Dr Sarah Peers MIET

IET Travel Awards 2020

The award was intended to support Sarah’s travel to New York to take part in CSW64, the 64th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women. Sarah was to be a key participant in a parallel NGO event led by INWES, the International Network of Women Engineers and Scientists, on the importance of women in STEM to achieve the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). CSW64 was planned for mid-March, but sadly as with so many other events in 2020, the Covid19 pandemic disrupted this event and over 12000 delegates were asked to stay away from New York.

Instead, Sarah has utilised the funds to take part in CSW65, March 2021 and to take part in the Network Gender & STEM Conference, July 2021, hosted by the University of Sydney. Sadly, as the pandemic is still on-going, both CSW65 and the Network Gender & STEM conference were held online.

Sarah was a speaker at the INWES session “Empowering Women in STEM is essential for achieving the UN SDGs” hosted by the NGO CSW Online Forum. This was a collaboration with the World Federation of Engineering Organisations (WFEO) and the International Science Council (ISC), and the event provided an opportunity for INWES, WFEO and ISC to explore future ways of working together.

The Network Gender & STEM Conference had a theme of STEM Education for the New Work Order: Policy, Practice and Partnerships. Sarah coordinated and spoke at the INWES symposium on “The power of women in STEM networks to create change”, which showed how women in STEM groups can influence policy and practice in STEM education, research and training.