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LSU IT Eminent Lecture Series Hosts two National Academy of Engineering Members

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BATON ROUGE – Two internationally known female scientists will visit LSU and deliver lectures in the IT Eminent Lecture Series, which is co-sponsored by the LSU Center for Computation & Technology, or CCT, and the Department of Computer Science.

On Friday, Jan. 23, Linda Petzold, professor in the Department of Computer Science and the Department of Mechanical Engineering, and director of the Computational Science and Engineering Program at the University of California Santa Barbara, will present "Multiscale Simulation of Biochemical Systems" at 2:30 p.m. in Room 145 of Coates Hall.

On Monday, Jan. 26, Margaret H. Wright, Silver Professor of Computer Science and Mathematics at the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences at New York University and Chair of the Computer Science Department, will present "What Can Be More Important Than 'Faster' and 'Bigger'?" at 2:30 p.m. in Room 145 of Coates Hall.

Details on the two talks as well as biographical information on both researchers can be found www.cct.lsu.edu or www.csc.lsu.edu.

Both speakers are members of the National Academy of Engineering, or NAE, one of the highest honors available for engineers.

"As far as I can recall, this is the first time LSU has had two female NAE members give seminars back to back. Both Dr. Petzold and Dr. Wright have won many top awards," said Peter Chen, Foster Distinguished Chair Professor of Computer Science and chairman of the IT Eminent Lecture Series. "Their visits and lectures will encourage more students at LSU to follow their footsteps to become scientists and engineers to help solve our society's problems, as pointed out by President Obama."

Recently, LSU has formed a student chapter of the Association for Women in Mathematics, or AWM. Both Petzold and Wright will meet with members of the AWM chapter and its adviser, Susanne Brenner, LSU professor of mathematics, as well as meeting with other student groups, faculty and university administrators.

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