# WIT February 2016 Newsletter

We are off to a great start this year. Earlier this month we presented the first webinar hosted by the chapter. The speaker, Sarah Johnson, told us about TechShopz, a free kit that can be used for hosting a tech workshop for girls. If you missed the session, you can catch the recording [here](). Additional information from Sarah is available in the Great Links section of the newsletter. If you host one of these workshops, we would love to hear how it turns out.

A [study]() recently showed that women might be better coders than men. The study found that, as long as the gender is not known, code from women is more likely to be accepted on GitHub than code written by men. Subjective bias is a topic that is getting a lot of attention. How are we discriminating against people based on gender without even knowing it?

Our March webinar "[Gender Inequality in Tech and Leadership]()" covers more about the topic of subjective bias. Kathi attended the speaker's presentation at a developer conference last fall. She was really impressed that a man took on this topic. Please join us for an insightful presentation.

Rie and Kathi

## My Favorite WIT Luncheon at PASS Summit

I've been attending the WIT Lunch sessions at PASS Summit since the beginning, 2003. The session has evolved over the years, and in 2014 went to an interview format. I have to say that I still get chills when I think about that day. We were honored to have Kimberly Bryant, founder of [Black Girls Code](), as our guest.

Ms. Bryant told us about her own journey as a successful engineer. When she saw her daughter become interested in coding, she decided to build an organization that reaches out to girls of color to provide workshops and school programs. Ms. Bryant knows firsthand what it feels like to be the only female in a programming class; it's even more difficult to be the only person of color as well. She hopes to show the world that talent knows no demographic barriers.

My favorite part of the luncheon that day was when Ms. Bryant told about us advice from her high school counselor. The counselor advised her to consider engineering as a career. The advice is so mundane yet so profound. I wonder how things would have turned out if she had been discouraged instead.

You can see the interview [here](). Ms. Bryant has a [TEDx talk]() as well.

Kathi

## Great Links

We are always looking for input from our members. Please drop us a line at witvc@sqlpass.org if you have something you would like to share, would like to write an article for the newsletter, or if you would like to present a webinar. We are looking for any topic that would be interesting to the WIT group and data platform topics presented by women. This is a great way to get experience as a speaker.

Did you know that you can take college courses online for free? Check out [Coursera](#) and [EdX](#). This is a fantastic way to improve your own skills or help someone you know get started in tech.

Sarah from TechShopz sent us some additional links about the workshops:

Slides: [http://ph.ly/TechGirlzHowToTeach15](http://ph.ly/TechGirlzHowToTeach15)
Sign Up for Access (free!): [http://ph.ly/TechGirlzLessonPlans](http://ph.ly/TechGirlzLessonPlans)
Web Page About TechShopz in a Box: [http://www.techgirlz.org/techshopz-in-a-box](http://www.techgirlz.org/techshopz-in-a-box)
Email Sarah with Questions: sarah@techgirlz.org

Women in Tech Summit: [http://womenintechsummit.net](http://womenintechsummit.net)

Twitter: @TechGirlzOrg @johnsons531

## Webinar Schedule

| Date | Title | Speaker |
|---|---|---|
| March 2, 2016 | Gender Inequality in Tech and Leadership | Haz Parakrama |
| March 21, 2016 | Be a Role Model for Women in Tech through Blogging | Mickey Stuewe |
| April 5, 2016 | Kicking and Screaming: Replacing Profiler with Extended Events | Erin Stellato |
| May 3, 2016 | Beyond CXPACKET: Understanding Wait Statistics | Jes Borland |
| May 4, 2016 | Using Teaching Kids Programming Courseware with Kids Ages 10-17 | Lynn Langit |