



WIST at PAN-IIT

We plan to have a one day conference on 'Women in science and technology' at the PAN-IIT convention to be held at IIT Madras on December 20th, 2008. This conference intends to address the issue of the serious underrepresentation of women at all levels of science and technology education and research. Given this underrepresentation of women, both as faculty and students in the IIT-s themselves, and the fact that the alumni of the Indian Institutes of Technology, both men and women, have gravitated towards leadership roles in their own science and technology communities, PANIIT 2008 is a natural forum to discuss these issues.

In the first part of the program, the speakers will discuss the reasons for the underrepresentation of women in science, as well as the reasons why this should be a cause for concern. Action plans that are underway at the national and international levels to address this lack of equitability will also be discussed.

The second part of the program, is part of the "Education" track of the main PANIIT 2008 program. Here, the first part of the session will have key-note talks by women who have managed to overcome gender barriers to become successful scientists and technologists. This will be followed by a panel discussion on attracting girls to science and technology.

A session specific to the host institute, IIT Madras, hopes to present views from different sections, women students, technical staff and faculty on their experiences in IIT over the years, and their aspirations for the future. Finally the day ends with a networking session for an hour.

Registration Details:

Registration for the WIST conference is free. Please send a mail to the account wist@physics.iitm.ac.in to preregister. Registered participants of the WIST conference will be permitted to participate in the pre-lunch session (11:45 am- 1:15 p.m) of the "Education" track of the main PAN-IIT on 20th December. IIT faculty and alumni are strongly encouraged to register for PANIIT 2008 itself, so that they have free access to all the other sessions.

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Women in Science
An Indian Academy of Sciences Initiative



Women in Science and Technology

20th December 2008

Tentative programme

09.00-09.30	Inauguration
09.30-10.00	Equity for Women in Science and Technology
10.00-10.20	Tea
10.20-10.50	Women in Physics
10.50-11.20	Women in Science
11.45-12.15	Women achievers speak (www.paniit2008.org)
12.15- 1.15	Panel discussion on Attracting Women Faculty and Students to Science and Technology (www.paniit2008.org)
1.15-2.30	Lunch
2.30- 4.00	The IIT Madras story
4.00-5.30	Tea + Networking

Speakers/ Panelists who have accepted

- 1) Dr. Rohini Godbole (IISc)
- 2) Dr. Rama Govindarajan (JNCASR)
- 3) Dr. Shobhana Narasimhan (JNCASR)
- 4) Dr. Sumathi Rao (HRI)
- 5) Dr. Charusita Chakravarty (IITD)
- 6) Dr. Chanda J. Jog (IISc)
- 7) Dr. Meera Chandrasekhar (Missouri)
- 8) Dr. Krishna Athreya (Iowa State University)

Convenors:

- 1) Dr. Neelima Gupte (IITM)
- 2) Dr. Prema Rajagopalan (IITM)
- 3) Dr. Shobhana Narasimhan (JNCASR)

