

# ADVANCE: WISE@OU NEWSLETTER

WOMEN IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING AT OAKLAND UNIVERSITY  
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SEPTEMBER 2014

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## SAVE THE DATE

### SPECIAL EVENT FOR MID-CAREER FACULTY

Please join WISE@OU as we kick-off our series of events focusing on guidance for mid-career faculty as they plan their post-tenure careers

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5,  
11:30 A.M.  
BANQUET ROOM A,  
OAKLAND CENTER**

Light buffet included.

**Guest: Dr. Deborah DeZure,**  
Assistant Provost for Faculty and  
Organizational Development,  
Michigan State University

This winter, WISE@OU will follow up with workshops on topics of interest for mid-career faculty.

## Upcoming Events

### URC Fellowship Workshop

- Friday, September 19, Noon to 1:00 p.m., 1050 HHB (Human Health Building)

This workshop is for applicants for the URC Faculty Research Fellowship Awards. Professor and URC Chair **Kristine Condic** and Vice Provost for Research **Dorothy Nelson** will provide an overview of the guidelines. Award applications are due the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in October so be sure to attend if you have questions! Bring a brown-bag lunch. Open to all faculty. Please RSVP to Sue Willner at [willner@oakland.edu](mailto:willner@oakland.edu).

### SECS Hammerle Lecture – with guest speaker Pamela McCauley

- Monday, September 22, 10:30 a.m., Banquet Room A, Oakland Center

Guest speaker **Pamela McCauley**, Industrial Engineering Professor from the University of Central Florida, will speak on diversity in STEM. This event is organized by chapters of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), the Society of Women Engineers (SWE), and the Association for Computing Machinery Women in Computing (ACM-W).

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WISE@OU is pleased to partner with the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) to offer the following STEM-focused workshops.

### Engaging STEM Students in the Classroom: Practical Tips for Teaching

- Thursday, October 30, 12–1:30 p.m., 200A Elliott Hall.

WISE@OU will share practical tips for your teaching and classroom interactions, applying findings from a recent National Science Foundation study of undergraduate teaching practices and highlighting best practices. Lunch provided. Open to all faculty members.

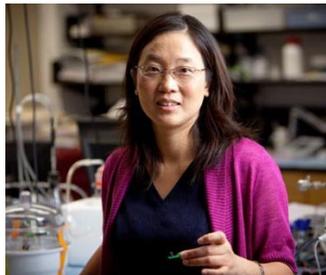
### Supervising Students Effectively in STEM Research

- Wednesday, December 3, 12–1:30 p.m., 200A Elliott Hall.

Proper training and supervision of student research is essential for the success of your teaching practice and your research agenda. WISE@OU will discuss the best practices for supervising students in research in the STEM fields. Lunch provided. Open to all faculty members.

Register for these workshops at <http://www.oakland.edu/?id=26242&sid=396>.

## STEM Patents Boost OU's Innovation



Dr. Xiangqun Zeng (Chemistry)

*Crain's Detroit Business* recently ranked OU at 23rd on the Eureka Index, citing it as one of the 25 most innovative companies in Southeast Michigan. The Eureka Index analyses patents issued by companies to identify the most innovative, and ranks companies by patent quality. Patents from OU STEM faculty members

were acknowledged for quality and contributed to the university's rank. Engineering faculty **Lorenzo Smith** and **Hongwei Qu** as well as chemistry professor **Xiangqun Zeng** worked on innovative projects that led to patents in research areas such as the evaluation of sheet metal strength before manufacturing, micro-fabrication (miniature

electrical devices), and detecting environmental gases using a thin-layer sensor. Dr. Zeng's work on these sensors has also been selected as 1 of 5 finalists in the Methane Detectors Challenge, an initiative of the Environmental Defense Fund. Find out more about the challenge [here](#) and see the Eureka Index from *Crain's* [here](#).

### Dr. Zou Appointed as SECS Interim Associate Dean



**Qian "Beth" Zou**, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, has been appointed Interim Associate Dean of the SECS. Dr. Zou began her career at OU in 2002 and officially started her term as associate dean in August. In her new role, Dr. Zou hopes to enact improvements to the graduate program and admissions process. More information can be found in the [SECS Newsletter](#).

### Dr. Hitt Appointed as CAS Associate Dean



**Anne Hitt**, Associate Professor of Biological Sciences became Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences in February 2014. She began at OU in 1997. Dr. Hitt has been instrumental in providing the intellectual basis for creating and launching new academic programs and courses in the biological sciences. As a dean, she works closely with WISE@OU to support programming beneficial to STEM faculty.

## Updated for 2014 – Guide for STEM Faculty

The Guide for STEM Faculty at Oakland University serves as a resource for faculty who are beginning their teaching and research at OU. We have included information about on-campus seminars, research centers and institutes, grant support, lab support, and teaching resources. Funding opportunities from both internal and external organizations are also listed. The guide features family-friendly resources such as details about leaves and benefits, recreation and health services on campus, plus support centers and organizations. It also includes details about events and attractions around OU.

Find an electronic copy of the guide on our website at [www.oakland.edu/advance](http://www.oakland.edu/advance).



## Welcome to New STEM Faculty

WISE@OU would like to welcome the following new faculty members to the STEM departments at OU:

### College of Arts and Sciences

**Sara Blumer-Schuette**, Biological Sciences

**Michael O'Regan**, Biological Sciences

**Aaron Stoler**, Biological Sciences

**Eugene Surdutovich**, Physics

**Nghia Tran**, Mathematics and Statistics

**Evan Trivedi**, Chemistry

**Jonathan Yates**, Biological Sciences

### School of Engineering and Computer Science

**Akash Dixit**, Mechanical Engineering

**Sergey Golovashchenko**, Mechanical Engineering

**Daniel Llamocca**, Electrical & Computer Engineering

**Hua Ming**, Computer Science & Engineering

**Vijitashwa Pandey**, Industrial & Systems Engineering

**Yonghong Yan**, Computer Science & Engineering

For more information about faculty members and their research interests, view the New Faculty booklet on the Center for Teaching and Learning (CETL) website at [www.oakland.edu/cetl](http://www.oakland.edu/cetl).

## Women in Engineering – News from SECS

Congratulations to **Beth Zou** (Mechanical Engineering) and **Barbara Oakley** (Industrial & Systems Engineering) for their promotion to full professor.

**Barbara Oakley** (Industrial & Systems Engineering) constructed a MOOC (online course) for Coursera, “Learning How to Learn,” together with Terrence Sejnowski, the Francis Crick Professor at the Salk Institute.

With nearly 200,000 students, this MOOC is the largest course on learning that has ever been taught.

She also has an upcoming op-ed in the *Wall Street Journal* and was recently on the radio show

*Science Friday* with Ira Flatow.

**Xia Wang** (Mechanical Engineering) received the 2014 SECS Distinguished Associate Professor Award, and

**Laila Guessous** was awarded the 2014 SECS Outstanding Faculty award for service.

### ALL ABOUT WISE@OU:

- ◆ The Women in Science and Engineering at Oakland University (WISE@OU) program focuses on institutional analysis, recruitment, retention, and promotion of women and under-represented populations in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) areas.
- ◆ The main goal of the project is to increase the diversity of search pools and the number of women and under-represented populations in STEM tenure-track positions.
- ◆ Initiatives of the WISE@OU program are listed on our website at [www.oakland.edu/advance](http://www.oakland.edu/advance).

## WISE@OU Values Your Feedback

Questions? Comments? We want to hear from you!

Please contact WISE@OU Program Assistant Leanne DeVreugd at [ldevreugd@oakland.edu](mailto:ldevreugd@oakland.edu) or (248) 370-4516.

### VISIT OUR WEBSITE

[WWW.OAKLAND.EDU/ADVANCE](http://WWW.OAKLAND.EDU/ADVANCE)



The WISE@OU project is supported by a four-year National Science Foundation ADVANCE Partnerships for Adaptation, Implementation, and Dissemination (PAID) grant ([Award Number 1107072](https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD_NUMBER=1107072)).