

Issue 15 April 2024

The Athena SWAN (Scientific Women's Academic Network) Charter was established in 2005 with the aim of *"Encouraging and recognising commitment to advancing gender equality"* within STEM subjects, i.e., science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The Athena SWAN agenda has grown overtime to promote equality in general. Scan the QR code opposite for more background about Athena SWAN at Heriot-Watt, including guidance and resources.



1. Watch the MACS Dubai International Women's Day 2024 Presentation



Professor Hind Zantout (left) and Michelle Zatlyn (Cofounder, President, and Chief Operating Officer of cybersecurity firm Cloudflare Inc)

2. Images from STEM Inclusivity Network Women's Day 2024 Event in Edinburgh



Professor Beatrice Pelloni introduces Professor Simon Chandler-Wilde (EDI Dean, University of Reading



Some Recommended Reading!





MACS Athena SWAN Coordinators: Audrey Repetti (<u>a.repetti@hw.ac.uk</u>) and Andrew Ireland (<u>a.ireland@hw.ac.uk</u>) MACS Equality Charter website: <u>https://www.hw.ac.uk/schools/mathematical-computer-sciences/about/athena-</u> <u>swan.htm</u>









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3. Report from the Edinburgh Women in Data Science (WiDS) 2024



Heriot-Watt University is proud to have once again organized and hosted the inspiring WiDS Edinburgh event in 2024, with sponsorship of MACS & EPS Athena Swan, and EPS HWU.

The day featured a dynamic program, with keynote talks by: **Kirsty Scanlan**, (Director of Planning, HWU) and **Malvika Sharan**, (Senior Researcher at The Alan Turing Institute).

Following the keynotes, **Lissa Heron**, Enterprise Manager at Converge, led an engaging business pitch session, giving aspiring entrepreneurs tips to showcase their ideas. **Danielle Moran**, Enterprise Executive at Heriot-Watt University's Commercialization, provided valuable insights into the facilities and resources available at HWU.

A lively panel discussion then explored the "Opportunities and Risks of Generative AI in Education." The panel comprised: **Mhairi Aitken**, (Ethics Fellow at The Alan Turing Institute**)**, **Victoria Dishon**, (Head of Learner and Academic Services at HWU), **Reka Hegedus**, (Postdoctoral Research Student at HWU), **Louise Drumm**, (Associate Professor in Digital Education at Edinburgh Napier University) and **Samantha Rhynas**, (Director & Chief Operating Officer at Effini, Edinburgh).

The event ended by awarding prizes to the winners of the business pitch competition and data science trivia. The organizers were thrilled by the positive feedback received from the actively engaged participants.

We look forward to building on this success and bringing you an inspiring WiDS Edinburgh event in 2025! (Dr Gule Saman - Associate Professor EPS).









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4. Reminder of Dubai's Women in Data Science (WiDS) 2024



Heriot-Watt Dubai will host the fifth edition of the regional Women in Data Science (WiDS) UAE 2024.

It is free to attend and aims to inspire and educate data scientists and to support women in the field, providing a platform for networking. It is an independent technical day open to anyone interested in Data Science, AI and Machine Learning. On the day, female speakers will either give a talk or contribute as a panellist on a current relevant technical theme or careers. Female researchers and students are welcome to present their work. Date: Saturday 25 May 2024 Time: 10.00am to 4.30pm (GST) Location: On-site at Heriot-Watt Dubai in Knowledge Presenters must attend on campus and the talks will be streamed for an online audience. Male attendees are welcome, the female restriction is only for speakers.



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5. Research Culture Recognition Award 2024 – *Applications Open*!

You are invited to submit your applications for the Research Culture Recognition Award. This award aims to identify individuals, groups, or teams whose efforts have significantly contributed to enhancing research culture, with a particular focus on Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) practices. Let's celebrate and recognise those who are making a difference. Access via <u>https://forms.office.com/e/CCqUXsWic6</u> or QR Code opposite.



If you have suggestions or questions related to Athena SWAN, or an event that you would like to advertise, then please send them to us via <u>athena-macs@hw.ac.uk</u>. In addition, if you would like to be part of the MACS Athena SWAN Team (a.k.a. the Self-Assessment Team (SAT)) then please do get in touch.



Audrey Repetti and Andrew Ireland (MACS Athena Swan Coordinators)



MACS (Edinburgh) Staff Coffee/Tea



Every Monday and Thursday at 10am in the MACS Common Room





