Campus Update, March 2015

December 2014-February 2015

Speaking While Female

As part of his ongoing effort to promote a more inclusive environment at the Lab, Director Alivisatos wrote a message to the Lab community referencing a recent NY Times article by Sheryl Sandberg and Adam Grant about how women's voices are not typically responded to in meetings the same way as men's voices are (e.g., not given credit for ideas, often interrupted). His message was to try and encourage a more inclusive workplace.

My Family at LBNL

The "MyFamily at LBNL" web portal provides a centralized location for parents and others to find information on services related to children, youth, elders, pets, and self-care. The portal is a collaborative effort between the Women Scientists and Engineers Council (WSEC) and the Diversity & Inclusion Office (DIO) to support friends and families at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

"1-Minute for HR" Website Repository

Lab employees are familiar with many meetings starting off with a "1-minute for safety" agenda item. HR recently launched a site called "1-minute for HR" designed to assist Berkeley Lab employees, supervisors, and managers in conducting discussions on various HR topics. The site features a group of slides, each of which delivers focused talking points that can be presented in any meeting as a one minute opener or to launch a more extensive discussion.

Women and Investing Workshop

Berkeley Lab's Women Scientists and Engineers Council (WSEC) and the Diversity and Inclusion Office (DIO) hosted a "Women and Investing" workshop on January 28, 2015 from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm in the B50 Auditorium. The workshop was facilitated by the Lab's Fidelity Retirement Counselor, Nancy Pargot. For many women, planning for retirement brings special challenges. Why? Because women tend to live longer, save less, and not be as engaged as men when it comes to retirement and financial planning. But women who take an active role in their finances can overcome the odds.

Electrical Safety Website Launches

In December, in response to the ongoing need to emphasize the critical importance of electrical safety at the Lab, an electrical safety website was launched. The site serves as a one-stop shop for electrical safety needs, and is a good source of information, as many changes to the Lab's program are on the way. Staff are encouraged to offer feedback on the new site, as well as bookmark it for future reference.

Learning to Live with Mountain Lions Presentation

In December, after the recent batch of mountain lion sightings around campus, Zara McDonald, president of the Felidae Conservation Fund and the Bay Area Puma Project, provided information on this important ecosystem member and the research efforts of the Puma Project. The event was sponsored by Protective Services.

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