



News

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Cal Poly Chemistry Department Hosts Pi Day Lecture on Science Policy

SAN LUIS OBISPO — Katy Christiansen, a strategic analyst at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL), will present the annual Pi Day lecture titled "Money Is Policy, or How New Research Initiatives Are Born" from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday, March 14, in the Baker Center (Building 180), Room 114, on the Cal Poly campus. The event is free and open to the public.

Christiansen will share her experience transitioning from a career as a research scientist to a science policy position with the U.S. Department of Energy. She will discuss what happens once Congress appropriates funds to agencies, how policy is implemented at the ground level, and how her experience with policy helps shape research programs at LBNL.

Christiansen has a doctorate in plant sciences from Indiana University and worked at the Joint BioEnergy Institute before spending two years as a Science and Technology Policy Fellow in the Bioenergy Technologies Office of the U.S. Department of Energy, a position funded by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. There she developed funding opportunities for new research initiatives and worked in strategic planning. She now works on strategic planning and implementation at LBNL.

The lecture is sponsored by the Cal Poly Chemistry Department and the California Los Padres section of the American Chemical Society. A complimentary assortment of pies will be served in observance of Pi Day.

About Pi Day

Pi Day is recognized each year on March 14 (3/14), the day associated with the mathematical constant pi (n), since 3.14 are the first three digits of pi in decimal form.

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