

# 2011 WOMEN IN SCIENCE CONFERENCE



INTERESTED IN  
TECHNOLOGY  
SCIENCE

MATHEMATICS  
ENGINEERING

[WWW.OKEPSCOR.ORG](http://WWW.OKEPSCOR.ORG)



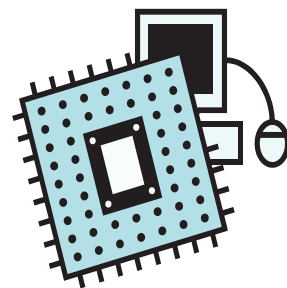
# WOMEN IN SCIENCE CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 4, 2011 \* SCIENCE MUSEUM OKLAHOMA

Dear Students,

Thank you for coming to the 2011 Oklahoma EPSCoR Women in Science Conference! You can help yourself **and** Oklahoma's future by choosing careers in science, technology, mathematics and engineering. Our exciting keynote this year will focus on improved weather prediction using technology. Each of our sessions during the day will excite you about careers in all aspects of science, technology, mathematics, and engineering!

From improving health care or the environment to extending our presence into space, science is crucial to making the world a better place. We can't do it without you! Your experiences and your ideas are unique and needed. Scientists do not work alone. They work together as teams, using everyone's experiences to solve large problems. These teams need to be as diverse as possible, which means we need your participation!



As you meet today's women scientists, think about your personal career goals and the path to take you there. Ask questions and figure out what you can do now to take the next step on your journey. Remember that **you** are in charge of your education. Start by taking the science and math classes. The choices you make for classes now will affect your college and future career paths.

Scientists learn by asking questions! Don't be afraid to ask questions both here and back at school. Find out how the scientists got to where they are. What obstacles did they have to overcome? What were their career plans in middle and high school? Why did they choose the careers they have chosen? Ask your teachers lots of questions. They are here to help you learn.

Remember: "Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you'll land among the stars." ~ Les Brown

I look forward to seeing you today!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy McGovern". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Amy McGovern, Ph.D.  
Chair, Women in Science Conference 2011  
Associate Professor of Computer Science  
University of Oklahoma



# School Breakout Session Assignments

You Must Attend Your Assigned Session to Ensure Seating

## Participating Schools!

### GROUP 1 SCHOOLS

ASTEC Charter MS  
Caney Valley HS  
Clyde Boyd MS  
Cornelsen Elem.  
Hartshorne Elem.  
Hefner MS  
Hominy MS  
Independence Charter MS  
Kenneth Cooper MS  
McCall MS  
Pershing Elem.  
Santa Fe South MS  
Strother School  
Tornado Academy  
Walters MS  
Washington Elem.  
Webster MS  
Well MS

### GROUP 2 SCHOOLS

Alcott MS  
Antlers  
ASTEC Charter HS  
Capps MS  
Central MS  
Chamberlain MS  
East MS  
Irving MS  
KIPP Tulsa Academy  
Longfellow MS  
Mayfield MS  
Noble HS  
Sapulpa Indian Educ. Programs  
Sequoyah MS  
Tulsa Tech Center/Broken  
Arrow Intermediate HS  
Tulsa Tech Center/Edison HS  
Western Oaks MS

### GROUP 3 SCHOOLS

Caney Valley Schools  
Capitol Hill HS  
Central Tech  
Drummond Public School  
Gordon Cooper Tech Center  
Grandfield HS  
Hilldale HS  
Lindsay HS  
Navajo HS  
Norman HS  
Putnam City HS  
Putnam City North HS  
Putnam City West HS  
Santa Fe South HS  
Sequoyah Schools  
Tishomingo HS  
Tulsa Eng. Academy/Memorial  
Tulsa Met  
Verdigris HS  
Woodland HS



# WOMEN IN SCIENCE CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 4, 2011 \* SCIENCE MUSEUM OKLAHOMA

## AGENDA

- 9:00 a.m.     *Registration and Breakfast* (2nd Floor: Mezzanine)  
*Educational Outreach & College Recruitment Fair*
- 9:30 a.m.     *Welcome & Introductions* (Auditorium)  
Jim Wicksted, OK EPSCoR Associate Director  
Amy McGovern, 2011 Women in Science Conference Chairperson  
Associate Professor of Computer Science, University of Oklahoma
- 9:45 a.m.     *Keynote Address* (Auditorium)  
Emily Sutton, KFOR Meteorologist



## Breakout Sessions Begin!

*(See Subsequent Agenda Pages for Your School's Session)*

—Continued—

# Agenda—Continued

## Group 1 Breakout Sessions



### GROUP 1 SCHOOLS

- 10:30 a.m. **Group 1 Interactive Panel Discussion** (2nd Floor: Auditorium)  
Moderator: Ruth Cavins, Executive Director, Oklahoma WONDERtorium  
Lori Hecker, Software Development Expert, Raytheon  
Tomica Blocker, Zoology Student, Oklahoma State University  
Lisa Castle, Biology Professor, Southwestern OSU  
Maria Engel, Lab Technician, DNA Solutions  
Patricia Williams, Physician Associate Student, OU Health Sciences Center  
Stephany Parker, Nutritional Sciences Professor, Okla. State University
- 11:30 a.m. **Hands-on Science Activities** (1st Floor: Navy Gallery )
- 11:30 a.m. **Teachers' Lounge & Resources \*** (2nd Floor: YAG Gallery)  
Teachers, Counselors, and Parents Only
- 12:30 p.m. **LUNCH & Educational Recruitment Fair** (2nd Floor: Mezzanine)
- 1:15 p.m. **Scavenger Hunt Prize Drawings** (2nd Floor: Page Room)  
**Turn in Completed Scavenger Hunt Forms/Drawings Held**
- 1:30 p.m. **College Planning** (2nd Floor: Page Room)
- 2:30 p.m. **Adjourn Conference:**  
**Turn in Survey by 3 p.m. to Receive Free Conference Item** (EPSCoR Booth)  
**Attend "Science Live!" Demonstration—45 Minute Show** (Auditorium)  
**Freely Explore the Museum**

\* **Teachers' Lounge session is scheduled during the time that students are in the hands-on session.** Numerous adult volunteers will be supervising students during this session. The lounge will be open to all adult attendees throughout the day.

— Continued —

# Agenda—Continued

## Group 2 Breakout Sessions



### GROUP 2 SCHOOLS

- 10:30 a.m. **Hands-on Science Activities** (1st Floor: Navy Gallery)
- 10:30 a.m. **Teachers' Lounge & Resources \*** (2nd Floor: YAG Gallery)  
*Teachers, counselors, and parents only*
- 11:30 a.m. **College Planning** (2nd Floor: Page Room)
- 12:30 p.m. **LUNCH & Educational Recruitment Fair** (2nd Floor: Mezzanine)
- 1:15 p.m. **Scavenger Hunt Prize Drawings** (Auditorium)  
**Turn in Completed Scavenger Hunt Forms/Drawings Held**
- 1:30 p.m. **Group 2 Interactive Panel Discussion** (Auditorium)  
Moderator: Ruth Cavins, Executive Director, Oklahoma WONDERtorium  
Wendy Bates, Nuclear Survivability/Vulnerability Engineer, Dept. of Defense  
Diana M. Vanegas, Computer Science Student, University of Oklahoma  
Michelle Zarantonello, Biologist & Education Specialist, Oklahoma Aquarium  
Rebecca Rogers, Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Dana Brunson, Computer Scientist, Oklahoma State University  
Cassandra Camp, Biological Sciences Student, Oklahoma State University
- 2:30 p.m. **Adjourn Conference:**  
**Turn in Survey by 3 p.m. to Receive Free Conference Item** (EPSCoR Booth)  
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**Freely Explore the Museum**

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# Agenda—Continued

## Group 3 Breakout Sessions



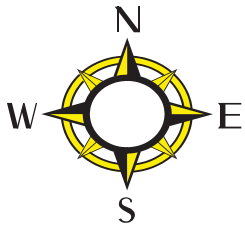
### GROUP 3 SCHOOLS

- 10:30 a.m. **College Planning** (2nd Floor: Page Room)
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Moderator: Ruth Cavins, Executive Director, Oklahoma WONDERtorium  
Sarah Wu, Computer Software Developer, MSCI, Inc.  
Tomica Blocker, Zoology Student, Oklahoma State University  
Laura Shirtcliff, Chemistry Professor, Oklahoma State University  
Rikki Jones, Production Supervisor, Pepsi Beverage Company  
Patricia Williams, Physician Associate Student, OU Health Sciences Center  
Fara Williams, Grant Coordinator, OK LSAMP
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# Career & Recruitment Fair: Mezzanine



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## Table # Organization Name

- 1- 2 OK EPSCoR *\*Turn in survey forms here 2:20-3 p.m. for conference item*
- 3 University of Central Oklahoma
- 4 Oklahoma Health Care Workforce
- 5 Oklahoma City Community College
- 6 Oklahoma City Community College Clinical Research Program
- 7 OK-LSAMP and Institutional Diversity
- 8 Oklahoma City University
- 9 Oklahoma State Science and Engineering Fair
- 10 OKC Zoo
- 11 Oklahoma College Assistance Program
- 12 Oklahoma Panhandle State University
- 13 Southwestern Oklahoma State University
- 14 OU Health Sciences Center Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences
- 15 OU Health Sciences Center Graduate Student Association
- 16-17 OU Health Sciences Center Student Affairs Recruiting
- 18 OU School of Computer Science
- 19 OU College of Nursing
- 20-24 OU College of Engineering
- 25 Metro Tech Centers
- 26-27 Kiss Institute for Practical Robotics
- 28-29 The University of Tulsa
- 30 OSU College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology
- 31 OSU College of Arts and Sciences
- 32 OSU College of Human Sciences
- 33 OSU Center for Health Sciences
- 34 TBA
- 35 TBA



25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14

# Educational Outreach and Recruitment Fair

## Visit These Terrific Booths on the Mezzanine!

Oklahoma EPSCoR

KISS Institute for Practical Robotics

Metro Technology Centers

Oklahoma City Community College

Oklahoma City Community College Clinical Research Program

Oklahoma City University

The Oklahoma City Zoo

Oklahoma College Assistance Program

Oklahoma Health Care Workforce Center

Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (OK-LSAMP)  
and Institutional Diversity

Oklahoma Panhandle State University

Oklahoma State Science and Engineering Fair

Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences

Oklahoma State University College of Arts and Sciences

Oklahoma State University College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology

— Recruitment Fair booths continued on next page —

# Educational Outreach and Recruitment Fair

## Visit These Terrific Booths on the Mezzanine!

— Continued from previous page —

Oklahoma State University College of Human Sciences

OU Health Sciences Center Graduate Student Association

OU Health Sciences Center Program in Biomedical Sciences (GPiBS) Program

OU Health Sciences Center Student Affairs Recruiting

Southwestern Oklahoma State University

University of Central Oklahoma

University of Oklahoma College of Engineering

University of Oklahoma College of Nursing

University of Oklahoma School of Computer Science

The University of Tulsa



**Imagine Your Future  
and Make It Happen!**

# Hands-On Science Breakout Session

## Exhibits and Sponsors

### Investigating the Rock Cycle

Association for Women Geoscientists, Cowgirl Student Chapter  
Boone Pickens School of Geology, Oklahoma State University

### Hands-on: Math Puzzles and Games

Cameron University

### Neuroscience for Kids

Cellular and Behavioral Neurobiology Graduate Program, University of Oklahoma

### Psychology as a Natural Science

Department of Psychology, Oklahoma State University

### Cellulosic Bioenergy 101—EPSCoR Bioenergy Research

Oklahoma EPSCoR, OU School of Chemical, Biological & Materials Engineering  
Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, OU Department of Botany & Microbiology

### Flight Simulator Experience and Exploring the Human Factors of Color Blindness

Federal Aviation Administration

### Biosciences and Medicine Academy

Francis Tuttle Technology Center

### BIG in STEM— **“Believe in Girls in STEM”**

Girls Scouts of Western Oklahoma, Inc.

### ByoBots: Behavior-Based Programmable Robots

KISS Institute for Practical Robotics

### **It’s Not a Secret**

Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Northeastern State University

### **What’s on Your Plate?**

Department of Nutritional Sciences, Oklahoma State University

### The Name Game

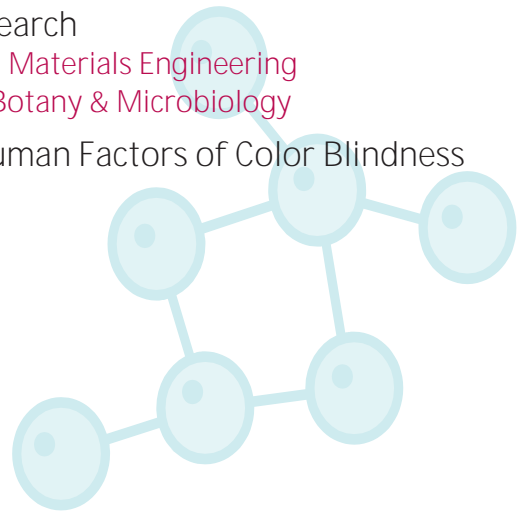
Oklahoma City Zoo

### The Light Booth

Science Museum Oklahoma

### The Magic of Bernoulli

OU Sooner Flight Academy



— Hands-on exhibits continued on next page —



# Hands-On Science Breakout Session

## Exhibits and Sponsors

— Continued from previous page —

Weather Report Race

Oklahoma Mesonet

A First Look at the Game Industry

Oklahoma Panhandle State University

Design of Chemically Powered Vehicles

School of Chemical Engineering, Oklahoma State University

Recycled Self-Watering Planters

Cooperative Extension Service, 4-H Youth Development, Langston University

Folding Space

Department of Mathematics, University of Oklahoma

OSU Insect Adventure

Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, Oklahoma State University

Robots are for Girls Too!

Robotics & Education Competition Foundation (REC Foundation) and Vex Robotics

Refractometers: Measuring the Sugar Content of Grapes

Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, Oklahoma State University

Robotics is Engineering the Future

Tulsa Engineering Academy at Memorial

The Focus is You: SWOSU Women in Science

Southwestern Oklahoma State University

Breaking Open the Black Box

SeeS—College of Engineering, University of Oklahoma

Parallel Programming with Many Cores

Southeastern Oklahoma State University



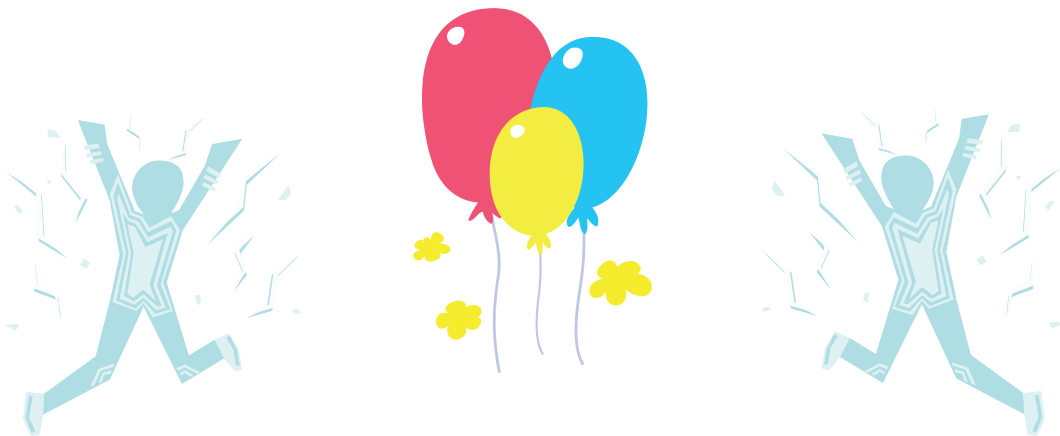
# Get Hands-On With Science!

## Special Opportunities For Students

# Kids--Win Prizes!

Two Ways to Win:

- Complete the Scavenger Hunt form on the back cover of this program to enter a drawing for prizes to be given away at 1:15 today! To receive a drawing ticket, show your completed scavenger hunt form (in the back of this booklet) to the attendant located at the entrance of your final session.
- Return your completed student survey to the EPSCoR table on the mezzanine (by the tree house) after your final session to receive a super cool souvenir flash drive dog tag necklace loaded with great information! Survey must be turned in no later than 3 p.m. to receive your free conference item.

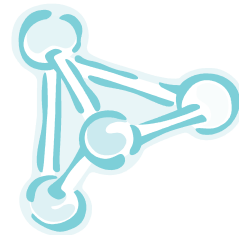


## Special Opportunities For Teachers

# Teachers' Lounge!

**Adults are invited to visit the Teachers' Lounge, which is located in the YAG Gallery, on the second floor across from the auditorium. In addition to scheduled breakout sessions, the Teachers' Lounge will be open throughout the day to all adult conference attendees.**

- Classroom resources for science & math teachers
- Network with other educators
- Learn about education & funding opportunities:
  - \* Aerospace Education and Industry Partnership Day
  - \* Fund for Teachers: Boeing Teacher Scholarships Program
  - \* Oklahoma Educators Credit Union
  - \* Oklahoma State University College of Education
  - \* OU Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education
  - \* Sonic Limeades for Learning Program
  - \* The University of Tulsa—Education
- Refreshments are available



# Speakers' and Panelists' Bios

(Pages 15-36)

Opening Remarks & Welcome

Jim Wicksted, Oklahoma EPSCoR

Amy McGovern, Conference Chairperson

Keynote Address

Emily Sutton, KFOR Television

Panel Moderator

Ruth Cavins, Executive Director, Oklahoma WONDERTorium

Group 1 Panelists (10:30 a.m.)

Lori Hecker, Software Development Specialist

Tomica Blocker, Zoology Student

Lisa Castle, Biology Professor

Maria Engel, Laboratory Technician

Patricia Williams, Physicians Associate Student

Stephany Parker, Nutritional Sciences Professor

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Rebecca Rogers, FBI Special Agent

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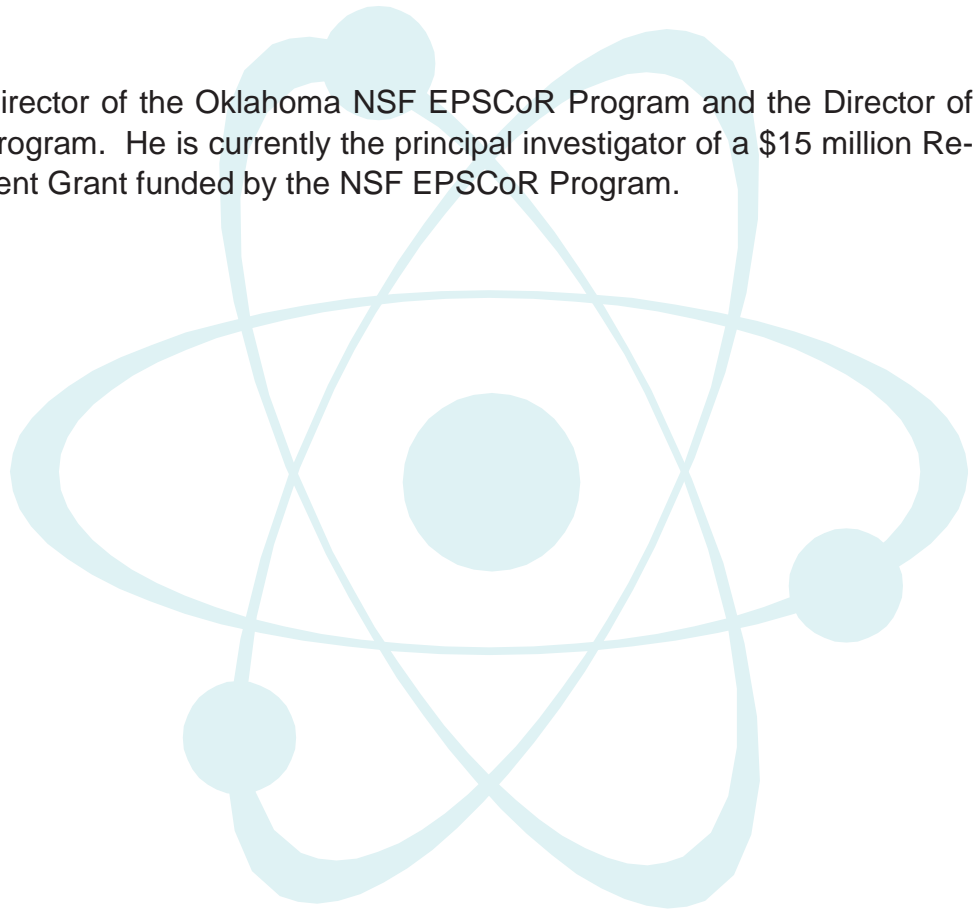
**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR  
NSF EPSCoR RII Award EPS-0814361**

**James Wicksted, Ph.D.  
Professor, Department of Physics  
Oklahoma State University  
Associate Director, Oklahoma EPSCoR**

Dr. Wicksted received his B.A. degree (1975) from New York University and his M.A. (1978) and Ph.D. (1983) from the City University of New York. He became a member of the Department of Physics at Oklahoma State University in 1985, where he is currently a full professor and a Noble Research Fellow in optical materials. He is also the Director of Multidisciplinary Research in the College of Arts & Sciences at OSU.

His current research interests include the optical studies of various types of nanoparticle complexes that have potential biosensing and biomedical applications. Dr. Wicksted has also collaborated with the Biomedical Engineering Center at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston since 1992, where he has worked with medical doctors and bioengineers on the noninvasive applications of lasers in diagnosing disease.

Dr. Wicksted is the associate director of the Oklahoma NSF EPSCoR Program and the Director of the Oklahoma DOE EPSCoR Program. He is currently the principal investigator of a \$15 million Research Infrastructure Improvement Grant funded by the NSF EPSCoR Program.





## OK EPSCoR WOMEN IN SCIENCE CONFERENCE 2011 CHAIRPERSON

**Amy McGovern, Ph.D.**  
**Associate Professor of Computer Science**  
**University of Oklahoma**

Amy McGovern started playing with computers at the age of six when her mom brought home the family's first computer and taught her how to program it. Between tinkering with BASIC and playing games with her dad, Amy decided that computers were fun, but they needed to be much smarter to help us. Amy's other passion is space, which was ignited at an early age by watching shuttle launches and space walks.

Dr. Amy McGovern is now an associate professor in Computer Science at the University of Oklahoma, where her main research focus is on machine learning and data mining. Her goals are to enable computers to intelligently assist us and to make a positive difference in the real world.





## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

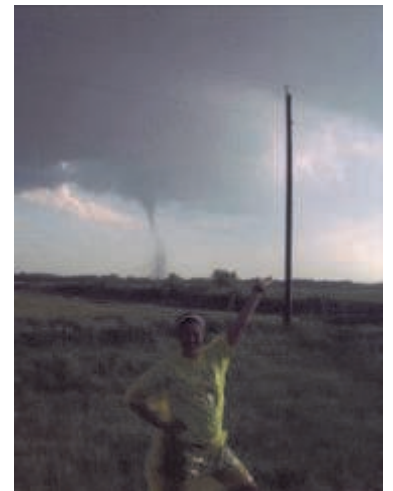
**Emily Sutton**  
**Meteorologist**  
**KFOR Television**  
[emily.sutton@kfor.com](mailto:emily.sutton@kfor.com)

Emily Sutton joined the 4Warn Storm Team in December 2009. She started on air a few weeks before the infamous "Christmas Eve Blizzard" slammed Oklahoma City and has been experiencing Oklahoma ever since.

From Oklahoma City's costliest hail storm to record flooding and three tornado outbreaks, Emily has covered a wide spectrum of Mother Nature's fury. Her passion for weather started at a young age, but wasn't realized until joining the Storm Chase Team at the University of Missouri, where she earned dual degrees in Atmospheric Science and Media Convergence Journalism. In college, Emily's work as a National Weather Service Observer, Agriculture Forecaster and volunteer Storm Chaser served as a great foundation for the years to follow.

Emily began her on-air career at the ABC/FOX affiliate KMIZ-TV in Columbia, Missouri, where she gained valuable experience covering weather extremes from severe weather outbreaks to ice and snow storms. Next, she moved to the hills of Appalachia, where she served as a meteorologist and general assignment reporter at WCYB-TV. This is where she learned about the dynamics of mountain weather and polished her reporting skills. While living in the Tri-Cities and near Bristol, Tennessee's famous NASCAR track, Emily had the honor of singing the National Anthem for a crowd of 10,000. She also served on her church's Habitat for Humanity steering committee to help build a house for a family in need.

Emily hails from the windy city, Chicago, but says Oklahoma is much windier! When asked how she likes living in the Sooner state, Emily replies, "It's great! The people are friendly and the weather is crazy!" She loves to get involved with the community and had the honor of singing for an Oklahoma City Thunder basketball game and for Baron's hockey. In her spare time, she loves to karaoke, travel, cook and workout. She spent this past summer training for the Redman Triathlon through Team In Training with co-anchor, Joleen Chaney. Of course, it had to be the hottest summer on record! Their hard work paid off, raising more than \$5,000 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society!







## PANEL SESSION MODERATOR

**Ruth Cavins, MEd, LPC**  
**Executive Director**  
**Oklahoma WONDERtorium**

Ruth Cavins married her high school sweetheart two weeks after high school graduation, and went on to complete a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology, and a Master's degree of Education at Southwestern Oklahoma State University. She became a Licensed Professional Counselor in the state of Oklahoma, and her first real job was as a counselor at a rural community mental health center. While there, Ruth worked in a number of capacities serving severely and persistently mentally ill adults, young children and families, adolescents, and adults transitioning to nursing home care. She says she loved this job!

At the age of 25 Ruth “retired,” and she and her husband moved to North Carolina so he could complete a doctoral degree in horticulture. To avoid putting their infant daughter in day care, Ruth became nanny to a number of affluent children. This adventure took her to museums, zoos, parks and playgrounds throughout North Carolina. She says she loved this job! This was the beginning of Ruth's research. She discovered that these experiences captured and fed a child's natural curiosity. Equally as important, she realized what an important role consistent and nurturing adults play in the development of a healthy child.

Today, Ruth's employer and passion is the Oklahoma WONDERtorium, where she says she feels fortunate to serve as executive director. She works with an amazing group of people to build a children's museum from scratch. Ruth loves this job!

Growing up, Ruth and her father spent many hours in the garage or barn crafting gadgets and doing science experiments. There was no right or wrong answer, only the joy of discovering what would happen. This is the essence of a children's museum. The Oklahoma WONDERtorium will inspire curiosity to learn through play... for a lifetime.

Ruth is still married to her high school sweetheart, Todd, who is a Technical Specialist for Sun Gro Horticulture. She and Todd live in Stillwater, Oklahoma with their 10-year-old daughter Chloe, 7-year-old daughter Wren, 4-year-old son Teagan, a dachshund named Nitro, and two bunnies.







## PANELIST, GROUP 1

**Lori Hecker**  
**Senior Engineering Fellow**  
**Raytheon Space & Airborne Systems**

Lori Hecker leads a large software development effort for the Raytheon company in Dallas, Texas. The program provides airborne radar and processing capability to the military. Lori takes pride in the fact that she is building products that help save the lives of United State's military personnel.

Growing up, Lori always liked math, but she found her true passion when she took her first computer programming class as a high school student in Portland, Oregon. She later graduated from Oregon State University with a BS in Computer Science in 1983. After graduation, she moved to Dallas, Texas to work as a software developer for Texas Instruments, before progressing to her current position at Raytheon.

Lori is a Raytheon Senior Engineering Fellow, and she has received several corporate recognitions for her achievements, including the highest technical recognition in the Raytheon Company: the corporate level Excellence in Engineering Award. Her experience covers all aspects of software development, with specialties in real-time embedded software development, software cost estimating, cleanroom techniques, sequence-based enumerations, statistical testing and software management. Lori now has 28 years of software development experience on large real-time embedded systems.

When she's not spending time with her husband, daughter, four step-daughters, grand-daughter, two cats and two dogs, Lori enjoys sewing, quilting and knitting. She and her husband, Scott, love to travel and they just returned from a trip to Africa.





## PANELIST, GROUP 1

**Tomica Blocker**  
**Zoology Student**  
**Oklahoma State University**

Tomica Blocker received her B.S in Biology at Oklahoma's only Historically Black College, Langston University. She is currently a graduate student in the Department of Zoology at Oklahoma State University working toward her Master's degree.

Tomica's research interests include the effects of anthropogenic stressors on animals, neuroendocrinology and ethology. She is currently investigating the affiliative and aggressive behaviors exhibited by the monogamous prairie vole (*Microtus ochrogaster*).

As an undergraduate student, Tomica participated in several research internships including a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) where she had the opportunity to travel to Bursa, Turkey to study honeybee behavior. She also participated in several organizations including the Honor's Program, the LINC Scholarship Program, Pre-Alumni Council, and LU ambassadors.

While at OSU, she and her colleagues created the university's first Black Graduate Student Association in which she served as treasurer of the organization. In 2010, Tomica was granted the Graduate Research Fellowship from the National Science Foundation.

Tomica's love for outreach incited her to create a collaborative program between OSU and her alma mater, where she mentors minority undergraduates from the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields in preparation for their graduate careers.

In her free time, Tomica enjoys cooking, swimming, reading and spending time with her family. After earning her M.S. in Zoology, Tomica plans continue her academic career at OSU, where she will pursue her PhD. In the future, she plans to enter the academic field as a professor and scientist.







## PANELIST, GROUP 1

**Lisa Castle**  
**Assistant Professor of Biology**  
**Southwestern Oklahoma State University**

Lisa Castle is an Assistant Professor of Biology at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford. She's known, since she began hiking and gardening at age four, that she wanted to work with plants. She's had a much harder time deciding if she is most interested in investigating plant ecology, growing plants, eating plants, or talking about plants. Fortunately, except for the eating part, her current position allows her to do all of these. Lisa's research focuses on population dynamics of weedy, medicinal and edible plants. She grows plants in the university greenhouse and she talks about plants to the students in her biology classes and to anyone else who will listen.

Lisa grew up in Colorado and majored in biology at the University of Colorado. While in college, she interned at the Denver Botanic Gardens and learned that she did not want to run a greenhouse for the rest of her life. After college, she spent time gardening in Scotland and learned that, although she enjoyed gardening, she did not want to spend all of her professional life weeding in the mud. Before starting graduate school, Lisa also led educational programs at Morris Arboretum in Philadelphia, Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge in California and at Butterfly Hope and the Denver Botanic Gardens in Colorado. She loved all of these jobs, and also learned that none of them were the right permanent career for her.



While in graduate school at the University of Kansas, Lisa studied the prairie turnip, a wild-edible plant, to determine how populations were faring and how many plants could be sustainably harvested. She also helped Alma Snell, an 80-year-old Crow Indian medicine woman, write her book of plant uses, and she helped map changes in plant communities at Fort Larned National Historic Site. During this time, she met Jeff Walker, the fantastic man who is now her husband. After four years teaching at a small college in West Virginia, Lisa and Jeff moved to Oklahoma a year ago, so that their young sons (who are three months and two years old) could be closer to their grandparents.



Babies, career and drought have prevented Lisa from spending much time twirling fire, but she still enjoys doing it, along with cooking and eating, juggling and traveling to new places, both near and far.



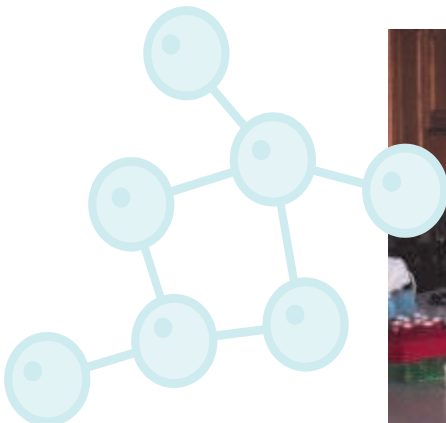
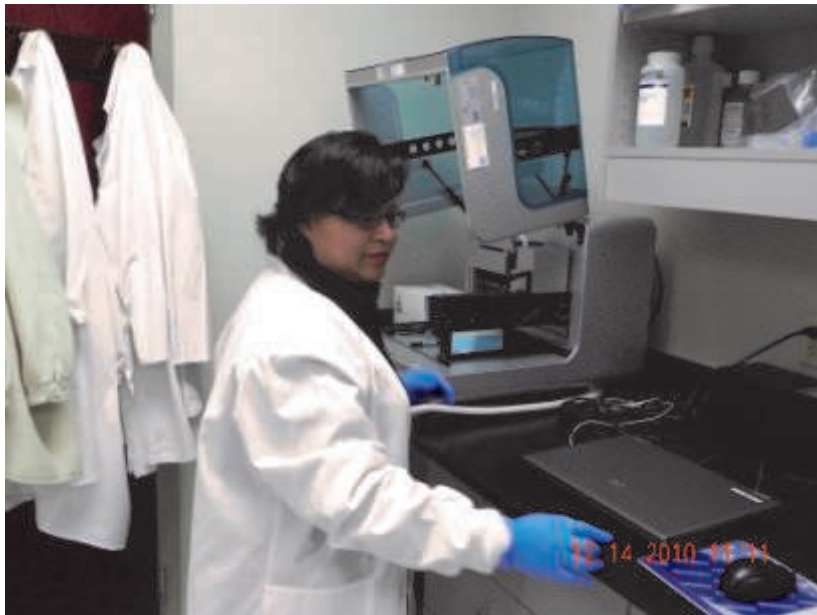
## PANELIST, GROUP 1

**Maria Engel**  
**Laboratory Technician**  
**DNA Solutions, Inc.**

Maria Engel received her Associates Degree in Applied Science Biotechnology from Oklahoma City Community College (OCCC). She interned with at one of Oklahoma's finest biotechnology laboratories, DNA Solutions, where she is currently employed.

During her time at OCCC, Maria was a member of the Biotechnology Club, she was selected as a member of the President's Honor Roll, and was twice elected to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. She believes that education is the key to success and a necessity for growth as an individual and professional. She truly enjoys her work and the opportunities to continue learning.

Maria loves her family, which includes her husband and four children, and she is continuously working on her education.







## PANELIST, GROUP 1

**Patricia J. Williams, PA-S3**  
**Physician Associate Student**  
**University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center**

Tricia Williams is a third year Physician Associate student at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. Originally from Tulsa, Oklahoma, she attended Eisenhower International School for K-5 where she learned to speak Spanish fluently. She then attended Thoreau Middle School and Booker T. Washington High School. At The University of Oklahoma she graduated with distinction with a Bachelor of Science in Multidisciplinary Studies with emphases in life sciences and Spanish.

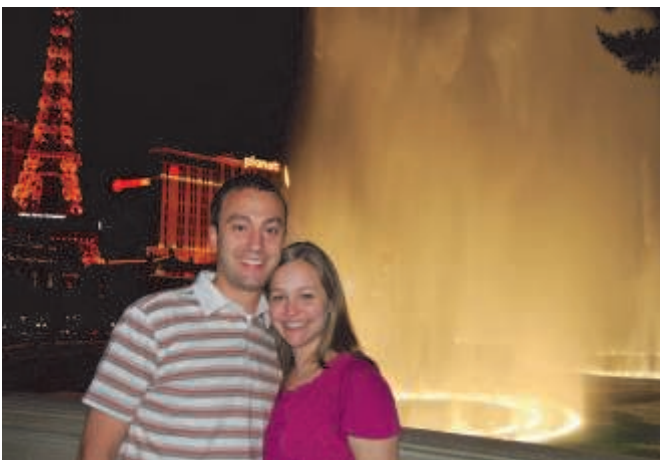
Tricia has volunteered at clinics and hospitals as a medical interpreter for many years. While at OU, she worked with the Health for Friends clinic to improve the Better Babies program. This is where she found her passion for treating women and improving health care for the Hispanic population.

Now in the final year of her PA program, Tricia spends most of her time traveling all over Oklahoma on clinical rotations. She has been everywhere from Stilwell to Seminole to Chickasha.

When she is home, Tricia loves to spend time with her fiancée, her family, and her dog, Ella. In her free time she loves to read, cook, spend time with friends and watch movies. She is also enjoying planning her wedding for April 2012. Her favorite food is Thai food, and her favorite quotation is “We must be the change we wish to see in the world.” –Gandhi.



Tricia will graduate on November 18, 2011. After graduation, she plans to go into family medicine or pediatrics.





## PANELIST, GROUP 1

**Stephany Parker**  
**Associate Research Professor**  
**Department of Nutritional Sciences**  
**Oklahoma State University**

Stephany Parker graduated from the University of Georgia with an AB degree in cultural anthropology. She then continued her education by obtaining a Masters in Nutritional Sciences in the Masters Internationalist Program at Oklahoma State University. As part of the requirements for this degree, Dr. Parker was a Peace Corps volunteer who lived in Jamaica for 2 years. She worked with the Ministry of Health in the parish of St. Elizabeth for one year and then moved to Kingston to work at the Sickle Cell Unit at the University of the West Indies in her second year of service.

Upon her return from the Peace Corps, Dr. Parker pursued a PhD in Human Environmental Sciences, with an emphasis in Nutritional Sciences, at Oklahoma State University.

Dr. Parker has worked at OSU since 2000 and has enjoyed her time there. Currently, she is an Associate Research Professor who works to develop nutrition education programs that help prevent type-2 diabetes. The overall goal of her work is to improve the health of Oklahomans by developing nutrition education programs that address the health concerns of families in Oklahoma.

When Dr. Parker is not at work, she enjoys spending time with her son, Joshua who is in the fourth grade, and her husband, Josh. The family enjoys OSU football games, hiking, flying kites, water skiing, fishing and visiting museums and new places.







**PANELIST, GROUP 2**

**Wendy Bates**  
**Nuclear Survivability/Vulnerability Engineer**  
**Department of Defense**

Wendy Bates earned her B.S. in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Oklahoma State University. She completed two internship programs with The Boeing Company in Autoflight and Flight Control Systems, as well as Space and Intelligence Systems, before completing her degree in 2006.

Upon graduation, Wendy worked for The Boeing Company testing flight simulators for the F-22 Raptor. In 2007, she transferred to Boeing - Oklahoma City and is currently a member of the Oklahoma City Electromagnetic Effects organization, testing military Command and Control aircraft for Nuclear Survivability/Vulnerability. Recently, Wendy joined the Department of Defense, in support of the United States Air Force as an Electronics Engineer.

Wendy enjoys spending spare time with her family, including her four-year-old son, Connor, her twin sister, Misty, and her two Boston Terriers. Wendy also enjoys reading and running. She has competed in four half marathons in 2011, with plans to run in the Route 66 half marathon this fall.





## PANELIST, GROUP 2

**Diana M. Vanegas**  
**Computer Science MS Student**  
**University of Oklahoma**

Originally from Bogotá, Colombia, Diana Vanegas received her bachelor's degree in Computer Science at the National University of Colombia. In fall of 2009, close to the end of her undergraduate studies, she was selected at her home university to study her senior year abroad. This opportunity allowed her to participate in an exchange program with the University of Oklahoma. After graduation, she decided to come back to the University of Oklahoma to pursue a Master's degree in the same field. She expects to finish her graduate studies in May of 2012.

As a graduate student, Diana has worked both as a research assistant and as a teaching assistant. She has found her passion for Computer Science in applying computational models and techniques to provide solutions in other scientific fields. She has focused her research efforts in Data Mining and Bioinformatics. More specifically, Diana has worked with Association Rule Based Approaches for Biological Sequence Feature Classification and Protein Secondary Structure Prediction.

At the same time, Diana has been actively involved with several campus organizations. She has held the webmaster chair in the Colombian Student Association (COLSA) and the Computer Science Graduate Student Association (CS-GSA) for the last year. Additionally, she is part of the leadership team of Chi Alpha Campus Ministries (OUXA). In her free time she loves to spend quality time with her friends, watching movies, listening to good music, singing and dancing salsa.







## PANELIST, GROUP 2

**Michelle Zarantonello**  
**Biologist and Education Specialist**  
**Oklahoma Aquarium**

As a young child, Michelle acquired the love of science; especially through observing her mother's respect of animals. Michelle's mother was the woman who stopped traffic to move a dead animal to the side of the road. Around their home, there was always an animals to love.

When Michelle entered school, biology and anything to do with science caught her attention. She knew that someday she wanted to work with animals. Perhaps become a veterinarian, but she wasn't sure. As she matured, she knew that she wanted to work with whales and dolphins at SeaWorld. Michelle started to research marine biology when I was she was in the tenth grade and decided Texas A& M would be the best choice, since she was land locked in Oklahoma. Michelle's financial situation dictated choice of schools, however, and she attended Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma where she received a scholarship playing the cello.

Michelle graduated from NSU in 2000 and her first job was with the Missouri Department of Conservation working on a 100-year study in the Mark Twain National Forest. She was really interest in reptiles, so the idea of chasing lizards and tagging them was right up her alley.

Zoo keeping eventually became Michelle's career path, and she has been a reptile keeper In New Orleans at the Audubon Zoo and a primate and small mammal keeper at the Tulsa Zoo. She took a temporary job as an environmental educator for the University of Georgia, which landed her in Jenks as an education specialist for the Oklahoma Aquarium. She thoroughly enjoys her job and it is the best of all the opportunities she's experienced all rolled into one. The Oklahoma Aquarium is not just her career, it is her joy.





## PANELIST, GROUP 2

**Rebecca Rogers**  
**Special Agent**  
**Federal Bureau of Investigation**

Rebecca Rogers has been a Special Agent with the FBI for almost seven years. She is currently assigned to the Tulsa Resident Agency of the Oklahoma City Field Office. Prior to that, she was assigned to the Philadelphia Field Office for six years, before moving to Tulsa in August 2010. Rebecca has expertise in investigating federal crimes involving health care fraud and financial institution fraud.

Before becoming an FBI Agent, Rebecca was a research specialist in a molecular genetics research lab at Oklahoma State University for almost seven years, where she worked to identify genes responsible for the development of embryos in plants. She was originally hired as a student research assistant and then transitioned to a research specialist after graduating with a BS in Biology and a BS in Zoology from OSU.



While working at OSU, Rebecca completed her MS in Forensic Science at the University of Central Oklahoma, specializing in Technical Investigations (crime scene investigation).

Rebecca is the mother of two children, ages three and four. More than anything else, she enjoys spending time with her husband and children, extended family and friends. Activities she enjoys include traveling, reading, fishing, gardening and horseback riding. Rebecca stays active by riding her bicycle, swimming and running. She is a firm believer that all things can be fun if done on a sandy beach someplace warm and sunny.







## PANELIST, GROUP 2

**Dana Brunson**  
**Adjunct Associate Professor, Computer Science Dept.**  
**Sr. Systems Engineer, High Performance Computing Center**  
**Oklahoma State University**

Dana Brunson currently manages the OSU High Performance Computer Center (HPCC), where she has the opportunity to work with researchers in a wide variety of disciplines to accomplish research and education goals that would be impossible without the support of HPCC.

Outside of the busy office, she enjoys time with her husband, an incredible stay-at-home dad, 10-year-old daughter, and 5-year-old son on their micro-farm near Stillwater. At home, she and her family maintain a large permaculture garden, as well as several hives of honeybees, a flock of free-range chickens, and a couple of dogs and cats. She is also learning about wild edible and medicinal plants that grow in the area.



Dana was raised in the relatively small town of Claremore, Oklahoma. She loved nature, music, and science growing up, and when her father brought home their first IBM personal computer, she discovered she also loved computing. Her parents did not attend college, but she knew that she was destined to do so. Like many other people her age, she dreamt of pursuing a college degree, though she did not know at the time what area of study she wished to pursue. Upon first arriving at college, she knew that she had found the place she was meant to be. These many years later, her feelings have not changed.

Dana earned her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Mathematics at OSU, and her Ph.D. in Mathematics from University of Texas at Austin. While attending graduate school in Austin, she enjoyed teaching Math classes and playing fiddle in a local band. In 2003, she and her husband and daughter decided to return to



Oklahoma. Her son was born just one month after she completed her dissertation in 2005. In 2007, she was delighted to receive the opportunity to lead the OSU High Performance Computing Center, where she was able to expand upon her knowledge of research, computing and administration. She enjoys collaborating with the University's scientific community, as well as research and High Performance Computing peers across the country. In fact, she could not imagine a profession that she would enjoy more.



## PANELIST, GROUP 2

### **Cassandra Camp Biological Sciences Student Oklahoma State University**

Cassandra Camp belongs to the Seminole and Creek Nations of Oklahoma. She is the daughter of Jimmy and Sheri Camp of Yukon, Oklahoma and the sister of Jay-Cee Camp also of Yukon. She is the granddaughter of the late Jacob and Josephine Camp of Wewoka, Oklahoma and Charles and Sandra Smith of Oklahoma City, OK. Cassandra is 22 years old, and she is currently a senior at Oklahoma State University majoring in biological sciences.

Cassandra has a great passion for the well being of Native American people and she hopes to one day work with tribes in diminishing the health disparities that they continue to suffer from health conditions such as diabetes and hypertension. She chose a Bachelors of Science to better understand the processes and functions of metabolic systems carried out by the body, as well as the environmental influences that significantly encourage health disparities within a community.

Cassandra is involved in many extra-curricular activities at OSU. She has been a member of the Native American Student Association and was named Miss American Indian OSU 2009-2010. She has also been involved with Ketchum House, Biochemistry Club and Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference as both a member and an officer, a sister of the Alpha Pi Omega Sorority Inc., Campus Crusade for Christ, and Oklahoma Alliance for Minority Participation in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics scholar. Cassandra was a part of an organization called Rock the Native Vote, which encouraged Native American voter registration in Oklahoma and she has attended the Native American Students in Higher Education leadership conference, the NAPIRE, Brookhaven National Laboratory, and the OK-LSAMP Research Symposium.







### PANELIST, GROUP 3

**Sarah Wu**  
**Senior Associate Developer**  
**MSCI, Inc.**

Sarah Wu was born and raised in a small town in Oklahoma. After completing all the math classes her high school offered, she decided to attend Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics (OSSM) in Oklahoma City. It was there that she got her first taste of computer programming and “big-city livin’.” She attended college at the University of Oklahoma, where campus IT internships taught her the basics of computer hardware and technical support. This helped her to pay for school and pick up the computer skills she lacked.

Sarah graduated with a Masters degree in Computer Science in 2006 and has worked for MSCI (formerly RiskMetrics) since graduation. In her various roles for the company, Sarah has enjoyed traveling to company offices around the world to develop and support secure financial systems. At home, Sarah is an avid baker and the reigning Dr. Mario champion.





### PANELIST, GROUP 3

**Tomica Blocker**  
**Zoology Student**  
**Oklahoma State University**

Tomica Blocker received her B.S in Biology at Oklahoma’s only Historically Black College, Langston University. She is currently a graduate student in the Department of Zoology at Oklahoma State University working toward her Master’s degree.

Tomica’s research interests include the effects of anthropogenic stressors on animals, neuroendocrinology and ethology. She is currently investigating the affiliative and aggressive behaviors exhibited by the monogamous prairie vole (*Microtus ochrogaster*).

As an undergraduate student, Tomica participated in several research internships including a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) where she had the opportunity to travel to Bursa, Turkey to study honeybee behavior. She also participated in several organizations including the Honor’s Program, the LINC Scholarship Program, Pre-Alumni Council, and LU ambassadors.

While at OSU, she and her colleagues created the university’s first Black Graduate Student Association in which she served as treasurer of the organization. In 2010, Tomica was granted the Graduate Research Fellowship from the National Science Foundation.

Tomica’s love for outreach incited her to create a collaborative program between OSU and her alma mater, where she mentors minority undergraduates from the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields in preparation for their graduate careers.

In her free time, Tomica enjoys cooking, swimming, reading and spending time with her family. After earning her M.S. in Zoology, Tomica plans continue her academic career at OSU, where she will pursue her PhD. In the future, she plans to enter the academic field as a professor and scientist.







### PANELIST, GROUP 3

**Laura Shirtcliff**  
**Assistant Professor of Chemistry**  
**Oklahoma State University**

Dr. Laura Shirtcliff has been in love with science ever since she first learned the scientific method in the third grade. Through out middle school and high school she would pick a new topic and read everything she could find about the subject, until she grew bored. All of that changed when she was in college and fell in love with organic chemistry.

Through an opportunity to do undergraduate research, Laura realized that she wanted to get a PhD in chemistry to continue exploring organic synthesis. Once in graduate school, it became clear that she loved the academic environment of teaching, learning and research, and she wanted to continue her education to become a professor.

Laura had never been out of the country, until she was given the opportunity in graduate school to do an internship in a research lab in Germany when she was 23 years old. This experience was life

changing, and she decided that, when she graduated, she wanted to do her postdoctoral work in Switzerland. This was accomplished by applying for and receiving a National Science Foundation postdoctoral fellowship.



Laura—now “Dr. Shirtcliff”—is an assistant professor of chemistry at Oklahoma State University. Her research focuses on the self-assembly of carbon based semiconductors for solar cells. She is also interested in toxic metal remediation and is developing a class of molecules that will be incorporated into different materials for metal specific chelation.

When she is not working, Dr. Shirtcliff enjoys reading, gardening, playing pool, wakeboarding, snowboarding, camping, hiking and traveling. Dr. Shirtcliff was also married this summer and is excited to share her life with her husband.



Since that initial trip to Germany as a student, Laura has now been to 20 countries in Europe, Africa and Central America and would like to add another 20 in the next 10 years.





## PANELIST, GROUP 3

**Rikki Jones**  
**Production Supervisor**  
**Pepsi Beverage Company**

Rikki Jones is a native of Oklahoma City and a graduate of Northeast Academy for Health Sciences & Engineering. In high school, her love for mathematics and science helped her to graduate with 18 hours of college credit already accumulated, before she began her collegiate career at Oklahoma State University.

At OSU, Rikki was very active on campus. She participated and served as an executive in many associations on campus including African-American Student Association (Afro-Am), National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), Gospel Choir, Multi-Cultural Engineering Program and the Inclusion Leadership Program. Rikki is one of the biggest OSU Cowboy fans you will ever meet and she loves OSU football.

During college, she completed internships with two of the world's largest oil and gas companies. Her first internship was in Dallas, Texas, with Halliburton, where she served as a supply chain management intern. Her other internship was with ConocoPhillips as a global procurement service intern.

After graduating from OSU in spring 2010 with a B.S. in Industrial Engineering & Management and a minor in Spanish, she accepted a job offer with Pepsi as an operations management trainee. In March of 2011 she received her first promotion, and she is now a production supervisor at the Pepsi Bottling Plant.

In her free time, Rikki enjoys cooking, singing and dancing (all at the same time), road trips, traveling, spending time with her twin brother and sister, and her parents.

Rikki plans to begin pursuing her Master's degree in the spring of 2012, with hopes of ultimately becoming a CEO.





### PANELIST, GROUP 3

**Patricia J. Williams, PA-S3**  
**Physician Associate Student**  
**University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center**

Tricia Williams is a third year Physician Associate student at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. Originally from Tulsa, Oklahoma, she attended Eisenhower International School for K-5 where she learned to speak Spanish fluently. She then attended Thoreau Middle School and Booker T. Washington High School. At The University of Oklahoma she graduated with distinction with a Bachelor of Science in Multidisciplinary Studies with emphases in life sciences and Spanish.

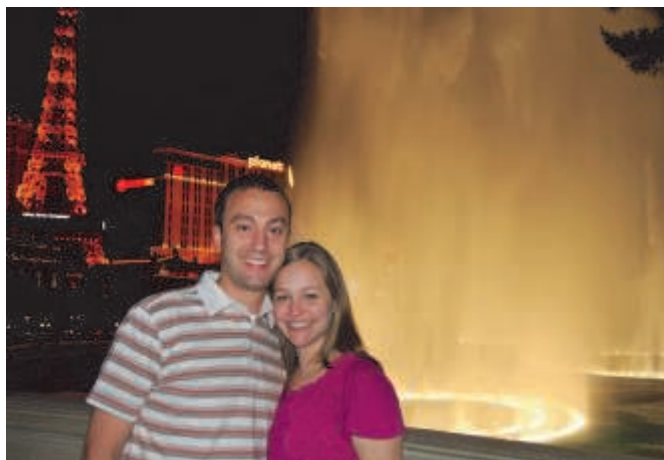
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Tricia will graduate on November 18, 2011. After graduation, she plans to go into family medicine or pediatrics.







### PANELIST, GROUP 3

**Fara Williams**  
**Grant Coordinator**  
**OK-LSAMP**

Fara Williams received her BS degree in Elementary Education and Middle Level Science from Oklahoma State University in 1997. After graduation, she moved to Texas where she taught fourth grade math and science for two years. Then, Fara ventured to teach in a two-room traveling school where she taught all subjects to students, ages three years old to high school. Full of an adventurous spirit, she also taught for five months in the Alaskan interior.

In 2007, Fara returned to Oklahoma State University where she currently serves as the grant coordinator for the Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (OK-LSAMP). OK-LSAMP is a consortium of 11 Oklahoma colleges and universities working together to develop programs aimed at increasing the number of students from under-represented populations who receive degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines. This program, funded by the National Science Foundation, is currently in its eighteenth year of providing students with support and opportunities to develop scientific and professional skills and networks.

In addition to her work, Fara is highly active in her church and community. She leads classes on Financial Peace University, directs the summer Vacation Bible School, and helps with the church's local food pantry and the Glencoe United Methodist Mobility Ministry (GUMMM). Fara is a facilitator for the Oklahoma Project WILD (an outdoor curriculum for K-12) and recently became a facilitator for the Growing Up WILD curriculum for early childhood. Fara likes to spend time with family and friends. She also likes to read and travel, having been to 49 of the 50 US states and half of the Canadian provinces. She is always up for a new adventure.







# Women in Science Conference 2011 Planning Committee

A sincere “Thank you!” to the members of this year’s Women in Science Planning Committee. These fantastic individuals volunteered countless hours and a wealth of expertise to the planning and implementation of this event. Committee members were focused on producing the best-possible conference to encourage Oklahoma’s young women to dream big, plan now and reach for the stars. Their contributions are greatly appreciated!

### Chairperson

Amy McGovern, University of Oklahoma

### Subcommittee Chairpersons

**Theresa Cullen, University of Oklahoma, Teachers’ Lounge & Scavenger Hunt**

Jen Macken, Oklahoma State University, Hands-On Sessions

Amy McGovern, University of Oklahoma, Panel Sessions

Gina Miller, Oklahoma EPSCoR, Panel Sessions & Recruitment Fair

Kay Scheets, Oklahoma State University, Hands-On Sessions

Deborah Trytten, University of Oklahoma, Career Planning Sessions

Kim Wolfenbarger, University of Oklahoma, Career Planning Sessions

### Committee Members

Linda Atkinson, University of Oklahoma

Madeline Baugher, Oklahoma NASA Space Grant Consortium/NASA EPSCoR

David Brown, University of Tulsa

Victoria Duca-Snowden, Oklahoma NASA Space Grant Consortium/NASA EPSCoR

Precious Elmore, Oklahoma State University

Carla Guthridge, Cameron University

Fabiola Janiak-Spens, Oklahoma City Community College

Sharon Lewis, Langston University

Sara Mata, Oklahoma State University

Henry Neeman, University of Oklahoma

Ann Nguyen, Oklahoma NASA Space Grant Consortium/NASA EPSCoR

Kay Porter, Oklahoma State University

Jennie Pratt, Oklahoma NASA Space Grant Consortium/NASA EPSCoR

Meghan Rieke, Oklahoma NASA Space Grant Consortium/NASA EPSCoR

Kat Rigby, Oklahoma NASA Space Grant Consortium/NASA EPSCoR

Dorinda Risenhoover, Oklahoma NASA Space Grant Consortium/NASA EPSCoR

Robin Schott, Oklahoma Career Tech

Toni Shaklee, Oklahoma State University

Charlotte Simmons, University of Central Oklahoma

Janis Slater, University of Oklahoma, K20 Center

**Kieu Oahn “Kelly” Tran, University of Oklahoma**

Susan Walden, University of Oklahoma

Jim Wicksted, Oklahoma EPSCoR

**A SPECIAL “THANK YOU!” TO THESE WOMEN IN SCIENCE SPONSORS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT!**



Oklahoma  
INBRE



# Outreach Initiatives 2008-2013

For detailed program information, contact:  
Gina Miller, Outreach Coordinator  
405.744.7645 or gmiller@okepscor.org  
www.okepscor.org

## K-12 Student Development

- OK Museum Network Mobile Science Vehicle
- Women in Science Conferences
- Bioenergy Summer Technology Academies
- Science Educators Training on GLOBE Objectives
- Educational Robotics Teams (BOTBALL)



OMN Mobile Science Vehicle



## Faculty Development

- Annual State Conferences
- NSF Grants Workshop
- NSF ADVANCE Workshop
- Research Opportunity Awards (ROA)
- OK Supercomputing Symposium
- Investigator Travel
- International Workshop on the Interconnection Between Particle Physics & Cosmology

## Postsecondary Outreach

- Tribal College Outreach
- Mentoring Program at Langston University
- Supercomputing in Plain English Workshops
- Oklahoma Research Day for Regional Universities
- Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU)
- Travel for Students to Professional Meetings
- Jump Start RISE (Retention Initiative Student Excellence)

## Public Outreach

- Research Day at the State Capitol
- Sci-Tech Student Reporting Awards
- Newsletters
- Web site: www.okepscor.org

## Entrepreneurship

- OCAST Industry Internships
- Entrepreneurial Workshops
- Business Plan Competitions
- i2E Commercialization vouchers



Research Experiences for Undergraduates

## Partnerships

- Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
- Oklahoma State University (OSU)
- University of Oklahoma (OU)
- OU Health Sciences Center
- Comanche Nation College
- Langston University
- The University of Tulsa
- Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation
- NSF Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation
- American Indian Science & Engineering Society
- Oklahoma Museum Network
- Retired Educators for Youth Agricultural Programs
- Oklahoma Cyberinfrastructure Initiative
- The State Chamber
- i2E, Inc. (Turning Innovation into Enterprise)
- OSU Formula Society of Automotive Engineers
- Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science & Technology

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# “Thank You!” NASA Ambassadors

For Your Outstanding Contributions to the Conference!

## Women in Science Volunteers!

Zoe Austin, OSU

Bethany Beachel, ECU

Courtney Beachel, ECU

Jozcelynee Bell, SEOSU

Erica Benda, SWOSU

Christy Bennett, OSU

Justina Bradley, LU

Katie Branscum, OU

Chesney Burgweger, SNU

Brittney Burton, ECU

Amber Cannon, ECU

Kristen Enyart, OSU

Victoria Ford, OU

Nicole Gastineau, OSU

Kristina George, OSU

Lauren Gilbert, OU

Felicia Gouse, ECU

Melissa Greenlee, SEOSU

Tashae Harrison, LU

Princess Hays, LU

Valerie Howard, SEOSU

Shriden Hurst, SEOSU

Noelle Hurt, ECU

Bethany Kent, SNU

Phoebe Lewis, LU

Michelle Lopez, OSU

Erin McGarry, SNU

Chelsea Nwankwo, SEOSU

Leah Phillips, LU

Kelsi Redfern, OSU

Aleshia Richardson, LU

Ashley Robertson, OSU

Dena Rymel, SEOSU

Hilary Sanchez, ECU

Shelby Sayre, ECU

Emily Shelton, OSU

Amelia Showalter, SEOSU

Breanna Simmons, SNU

Alison Siweckyj, ECU

Timara Starkey, SNU

Brittany Stoutermire, LU

Courtney Tolar, SEOSU

Kayla Vassar, ECU

Bailey Wallace, SEOSU

Lauren Westberry, SEOSU

Staysha Work-Fields, LU

Angela Zanotti, SNU

### Coordinators:

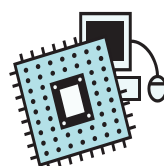
Victoria Duca-Snowden

Ann Nguyen

Jennie Pratt

Kat Rigby

Dorinda Risenhoover





# Museum Map

## Welcome to

# Science Museum OKLAHOMA

### Museum Hours

Monday-Friday	9am-5pm
Saturday	9am-6pm
Sunday	11am-6pm

CLOSED HOLIDAYS, CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY

## Become a member!

Membership provides unlimited admission to Science Museum Oklahoma for an entire year, plus discounts to The Science Shop and more! Prices start at \$40 for two individuals. **JOIN TODAY!**

**VISIT THE INFO BOOTH OR CALL 405.602.6664**

## Join us for an event!

Spend the night with science at our exciting fun for the whole family **Bright Nights**, scheduled throughout the year, or book your own private night. Night for your group!

Don't forget we offer **Birthday Party Packages** for kids of all ages! Fun with sub-zero ice cream, gooey slime and more!

**VISIT THE INFO BOOTH OR CALL 405.602.3760**

[www.sciencemuseumok.org](http://www.sciencemuseumok.org)



NOTES PAGE

# Win Door Prizes!

## STUDENTS—SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT: SCAVENGER HUNT!

Students who choose to participate in the scavenger hunt will be placed in a drawing for lots of great prizes! Show your completed scavenger hunt form to the person at the door of your final session to receive a ticket to win prizes! Winners will be announced from 1:15-1:30 p.m. in the final sessions. Must be present to win.

### Scavenger hunt instructions:

Scientists engage in inquiry. They ask questions using their personal perspectives to find out information to help them to solve problems, make decisions, or look at phenomenon in new ways. While you are not yet a scientist, choosing your college path or future career is a problem that you will have to investigate and attempt to solve over the next few years. You can engage in inquiry to find out more information to make your decision.

### Who to ask?

Today, you have access to many schools and companies that are here to tell you about how they might help you achieve your goals. Take this opportunity to ask them about the degrees they offer or what skills they are looking for in future employees.

### What to ask?

Think about difficulties that you might face in pursuing a career in science. Will there be a need for financial aid? Do you need to know what to major in for a certain career? Do you need to know what job a specific major would qualify you to do? Or do you wonder what you should do now in middle or high school to be able to do that job later?



### How does the Scavenger Hunt work?

For the first four questions, visit four different booths in the atrium area and talk to a person at each of those booths. Write down where they work, their names and web addresses to get more information later. Ask them each a question and write down their answers in the spaces provided. In the final box, summarize something you learned during each session today.



# Women in Science Conference Scavenger Hunt Form

School or Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Who I Talked To: \_\_\_\_\_

Question I Asked: \_\_\_\_\_

Their Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

Web Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School or Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Who I Talked To: \_\_\_\_\_

Question I Asked: \_\_\_\_\_

Their Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

Web Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School or Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Who I Talked To: \_\_\_\_\_

Question I Asked: \_\_\_\_\_

Their Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

Web Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School or Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Who I Talked To: \_\_\_\_\_

Question I Asked: \_\_\_\_\_

Their Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

Web Address: \_\_\_\_\_

The Session I Attended:	Something I Learned:
1:	
2:	
3:	

I learned if I want to become a \_\_\_\_\_ then I need to \_\_\_\_\_!

# WOMEN IN SCIENCE CONFERENCE

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING!

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