

GHC 2004 - Submission for Workshop

Summer Universities for Women in Computer Science

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Objectives

In this workshop a cross-university approach will be discussed that aims to activate women computer science students to reform their universities from different edges. In Germany a national approach has been developed to activate gender-based curricular reforms as well as reforms in educational settings, and to promote women scientists in academic careers. The main fields of actions are summer universities for women in computer science, called Informatica Feminale. Since 1997 each year more than 70 female lecturers from universities, research, or industry are invited to give courses on the broad topics of computing but with high orientation to existing university curricula. Participants are female students, who can earn credits, as well as women interested in further education on university level. The concept, which is already transferred to other European countries and which has been awarded as European best practice, reflects mono-education, networking, and gender-oriented organizational reforms in university programs.

Attendance

The workshop is oriented to people who are engaged in gender oriented curricula and university reform processes in science and technology. Participant's background could be in computer science as well as in social sciences. Attendees will learn about possibilities and frontiers of research in women's studies and feminist action in computer science and university reform.

The number of participants should not exceed 30.

Format

Workshop will consist of presentation of the concept, the evaluation during the last seven years, the transfer of the concept, and the criteria to implement the concept in another place. The presentation is planned in an interactive way, with written material handed-out as well as with active elements for participants to ask questions and to discuss criteria for success in different international education systems. The session length should be 90 minutes.

Speaker(s)

Veronika Oechtering is computer scientist at the University of Bremen, Germany. She has more than 15 years of teaching experience in computer science (database systems, human computer interaction, computers and society). Her research areas are applications of information systems, history of computing, gender studies, and curricula development. She has been engaged in many projects oriented to women in computing. She heads the Center of Excellence Women in Science and Technology at the University of Bremen, Germany.

Comment

It is planned to give this workshop in cooperation with project manager of the national Austrian summer university, called ditact_women's IT summer studies. Due to other dates the decision if someone from there is able to present at GHC04 can only be taken at the end of April.