

# How to enhance young female scientists' success?

**Prof. Mildred Dresselhaus, Massachusetts  
Institute of Technology**

**Lecture and Subsequent Discussion**

**Thursday, 19 November 2015, 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm at  
HG G 19.2**



**Professor Mildred Dresselhaus**, known as the «queen of carbon science», is a professor of physics and electrical engineering (emerita) at MIT. She has made promoting opportunities for women in science and engineering a high priority throughout her career. Thus far, she has graduated over 60 Ph.D. students.

Please register here: <http://tinyurl.com/Dresselhaus>

Deadline for registration 16 November 2015. Places are limited. Registrations will be considered until places are filled. Registrations are binding.

## **Prof. Mildred Dresselhaus, Massachusetts Institute of Technology**

Professor Mildred Dresselhaus is a native of the Bronx, New York City, where she attended the New York City public schools through junior high school, completing her high school education at Hunter College High School in New York City. She began her higher education at Hunter College in New York City and received a Fulbright Fellowship to attend the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge University (1951-52). Professor Dresselhaus received her master's degree at Radcliffe College (1953) and her Ph.D. at the University of Chicago (1958).

Professor Dresselhaus began her MIT career at the Lincoln Laboratory. During that time she switched from research on superconductivity to magneto-optics, and carried out a series of experiments which led to a fundamental understanding of the electronic structure of semi-metals, especially graphite.

A leader in promoting opportunities for women in science and engineering, Professor Dresselhaus received a Carnegie Foundation grant in 1973 to encourage women's study of traditionally male dominated fields, such as physics. In 1973, she was appointed to The Abby Rockefeller Mauze chair, an Institute-wide chair, endowed in support of the scholarship of women in science and engineering.

Reflecting upon her experiences as a woman in physics, Professor Dresselhaus says, *«When I first started at Hunter College - that was pretty much a women's college, so I had the idea that women could study physics as well as men. When I got to Cambridge University, there were only a few women but we were doing alright. I didn't really know I wasn't supposed to do physics until I joined the mainstream. When I got my degree in 1958 it was pretty lonely - we [women] were only two percent of the physics community then.»*