

Thank you for subscribing to the WWEST Network's semi-monthly newsletter!

Is this email not displaying correctly?  
[View it at WWEST's newsletter archive.](#)



a place of mind  
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



### Upcoming Events

- [May 7: Entrepreneurial Toolkit Symposium](#)
- [May 13: Work in 2025: You+Me+Robots? \(live stream\)](#)
- [May 14: Inspiring Immigrant Professionals in Engineering, Science and Technology](#)

### Announcements & Articles

- [SCWIST mentioned WWEST at the House of Commons](#)
- [To fight income inequality, tell your friends how much you make](#)
- [Female researchers quit body honouring scientists after no women nominated](#)

## In the Spotlight:

The Creating Connections 4.0 Conference is just around the corner!



### Creating Connections 4.0

*Conversations on STEM, diversity, leadership and Engaging Our World*

May 22 & 23, 2015 | SFU Burnaby

Featuring:

Five-time Olympic Medalist,  
**Hayley Wickenheiser**

Former Prime Minister,  
**Rt. Hon. Kim Campbell**

President of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC),  
**Dr. B. Mario Pinto**

Creating Connections 4.0 is an exciting personal and professional development conference with interactive workshops, panel discussions, and networking sessions with like-minded students and professionals from all over the West Coast!

Featured speakers include five-time Olympic medalist **Hayley Wickenheiser**, Former Prime Minister **Rt. Hon. Kim Campbell**, and President of NSERC **Dr. B. Mario Pinto**!

- [Why there are still far too few women in science and engineering](#)
- [A vaunted new study says women have it easy in STEM fields. Don't believe it.](#)
- ['Sexist' peer review causes storm online](#)
- [Leveling the Field](#)
- [Women Engineer Aiming to Become Miss World Canada 2015](#)

### Reminders

- [May 6: Women in Mining Annual Cocktail Reception](#)
- [May 20: Promotion to Professor](#)

[Click here](#) for more information and to register. Don't forget to like [Creating Connections 4.0 on Facebook](#) for daily updates!

---

## *Upcoming Events*

### [May 7: Entrepreneurial Toolkit Symposium](#)

The Entrepreneurial Toolkit Symposium is a collaboration of organizations coming together to support established and aspiring entrepreneurs in the fields of Science and Technology. Using real life case studies, you will learn from technically experienced financial, tax and legal practitioners how to start, finance, and create the right structure for your business venture. You will also learn to navigate and manage risk as an entrepreneur.

This event will take place on Thursday, May 7 from 3pm – 6pm at UBC Vancouver. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.

### [May 13: Work in 2025: You+Me+Robots? \(live stream\)](#)

In a collaborative dialogue, Silicon Valley thought leaders will share their perspectives on the future of work as influenced by exponentially advancing technologies and exchange ideas with the audience on the shifting landscape over the next 20 years.

This event will take place on May 12 from 6pm – 9pm at Singularity University, and there will be a live stream available for those outside of the area. [Click here](#) for more information.

**[May 14: Inspiring Immigrant Professionals in Engineering, Science and Technology](#)**

Interested in energy conservation, micro grids, or electric vehicles? Take a tour of BCIT's cutting-edge energy research facilities to find out more! BCWEN is hosting a free tour of the Factor Four Area, Energy Oasis, and the Centre for Energy Education and Research. The tour will take place on Friday, April 24 starting at 2:30pm, at BCIT campus on Willingdon Ave in Burnaby. [Click here](#) for more information.

---

***Announcements & Articles***

**[SCWIST mentioned WWEST at the House of Commons](#)**

WWEST and the Chairs, along with our white papers, were mentioned in SCWIST's presentation on the Status of Women to the House of Commons in Ottawa. [Click here](#) for more details about the presentation.

**[Article: To fight income inequality, tell your friends how much you make](#)**

[This article](#) discusses the taboo salary inequality between men and women workers and how one woman dealt with it.

*We—women and minorities, and men too—need to get over the antiquated hang-ups about salary secrecy and be proactive. Ask your co-workers how much they make, and tell them how much you make.*

**[Article: Female researchers quit body honouring scientists after no women nominated](#)**

Judy Illes and Catherine Anderson, researchers with the University of British Columbia, resigned from the selection committee of the Canadian Science and Engineering Hall of Fame this month after realizing that no women had recently been nominated for induction.

*“There are great science and engineering women out there in Canada today who have been part of our communities,” she said in an interview with The Canadian Press from Vancouver. “To have zero women two years in a row signifies a failure on our part to really reach out as needed.”*

[Click here](#) to read the full article, and [click here](#) to view the online petition in support of Professors Illes and Anderson.

**[Article: Why there are still far too few women in science and engineering](#)**

[This Chatelaine magazine article](#) (originally from [Maclean's](#)) discusses the reasons why so few women pursue STEM careers, along with actions taken thus far to tackle the issue.

*Women are being forced out of careers in science and engineering, not because they can't juggle babies and Bunsen burners, but because they're discouraged at every turn by thousands of small, sexist moments that make them feel unwelcome and unworthy.*

**[Article: A vaunted new study says women have it easy in STEM fields. Don't believe it.](#)**

[A recent study](#) found that there was a roughly 2-to-1 preference for hiring female candidates over male candidates in various STEM fields. [This article](#) discusses whether the study is accurate and representative of the current state of the gender disparity in STEM.

**[Article: 'Sexist' peer review causes storm online](#)**

An anonymous peer reviewer from the journal PLOS ONE wrote a review containing “sexist,” “sarcastic,” and “patronising” comments for a paper written by two female researchers.

*The reviewer makes several suggestions to improve the paper. Among them is the comment that it would benefit from “one or two male biologists”. These men should at least give the paper an internal peer review*

*or “better yet” act as co-authors “in order to serve as a possible check against interpretations that may sometimes be drifting too far away from empirical evidence into ideologically biased assumptions”, the reviewer says.*

[Click here](#) to read the full article.

#### **Article: Leveling the Field**

McMaster University is adding \$3,515 onto the salaries of its female professors to address the gender pay gap found in its faculty.

*“Whenever you have a pay equity issue, you have to address it front and center,” said David Wilkinson, McMaster’s provost and academic vice president. “Then it just becomes a process of doing the work to actually develop a robust model for adjusting it.”*

[Click here](#) to read the full article.

#### **Article: Women Engineer Aiming to Become Miss World Canada 2015**

Shruti Kapoor is a women engineer and UBC alumna who will be competing for the Miss World Canada 2015 this month.

*“Through this strong role, I want to inspire all women to follow their dreams as I believe that both beauty inside and outside must be synergistic to each other.”*

[Click here](#) to read the full article.

---

## ***Reminders***

### **May 6: Women in Mining Annual Cocktail Reception**

Women in Mining BC Annual Cocktail Receptions have gathered a very enthusiastic following within the mining industry over the years. More than 400 attendees came together last year at the WIM BC Annual Cocktail Reception and we look forward to continuing to grow this important event.

This is a fantastic event with drinks, appetizers and a chance to win one of the amazing door prizes. Meet and network with a diverse group of people from the BC mining industry. [Click here](#) to register.

### **May 20: Promotion to Professor**

The NSERC Chair for Women in Science and Engineering (BC/Yukon), in conjunction with the NSERC CWSE / CRSNG CFSG Réseau National Network and UBC Faculties of Science and Applied Science, invites you to apply to attend Promotion to Professor, a national workshop for Associate Professors in engineering and science who are looking ahead to full Professor. Get advice, support, and information on this strategic next step.

Who: Women Associate Professors in science and engineering from across Canada.

What: A unique opportunity to look ahead to promotion – get advice and support to chart your path ahead.

Where: UBC Vancouver.

When: Wednesday, May 20th. Opening reception on May 19th; CV review sessions on May 21st.

Why: Mentor, learn, network, and get advice from senior faculty and administrators.

[Click here](#) for more information.

---

If you have any questions about WWEST or wish to be removed from this mailing list, please contact:

**Robyn Choi & Rebekah Parker**

WWEST Student Assistants

Department of Mechanical Engineering | Civil and Mechanical Engineering Building, Room 1214

Faculty of Applied Science | The University of British Columbia – Vancouver

2054 - 6250 Applied Science Lane | Vancouver BC

Canada V6T 1Z4

[wwest.student@mech.ubc.ca](mailto:wwest.student@mech.ubc.ca)