

# Women in Science, Math, and Technology Careers Pen Pals

An Exhibit for Women's History Month, March 2005  
at the Normal Public Library

Sponsored by

the Illinois State University Expanding Your Horizons Through Math, Science, and Technology Conference  
the Association for Women in Science (Heart of Illinois Chapter of ISU-IWU et al)  
and the Illinois State University Department of Physics

## Our Pen Pals: Professional Women with Careers in Science, Math, or Technology



Ms. Amy Bloom  
Geography-Geology

Amy M. Bloom, joined the Illinois State University Department of Geography-Geology as Assistant Professor of Environmental Geography. She received her B.A. in Geology, with a double minor in Biology and Environmental Studies, from Augustana College and her M.S. in Geography from the University of Utah. Currently, she is in the final stages of completing her Ph.D. in Geography from the University of Utah. Bloom's research interests lie in the areas of Quaternary environments, climate and environmental change, paleolimnology, and biogeography.



Prof. Zahia Drici  
Mathematics

Dr. Zahia Drici, is an Associate Professor of Mathematics in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at Illinois Wesleyan University, where she has been since the fall of 1995. She earned an M.S. in Solid State Physics from the University of Algiers, Algeria, in 1975; an M.S. in Electrical Engineering from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio in 1979; a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering in 1988 and a Ph.D. degree in Applied Mathematics in 1994, both from Florida Institute of Technology. Prof. Drici's area of research in mathematics is in applied nonlinear analysis. Her research area in electrical engineering is in electromagnetic scattering.



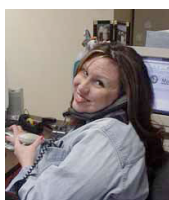
Ms. Dawn Perry  
Water Project Engineer

Dawn Perry works for the Town of Normal, as the Water Project Engineer. She performs field inspections on the installation and maintenance of the water main for the Town of Normal. She reviews plans for new construction, assists in compliance with EPA regulations, and compiles information on the water distribution system. She graduated from the University of Illinois in 1991, with a degree in Chemical Engineering, and also holds a degree in Chemistry from Western Illinois University.



Dr. Laura Vogel  
Biological Sciences

My research focus is immunology, particularly how immune responses are regulated. We study interactions between white blood cells known as B lymphocytes and T lymphocytes using the mouse as a model system. Below are some of the on-going projects in our laboratory. *Aging and the immune system:* Why does the immune system of the elderly function poorly and what can we do to improve their health? In particular we are interested in B cell responses and antibodies in aged individuals. *Gender-based dimorphism:* It has long been known that females are more prone to autoimmune diseases and tend to mount more vigorous immune responses. However, the molecular mechanisms behind these differences are not well understood. Using the model we developed to study B-T cell interactions we are investigating the role of sex and parity in antibody responses.



Ms. Sarah Walczynski  
Computers & Web Design

As Manager of ISU's College of Arts and Sciences *Laboratory for Integrated Learning Technologies* (LILT), Sarah Walczynski is a vital link for faculty and departments in using new learning technologies. In addition to her many responsibilities, Ms. Walczynski: 1) maintains a cutting edge computer training and development facility, 2) develops College, Departmental, Grant, and Faculty websites, 3) maintains servers and programs for the purpose of teaching such as online quizzing, grade reporting, communication, and online collaboration, and 4) in particular, she runs the LILT server which hosts over 500 faculty websites, 27 department and organizational sites, and secure testing areas. She also served as the 2002 Keynote Speaker for ISU's Expanding Your Horizons Through Math, Science, and Technology Conference.