

# Steering Your Career as a Woman Engineer

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# Outline

- Some common scenarios
- Strategies for success
- The imposter syndrome
- Resources
- Questions and answers

# Common Scenarios

- Newbie
- To manage or not to manage?
- On the slow track?
- The manager from hell
- The managee from hell

# Strategies for Success

- Choose good goals
- Be good at your work
- Get good advice, coaching, professional development
- Be willing to learn and change
- Network
- Persist but know when to fold

# Choose good goals

- Set short-term and long-term goals
- The people who make a difference
  - decide to do something important
  - plan a strategy
  - gather support
  - persist
  - and modify strategy when necessary

# Be good at your work

- Hard work, persistence, commitment to excellence
- Be eager to do/learn the hard stuff
- Be willing to take risks
- Help others succeed

# Get good advice, coaching, professional development

- Grow your family of mentors
  - Professors
  - Role models
  - Peers
  - Mentees
- Take advantage of courses, workshops
- Coaches can make a huge difference

# Be willing to learn and change

- Everyone can improve
- What feels uncomfortable at first can become a key skill
- Learn to see situations from another's perspective



# Network

- It's all about relationships
- Everyone can help
- Do your part

# Persist but know when to fold

- Persistence is incredibly important to success
- Sometimes there's nothing you can do

# Common Scenarios

- Newbie
- To manage or not to manage?
- On the slow track?
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# The imposter syndrome

- What it is
- Coping with imposteritis
  - Practice, practice, practice
  - Remember your successes
  - Learn hard stuff

# Resources

- Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing, Portland November 10 – 12, 2011
- How the Way We Talk Can Change the Way We Work: Seven Languages for Transformation: Robert Kegan, Lisa Laskow
- Getting to Yes: Fisher, Ury and Patton
- Getting past No: Ury