POLITECNICO DI TORINO

Dipartimento
di Automatica e Informatica

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FUTURE OF COMPUTING
— ACADEMY —

Seminar Announcement

Dr. Bushra Anjum
(Amazon, U.S.A.)

Being the Authentic "Fraud"

June 6, 2018, 11:00 – 12:00
Sala Luigi Ciminiera – 5th floor – Dip. Automatica e Informatica (DAUIN)

Do you have intense feelings that your achievements are undeserved?
Do you worry that you are likely to be exposed as a fraud?
Do you feel that any success in your life can be attributed to pure luck or to the manipulation of other people's impressions?
Do you worry that someday you will make an error that would blow your 'cover'?

Impostor syndrome is the frequent feeling of not deserving one's success, and of being of a failure despite a sustained record of achievements. Successful people often experience it throughout their careers, especially when they are members of a group that is underrepresented in their profession—such as female scientists or engineers. Research has shown that women in STEM disciplines hold themselves to higher standards than their male peers [1]. It is also documented that when women and minorities fail, they are judged more harshly than their male counterparts [2]. It is paramount to recognize that feeling incompetent and being incompetent are two different things. Impostor feelings have a way of festering silently for a long time, thanks to the difficulty of accurate self-assessment and the social stigma of asking for help.

Join Dr. Anjum, an international educator and ACM Future of Computing Academy's inaugural class member, as she discusses her experiences of navigating her career from Pakistan to USA; both countries having their unique challenges for women and/or women in tech. She will share her views on the phenomenon of "feeling like a fraud" that is plaguing workplaces across the world, and how she believes we can counter self-doubt and embark on perseverance.

Dr. Bushra Anjum has a PhD in Computer Science from North Carolina State University, USA, and is currently serving as a Technical Lead and Software Engineer for the Amazon Prime Program. Situated at Amazon in San Luis Obispo, California, her team is responsible for the timely, accurate and reliable services for millions of Amazon Prime customers across the world. Prior to joining industry, she has over 5 years of international teaching experience at university level both in Pakistan and the USA. Dr. Anjum actively mentors female computer science students and early professionals and is a part of various initiatives such as ABI.Local, ACM Mentornet, GirlDevelopIt, Codetalk, LeanIn.org to name a few. LinkedIn Profile: https://www.linkedin.com/in/bushraanjum/

References:
[1] Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics by Catherine Hill, Christianne Corbett and Andresse Rose. 2010
[2] Hard Won and Easily Lost: The Fragile Status of Leaders in Gender-Stereotype-Incongruent Occupations. Psychological Science 21(11). 2010

For further information, please refer to Luigi De Russis (luigi.derussis@polito.it, 011 090 7170).