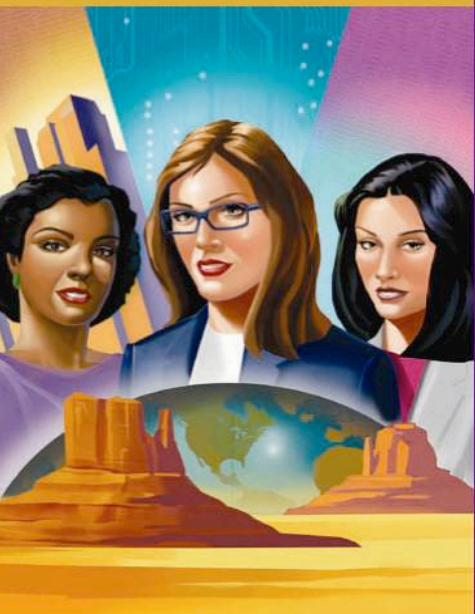


2009



Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing 2009

By: Alex Bryukhanova, Alma Juarez-Dominguez, Betty Chang,
Jacqueline Mok, Mashael Alsabah,
Shinji Kim, Tara Clark, Vivian Dong, and Zarrin Langari



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Some Sessions We Attended

Jacqueline

- New investigators talks (Smart Systems, Privacy and social Software, Network and Program Monitoring)
- Recognizing Career Options
- Tools for Time Management
- Support Groups for Women in STEM (Software, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)
- Imposter panel
- Baby Loading
- Technical Mentorship and Sponsorship
- Technical Executive Plenary
- Breaking through the Glass Ceiling



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Sessions Helpful to Students

Jacqueline

- CRA-W Workshops
- (Computing Research Association - Women):
 - CSE is for You (Comp Sci and Engineering)
 - Road to Graduate School
 - Networking & Professional Development
 - Publishing your Research
- Research by Undergrads
- Mastering the Art of Technical Interviews



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Some Other Interesting Events at GHC

Alma

- Keynote presentations
- Poster competition
- Resume Clinic
- Communities and scholarship sponsored receptions and lunches.

- Awards Presentation and Dance
- Sponsor Night

- Free Child care



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Valuable Things We Gained from GHC

Alma

- Connections
- Mentors (e.g., potential use of MentorNet)
- Experience from hoppers
- Potential job/internship interviews
- Knowledge of different options available in the industry and academia



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Valuable Information For Students

Vivian

- Conference Website <http://gracehopper.org/2009/>
(Student Scholarships, hoppers application and other info)
- Anita Borg Institute Wiki:
<http://community.anitaborg.org/wiki/index.php/Ghc2009>
- Grace Hopper Blog
<http://ghcbloggers.blogspot.com/>
- More Videos on Youtube
<http://www.youtube.com/group/ghc09>
- More photos on Flickr
<http://www.flickr.com/groups/ghc2009/>
- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/ghc>
- MentorNet: <http://www.MentorNet.net/protege>
- Systems: <http://www.anitaborg.org/initiatives/systems>



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Some details about the sessions we attended...



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A Wider Career Lens - Recognizing Your Options

Vivian

- How to identify your skills and strengths
- How to create a career roadmap that
 - is flexible
 - responds to the opportunities available
- How to identify creative career options that
 - match your skills and strengths
- Trade offs to achieve your goals
 - know your limit
- Allow yourself to make mistakes
 - Failures are important in life
- It's OK to change your path - try different options



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How we did it - Breaking through the Glass Ceiling

Women in technology fields are consistently underrepresented in senior level positions. This panel of female technical executives shared obstacles and opportunities they have encountered in their careers along with advice and inspiration on how to break through barriers.

- Do what you're passionate about
- Surround yourself with supportive people (managers, teachers, employees); have a great team and respect them
- If you don't believe there is a glass ceiling, **there isn't one**

Vivian



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The Imposter Panel

Jacqueline

- What is the Imposter Syndrome?
 - unable to internalize their accomplishments
 - e.g. comparing yourself to the **best** of other people
- Treating the Syndrome:
 - Ignore the nagging voice, give yourself a mantra
 - Act confident so you will be confident
 - Realizing that those who seem very confident/arrogant aren't always smarter :)
 - Listen to others talk about their imposter syndrome and share your own stories to help others
 - calculate the probability that **all** your successes are due to luck and realize it's very slim



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Sponsorship vs. Mentorship

- Sponsors
 - want to share work with
 - your PR agent
 - has your best interest at heart
 - will look out for opportunities to help you
- Mentors
 - lines always open
 - help you grow personally and technically
 - discuss expectations
 - can have several small ones (e.g. one hour talk)
 - can meet once a week



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Jo Miller - How to become a Person of Influence

Shinji

Topics

- Why influencing skills are critical for technical women
- How men and women can perceive power and influence differently
- Six facets of influence for technical women to take greater advantage of, to expand their influence
- Self-assessment: which facets of influence are you strong in, and which do you intend to strengthen?
- Action plan to becoming the person of influence you want to be



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Lessons Learned in the Course of Addressing Real World Problems Through Research

- Select research problems that are related to the real world
 - Make computers more accessible to individuals who have difficulty typing
 - Engage individuals in energy-saving behaviors
- Research can make a difference in people's lives
- Practical advice on how to make my research relevant to the real world from the speaker and audience



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Out Reach Activities to Encourage Pursuing a Career in CS

Betty

- Out reach activities in British Columbia
- Various types of events to encourage young students to pursue a career in cs, specifically focused on females
- ChicTech: competition for high school girls to build/extend websites for NP organizations with undergraduates as mentors
- Fired up for reaching out to young women and communities
- We bring different perspectives



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Best Practices in Introductory CS

Tara

- CS major has a 30-40% attrition rate
 - First year courses are very important
- Duke: peer-led team learning
- RIT (Rochester Institute of Technology): sequence focusing on game SW development
- Union College: several differently themed intro sequences & studio-style teaching
- College of New Jersey: an accelerated media track
- Key ideas: collaboration, interest-driven courses



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"One Correct Decision"

Tara

- Can always do something else later
- Don't feel like you're trapped in that career path

Several sessions related to this:

- Pregnancy in Grad School
- Non-Trads
- Individual Contributor vs. Manager Track



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How to Have an Organized Research?

*Zarrin
Langari*

Organizing:

- Ideas
- Literature
- Experiments
- Writing Papers



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How to Have an Organized Research?

Organizing Ideas:

- Index cards, loose leaf paper, or notebooks
 - Easy to loose, not searchable
- Research blog
- Google Doc
 - colored highlighting to track what is done and what is not

Software:

- Google sites
- **Webspiration: Online Visual Thinking.**
- For math notes, some use TeX and SVN.
- **Delicious** is used to remember websites visited
- **Diigo** is a web highlighter and sticky note tool.
- **MS OneNote** is also popular.
- Evernote
- Stickers
- iPhone apps: TODO and Mobile Noter
- Pbwiki

How to Have an Organized Research?

*Zarrin
Langari*

Organizing Literature:

- Keep track of author, title, etc., (full citations)
- Keep notes about key points and criticisms
 - Even if you just skimmed it

Software:

- EndNote (Windows, Mac)
- Pybliographer (Linux)
- Bibtex (All platforms, Flat file)
- Annote or note section for comments
- Zotero (browser plug-in)
- Mendeley (All platforms, web)
- Envivo 8
- Analyzer
- Atlas ti

How to Have an Organized Research?

*Zarrin
Langari*

Organizing Experiments:

- Modular and documented code
- Good filesystem organization
- Revision Control
 - CVS, Subversion (SVN), etc.
- Good software practices
 - Use IDEs like Eclipse
 - Handle errors and use debuggers
- Experiments should be reproducible
 - Store random seeds, input parameters
 - Know versions of code, libraries used

How to Have an Organized Research?

*Zarrin
Langari*

Organizing Paper Writing

- Write as you go

Editors:

- Word
- Open office
- Google docs
- TexShop
- Kile
- Lyx
- Winedit

Networking and Professional Development

Alma
Juarez

Networking: making professional connections and using them wisely.

- **Why?**

- Internships / Jobs / Scholarships / Fellowships
- Letters of recommendation

- **How?** ➡ **BEFORE**

- Have ready a 1-minute and 3-minute "elevator talk".
- Who do you want to meet?
- What do you want to talk about?
- What are they interested in / What do they like?



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Networking and Professional Development

Alma
Juarez

- **How?** → **AT**
 - Engage in discussions with speakers after presentations
 - Talk to the person next to you/ who come up to you
 - Make lunch / dinner plans
 - Do not hang around with people you know only!
- **How?** → **AFTER**
 - After meeting, write down the next step in the relationship
 - What do you owe / What do other people owe you
 - After going home, keep in touch

Networking and Professional Development

Alma
Juarez

- **When?**

- Attending conferences / workshops
 - Posters, paper presentations, volunteers
- Attending or giving seminar talks
- Being active member of student chapters
 - e.g., ACM, SWE, etc
- Get involved in activities for women
 - e.g., CRA-W workshops, NCWIT, GHC, at UW, etc

Be confident, active and cheerful!



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Comments or Questions?



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The End



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