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WISE Village

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www.ncsu.edu/wise

WISE Village Overview

WISE Village Description

The WISE Village, located in Lee Hall, is a living and learning community designed especially for first and second-year women majoring in mathematics, statistics, science or engineering.

WISE opened in August of 2003, and is a collaborative effort between University Housing and the Colleges of Agriculture & Life Sciences, Engineering, Natural Resources, Physical & Mathematical Sciences and Textiles.

WISE brings first- and second-year female students and upper-class mentors together in Lee Hall, with the goal of enhancing their academic success and providing them with positive experiences as they live and study with others who share common interests.

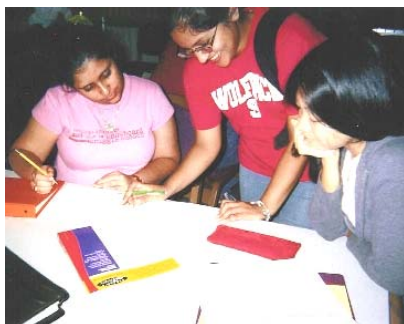
The WISE experience begins with a Summer Bridge program where participants meet their resident peer mentors, get to know each other, start to get acclimated to NC State, and have fun! Other unique WISE Village features include block scheduling in core courses, group study sessions with tutoring, a speaker series, educational workshops, social and cultural events, professional and peer mentoring, leadership opportunities, community service and K-12 outreach opportunities, and more.

WISE Village Mission

The mission of the WISE Village is to create a supportive living and learning environment in which future mathematicians, statisticians, scientists and engineers will engage in focused inquiry within their disciplines and begin to develop the skills and talents necessary to become successful professionals. Program goals include increasing the number of women entering and graduating in math, statistics, science and engineering fields at NC State.

WISE This Year

The 2004-2005 academic year was a tremendous growth year for WISE. The program increased its number of residential participants from 56 in the first year to 163 in the second year. Approximately 40% of the participants from the first year returned to the WISE Village for their sophomore year. The number of resident peer mentors also increased from six to twelve.



WISE women studying together



WISE women during Summer Bridge

WISE at a Glance

- 163 first- and second-year women from five colleges lived in the WISE Village in 2004-2005
- 40% of WISE residents returned from 2003-2004 for their sophomore year
- 12 upperclass women served as resident peer mentors
- Students apply for WISE through an on-line essay-based application

Student Leadership and Involvement

The first WISE student council was formed and had a successful year, drafting a constitution and helping to organize social events and community service opportunities for WISE women. Other WISE programs and events included a faculty advising dinner; workshops on

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NC State University Women In Science & Engineering

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leadership, co-op, professional etiquette, and research; and a speaker series with faculty and industry speakers (see next column for details).

Mentoring

Mentoring is a critical component of the WISE Program. First-year students are assigned upper-class resident peer mentors in the WISE program who assist with the transition from high school to college by providing support and encouragement as well as tips and strategies for success. This year, for the inaugural group of WISE sophomores, a professional mentoring program was developed to match sophomores with faculty or industry mentors in their field of interest. Participants connected with their mentors through e-mail and phone



Dr. Fay Cobb Payton

PROFESSIONAL MENTORS 04-05

- Jessica Bellas and Tennisha Brown, Progress Energy
- Lisa Bullard, Chemical Engineering faculty member
- Stephanie Curtis, Genetics department chair
- Angela DeLuca, Northrop Grumman
- Kelly Dix, Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute
- Abbe Evans, Alcoa
- Maria Gallardo-Williams, Chemistry faculty member
- Elizabeth Gardner, WRAL Meteorologist
- Elizabeth Loba, Biomedical Engineering faculty member
- Barbara Mulkey, Mulkey Engineers & Consultants
- Maria Oliver-Hoyo, Chemistry faculty member

conversations, and some got together for dinner, job shadowing and professional society meetings. Student feedback on this program was very positive.

University and Community Involvement

WISE women volunteered to help out with various University and community activities during the year, including the Sally Ride Science Festival, the Expanding Your Horizons conference for seventh grade girls, the multi-college WISE Spend A Day, Service Raleigh, Wave of Relief, and others.

In Their Own Words

Following are some responses to the question, *What have you learned about yourself as a result of participating in WISE this year?* (from a WISE survey given at the end of the year):

- ⇒ "Being part of a group of women in science and engineering is empowering."
- ⇒ "I really can do all this math!"
- ⇒ "I learned that I am more capable of stepping up as a leader than I originally thought when I came to NCSU."

Looking Ahead

We are looking forward to another great year for WISE in 2005-2006. For more information or to get involved, please visit www.ncsu.edu/wise or contact us at wisedirector@ncsu.edu.

2004-2005 WISE EVENTS

Speaker Series

Dr. Fay Cobb Payton—faculty member, Information Systems, Information Technology

Dr. Jacqueline Hughes-Oliver—faculty member, Statistics

Angela DeLuca & Stephanie Menser—NCSU alumnae, Northrop Grumman

Dr. Margaret Lowman—author, adventurer and biologist

Elizabeth Sellers—US Department of Energy

Dr. JoAnn Burkholder—faculty member, Botany

Dr. Laura Clarke—faculty member, Physics

Carol Bova Hill—GlaxoSmithKline

NCSU Alumnae Panel—alumnae panelists from Crop Science, Industrial Engineering, and Applied Mathematics

Undergraduate Researcher Panel—current WISE students conducting undergraduate research

Grad Student & Med Student Panel—panelists from UNC med school and NCSU graduate programs in Animal Science, Materials Science & Engineering, and Statistics

Dr. Mary Schweitzer—faculty member, Marine Earth & Atmospheric Sciences

Academic & Professional Development

Leadership Workshop—Brian Koehler

Co-op Workshop—Tracy Appling-Biel

Undergraduate Research Workshop—Dr. George Barthalamus

LEAD Conference at Barton College—a group of WISE women attended this regional student leadership conference

Professional Etiquette Dinner—Karen Thompson

Student Council Leadership Retreat

WISE Study Hall—three nights per week

Leadership Development Series Workshops—many WISE women attended various LDS workshops

Community Building & Personal Development

Summer Bridge Program

WISE Wednesdays—monthly social/networking event

Mentee Group Dinners and Socials

Suite Contests—Halloween

Decorating and Suitemate Game

Stress Free Zone and other fun programs

Secret Sisters

Valentine's Party with SAY Village

Self Defense Workshop

Tsunami Fundraising Campaign

Manya—cosponsored with University Scholars

Meet the Student Government Candidates

WISE Spring Formal

In the News

WISE was mentioned in an article in TIME Magazine (3/7/05) about women in technical fields.

