Abstract

The Path to Full Participation: Understanding, Intervening, and Assessing

Joanne Cohoon

Theoretical perspectives call our attention to particular factors and processes that contribute to the complex problem of women’s underrepresentation in computing. For example, we might focus on the impact stereotypes have on self-selection or discrimination, or we might focus on the opportunities and constraints imposed by systems of higher education. Taking a lifecycle approach helps us appreciate the changing interactions between the social expectations and organizational contexts experienced by men and women as they travel the computing career path. Dr. Cohoon will describe recent U.S. trends in women’s enrollment and workforce participation in computing, noting recent findings and the perspectives that led to them. Finally, she will discuss the value this knowledge can bring to promoting gender balance in ICT.