PRINCETON ACM / IEEE COMPUTER SOCIETY
FEBRUARY 2024 JOINT MEETING

Empower Girls in STEM: Fostering a More Inclusive CS Landscape

Women remain significantly underrepresented in computer science: women are only 28% of the workforce in the United States. This gender disparity hinders innovation and creativity, underscoring the urgent need for a more inclusive tech industry.

Organizations like Girls Who Code are playing a pivotal role in empowering girls and young women to pursue careers in STEM fields. Through their impactful programs and resources, Girls Who Code is providing girls with the skills, confidence, and support they need to thrive in the tech industry.

In addition to supporting organizations like Girls Who Code, how can individuals and businesses contribute to bridging the gender gap in STEM?

- ***Champion the advancement of girls and young women in STEM*** through mentorship, advocacy, and sponsorship opportunities.
- ***Promote STEM education and careers for women*** through initiatives that raise awareness and showcase the diverse opportunities available.
- ***Implement proactive hiring and promotion practices*** that prioritize gender equity in the tech industry.
- ***Disseminate resources and strategies*** for supporting girls and young women in STEM.

By embracing a collective responsibility to empower girls in STEM, we can pave the way for a future where innovation flourishes under the guidance of a diverse and talented workforce.

Chandra Knabel is an experienced Enterprise Architect with a passion for leveraging technology to drive business transformation. She currently serves as an Enterprise Architect in SAP's Customer Innovation Office. Prior to joining SAP, Chandra held the position of Director of Enterprise Architecture for a North American beverage distributor. Her career spans more than 25 years across several industries and government.

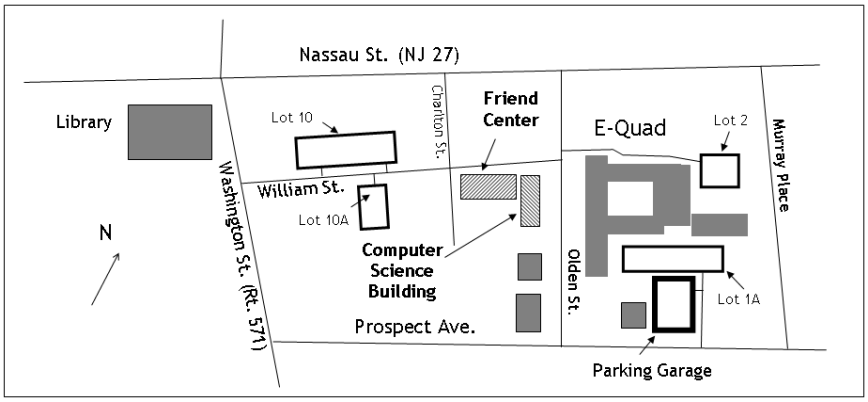
Chandra is an ardent advocate for women and underrepresented populations in STEM fields. She actively volunteers with Girls Who Code, mentors aspiring STEM professionals, and has authored a thesis on "Intervention Techniques to Increase Gender Diversity in the Field of Enterprise Architecture" through Penn State University. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Management Science and Statistics: Decision Information Systems from the University of Maryland and a Master of Professional Studies in Enterprise Architecture and Business Transformation from Penn State University.

Date: Thursday, February 22, 2024, 8:00pm EDT
Place: **HYBRID MEETING** (both in-person and online)
In Person: Princeton University Computer Science Building
Small Auditorium, Room CS 105
35 Olden Street, Princeton NJ
How to register for the online meeting:
- Send email to **PrincetonACM@gmail.com**
- OR Register on **Meetup.com** (**http://meetup.com/IEEE-Princeton-Central-Jersey-Section**)

Information: Dennis Mancl (908) 285-1066
On-line info: **http://PrincetonACM.acm.org**

All Princeton ACM / IEEE Computer Society meetings are open to the public. Students and their parents are welcome. There is no admission charge, and refreshments are served.

A pre-meeting dinner is held at 5:45 p.m. at Applebee's (3330 US 1, Lawrenceville, near Quakerbridge Mall). Please send email to **princetonacm@gmail.com** in advance if you plan to attend the dinner.



Parking: After 5pm on weekdays, public parking is permitted in most of the university parking lots near the Friend Center and the Computer Science Building. (Lots 10 and 10A are closest to the Friend Center). See **http://www.princeton.edu/transportation/visitors.html** for a summary of Princeton's policies.

On-street parking on Olden, William, and Charlton requires paying the meter until 8pm.