



**Connecting the Dots: Explore your way
through STEM and Leadership**
Friday 1st June 2018
Bonython Hall, The University of Adelaide

PRESENTATION & SPEAKER INFORMATION

WORKSHOP 3

Careers in STEM

The University of Adelaide has an international reputation for world-leading research, education excellence and progressive thinking. The University of Adelaide is proudly ranked in the top 1 per cent of universities worldwide and a member of the Group of Eight, a coalition of Australia's foremost research intensive universities.

In this workshop, three of the University's leading female staff will take students through their fields of experience and discuss their journey and the opportunities each of these fields provide women.



Professor Rachel Burton

Node Leader - ARC CoE in Plant Cell Walls

School of Agriculture, Food and Wine

Faculty of Sciences

Rachel is a plant scientist and molecular biologist, passionate about plant cell walls and all the useful things they can do for us. She is interested in the ways that the parts of the cell wall are made and put together but even more intrigued by how they are disassembled or fermented in the human gut, because they are the crucial dietary fibre element of our diets.

She is also interested in renewable biofuels and believes that different plant feedstocks will fundamentally underpin this industry.

Rachel runs a group in the ARC Centre of Excellence in Plant Energy Biology where the culture is one of inclusion, team work and appreciating diversity, and where achievements are celebrated as often as possible with cake! She served as Director of The Plant Accelerator, an NCRIS facility for plant phenotyping, from 2013 to 2015.

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Dr Claudia Szabo

**Associate Dean (Diversity Inclusion), Faculty of
Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences,
Senior Lecturer, School of Computer Science**

Dr Szabo won a government grant to set up a leadership program, empowering our female students to succeed in a male dominated workplace. The program involves industry partners, career coaches and mentors.

Her discipline research is in the area of systems, modelling and understanding the performance and behaviour of large-scale distributed and complex systems.

Claudia leads the Complex Systems Program within the Centre for Distributed and Intelligent Technologies. She is the 2017 recipient of the STEM Teacher of the Year (Tertiary Education) SA Science Excellence Awards.



Dr Fiona Kerr

Neural and Systems Complexity Specialist

Fiona Kerr is the neural and systems complexity specialist in the University of Adelaide, working half time across the faculties of the Professions and Health Sciences.

She also advises on such areas as fostering creativity and innovation, neuro-leadership and shaping adaptive capacity. She has spent time with some fascinating companies such as Cirque du Soleil looking at their ideation processes, and consults on leadership, and its cognitive effect on employees.

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