding Commercialization Opportunity" at Australia's Commercialization Expo, for her role in the invention of Optical OFDM, which has been described as "Optical ADSL." The full story is available at

<http://www.monash.edu.au/news/newsline/story/913>

## **ARTICLES OF INTEREST**

### **SUMMER BRINGS TECHNOLOGY CAMPS FOR YOUNG WOMEN**

Summertime means ice cream, lazy days, and trips to the beach for many schoolchildren – but for young women and girls across the United States, it also means a chance for exposure to science and technology. Many organizations held mini-camps for young women this summer, including:

- University of St. Thomas's STEPS camp for seventh-grade girls: [http://www.stthomas.edu/bulletin/news/200629/Monday/STEPS7\\_17\\_06.cfm](http://www.stthomas.edu/bulletin/news/200629/Monday/STEPS7_17_06.cfm)
- HP Labs' Tech Camp for junior high school girls: <http://h20325.www2.hp.com/blogs/hplab/archive/2006/06/20/1198.html>
- Radford University's Summer Bridge program for high school students: <http://www.roanoke.com/news/nrv/wb/wb/xp-74385>
- New Jersey Institute of Technology's FEMME camp for inner-city girls: <http://www.connectforkids.org/node/4185>

### **TRANSGENDERED SCIENTIST COMMENTS ON GENDER, SEXISM IN SCIENCE**

Neuroscientist Ben Barres – formerly Barbara – has been commenting about his experiences as both a man and a woman in science. Barres, formerly quiet about gender issues, was inspired into activism by former Harvard president Larry Summers's 2005 comments about male and female aptitude for the sciences. Read more at

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2006/07/13/neuroscientist\\_once\\_a\\_woman\\_says\\_he\\_saw\\_gender\\_bias\\_firsthand/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2006/07/13/neuroscientist_once_a_woman_says_he_saw_gender_bias_firsthand/)

### **NETWORKING AMONG WOMEN FOR WORKPLACE CHANGE**

The Anita Borg Institute reports on the power of women's networking groups to make the workplace and the IT industry more female-friendly:

[http://anitaborg.org/news/publications/no\\_girls\\_allowed.php](http://anitaborg.org/news/publications/no_girls_allowed.php)

### **PROCEEDINGS OF WEPAN CONFERENCE RELEASED**

The Women in Engineering Programs and Advocates Network (WEPAN) held its annual conference in June 2006. Proceedings are now available online:

<http://www.x-cd.com/wepan06/>

## REPORTS ON DIVERSITY IN ENGINEERING RELEASED

The organization Engineers Dedicated to a Better Tomorrow has released reports on the status of women and minorities in engineering.

Women in Engineering: [http://www.dedicatedengineers.org/news\\_pubs/Critical\\_Issues\\_Women\\_6-06.pdf](http://www.dedicatedengineers.org/news_pubs/Critical_Issues_Women_6-06.pdf)

Minorities in Engineering:

[http://www.dedicatedengineers.org/news\\_pubs/Critical\\_Issues\\_Minorities\\_6-06.pdf](http://www.dedicatedengineers.org/news_pubs/Critical_Issues_Minorities_6-06.pdf)

## IEEE WOMEN IN ENGINEERING STATISTICS

### WIE MEMBERSHIP

As of June 2006, WIE Membership is up (4.3%) from June 2005. Students remain the largest membership segment, making up approximately 80% of WIE's Membership.

Grade	June-05	June-06
Fellow	25	30
Life Members	57	94
Associates	105	98
Member	1264	1441
Senior Member	157	204
Student	7730	7875
<b>Total</b>	<b>9338</b>	<b>9742</b>

Region	June-05	June-06
US	3811	3635
Canada	514	484
Europe, Africa & Middle East	1933	2268
Latin America	1136	1741
Asia & Pacific	1944	1614
<b>Total</b>	<b>9338</b>	<b>9742</b>

Gender	June-05	June-06
Female	6779	6457
Male	2524	2839
Not Provided	35	446
<b>Total</b>	<b>9338</b>	<b>9742</b>

### WIE AFFINITY GROUPS

WIE now has 115 Affinity Groups throughout the world.

Region	WIE AFFINITY GROUPS		
	Regular	Student	Total
R1	4	0	4
R2	3	0	3
R3	2	1	3
R4	2	2	4
R5	3	0	3
R6	2	0	2
R7	6	6	12
R8	8	24	32
R9	4	25	29
R10	8	15	23
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>115</b>

## **CALL FOR WIE NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS**

The WIE newsletter welcomes your contributions, including WIE conference announcements and reports, news of WIE members' accomplishments, and other items related to women in engineering and technology. Please send your article submissions and contributions for the newsletter to [women@ieee.org](mailto:women@ieee.org). Deadline for submissions is the 10th of the month for the following month's edition.

## **WIE NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE**

Past issues of the WIE Newsletter are available at:

<http://www.ieee.org/committee/women/archive.xml>