

CWSE-Prairies Newsletter

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*The goal of the
NSERC CWSE – Prairies*

*is to develop and successfully lead
strategic activities that promote
greater opportunities for women,
particularly Aboriginal women, in
science and engineering across the
Prairie Region.*

Introducing the New NSERC- CWSE (Prairies) - WISE Kid-Netic Energy Coordinator

The NSERC-CWSE team and Faculty of Engineering welcome Lena Yusim, our new NSERC-CWSE (Prairies) - WISE Kid-Netic Energy coordinator.

Lena recently graduated from the University of Winnipeg with a Bachelor of Science majoring in geography. Lena is replacing Jackie Onagi who has taken up a new position as the Alumni Relations Coordinator (Lifelong Learning) at the University of Manitoba.

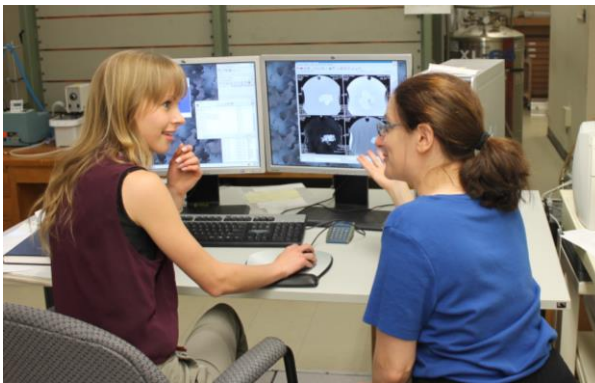


ICAN-WISE Scholarship Recipients Announced!

The ICAN-WISE Scholarship (\$6000) was initiated by Dr. Annemieke Farenhorst to facilitate women mentee - mentor academic research collaborations in natural sciences and engineering fields. Twenty-five women and their mentors from two participating universities in the Prairie Region applied to the ICAN-WISE scholarship program this year. The 2014 ICAN-WISE Scholarships recipients are:

- Mentee Heather Whittaker (Biopsychology) and her mentor Dr. Melanie Martin, Department of Physics and Astronomy and Department of Radiology, University of Manitoba.
- Mentee Melissa Kelly (Science) and her mentor Dr. Kateryn Rochon, Department of Entomology, University of Manitoba.

Learn more about their projects at our web-site cwse-prairies.ca.



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CCWESTT 2014 Conference In Regina, SK



CCWESTT 2014
Open Opportunities:
 Mentoring the Future
 Regina, SK

Presented by **Mosaic**

May 22-24, 2014
 Canadian Coalition of Women
 in Engineering, Science, Trades & Technology

Annemieke Farenhorst and four members of her team Jenna Rapai, Geethani Eragoda Arachchilage, Lena Yusim, and Ru Li attended the Canadian Coalition of Women in Engineering, Science, Trades and Technology (CCWESTT) Conference in Regina, SK. Both Annemieke Farenhorst and her Ph.D. student Jenna Rapai presented at the conference.



The conference was attended by women and men, particularly those in Science, Engineering, Trades and Technology (SETT) professions. Dr. Roberta Bondar, Canada's first female astronaut, and Hayley Wickenheiser, five-time Olympic medalist in hockey, were also among the participants. It was a week of informative presentations, panel discussions and breakout sessions surrounding the challenges and achievements that women in SETT experience in their professions. Presentations were about communication, negotiation, self-promotion, equality, diversity, and human rights. Breakout sessions were on the importance of retention and the recruitment of women in SETT, as well as creating opportunities for mentorships and how to maintain a good work-life balance.



The day before the conference, the NSERC CWSE network and the Canadian Centre for Women in Science, Engineering, Trades and Technology (WinSETT Centre) offered a workshop on effective communication for women in SETT. The workshop was a great opportunity for women from across Canada to network and make a few friends prior to attending the conference.



Soil Science Welcomes Students From The Verna J. Kirkness Science And Engineering Program

The Kirkness Program offers scholarships to Aboriginal youth for a weeklong, hands-on experience in a University setting. Students learn about what it is like to working in a research laboratory, and discover about the academic programs available at the university.



Verna J. Kirkness Science and Engineering Program was founded in 2009. This year, 34 students from across Canada visited the University of Manitoba during the week of May 26-30, 2014. Two of these students, Christie Saulis from Fredericton, New Brunswick and Creanna Cook from Gillam, Manitoba chose to work in the laboratories of Dr. Annemieke Farenhorst. The CWSE Prairies also sponsored the travel and accommodation for two youth from Carry The Kettle First Nations, Saskatchewan and one youth from Edmonton, Alberta.



Under the supervision of experienced scientists, Christie and Creanna collected and tested water from various locations. They analyzed the quality of the water by measuring pH and chlorine and testing for the presence of bacteria. They also examined a soil profile and took samples so they could see nematodes. At the end of the week Christie and Creanna presented their work to all their fellow Kirkness program participants, their mentors and Verna Kirkness herself. A special thanks to Pepper-Mackena Pritty who took on the role as primary mentor, and made sure Christie and Creanna had an enjoyable and productive week.



CWSE Prairies Offers Workshop To Academic Administrators At University Of Manitoba

Equity programs have focused on increasing the number of women in faculty positions (getting in) but less attention has been paid to their progress once there (getting on). On May 2, 2014, Drs. Janice Dodd and Annemieke Farenhorst offered a workshop to academic administrators at entitled "Supporting Women Academics in their Career Paths and Research: What Academic Administrators Need to Know". During the workshop, they summarized current data regarding the career progression of women in Canadian universities, and examine the nature of the unintended gender bias displayed by both male and female decision-makers in workplace interactions. They also provided examples of how to mitigate the effects of gender bias on women's careers. There were 21 participants, which included department heads, deans and directors from 14 different units at the University of Manitoba. The workshop was very well received with the evaluation form showing that 100% of the participants agreed or strongly agreed to have learned something that will be useful to them.

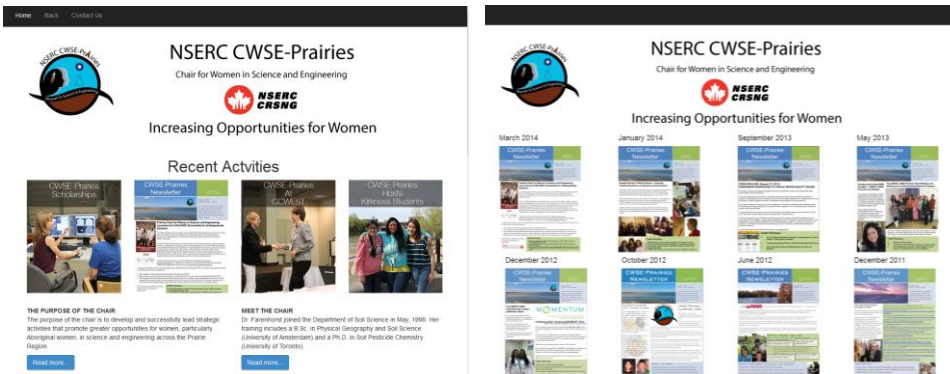
Registration Is Open For WISE Kid-Netic Energy Girl's Club



Each week, of the Girl's Club explore a new area of science, do an activity, meet with a scientist or go on a field trip to see how real-life engineers and scientists work.

Members participate in weekly meetings and fun activities, participate in projects and hold an annual science fair to end off the year! Registration fees are \$300 for 18 meetings and Girls Club always meets on Saturdays from 12:30 – 3:30 pm. Find out more online at www.wisekidneticenergy.ca/girls-club/.

Visit Our Website



Check out our newly renovated web page! This is the place to go to find information about what the CWSE-Prairies team has been up to. The site is user friendly, and works great on mobile devices, tablets, and any other screen you may be using. The website features various events that our team has been involved in, has resources for students for scholarship information, and of course all of our newsletters can be accessed online as well. Click to learn more: cwse-prairies.ca.

The CWSE - Prairies Team



Dr. Annemieke Farenhorst
The Chair
Annemieke.Farenhorst@umanitoba.ca



Lena Yusim
WISE Kid-Netic Energy – NSERC-CWSE
Program Coordinator
Lena.Yusim@umanitoba.ca



Pepper-Mackena Pritty
CREATE H2O Program Coordinator
umpritty@cc.umanitoba.ca



Ross McQueen
Research Associate
Ross.Mcqueen@umanitoba.ca



Jenna O. Rapai
PhD Student in Gender Equity
Jenna.Rapai@umanitoba.ca

Wishing You A Great
Summer Research Season
From The NSERC-CWSE
Prairies Team!

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Thank You