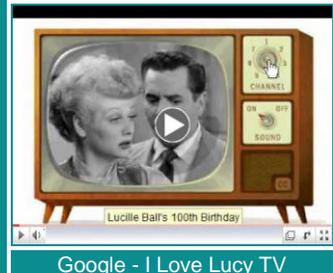




**Connecting today's women to tomorrow's opportunities**



It's Lucille Ball's 100th birthday -- Not only was she a brilliant comedienne, Lucy was an astute business woman and an early advocate for technological innovations in broadcasting, like the use of multiple cameras and experimenting with a new-fangled thing called video tape. But most of all, Lucille Ball was timelessly, genuinely funny. So enjoy a bit of diversion brought to you by a true Woman Pioneer.

**Murray Center Calendar**

**Tuesday, August 30th**

First Year Move In Day

**Wednesday, August 31st**

Murray Center Ambassadors "Open House" - by invitation only

- Get Your Classroom GPS with the Murray Center

Things may seem a little quiet here at the Murray during the summer--but don't be fooled. We're already putting the finishing touches on our fall semester game plan and starting to think about next spring.

Game is the operative word for 2011-12 at the Murray Center. Our peer-to-peer support program for first year women students has a brand new look...and 16 brand new women Ambassadors to lead it with energy and enthusiasm.

As always, the goal of the Ambassadors Program is to reduce feelings of isolation and anxiety that young women sometimes experience during their transition from high school to college. The Ambassadors--successful sophomores, juniors and seniors--are trained to act role models, informants, troubleshooters, and network builders; to support academic achievement through group study; and to serve as an early warning system, alerting us to students that need extra assistance.

This year, we're adding some "serious games" into the mix: using the same motivational strategies that attract young people to online role-playing and social network sites to "gamify" homework and increase academic success. Pairs of Ambassadors will coach teams of first year women students, matched by major, as they collaborate on solving course-related puzzles and challenges...and compete for awards, loot, and bragging rights on our Got Game! Moodle website.

Not surprisingly, the most innovative ideas for our Got Game! strategy have come from the Ambassadors themselves. In fact, we're taking some of their brainstorming and working them into our new mentoring program for junior faculty--the Career Advancement Network, co-sponsored by the Murray Center's NSF-funded ADVANCE grant project and the NJIT provost, Dr Ian Gatley. In the words of the late, great Malvina Reynolds, "Some other eyes will look around, and find the things I've never found."

If you look around and find a good idea or two inside yourself, let us know...especially if it will enhance the NJIT experience for women students and faculty. Send us an email, or better yet, drop by the Murray Center (2nd floor Campus Center building) and tell us about it. Our door is always open...literally!

Looking forward to seeing you all in September,

*Nancy*



Dr. Nancy Steffen-Fluhr,  
Director

Ambassadors! Get prizes too!

- 10:00am-12:00pm
- 265 Campus Center

## Thursday, September 1st

Classes begin

## Friday, September 9th

Murray Center Ambassadors Program Welcome Luncheon for First Year Women Students - by invitation only

- 11:30am- 1:00pm
- Campus Center Atrium

## Wednesday, September 14th

University Convocation

- 3:00pm
- Naimoli Family Athletic and Recreational Facility

## Common Exam Schedule

- Wednesday, September 21st
  - First Math Common Exam
- Monday, September 26th
  - First Physics Common Exam
- Monday October 3rd
  - First Chemistry Common Exam

## Murray Center Resources

Association for Women in Science ([www.awis.org](http://www.awis.org)) offers undergraduate and graduate scholarship to women enrolled in STEM degree programs.

## Murray Center Media Picks

# NJIT Women to Watch

## Recent Awards & Scholarships

**Sharon Gilbert**, Assistant Director, Career Development Services, received the Practitioner of the Year Award for 2011. The award was bestowed by the New Jersey Cooperative Education and Internship Association in recognition of her outstanding accomplishments with the Call to Serve grant to promote federal careers to students; coordination of the FedExperience pilot program to engage seasoned alumni in second careers with the federal government; and her efforts in support of career development for students with disabilities.

**Shanthi Gopalakrishnan**, PhD, associate dean at the NJIT School of Management, was named a Fellow of the Eastern Academy of Management, a regional affiliate of the Academy of Management, which is the largest national association of academics in the management discipline. Dr. Gopalakrishnan's research interests focus on innovation management, strategic alliances and knowledge management.

**Abena Owusu-Banahene** was recently awarded the 2011 ACE-Network Undergraduate Scholarship. Abena, is a student in the Albert Dorman Honors College and is enrolled in the 7 year BS/MD Program (Class of 2012). Abena chose the NJIT program after attending a campus open house and participating in You@NJIT, the Murray Center's overnight program for prospective students. Abena's younger sister Yaa participated in the same program last spring and will be joining her sister on campus for the Fall Semester.

## Recent Events

### Murray Center Update

Construction is underway for a new Murray Center web page, with completion slated to dovetail with the start of classes. This is definitely a work-in-progress and your input, ideas and expertise are always welcome. Expanding the range of our communications network enhances the NJIT experience for everyone, so your feedback is important. Send us an email at [womenscenter@njit.edu](mailto:womenscenter@njit.edu) or drop by, we are located on the second floor of the Campus Center.

### Ambassadors Update

Throughout June and July interviews were conducted with candidates for the 2011-2012 Murray Center Ambassadors. This year the Ambassadors will be working in teams of two, assisting incoming first year women students make the adjustment to the demands of NJIT. This fall the first Common Exams in calculus, physics and chemistry are scheduled to begin just three weeks from the start of classes and the Ambassadors will be available to connect new students with academic support.

### Friday, May 20th

The NJIT Office of University Advancement hosted the first Women Pioneers Alumni Luncheon in Eberhardt Hall. President Altenkirch welcomed guests, including the honorees in attendance: Mary Barrington '72, Vera Bozko-Summer '77, '80, Kathleen (Martell) Conway '70, '73, Maureen Cronin '61, '98, Elizabeth (Elias-Calles) Garcia '73, Miroslawa Jurusz '70, Anita (Ventz) LaSalle '64, Rita (Lubetkin) Meyninger '58, Irene S. (Wisla) Phillips '56, Carol (Rose) Ronayne '61, Margaret Shreehan '64, and Judith Hein Titolo '68. The event was organized by Monique Prior, Esq., Asst. V.P. of Planned Giving. Remarks were delivered by Sunil Saigal, Ph.D., Dean of the Newark College of Engineering, Murray Center Director, Nancy Steffen-Fluhr, Ph.D., and Anita Rubino from the Alumni Association. Marina Saint-Val and Sara Mina, current and past presidents of the Society of Women Engineers presented Dean Saigal an award for his continuing support of the organization.

Change the Equation, a consortium of 110 U.S. corporations, is bullish on making careers in STEM-related fields open to more female and students of color. One of their recent initiatives was to sponsor a 'STEM Is Cool' video contest. Click [here](#) to check out some of the entries.

The New Yorker has a major profile of FACEBOOK's COO, Sheryl Sandberg. Check it out [here](#).

Marylouise Oates, scholar, journalist and educator, reports in at the Huffington Post on the La Pietra Coalition, a global initiative to advance women and their economic opportunities. Read the reports [here](#) and [here](#).

Jane McGonigal, video game designer and author of REALITY IS BROKEN, is [interviewed by Steven Colbert](#).

Google's Marissa Mayer addresses why women 'geeks' are few in numbers in [this interview](#) in the Huffington Post.

And while we're at it, check out the new [WOMEN-IN-TECH](#) section of the Huffington Post for excellent updates, news, views and videos about the every growing influence of women in the world of technology here.

## Contact the Murray Center

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### Thursday, May 19th

Alfreda Brown, PhD, Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Kent State University visited NJIT to discuss issues regarding diversity, recruitment and retention at NJIT. Hosted by the Murray Center and the Provost's Office, members of NJIT's faculty and staff joined Dr. Brown for an informal and informative discussion, followed by a formal presentation to a wider group of NJIT representatives.



Dr. Alfreda Brown



Nancy Steffen-Fluhr and Talina Knox with awardees at annual Spring Scholarship Breakfast.

### Friday, April 15th

Several of NJIT's women scholars were honored at the 23rd Annual Scholarship Breakfast Celebration, including Thalia Aquirre, Amanda Dotten, Lauren Dupuis, Sarah Elkhdy, Namrata Patel, Catherine Sutton and Jennifer Hosquera. The annual event is sponsored by the NJIT Office of University Advancement.

