



Communications, Education & Public Affairs Division
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January 25, 2012

Dear Colleague:

On Thursday, April 19, 2012, Argonne National Laboratory will conduct the 24th "Science Careers in Search of Women" conference. The conference will once again focus on exploring opportunities and options for women choosing careers in science and technology. A conference announcement and an application/student sign-up sheet are enclosed. **The application/student sign-up sheet is also available at www.dep.anl.gov/women. The deadline for applications is March 7, 2012.** Applications received after the deadline will be considered on a space-available basis. Notification of acceptance will be sent during the week of March 19, 2012.

We invite you to identify young women students from your school who have not had the opportunity to attend this one-day event. The students need not have clear ideas about future careers but should be those who are interested in science and mathematics. We are aiming our presentations toward sophomores and juniors, but interested freshmen and senior students would also be welcome.

The demand for attendance at the conference is overwhelming. More are turned away than can be accommodated. The format includes tours, lunch with a scientist, and panel discussions. Because of these factors, we expect that all conference attendees remain for the entire program. It is not fair to turn away other qualified schools when those accepted do not utilize the full program. As in the past, we are restricting attendance to six high school women plus one or two teachers/counselors from each high school. Since this announcement is being sent to science and mathematics departments as well as a copy to the guidance counselor's office, we ask that the applications be coordinated. In order for your students to attend, your school must provide for round-trip transportation. Snacks and lunch will be provided to all conference participants.

The students are welcome to arrive at 8:30 a.m. and refreshments will be available. From 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., students will have the opportunity to complete individual career and leadership assessments and also view/discuss research posters presented by women scientists and engineers. The official opening of the conference and keynote address will be at 10:00 a.m. The program will continue with tours and lunch where students will have an opportunity to interact directly with professionals from their chosen fields. The afternoon will consist of panel presentations and career booth exhibits. The panels will present information on career options and experiences, particularly as they relate to women in science. After a brief closing plenary session, the conference will conclude at 4:00 p.m. A tentative schedule of the day's events is also enclosed.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact India Gordon at 630-252-4114 or igordon@anl.gov. We look forward to hosting you and your students at the conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kawtar Hafidi".

Kawtar Hafidi
Program Initiator
Women in Science and Technology Program
Conference Co-Chair

Andrew F. Skipor
Manager
Educational Programs
Conference Co-Chair

KH/AFS/isg
Enclosures