

ANITA BORG INSTITUTE

Call For Action

May 2009



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PRESS RELEASE MAY 11, 2009

Anita Borg Institute Honors Three Prominent Women in Technology at Women of Vision Awards Banquet

Mitchell Baker, Jan Cuny and Yuqing Gao Lauded for Outstanding Innovation, Leadership, and Social Impact



The Anita Borg Institute for Women and Technology (ABI) hosted its fourth annual Women of Vision Awards banquet on April 30th to honor three leaders in technology: The evening highlighted the winners' accomplishments and contributions in three areas: Innovation, Leadership and Social Impact.

Attracting 650 attendees, the attendees included industry and academic professionals and college women. More than 136 students attended the event, their attendance sponsored by technology companies and local universities.

Padmasree Warrior, CTO of Cisco was the keynote speaker at the event. Her speech, entitled "Fear Stays Silent While Passion Speaks", addressed five themes she has evolved throughout her career:

- Every transition brings a growth opportunity
- You can gain speed at a turn
- Leaders blur boundaries
- The best way to gain recognition is to give it away
- Opportunity is a mold waiting to be reshaped

In her acceptance speech, Yuqing Gao, winner in the Innovation category for her development of a speech to speech translation technology, spoke of her two guiding principles, "focus and risk taking" and that "without the sense of being challenged and the desire of conquering the challenges, there would be no path for progress and innovation".

Jan Cuny, winner in the Social Impact category, spoke about the need to include underrepresented minorities and women in computing. "We need them because, as a nation, we are really dangerously under-producing the number of undergraduate and graduate degrees that we need to keep a competitive IT workforce. We need them because without their talents and creativity we'll miss opportunities for innovation."

Leadership winner, Mitchell Baker, spoke about her hope that "all of us work to empower ordinary people or seemingly ordinary people to enable more of us to do extraordinary things and see what kind of results we can achieve".

The evening concluded with Kathleen Collins, representing Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren, who presented the three winners with Special Congressional Recognition Certificates.

The 2009 Women of Vision Awards was supported by a Dinner Host - Lockheed Martin. Silver sponsors were Cisco, NetApp, SAP and Symantec. Bronze Sponsors were Adobe, Career Action Center, Google, Intuit, and Juniper. The growth of this event over last year marks an increase in both financial support and recognition of the importance of the Anita Borg Institute's mission.

About the Women of Vision Award Winners

Mitchell Baker, Chairperson, Mozilla Corporation

Mitchell Baker is the Women of Vision Award winner in the Leadership category. Mitchell Baker is recognized for her work as the leader of the Mozilla Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to openness and innovation on the Internet. Her work with the Mozilla Foundation and the Firefox Web Browser has evolved the technology around web browsing with more than 200 million users worldwide. Her leadership in the Open Source movement has impacted millions of people, through her way of integrating and unifying the work of company employees and an international community of volunteers.

Yuqing Gao, Senior Manager, IBM T.J. Watson Research Center

Yuqing Gao is the Women of Vision Award winner in the Innovation category. Yuqing Gao headed the Laboratory for Speech to Speech Translation Systems at IBM. She was also the principal investigator of DARPA CAST and TransTac Programs at IBM and led the research and development of IBM MASTOR (Multilingual Automatic Speech-to-Speech Translator) systems which is leading the industry in automated speech translation. Her work in speech processing has led to the development of an English-Iraqi speech to speech translation system, which is deployed with the US military and enables personnel to interact directly with civilians in Iraq.

Jan Cuny, Program Director, National Science Foundation

Jan Cuny is the Women of Vision Award winner in the Social Impact category. Jan Cuny has been a passionate voice for women and under-represented minorities in her work with the National Science Foundation's Broadening Participation in Computing Program. She has successfully created broader participation in computing programs. Her work has gone beyond funding programs to building an inclusive community for under-represented groups in technology, allowing them to use and create technology, ensuring they will be qualified for roles in our technology driven world.

About the Women of Vision Awards

The three Women of Vision award winners were selected from a field of more than 65 nominees, all of whom are engaged in technology professions in industry, academia, NGOs or government chosen by a selection committee of industry and academic leaders. Videos about the three winners are posted on the [ABIWT channel on Youtube](#).

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

[Grace Hopper Celebration Scholarship Submission](#)

Deadline - May 27, 2009

[Hotel Reservations for Grace Hopper Celebration](#)- NOW OPEN

[Grace Hopper Registration Opens](#) - June 1, 2009

Corporate and Academic Sponsorships Now Available for 2009 Grace Hopper Celebration

Sponsors of the Grace Hopper Celebration are recognized as leaders in diversity. The benefits of sponsoring the conference are many and highlight your commitment to increasing the impact of women in technology.

Benefits include:

- Exhibit space at the conference
- Interaction with a large, dynamic group of top technical women
- A place to showcase your senior women and your commitment to their success
- Affiliation with a scholarship program for young technical women
- The opportunity to send a strong recruitment message on your current and future needs
- Access to a resume database of conference attendees

Corporate Sponsorship Levels and Benefits

[Sign up to be a corporate sponsor!](#)

[Download](#) the Grace Hopper Celebration corporate sponsorship benefits.

Academic Underwriter Levels and Benefits

[Sign up to be an academic underwriter!](#)

[Download](#) the Grace Hopper Celebration academic sponsorship benefits.

Additional sponsorship opportunities

In addition to event sponsorships, any organization, company, or academic institution is invited to [underwrite conference items and activities](#), including: international and domestic scholarships, banquets, special luncheons, awards, and childcare. Please contact [Jody Mahoney](#) for additional information or to sponsor.

O'Reilly Celebrates Technical Moms in May!

Hilary Pike issued a challenge, and Tim O'Reilly took her up on it. Through the end of May 2009, receive a 40% discount on technical books using the MDAYT discount code at <http://oreilly.com>.

O'Reilly has also offered to promote women in technology by

[Student Scholarship Application Deadline May 27th](#)

The Grace Hopper Celebration scholarships cover a combination of conference registration (which includes most meals), lodging, and fixed amount of travel reimbursement funds. The majority of scholarships are awarded to undergraduate and graduate students, however, junior faculty, members of non-governmental organizations, and non-profits are eligible to apply.

The deadline for [application submissions](#) is May 27, 2009 (Midnight CDT). You will be asked to submit an essay, rŽsumŽ/CV, GPA (grade point average) & class rank and letter of reference (to be uploaded by your reference). Please note that only undergraduate and graduate students are required to submit a letter of reference.

[Apply Today!](#)

Women of Vision Awards on Twitter

At the 2009 Women of Vision Awards on April 30, fingers were flying as attendees shared highlights of the event on Twitter. Women at the banquet were tweeting updates and those who couldn't attend were retweeting them across the world -- as far away as Australia. You can see the full stream of [Twitter updates from Women of Vision](#).

Women of Vision On YouTube

The videos we've made

posting photos of technical moms with their O'Reilly books. Send your photos to press@oreilly.com. For the full story see [O'Reilly Media Celebrates Technical Women for Mother's Day](#).

The Re-Scheduled W-Tech is Taking Place on Wednesday June 24, 2009 in London

W-Tech is a FREE one day recruitment, career development and networking event for female technologists including students, postgraduates, experienced professionals and returners to work. The event was originally scheduled to take place on the February 3rd but was canceled due to snow in London and is now taking place on Wednesday 24th June 2009.

ABI's Vice President of Programs, Deanna Kosaraju, will be speaking at W-Tech and there will be an Anita Borg Information Booth at the event.

For more information and to register go to the [W-Tech website](#).

Workshop for Women in Design Automation (WWINDA): Career Crossroads - Who Has The Map?

July 27, 2009 in San Francisco, CA

Telle Whitney, Anita Borg Institute President and CEO will be keynoting the 2009 WWINDA at the 46th DAC in San Francisco, CA.

Telle's keynote will address the findings of the Anita Borg Institute's study Climbing the Technical Ladder: Obstacles and Solutions for Mid-Level Women in Technology. It will be followed by a panel discussion on overcoming career barriers.

For more information, go to the [WWINDA website](#).

about the three Women of Vision winners have been posted on our Youtube channel : ABIWT. Check back often - we'll be posting their speeches soon.

[Mitchell Baker: Women of Vision Winner for Leadership](#)
[Jan Cuny: Women of Vision Winner for Social Impact](#)
[Yuqing Gao: Women of Vision Winner for Innovation](#)

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