

The purpose of the Women in Science Program (WISP) is to improve the learning and working environment and to attract, encourage, and advance more women at all levels in science and mathematics.

WISP Awarded National Science Foundation Grant

WISP was awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation to fund a fellowship program to encourage women to pursue science degrees and science careers. The Science Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Program for Women will provide research experience to undergraduate women who have shown potential and interest in the sciences. In addition to research, SURF Fellows will serve in a mentoring capacity to lower division undergraduates. The overarching goal of the SURF Program is to increase the number of females that graduate with Bachelor's degrees in the sciences and to retain them in science fields after graduation.

Female students completing their sophomore year with a minimum GPA of 3.0 or above are eligible to apply for fellowships. Research begins the summer of 2001 and continues for the 2001-2002 academic year. Fellows will receive a stipend of \$3000 for the summer and \$1500 for the academic year.

Female students completing their freshman year with a minimum GPA of 3.0 or above are eligible to apply for a mentoring relationship with a SURF Fellow. The mentoring portion of the program runs through the fall and spring semesters of the 2001-2002 academic year.

For more information and to obtain application forms, please contact Mindy Criser, NSF-SURF Program Coordinator, at 855-3849 or e-mail wispsurf@indiana.edu. Applications are due Friday, March 9, 2001.

Science Department Seminars

Visit the Biology Department's webpage at <http://www.bio.indiana.edu> and Geological Sciences webpage at <http://www.indiana.edu/~geonews/news/news.html> for information on upcoming seminars.

Distinguished Visiting Scholar Jill Bargonetti, Ph.D.

Jill Bargonetti, Ph.D. was on campus January 17-19, 2001 as a WISP Distinguished Visiting Scholar (DVS). Dr. Bargonetti is an Associate Professor of Biology at Hunter College in New York and is studying tumor cell growth suppression. She has received numerous awards including the Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers from the National Science Foundation in 1997. Throughout her teaching career, she has been a mentor and role model, and she is committed to reaching out to underrepresented groups in the sciences.

During her visit, Dr. Bargonetti gave a public lecture titled "Tumor Suppression by a Central Controller called p53." Dr. Bargonetti also met with students, staff, and faculty to discuss current research and issues regarding women and minorities in the sciences. WISP was one of 28 institutions to receive a Burroughs Wellcome Fund Visiting Professorship, which funded Dr. Bargonetti's visit.

WISP is seeking suggestions for future Distinguished Visiting Scholars. Please e-mail wispsurf@indiana.edu with any ideas.

WISP Research Day

On **Monday, March 5**, WISP is hosting its annual Research Day at the **IMU Frangipani Room** from **11am till 2pm**. Women across science and mathematics fields will display their research through poster presentations. Awards will be given to the two best research posters. WISP will also hold panel presentations on presenting research at conferences and on getting the most out of professional conferences.

For more information, contact WISP at 855-3849 or e-mail wisp@indiana.edu.

The **Women in Science Program** is located in the Office for Women's Affairs, Memorial Hall E123. For more information on WISP, please e-mail the Program Coordinator at wisp@indiana.edu or call 855-3849, or visit WISP's web page at www.indiana.edu/~owa/womsci.html.

Astronomy DVS

The departments of Astronomy and Physics in conjunction with the Office for Women's Affairs present a public lecture "**Starbirth in the Universe**" by Ellen Zweibel, Professor, University of Colorado, on **February 6th** at 4 pm in Swain West 119.

WISP Mentoring Program

WISP is continuing its mentoring program for the 2001-2002 academic year. If you are not already part of the program, you may want to consider applying. Applications are available on the web.

Mentors: www.indiana.edu/~owa/wisp_mentor.html

Mentees: www.indiana.edu/~owa/wisp_mentee.html

Questions can be e-mailed to Leisel Iverson, WISP Coordinator, at wisp@indiana.edu.

17% of Bachelor's Degrees in Physics go to Women

According to a survey by the American Institute of Physics, women received only 17% of the bachelor's degrees in physics from 1994 to 1998. This is more than double the number that it was two decades ago; however, compared to other science disciplines, physics lags behind in the number of women graduates.

(Source: Chronicle of Higher Education, 1/12/01)

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- Any comments, suggestions, or submissions for the
- WISP Wire should be directed to Mindy Criser, WISP
- Coordinator of Development and Communication, at
- mcriser@indiana.edu or call 855-3849.
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16th Annual Women's History Month Lunch

The 16th Annual Women's History Month Lunch will take place at 11:30 a.m. on **March 8, 2001**, at the Convention Center of Monroe County-Bloomington. During the lunch, the Woman of the Year Award will be presented to an outstanding woman in the community. The award recipient will also be honored during Women's History Month in March for her outstanding contribution to girls and women in the community. For more information regarding the lunch, please contact the Commission on the Status of Women, Community & Family Resources Department, P.O. Box 100, Bloomington, IN 47402, or by email to brennerc@city.bloomington.in.us.

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