



The 3rd Global Women of Light Symposium

Dear colleague,

[WiSTEE Connect](#) (Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Entrepreneurship) is collaborating with the [OSA Foundation](#) to organize the 3rd international symposium “**Global Women of Light**” (GWL) at the 2018 [Frontiers in Optics](#) on 16 September 2018 in Washington DC, US. The program will be hosted at the [The Optical Society \(OSA\)](#) from 9:00-16:00.

To register for this event please sign up by [clicking here](#). Note that registration for the symposium is free, and registration for the OSA conference is not required to attend this symposium.

The program highlights a panel and round-table discussions centered on the theme “Career Strategy for Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Entrepreneurship.” Panelists include Dr. Christie Canaria, director, U.S. National Cancer Institute, SBIR Development Center; Dr. Ursula Gibson, professor, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway; Dr. Ulrike Fuchs, vice president, Asphericon GmbH, Germany; Dr. Deborah Goodings, director, National Science Foundation; and Cathy Long, associate division chief, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. A workshop on “The Art and Science of Thriving Women” will be led by Mary Burkhardt, Lead Peak Performance LLC. Ms. Elizabeth Rogan, CEO of OSA, will give an opening speech on “Advancing Women in Optics;” and Dr. Jessie DeAro, Program Director for the ADVANCE Program, will give a keynote speech on “Changing the System Not the People.” A networking session will close out the day and provide an opportunity for informal discussion. A community of women across career ranks and disciplines in STEM and Entrepreneurship will continue to be built, creating cross-pollinated best practices and strategies across sectors. Career growth, mobility, mentorship, and leadership will be collectively developed by this community.

The first and second WiSTEE GWL Symposia in 2016 and 2017 shone light upon women's careers in STEM and Entrepreneurship. Approximately 100 individuals from 25 countries and 80 institutions attended each symposium. The attendees were from various career paths such as faculty members, students, scientists, engineers, researchers, program managers, entrepreneurs, and business executives. The past GWL Symposium info can be found at www.wisteeconnect.org.

I hope you will be able to join me and other women from around the world for WiSTEE Connect’s thought-provoking and impactful program focused on moving the careers of women in our field forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jie Qiao", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jie Qiao, Ph.D, M.B.A.

Founder and President of WISTEE Connect

www.wisteeconnect.org

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The Third Global Women of Light Symposium

Sunday, 16 September

The Optical Society
2010 Massachusetts Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20036 USA

Agenda

- 8:00 – 9:00 **Check-In, Breakfast and Networking**
- 9:00 – 9:30 **Welcome Remarks: WiSTEE Connect Introduction**
Jie Qiao, Chair and President
WiSTEE Connect
- 9:30 – 9:45 **Opening Speech: Advancing Women in Optics**
Elizabeth Rogan, CEO
OSA, The Optical Society
- 9:45– 11:30 **Panel Discussion: Career Strategies for Women in Science, Technology,
Engineering, and Entrepreneurship**
Christie Canaria, Program Director Ursula Gibson, Professor
National Cancer Institute, SBIR Norwegian University of Science and
Development Center, USA Technology, Norway

Ulrike Fuchs, Vice President Deborah Goodings, Division Director
Asphericon GmbH, Germany National Science Foundation, USA

Cathy Long, Associate Division Chief
NASA / Goddard Space Flight Center, USA
- 11:30 – 11:45 **Group Photo**
- 11:45 – 12:45 **Lunch**
OSA Foundation Introduction **Keynote Speech:**
Changing the System Not the People
Chad Stark, Executive Director Jessie DeAro, Program Director
OSA Foundation National Science Foundation
- 12:45 – 15:45 **Career Strategy Workshop and Round-Table Discussion**

The Art and Science of Thriving Women
Mary Burkhardt, CEO
Lead Peak Performance, LLC
- 15:45 – 16:00 **Closing Remarks**
Jie Qiao, Chair and President
WiSTEE Connect
- 16:00 –17:00 **Networking Session (6th floor or OSA)**

Symposium Chair and Moderator

Jie Qiao



Dr. Qiao is an Associate Professor of Optics at the Carlson Center for Imaging Science at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Her research focuses on ultrafast-laser material interaction and optical metrology. She previously worked at the DOE-funded Laboratory for Laser Energetics on ultrafast laser systems, diagnostics and imaging, where she led the demonstration of the world's first meter-scale tiled-grating pulse compressor that enabled the kilojoule, petawatt OMEGA EP ultrashort laser. She also worked in two startups and an optics company on innovations of photonics devices and metrology systems. She holds a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from The University of Texas, Austin and an MBA from Simon School of Business, University of Rochester. Dr. Qiao founded WiSTEE Connect in 2013, for which she is currently serving as the Chair and President.

Opening Speech Speaker

Elizabeth Rogan



Elizabeth Rogan is the Chief Executive Officer of The Optical Society (OSA). She is responsible for the oversight, strategic direction and fiscal soundness of programs and activities of this \$40M, 150+ staff society. In addition, she is the society's spokesperson and advocate to a wide range of OSA constituencies, including its members, volunteers, co-sponsors and customers, throughout the global optics community.

Panelists for Career Strategy for Women Leadership in Science, Technology, Engineering and Entrepreneurship

Christie Canaria



Dr. Canaria is a Program Director in the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Development Center at the National Cancer Institute (NCI). She provides programmatic support to small businesses applying to the SBIR programs and has areas of expertise in biological imaging, biosensors, and nanotechnology. Dr. Canaria began science policy work in Washington, DC in 2013. She earned her Ph.D. in Chemistry from the California Institute of Technology and a B.S. in Chemistry from the University of California, San Diego.

Ulrike Fuchs



Dr. Fuchs is Vice President of Strategy and Innovation at Asphericon GmbH, Germany, where she is currently responsible for all R&D activities and strategic product development. One of her main research topics is interlinking manufacturing and metrology of aspherics and freeform optics. Dr. Fuchs holds a Ph.D. in physics from Friedrich-Schiller University Jena, Germany. She is also the inaugural Kevin P. Thompson Optical Design Innovator Award Winner.

Ursula Gibson



Dr. Gibson is the current President-Elect of The Optical Society (OSA). She received a PhD in Physics before joining the University of Arizona Optical Sciences Center in 1982. She then moved to Dartmouth College in 2000, where she was on the faculty of the Thayer School of Engineering for 20 years, and in 2010, she moved to the Norwegian University of Science and Technology. Her research areas include novel optical materials, spanning biomaterials, thin films and most recently, semiconductor-core optical fibers. She is also an Adjunct Professor of Applied Physics at KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, Sweden.

Deborah Goodings



Dr. Goodings is completing her appointment as the director of the National Science Foundation, Division of Civil, Mechanical, and Manufacturing Innovation (CMMI) of the Directorate for Engineering. Prior to that she was department chairman at George Mason, and before that she was on the civil engineering faculty for nearly 30 years at the University of Maryland, where she also launched the university's Master of Engineering and Public Policy program, and their Engineers Without Borders program, both of which expanded students' vision for the impact of engineering.

Cathy Long



Cathy Long received her B.S. in Electrical Engineering (EE) at the University of Maryland and M.S. in EE with a concentration in satellite communications at the George Washington University. She has been working at NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) for 32 years and currently serves as an Associate Chief for the Instrument Systems and Technology Division. Cathy is leading an effort to heighten diversity and inclusion (D&I) awareness throughout her division and also serves on the Engineering Directorate D&I committee and the GSFC Women's Advisory Committee.

Keynote Speaker: Changing the System Not the People

Jessie DeAro



Dr. DeAro has seventeen years of experience managing federal capacity building and education programs at the U.S. Department of Education and the National Science Foundation. Her expertise is focused on higher education diversity programs and policy designed to improve the participation and success of underrepresented minorities and women in STEM education programs and the workforce. She was awarded a Presidential Management Fellowship in 1999 after earning her doctorate in physical chemistry from the University of California at Santa Barbara. She is currently the lead program officer for the ADVANCE program and on the management team for the EHR Core Research program.

Presenter for Workshop: The Art and Science of Thriving Women



Mary L. Burkhardt, BS, MA, CAS

Mary Burkhardt is the CEO of Lead Peak Performance, LLC. She serves clients in their development as strategic, innovative, progressive leaders. Throughout her career, she is recognized as a performance results leader in Academics and the Corporate world. As an experienced global change agent, Mary has a track record of leading successful organizations. She also works with Executives in their development to build performance-based cultures, achieving results they've never previously experienced.

Lead-Speakers for Round-Table Discussion



Cristina Canavesi

Dr Canavesi is the Co-Founder and President of LighTopTech Corp., an optical technology company that is building innovative optical instruments to bring to market disruptive technologies for noninvasive imaging in medical and industrial fields. She holds a Ph.D. in Optics from The Institute of Optics, and an MBA from Simon School of Business, University of Rochester, where she founded the Women in Engineering group in 2010. Dr. Canavesi was awarded the SPIE Optical Design and Engineering Scholarship (2012), was the 2015 recipient of the Hugh H. Whitney Award at the Simon School of Business, University of Rochester and is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma. She is currently serving as the Secretary of WiSTEE Connect.



Dominique Dagenais

Dominique Dagenais is a Program Director and Acting Deputy Division Director at National Science Foundation, in the Electrical, Communications and Cyber Systems Division of the Engineering Directorate. Previously she has worked for the Naval Research Laboratory Optical Sciences Division where she helped design and deploy the first three-axis fiber magnetic sensor, demonstrating record sensitivity. She supported the development of novel optoelectronic active and passive devices for WDM fiber telecommunication at Alcatel. Her other research experiences include high-power Nd:YAG laser propagation, beam shaping optics, and uniform pellet illumination for laser fusion.



Inka Manek-Hönniger

Dr. Manek-Hönniger is an Associate Professor of Physics at the Centre Lasers Intenses et Applications at the University of Bordeaux, France. Her research focuses on laser-matter interaction with ultrafast lasers and optical characterization techniques. She previously worked on ultrafast laser systems, fiber lasers and the characterization of new laser crystals. She spent four years in companies on automotive systems and fiber lasers. She holds a Ph.D. in Physics from the Ruprecht-Karls-University in Heidelberg, Germany.



Tracy Kuntz

Tracy Kuntz is the President of Towneley Capital Management, Inc., an independent registered investment advisory firm. With expertise in designing investment solutions and providing perpetuity planning, her passion is working with non-profit organizations that want to thrive, make a difference and last forever. A CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professional for over 20 years, she is a member of the Financial Planning Association and serves on the TD Ameritrade Institutional President's Council. She holds an M.B.A. from the University of California, Irvine.



Carmiña Londoño

Dr. Londoño is the Deputy Division Director of the National Science Foundation Division of Electrical, Communications and Cyber Systems. She is a Fellow of SPIE. In 2010, she received the NSF Director's Award for Program Management Excellence for the Partnership of International Research and Education Program. Previously, she was an optical engineer for 10 years with the Polaroid Corporation working on the design and testing of optical systems for medical and large-scale consumer products.



Yi-Hsin Lin

Dr. Lin is a professor of Photonics at National Chiao Tung University (NCTU), Taiwan. She is vice chair in EECS Undergraduate Honors Program, NCTU, and Deputy Secretary-General in Taiwan Photonic Society (TPS). She holds a Ph.D. in Optics from CREOL, the college of Optics and Photonics, University of Central Florida. Her research interests are liquid crystal photonics devices.



Brigid Mullany

Dr. Mullany is a Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Science at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Her research focuses on surface finishing methods and surface evaluation. She is also currently a Program Director at the National Science Foundation in the Advanced Manufacturing Program within the Division of Civil, Mechanical and Manufacturing Innovation.



Michelle Sander

Dr. Sander is an assistant professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Boston University and an affiliated faculty with the Materials Science and Engineering Division. She received her PhD in Electrical Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the Optics and Quantum Electronics Group. Her research interest include the development of innovative novel ultrafast fiber lasers, characterization of femtosecond dynamics and applications to vibrational spectroscopy and infrared nerve stimulation.



Yasaman Soudagar

Dr. Soudagar received her doctorate in the field of quantum optics. She then received a prestigious Canadian scholarship for an industrial postdoc that she tenured at Attodyne, a surgical laser company with a successful exit which is now called Light Matter Interaction. During this time, she had the idea for a brain imaging technology, which gave birth to Neurescence Inc., Canada. Under her leadership Neurescence has raised funds from an Angel, already has revenue and has won numerous awards for its technology, team and business plan.



Tish Shute

Tish Shute is a Director in Corporate Strategy & Technology Planning, AR/VR/MR, Huawei USA, working on next generation display and sensor technologies, new applications for photonics, and new paradigms for computing & content. Previously, she worked with Will Wright (Sims, Sim City, Spore) at Stupid Fun Club and as part of the Syntertainment founding team creating mobile social experiences based on innovative approaches to AI and machine learning.



Ling-An Wu

Dr. Wu, professor emerita at the Inst. of Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, has had a diverse career: she grew up in England, was an undergraduate in Peking Univ., and worked as a farmhand, translator and interpreter before obtaining a PhD from the Univ. of Texas at Austin. As a member of the IUPAP Working Group on Women in Physics (WiP), she led various successful programs to improve the status of WiP in China. She has published ~170 papers with more than 3000 citations, and then at age 70 started teaching a graduate course on quantum optics, as well as hands-on optics for children.