



Cindy Lewis <cjl8@nyu.edu>

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## September 2016 Edition of the W to W Newsletter

1 message

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**September 2016 Edition**

## **Upcoming Events: Current Students**

**2016 Lynford Lecture**





**The 2016 Lynford Lecture**  
**"Tiny Conspiracies: Cell-to-Cell Communication in Bacteria"**

**Featuring Dr. Bonnie Bassler**  
Dr. Bassler is Chair of the Department of Molecular Biology at Princeton University, a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a MacArthur Fellow and a TED Talk Lecturer.

**Date/Time:**  
**Wednesday, October 12, 2016, 5 p.m.**

**Place:**  
**NYU Tandon School of Engineering**  
**Dibner Building, Pfizer Auditorium,**  
**5 MetroTech Center, Brooklyn, NY 11201**

For more information and how to register, Please go to [engineering.nyu.edu/lynford2016](http://engineering.nyu.edu/lynford2016)

The Lynford Lecture is sponsored by Jeffrey and Tonda Lynford and the Institute of Mathematics and Advanced Supercomputing (IMAS)

## Empower Hours

Please join your peers in discussions about internships, job placements, and everything in between. Coffee, tea, cookies and brownies will be provided.

### Fall 2016 Meetings

Tuesday October 11th at 12pm in The Hub (LC223)

Tuesday November 15th at 12pm in The Hub (LC223)

Tuesday December 13th at 11am in The Hub (LC223)

## CS Women's Group Updates

The CS Women's group is happy to announce several things for the fall 2016 semester!

1) We are excited to have officially formed an NYU [ACM-W Chapter](#)! Special thanks to the chapter's President Ana Bolsoni <[acm-w-chapter@nyu.edu](mailto:acm-w-chapter@nyu.edu)> for all of her efforts in forming the group and rallying our Sheroes!

2) Our first meeting will be held this **Tuesday, September 13th from 12:30pm-2:30pm**. We will have free food, we will do some personalized ACM-W bracelets with beads and **3Dprinting**, discuss open positions on the Chapter - you could hold a leadership position as well - and many other stuff we have prepared.

**We ask that you please RSVP here:** <https://www.facebook.com/events/346098805721584/>

3) We are gearing up to attend the annual [Anita Borg Conference](#) 2016 In Houston, Texas. The conference will take place Wednesday, October 19 through Friday, October 21. All are welcome to apply using the following application link however please note that preference will be given to current BS CS students: <https://goo.gl/forms/CVgnKiSuCqdrRHAE2>. Space is limited therefore we also strongly recommend you apply for the various [Anita Borg Scholarships & Grants](#).

4) All are welcome to join our Facebook group "NYU Women in Computer Science" and <[CSWomen@nyu.edu](mailto:CSWomen@nyu.edu)> mailing list by contacting Crystal Dilonez <[cdilonez@nyu.edu](mailto:cdilonez@nyu.edu)>

## Community Updates

### Integrated Digital Media Updates

Integrated Digital Media (IDM) undergrad senior **Lajune Mcmillian** will be presenting at the Weird Reality conference, <http://artandcode.com/weirdreality/lajune-mcmillian>, in Pittsburgh, PA Oct. 6-9.

IDM grad student **Marijke Jorritsma** is currently interning at the Ops Lab at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in California.

## Google RISE Awards

Our global economy is shifting and computer science is becoming an essential skill that leads to economic and social mobility. It is a tool to solve problems and create solutions in ways we can't even imagine today. Computer science can lead to rewarding, [higher wage jobs](#) and the creation of new companies.

And there is tremendous opportunity. By 2020, there will be 1 million new, unfulfilled computer-related jobs in the [U.S.](#) and over 800,000 in the [EU](#) alone. The story is similar in many countries around the world – the supply of computer scientists is not keeping pace with demand.

The RISE program supports and connects not-for-profit organizations around the world to increase equity in CS education with a focus on girls, minorities who are historically underrepresented in the field, and youth from low-income communities.

[Learn more here.](#)



## NYU Robotics Design Team

We met at the Commuter Retreat the weekend before welcome week, and neither of us could have predicted at the time where we find ourselves two years later--leading the NYU Robotics Design Team! In the whirl of welcome week events we drifted into different circles of freshman, exploring the school for ourselves. Then, without knowing the other would, we each signed up to join the former Lunabotics team. The first photo is from the day we met, and the following from the last two springs when we were at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida for the NASA Robotics Mining Competition (RMC).

Our team is composed of students whose disciplines span across many engineering fields, and are at various stages in their education, creating a unique environment of learning and mentorship. The team is currently competing in the annual NASA RMC

competition. The goal of the competition is to efficiently collect simulated Martian soil and deposit it in a collection bin. The properties of the soil make it an interesting material to collect, having a consistency of flour-like-sand. Robot weight, power consumption, controls (autonomous levels, or tele-op), and design innovation are assessed. The competition also has an outreach component, as a team we mentor high school FIRST Robotics teams, teach at Girls Who Code, and try to inspire children to pursue STEM education.

We hope to participate in other competitions in the future, but our main goal is to win this year's competition. The year has gotten off to a running start, thanks to our efforts over the summer. We hope that our team will be able to achieve at least partial autonomy for RMC, and then start developing a manipulator. The manipulator (robotic arm) will be a new exciting challenge for everyone on the team, and will begin our design phase for future competitions.



## Wasserman Center for Career Development Updates

### CSAW'16 INDUSTRY FAIR

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2016 (10 AM – 3 PM)

Tandon School of Engineering, 6 MetroTech Center, Brooklyn, NY 11201

MakerSpace Conference Room

**Registration is required by October 20th. Space is limited, register today!**

**The CSAW'16 Industry Fair welcomes registration from the following student groups:**

- Computer Science & Cybersecurity students (undergraduate & graduate)
- Computer Engineering students (undergraduate & graduate)
- Students who have declared a cybersecurity minor
- Recent alumni in the above programs (within 1 year after graduation)

Students will have the chance to meet with CSAW sponsors to discuss employment opportunities within the cyber security realm. This is a unique and intimate fair designed specifically for students who are pursuing security-related studies.

**For additional details on employers and to register, please visit the CSAW'16 website: [csaw.engineering.nyu.edu/events/industry-fair/industry-fair-registration](http://csaw.engineering.nyu.edu/events/industry-fair/industry-fair-registration)**

## NYU Tandon School of Engineering History



During WWII, the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn (now Tandon) allowed women to attend the once all-male institution. Bernice Haynes Gibbs and Mildred E. Preen enrolled in 1940, along with 20 male students, to attend the school's private pilot license training program. After completing 72 hours in ground school and 35 hours in the air, the women went on to advanced courses authorized by the Civil Aeronautics Board. (Image courtesy of Poly Archives).

## Faculty Spotlight

**Professor Alexandra Seidenstein**

*Tell us a little about yourself.*

I grew up in New Jersey at attended the Montclair Kimberley Academy. I began my undergraduate degree at George Washington University in forensic chemistry, and graduated from University of Victoria with a bachelor's of science in neuroscience and environmental science.

I spent three years studying yoga and volunteering in South India, a truly remarkable and life changing experience. After returning to NYC, I completed a molecular biology masters degree before enrolling as PHD in Neuroscience student at Downstate Medical's school where I am concentrating (ABD) in Computational Neuroscience.

I have had the pleasure of designing and teaching both traditional molecular biology, genetics and cell biology courses; as well as undergraduate courses that focus on health sciences, meditation and stress, and yoga and physiology. I also love to read, get up early, and run on the Brooklyn water front.

*What are your areas of research?*

My research is currently focused on implementing computational models of neuronal activity during ischemic stroke to show the molecular mechanisms involved.

*What do you enjoy most about teaching at NYU Tandon SoE?*

I absolutely love being part of the NYU community. Everything from the quality of education and faculty to the incredible resources. But my absolute favorite thing is watching the students succeed. I love hearing about the amazing opportunities they get involved with both during their college careers as well as after graduation. Nothing makes me happier then hearing from a recent graduate about their new position, or acceptance. I am blessed to be part of the lives of such inspiring students, and to be part of their development and education.

*What advice can you offer the women students?*

I think this applies to all students, but especially those that are under-represented in STEM.... please do exactly what it is that you want to do. If its a non-traditional role for



women, then do it anyway. If you are worried you won't fit in, that you may hear unwelcoming comments, or that you may at times struggle, please do it anyway. We are all stronger than we sometimes think we are, be passionate about your goals and your life. Make sure you surround yourself with people that cheer for you and your achievements. Success is built on determination, daily work, and selective hearing. It is an exciting time for women and STEM, and we are all lucky to be part of it.

## What I Did This Summer: Became an Engineer

**Mailing address:** NYU Tandon School of Engineering, 6 MetroTech Center, Brooklyn, NY, 11201, US