WOMEN’S HEALTH IN THE TECH NATION

NOVEMBER 30, 2022 | 6:30 PM EST
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MOIRA GUNN, Ph.D.
Award-winning radio journalist, former NASA scientist and engineer

Purdue University alumna Dr. Moira Gunn is an award-winning radio journalist who speaks from expertise at the nexus of technology, science and society. As founder and host of her public radio programs, Tech Nation and BioTech Nation, she has interviewed over 3,000 people, among them CEO’s, scientists, venture capitalists, and politicians. A former NASA scientist and engineer, her early-career focus was in big data and software in global applications, robotics engineering and human nutrition measurement. Gunn further expanded into biotechnology and bioentrepreneurship, and includes exploring the societal impact. She has interviewed people who decode our DNA, seek to cure cancer and rare disease, and work to make energy fully sustainable, work with expanding capabilities of Digital Health, and the challenge of protecting individual privacy while the collective information of all may be necessary to address many of the challenges we face today. Her book, “Welcome to BioTech Nation: My Unexpected Odyssey into the Land of Small Molecules, Lean Genes, and Big Ideas,” was named the Best Science Books list by the Library Journal.

After earning her master’s in computer science at Purdue, Gunn was the first woman to earn a Purdue Ph.D. in mechanical engineering. She holds a software patent in nutrition research, is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and was further recognized for her career achievements by Purdue with an honorary doctorate in science. Dr. Gunn is an associate professor at the University of San Francisco, where she is the Director of Bioentrepreneurship, reflecting the multidisciplinary nature of moving scientific breakthroughs on the lab bench through to the commercial products.

Hosted by: Leah Jamieson
John A. Edwardson Dean Emerita of Engineering

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