MEMBERS Women in STEM Advisory Council

Imogen Coe  
PhD  
Imogen is a professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biology was the founding dean of the Faculty of Science at Ryerson University. She is internationally recognized as an advocate for the engagement, retention, recruitment and promotion of girls and women in science.

Bryan Gaensler  
PhD  
Bryan is the Director of the Dunlap Institute for Astronomy and Astrophysics and Canada Research Chair and Professor of Astronomy at the University of Toronto. He’s interested in developing new approaches to astronomy, training the next generation of astronomers and fostering public engagement in science.

Shohini Ghose  
PhD  
Shohini is a Professor of Physics and Computer Science and founding Director of the Centre for Women in Science at Wilfrid Laurier University. Her research focuses on quantum computation and communication, as well as gender issues in science.

Ruby Heap  
PhD  
Ruby Heap is currently Professor Emerita at the University of Ottawa. During her career, she committed herself to the development of scholarship in Women and Gender Studies and in the history of women in Canadian engineering, was the Founding Director of the Institute of Women’s Studies. In 2018, through her involvement with the INWES Education and Research Institute, she helped create a national archive devoted to the history of Women in STEM in Canada.

Ella Chan  
student  
Ella’s passion for science was recently recognized with a “STEAM Horizon” award allowing her to pursue a degree in Pharmacology at UBC. For the past eight years, Ella has been running an educational science YouTube Channel called Sci-Files — which has been featured by educational blogs such as “The Kid Should See This” and the Chicago Field Museum’s “Brain Scoop.”

Vanessa Raponi  
B.Eng. Mgt.  
Vanessa is a passionate change agent with a Bachelor of Materials Engineering & Management from McMaster University and the Founder of Canadian Not-for-Profit Corporation EngiQueers Canada, with the goal of improving diversity in engineering in Canada. She now works as a Product Development Engineer (EIT) at Spin Master - the international toy manufacturing company that created Paw Patrol and Hatchimals.

Elizabeth Rasekoala  
PhD  
Elizabeth is the President of African Gong – the Pan-African Network for the Popularisation of Science & Technology, and Science Communication. She has championed, researched, presented and written widely on diversity, sociocultural inclusion and race and gender equality issues in science communication and science, technology, engineering and mathematics education and skills development.

Catherine Roome  
P.Eng  
Catherine co-leads Pulse Technologies, a health-tech startup based in Vancouver to inspire global health equity. Catherine is the former President and Lead Executive Officer of Technical Safety BC. A director on multiple engineering, energy and financial institution Boards, she is a leader in the algorithmic economy where predictive insights are used to create long-term social and financial value.

Deeana Burgart  
P.Eng  
Self-proclaimed ‘Indigeneer’, Deanna Burgart dedicates her career to combining Engineering principles and commitments with an Indigenous respect for Mother Earth, to find solutions to today’s challenges. She focuses on the power of integrating Indigenous worldviews, to assist both industry wants and the public needs. She is a highly sought after expert in uniting diverse communities, through understanding each other and identifying common goals.

Myriam Brochu  
PhD  
Myriam has a Bachelor’s degree in Materials Engineering, a Master’s degree in Applied Science and a PhD in Mechanical Engineering. Assistant Professor at École Polytechnique de Montréal she holds the Marianne-Mareschal Chair and is also a member of the Board of Directors of “Centre d’encadrement pour Jeunes Femmes Immigrantes” (CEJFI) in which she promotes scientific careers.

January 2022