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CICS Male Ally Workshop - Thursday 11/30 @5:15pm

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Greetings socialites,

In [GWIS' recent special edition](#) our community was brought face to face with the reality that our university is not immune to issues of gender equity. Indeed, as we've seen in that issue and in followup surveys within CICS, harassment and discrimination are regular issues for women in STEM, at UMass, and within our department. While this issue is of course not new, the discussions sparked by that special edition have also revealed that there are many would-be allies within our community who are unsure what they can/should do to help.

To that end, Katie, Lucas, Su Lin and I will be holding a **~1h15m allyship workshop next Thursday 11/30 @5:15pm in CS150/151**. During the workshop, we will focus on discussing scenarios regularly encountered by graduate students in computer science including but not limited to: themes of gendered credibility/authority, power dynamics, implicit bias, and gendered dynamics in hiring and networking in academia and industry. We'll help guide discussion and hopefully develop some concrete actions that we can take to help appropriately and effectively when witnessing something in our labs/at internships/in classes. We'll also (briefly) overview the institutional resources available for reporting and resolving these cases. Note that most of the workshop will be open discussion, there's no actual lecture component.

So we hope that many of you will consider attending this workshop. There *is* a lot that we can do as allies to make everyone feel #safeatwork within our department and future workplaces, but the first step is to start the discussion! Thank you, and have a great Thanksgiving!

-CICS Male Ally co-chairs (Katie, Kevin, Lucas, and Su Lin)

note: While this workshop is targeted for male allies, it is open to all genders. This workshop has been a cross-gender effort from the outset and we would totally welcome some cross-gender dialogue on the day of!