



Women, Science, and Technology Learning Community

<http://www.wst.gatech.edu>

Center for the Study of Women, Science, and Technology (WST) Co-Directors:

Carol Colatrella, Professor, School of Literature, Media, and Communication

Skiles 364; 404 894 1241; carol.colatrella@lmc.gatech.edu

Mary Frank Fox, ADVANCE Professor, School of Public Policy

DM Smith 307; 404 894 1818; mary.fox@pubpolicy.gatech.edu

Mary Lynn Realff, Associate Professor, School of Materials Science and Engineering

MRDC 4510; 404 894 2496; marylynn.realff@mse.gatech.edu

2018-2019 WST Graduate Partners:

Danielle Schechter, Digital Media/LMC (dschechter@gatech.edu)

Katherine Elise Bennett, Digital Media/LMC (keb@gatech.edu)

Monica Marks, Materials Science and Engineering (mmarks8@gatech.edu)

Talia Capozzoli, Public Policy (taliac@gatech.edu)

Housing Hall Director: Tierra Clemmons (tierra.clemmons@housing.gatech.edu)

Housing RAs: Amanda Miller (amiller341@gatech.edu)

Mykala Sinclair (mykalasinclair@gatech.edu)

History:

The Center for the Study of Women, Science, and Technology (WST Center) was created in 1999, supported by funds from the Georgia Tech Foundation and the Focused Research Program of the office of the Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Research. The WST Center began as an inter-college initiative sponsored by the Colleges of Science and Engineering and the Ivan Allen College. In 2001, the WST Center became a Georgia Tech Center, receiving funding from and reporting to the provost. As of 2010, WST reports to the Vice President for Institute Diversity and collaborates with colleagues in Student Diversity and Inclusion.

The Women, Science, and Technology Learning Community (WST Lrn C) was the first learning community at Georgia Tech. Founded in fall 2000 on a floor of Hopkins with seven residents, it quickly expanded to include 24 residents in Stein Houses in fall 2001. In fall 2002, the WST Learning Community grew to include 48 residents in Stein and Goldin Houses, and sometimes included interested students living in Center St. Apartments. In 2005, the WST Learning Community was awarded a best practices citation by Georgia Tech's Office of Organizational Development for the WST faculty-student mentoring program.

In 2001, the WST Center partnered with the Office of the Provost and Georgia Tech colleges on the Georgia Tech National Science Foundation ADVANCE Institutional Transformation cooperative agreement (2001-07). WST annually co-sponsors (with the Women's Resource Center and the Women in Engineering mentoring program) a fall reception welcoming new

women faculty and staff and celebrating women student leaders and WST Learning Community mentors and residents at Georgia Tech.

WST Learning Community Goals for 2018-19:

Residents will be able to develop plans to achieve community goals.

Residents will be able to demonstrate effective communication when working with others.

Residents will be able to develop plans to achieve personal and career goals.

Residents will work with the WST team and RAs on events and initiatives to build community.

Residents will be able to explain the positive impact of their service for the community.

OPPORTUNITIES:

Connecting students and faculty around research, career development, and leadership, the WST Lrn C offers *programs* addressing academic and professional issues for women students from all Georgia Tech majors. The WST Lrn C includes 48 students living in Stein and Goldin Houses (respectively 4th St. Apartments A and B), who attend monthly dinners, bi-weekly lunches, and campus receptions and research panels.

Interested WST Lrn C residents also benefit from having *a faculty/staff mentor*.

Budget permitting, *undergraduate research partnerships* will be offered to WST Learning Community residents; WST offered the first undergraduate research partnerships at Georgia Tech.

WST Learning Community residents *attending conferences* may apply to Dr. Colatrella to ask for WST travel support, including conference registrations. After Dr. Colatrella approves the expenditures and travel is completed, receipts must be provided to Georgia Tech for reimbursement.

ALL Georgia Tech students are welcome to attend WST and WST Learning Community events, which are noted in this orientation packet and at the WST website (www.wst.gatech.edu). Events will also be publicized via email, OrgSync, the WST Google calendar, the WST Facebook group, and other media.

WST Lrn C initiatives/events coordinated by Hall Director, RAs, and residents may include social hours, arts and crafts, yoga, films, ropes course, Thanksgiving and other celebrations, and other programs to be developed by committees and other residents.

REQUIREMENTS:

All WST Learning Community residents **are required to attend WST Lrn C orientation**.

Each term each resident **must attend five WST Center or WST Lrn C events** and/or meetings with a WST mentor. Make sure you sign the attendance sheets to receive appropriate credit or inform the WST graduate partners.

Each WST Lrn C member is expected to serve on a WST Lrn C student committee and to contribute to activities sponsored by the committee.

Periodically attend Hall Council meetings, where funding decisions are made. Purchases of kitchen equipment and supplies as well as other expenses can be supported with Hall Council funds.

WST Lrn C initiatives/events coordinated by WST Co-Directors and Graduate Partners:

***WST Lrn C Orientation:** Monday, August 27, 5:30-7:00pm in Stein House—residents meet with WST Co-Director Mary Lynn Reaff, Housing Hall Director, WST Lrn C RAs

***Monthly dinners** for WST residents and open to all GT students and WST mentors. Speakers include faculty, administrators, employers, and alumni who discuss their career interests and paths. Popular topics include developing a career strategy, writing an effective resume, enhancing interviewing skills, and applying to graduate and professional schools.

***Informal lunches** (three per term) organized by WST graduate partners and student committee; these are open, space permitting, to all GT students. Lunches take place on campus. Some are small lunches (2-5 students) with a guest faculty host, while other lunches focusing on topics of broad interest (graduate fellowships, study abroad, etc.) attract more attendees. Each term there might also be one or two lunches bringing together students in a particular major; these may be co-sponsored by and held in that academic unit.

***WST Center events** (open to all faculty, staff, and students): annual fall reception welcoming new female faculty and staff and celebrating WST Lrn C residents and mentors, Women in Engineering mentors/mentees, and Women's Resource Center student leaders; WST Focused Research panels, and the WST Distinguished Lecture.

***WST Lrn C Mentors:** Any interested WST Learning Community student can invite a faculty/staff member to serve as a mentor or ask to be paired with a female faculty/staff mentor in a closely related discipline. Faculty mentors can be asked to be hosts of informal lunches.

***Humanities elective course in Stein:** In fall 2017 Dr. Colatrella will teach LMC 3304: Science, Technology, and Gender on MW 9:30-10:45am in Stein study lounge. The course satisfies Humanities and Ethics requirements and is open to all Georgia Tech students who enroll and wish to earn humanities credit. There are spaces reserved for WST Lrn C students.

***Coffee hour and office hour:** During fall term Dr. Colatrella will be in Stein at 9 am on most M and W during fall term when she can meet informally with WST residents over coffee/tea. Appointments can also be arranged at other times for meetings in Stein or in her office in Skiles 364 or in the WST Chapin office.

***WST Co-Director and GRA office hours:** Carol Colatrella (MW mornings) and each WST graduate partner (late afternoon/evening) will hold office hours on weekdays in the WST office in Stein. **See hours posted on Stein office door.**

WST Mentors include faculty listed at <http://www.wst.gatech.edu/wst-mentors>

WST Mentors--Approach a mentor listed in the link above or one you will cultivate: If you are interested in being mentored by a Georgia Tech faculty member in a closely related discipline, approach that individual and ask about her availability to meet with you during business hours in her office or elsewhere on campus. At least three face-to-face meetings each term are suggested. These are best arranged in advance by email or phone call. When you and a mentor agree to work together, notify Dr. Colatrella of the pairing, or let her know if you would like her help in matching you with a mentor. Remember that you and your mentor have busy schedules and many commitments. ***Be realistic when setting meeting times, and be responsible in keeping your appointments.*** Mentors advise about academic progress and career development in your field and can be asked to provide references and recommendations for you in the future. Some mentors may also be interested in supervising a research project supported by WST or PURA funding.

**WST Learning Community Fall Orientation
Monday, August 27, 2018, 5:30-7:00pm
Agenda**

Welcome, ice-breakers, and introductions over dinner (10 minutes)

WST History, Requirements, Course in Stein, Service Initiative, WST Goals (15 minutes)
WST Co-Director Mary Lynn Realff
Graduate Partners

Review of Committee Missions and Assignments (5 minutes)

Committee Activity (30 minutes)

1. Brainstorm about planning for the term: what activities would you like your committee to undertake? Each member should share her ideas.
2. Identify the three most interesting ideas that emerge from the group brainstorming; choose which opportunities are worth pursuing at this time
3. Identify the action items involved with planning these activities: what steps do individual members need to take to realize the top three opportunities? Who will take responsibility for developing these?

Wrap-up Discussion: Committees report on their planned activities (20 minutes)

WST WELCOMES YOUR SUGGESTIONS FOR EVENTS AND SPEAKERS. Send correspondence to carol.colatrella@lmc.gatech.edu OR to wst.lrn.c@gmail.com

WST FALL 2018 EVENTS

Meet your mentor at the Annual Reception on Thursday, September 20, 4-5p.m, Student Success Center President's Suites C/D: welcome new women faculty and staff and celebrate student leaders and women's programs. Co-sponsored by WST, Women in Engineering, Women's Resource Center, ADVANCE, and Institute Diversity. Refreshments served.

WST Learning Community Dinners--in Stein House for students & WST mentors; RSVP wst.lrn.c@gmail.com

Monday, August 27, 5:30-7:00pm: Orientation: meet residents and contribute to committee planning

Monday, August 27, 5:30-7:00pm: Orientation with Dr. Realff: meet residents and plan committee initiatives

Monday, September 13, 6-7pm: Meg Soenstrom, International Education, on study abroad & exchange

Tuesday, October 16, 6-7pm: Dr. Bonnie Ferri, Professor & Vice Provost for Graduate Education & Faculty Development

Monday, November 5, 6-7pm: Dr. Mindy Millard-Stafford, Exercise Physiology Laboratory, Biological Sciences

November (end of term event with food)

WST Learning Community Lunches--Open to all, schedule permitting. RSVP to wst.lrn.c@gmail.com