Women in Physics Canada 2013 Conference

The third annual Women in Physics Canada conference ran from July 25 - 27, 2013 at Simon Fraser University’s Burnaby campus. There were 63 participants, including undergraduate and graduate students, postdocs, physics teachers and faculty from across Canada and the USA, twelve panelists and seven invited speakers:

- Corina Andreoiu, Barbara Frisken and Karen Kavanagh (SFU)
- Sabine Stanley (University of Toronto)
- Sylvia Wessel (Ballard Power Systems)
- Shohini Ghose (Wilfrid Laurier University)
- Paula Heron (University of Washington)

Aimed at young women in all areas of physics, the conference addressed the underrepresentation of women in the field of physics by giving participants an opportunity to present their research as contributed talks and poster presentations. There were also opportunities to network during the many coffee breaks, the poster session BBQ, and the banquet dinner. Three panel discussions on Alternate Academic Careers, Career and Family Issues, and How to Get a Job in Industry provided the participants with valuable information.

The evaluation survey showed that 73% of the respondents agreed with the statement “This conference made me feel more satisfied with my career choice”, and the same percentage also agreed that the conference provided them with some coping strategies to succeed in their careers.

WWEST Partners funding went towards eight $100 travel grants for BC residents from outside the Lower Mainland. It was also used to subsidize the registrations of the 47 participants who reside in BC.