

Session: [B3B-5] S7 : Historical Astronomy, Astronomy Education and Public Outreach

Date: August 20, 2014 (Wednesday)

Time: 14:00~15:30

Room: Room E (Room 107)

Chairs: Irina Voloshina (Sternberg Astronomical Institute)

Nguyen Quynh Lan (Hanoi National University of Education)

[B3B-5-1]

14:00~14:10

Succeeding as a Female Astronomer: Peer Groups and Overcoming Impostor Syndrome and Unconscious Bias

Blakesley Burkhart (University of Wisconsin Madison, USA)

Women face special challenges on the road to becoming a professional astronomer. In this talk I will outline two major challenges for women in STEM fields, the imposter syndrome and unconscious bias and how to take steps to overcome these issues with the help of peer groups.

[B3B-5-2]

14:10~14:20

Women in Astronomy

Shova Kanta Lamichhane (Government of Nepal Ministry of Science , Nepal), Manisha Dwa, and Suresh Bhattarai

The mother of all sciences, Astronomy, has just started toddling in Nepal. Had not been mentioned before in any courses, has now been introduced in post graduate level for the last five years. While a very few number of female students ~ 5-10 % are enrolled in physics. Among those students, how many of them choose astronomy and the reasons behind choosing astronomy as their major subject will be presented in this paper in detail. This paper also presents the leading role of Nepal Astronomical Society (NASO) along with Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) and B.P. Koirala Memorial Planetarium, Observatory and Science Museum Development Board empowering women in the field of astronomy and space science as well as the trend of female enrollment in astronomy education in Nepal till date. This paper will also highlight the importance of empowering women in astronomy to encourage new generation towards science education in Nepal. A case study on women engagement and leadership on astronomy in Nepal to unveil the talents encouraging more female participation on astronomy activities in Nepal will be discussed in detail.

[B3B-5-3]

14:20~14:30

Women Astronomers in India

G. C. Anupama (Indian Institute of Astrophysics, India)

Although still a relatively small percentage, the number of women astronomers in India has witnessed a steady growth over the years. This talk will provide a brief account of the women astronomers in India, highlighting the achievements of a few of them.