



# interconnect

The network for women studying science, engineering, technology and the built environment in Scotland

Welcome to our newsletter – keeping you up to date with what happening in the Interconnect network and beyond.

## News from the network

### Group Focus

The Edinburgh University Hoppers is the name of the group for Women in Informatics. The group was named after Grace Hopper – a pioneer in Computer Science who invented the compiler. The main point is to create an environment in which women feel supported and part of Informatics even though statistically, we are only 10%. We are planning 4 for the coming year. We have a Lab lunch planned on 23rd Sept, and a careers event planned on 15th Oct. Details of this event can be seen below. Our events are open to female students - not just from Edinburgh University. Drop by on our website <http://hoppers.inf.ed.ac.uk> to find out more details!

### Interconnect Events Survey - £20 Amazon Voucher Prize Draw

Congratulations to the student from Forth Valley College who won a £20 Amazon voucher for completing our recent Events Survey. Thanks to everyone who took the time to fill it in. The results were really useful and will help us run interesting and relevant events in the coming year. As a result of your feedback we are planning networking lunches, confidence building workshops and interview / job search workshops, geared to the difference fields covered by the network. Dates and times are still being finalised, but more info will be available at the beginning of September.

### Getting involved with Interconnect

We are working with students, colleges, universities, students associations, qualified women and employers to develop the Interconnect network and there are lots of ways to get involved:

*Students:* Join our facebook group, get involved with or set up an Interconnect group on campus or attend our regional events and meet students from other colleges and universities.

*Qualified Women:* Become a role model on our website and meet with students at our networking lunches

*Colleges & Unis:* We'd love to help you set up a local group and publicise the network to your women students.

For more information contact Allison Johnstone: [al.johnstone@napier.ac.uk](mailto:al.johnstone@napier.ac.uk)

## News from Elsewhere

### Women in Science and Technology – Creating Sustainable Careers

Representatives from companies, experts from universities, and the EU Directorate General for Research joined forces in the working group Women in Science and Technology (WiST), in order to promote gender diversity in the field of science and technology. The recent report highlights the ways in which Europe's employers provide support. These include initiatives to ensure important meetings are timed to allow parents to leave the office as necessary, and not overlooking those who work part-time when it comes to assigning senior responsibilities.

Report at <http://tinyurl.com/womensci>

### Graduate Market Trends: Science, Engineering, Technology & Maths Graduates

Introducing the debate on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects, skills, graduates and careers. <http://www.prospects.ac.uk/cms/ShowPage/plLddbee>

### Computer Science Continues to See Gender Gap

Article by David Nagel in the June 2009 digital edition of Campus Technology.

<http://campustechnology.com/articles/2009/06/03/computer-science-continues-to-see-gender-gap.aspx>

## Events

### 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2009 Women's Engineering Society Annual Conference

Attendance rates for conference The Power of Change start from £64 for students and the unwaged / returners and £80. Book by midnight on 31<sup>st</sup> July to secure the early bird rate. We also have a number of bursaries available including some for students living in Scotland. For more information go to

<http://conference.wes.org.uk/?q=content/2009-annual-conferencebr-power-change-inspiring-next-90-years>

23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2009 Edinburgh Hoppers Careers Event

Find out about careers in IT. These careers events are very popular, and this year, we have Karen Petrie (President, BCSWomen and Dundee University), Karen Winney (Procter and Gamble), plus two additional speakers from Google and Barclays Capital. Open to students from all institutions, not just Edinburgh. For more information go to <http://hoppers.inf.ed.ac.uk>

29<sup>th</sup> September, 2009 Girl Geeks Dinner Edinburgh

Following on from the success of their last event, Girl Geeks Edinburgh are hosting a follow up dinner at Edinburgh Napier University's Screen Academy. Interconnect will once again be sponsoring 50% of the ticket price for students from colleges and on undergraduate courses. Just buy your ticket and come along on the night with your matric. card to get your refund. For more information please contact Jenny Tizard at [J.Tizard@napier.ac.uk](mailto:J.Tizard@napier.ac.uk)

October, 2009 Interconnect & Women in Property Networking Lunches

Interconnect has joined up with Women in Property to host two networking lunches. The events give students the chance to meet and chat with qualified women working in the built environment. And of course have a bite to eat! One lunch will be held in Glasgow and one in Edinburgh. For more information contact Allison Johnstone at [al.johnstone@napier.ac.uk](mailto:al.johnstone@napier.ac.uk)

23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2009 Interconnect Workshop: What are Employers Looking for? Job Search Skills with ExxonMobil

Wondering what employers are looking for in applications and interviews? Then you've come to the right place. An interactive workshop with Lynda Wilson, Senior Recruitment Advisor with ExxonMobil. Come along and get all your questions answered and prepare yourself for the job search ahead. For more information please contact Allison Johnstone at [al.johnstone@napier.ac.uk](mailto:al.johnstone@napier.ac.uk)

WES Doris Gray Student Conference 14-15<sup>th</sup> November 2009

To be held in Edinburgh, this conference, which is part of the WES 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations, will bring together students from across Scotland with speakers from industry. We will send out more information as we have it.

If you have any thoughts or questions on anything you have read then please get in touch. And please forward this newsletter onto students, friends and colleagues it would be of interest to.

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