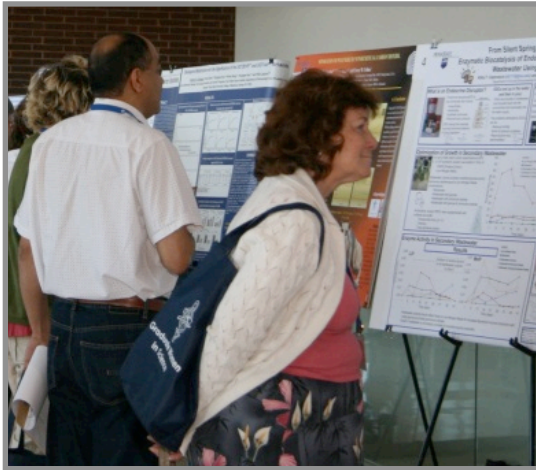


Supporting Women in STEM



In 2010, the Penn State MRSEC sponsored a symposium hosted by the Nu Chapter of Graduate Women in Science. The event culminated a four-day annual National GWIS Meeting that the local chapter hosted for the first time. This inter-disciplinary **Bridges STEM Symposium** built bridges to connect a diverse group of ~90 professionals, graduate students, faculty, undergraduates, local community members, and policy makers. Invited speakers included an array of successful STEM professionals from academia, industry and government, with State College Mayor Elizabeth Goreham giving the keynote address. A meet-the-speaker lunch and a research poster session facilitated interaction and collaboration at all levels along the career path and between scientific communities, the corporate world, the general public, and beyond. Undergraduate women from the MRSEC/Physics REU program participated in the Symposium. In addition, one of the event organizers – Kristin Dreyer – recently joined the MRSEC’s education and outreach team as a Program Director for Education and Outreach.