



The 2nd 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 2nd international symposium “**Global Women of Light**” (GWL) at the 2017 Frontiers in Optics on 17 September 2017 in Washington DC, US. The program will be hosted at the Headquarters of OSA, The Optical Society from 9:00-14:30.

To register for this event please sign up by [clicking here](#). Note that registration for the OSA conference is not required to attend this symposium; registration for the symposium is free. A limited number of travel grants are available. Please fill out this [form](#) and send it to info@wisteconnect.org

The goal of the second GWL Symposium is to continue building a strong network among women across academia, industry, government and to collaboratively establish strategies to advance women’s leadership across career ranks. Panel and round-table open discussions on “Collectively Advancing Women Leadership” will be hosted at this event. We have invited internationally renowned women leaders from both STEM and entrepreneurial backgrounds to provide their strategies and best practices on advancing women leaders in these fields. A networking session will be close out the days program 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 WiSTEE GWL Symposium in 2016 shone light upon women's careers in STEM and Entrepreneurship. Approximately 100 individuals from 25 countries and 80 institutions attended the symposium. The attendees were from various career paths such as faculty members, students, scientists, engineers, researchers, program managers, entrepreneurs, and business executives. A number of women from various universities and countries like China, France and Pakistan have asked for a WiSTEE branch. The group photo, panelists and ice-breaking speaker info from the 2016 GWL Symposium can be found at www.wisteconnect.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".

Jie Qiao, Ph.D, M.B.A.
Founder and President of WISTEE Connect
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Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science
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Global Women of Light Symposium

Sunday, 17 September

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

Agenda

- 8:00 – 9:00 **Check-In, Breakfast and Networking, Optional Headshots**
- 9:00 – 9:30 **Welcome Remarks**
- Jie Qiao, Chair
WiSTEE Connect
- Chad Stark, Executive Director
OSA Foundation
- 9:30 – 11:00 **Panel Discussion: Collectively Advancing Women Leadership in Science, Technology, Engineering and Entrepreneurship**
- Aleksandra Boskovic, Director
Corning Corporation
- Dominique Dagenais, Director
US National Science Foundation
- Frederica Darema, Director
Air Force Office of Scientific Research
- Susan O’Keefe, Vice President
Edmund Optics
- Ursula Keller, Professor and President of Women Professor Forum, ETH Zürich
- 11:00 – 11:20 **Group Photo**
- 11:20 – 12:20 **Networking Lunch and Keynote Remark**
 Advancing Women in Optics
 Elizabeth Rogan, CEO
 OSA, The Optical Society
- 12:20 – 13:30 **Round-table discussion: Strategies and Recommendations for Advancing Women Leadership, Collectively and in Each Sector**
- 13:30 –14:00 **Closing Remarks**
- Jie Qiao, Chair
WiSTEE Connect
- 14:00-14:30 **Networking Event**
14:45-15:45 **Happy Hour** (Location: Washington Hilton Hotel, 1919 Connecticut Ave Northwest, Washington, DC 20009)

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-based photonics and optics fabrications and optical metrology. She previously worked for 8 years at the DOE-funded Laboratory for Laser Energetics on high-energy ultrafast laser systems, imaging, metrology and adaptive optics and 5 years in companies on technology innovations of photonics devices and optical 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.

Panelists for Collectively Advancing Women Leadership in Science, Technology, Engineering and Entrepreneurship



Aleksandra Boskovic

Aleksandra Boskovic is a Research Director for Optics, Surfaces and Integration Technologies Director at Corning Incorporated. In her role, Dr. Boskovic is responsible for oversight of research programs aimed at several business groups within Corning, such as, the Telecommunications Business Group, Specialty Materials, Display Technologies and the Emerging Innovations Group. During her early career, she made several contributions to the Optical Communications Systems effort in Corning both as an individual contributor and as a team leader. Dr. Boskovic holds a Ph.D. in physics from Imperial College, UK.



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.



Frederica Darema

Frederica Darema is the Director of Air Force Office of Scientific Research, Arlington (AFOSR), Virginia. She guides the management of the entire basic research investment portfolio of \$510 million for the Air Force. She leads a staff of 200 scientists, engineers and administrators. AFOSR interacts with leading scientists and engineers throughout the world to identify and invest breakthrough opportunities. Dr. Darema was a research staff member, then a research group manager at the T.J. Watson IBM Research Center from 1982 – 1994. Dr. Darema's scientific and technical accomplishments include seminal contributions in the parallel high-performance computing field. She is a Fellow of IEEE, APSIS, and Washington Academy of Sciences.



Ursula Keller

Ursula Keller is a professor of physics, the founding president of ETH Women Professors Forum at ETH Zurich and the director of the NCCR MUST, an interdisciplinary research program launched by the Swiss National Science Foundation in 2010. She was a Member of Technical Staff at AT&T Bell Labs from 1989 to 1993. Her research interests are exploring and pushing the frontiers in ultrafast science and technology. She is a Fellow of OSA, EPS, SPIE, IEEE and IAPL. She is the recipient of many prestigious awards such as Charles H. Townes Award, OSA, Weizmann Women & Science Award, and Arthur L. Schawlow Award, LIA's highest achievement award.



Susan O'Keefe

Susan O'Keefe is the Executive Vice President of Operations at Edmund Optics. She works in Global Supply Chain & Operations Executive with 17 years at VP/EVP level in diverse industrial manufacturing & distribution companies. Ms. O'Keefe has broad experience in corporate strategic planning, cross-cultural team leadership, and acting as a change agent to drive operational excellence. This experience has given her expertise in driving working capital improvements simultaneous to advancing service results, to improve ROI and market advantage. She is currently responsible for Edmund Optics' global manufacturing and distribution operations.

Keynote Speaker



Elizabeth Rogan

Ms. 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.

Presenters and Lead-Speakers for Round-Table Discussions



Andrea Armani

Dr. Armani is a Professor of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science at the University of Southern California, and she is the Director of the Northrop Grumman-Institute of Optical Nanomaterials and Nanophotonics. She received her BA in physics from the University of Chicago and her PhD in applied physics with a minor in biology from the California Institute of Technology.



Gisele Bennett

Dr. Bennett is an Associate Vice President for Research, Faculty Integration, Glenn Robinson Chair in Electro-Optics, and a professor in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, The Georgia Institute of Technology. She previously was the director of the Electro-Optical Systems Laboratory at GTRI with over 130 researchers. Her technical interest includes atmospheric propagation and super resolution systems. Dr. Bennett is a member of the Army Science Board and a Fellow of OSA and SPIE.



Anoopoma Bhowmik

Ms. Bhowmik is the Imaging Business Unit Project Manager and the Engineering Leadership Program (ELP) Supervisor at Edmund Optics. ELP is a tailored multi-year program that develops engineers into future leaders. Ms. Bhowmik has a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Michigan in 2007 and an M.S. in Optical Sciences from the University of Arizona in 2011. She is energized by leading teams of individuals from different disciplines to achieve a common goal.



Jessie DeAro

Dr. Jessie DeAro is an expert in broadening participation in the STEM workforce and has seventeen years of experience leading federal grant programs at the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the U.S. Department of Education. Currently she is the lead program director for the ADVANCE program at NSF. She has served in leadership and policy roles in STEM education and workforce as a senior policy advisory at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy and as acting Deputy Division Director at NSF.



Ursula Gibson

Dr. Gibson 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.



Meredith Hutchinson

Dr. Meredith Hutchinson is a research scientist in the Optical Sciences Division at the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) in Washington, DC. Her expertise is in RF photonics, photodetectors, nonlinearity and fiber optic sensors. She serves on a number of IEEE and OSA technical committees and is currently the president of NRL Women in Science and Engineering.



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 Acting Deputy Division Director of the NSF Division of Engineering Education and Centers and a Program Director for the NSF Engineering Research Centers Program. 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.



Susana Marcos

Dr. Marcos is Professor of Research and Director of the Visual Optics and Biophotonics Labs at the Institute of Optics at CSIC, Spain, where she works in the development of imaging-based technologies for applications in ophthalmology. She is a fellow of OSA, EOS and ARVO. She is a dedicated academic mentor, a translational researcher and a co-founder of Plenoptika Inc. and 2EyesVision Inc..



Deborah Rib

Dr. Rib is a Clinical Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at University of Rochester Medical Center Women's Health Practice. Prior to this position, she was a partner in a private practice while simultaneously holding an academic position. Dr. Rib has actively mentored and taught M.D. and M.D./PhD students and resident physicians throughout her 27-year career. She is a Board Certified Fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology.



Jannick Rolland

Dr. Rolland is the Brian J. Thompson Professor of Optical Engineering at the Institute of Optics at the University of Rochester and the Director of the NSF Center for Freeform Optics (CeFO). She is a fellow of OSA and SPIE. She co-founded LighTopTech Corp. in 2013, a startup in biotechnology, for which she serves as the CTO.



Stefanie Tompkins

Dr. Stefanie Tompkins is the Acting Deputy Director of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). She has spent much of her professional life leading scientists and engineers in developing new technology capabilities. She began her technology career in industry, as a senior scientist and later assistant vice-president and line manager at Science Applications International Corporation. Later, as a program manager in DARPA's Strategic Technology Office, she created and managed programs in ubiquitous GPS-free navigation as well as in optical component manufacturing. She has also served as a military intelligence officer in the U.S. Army.



Abbie Watnik

Dr. Abbie Watnik is a Research Physicist and Section Head in the Optical Sciences Division at the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory. Her expertise is in digital holography, diffractive imaging, aberration correction, phase reconstruction, laser-based imaging, optical vortices and non-conventional approaches to image correction. She received the 2016 Delores M. Etter Top Scientists and Engineers Award for Emergent Scientist Investigators, an award recognizing the Department of the Navy's scientists who have made significant contributions to their field.