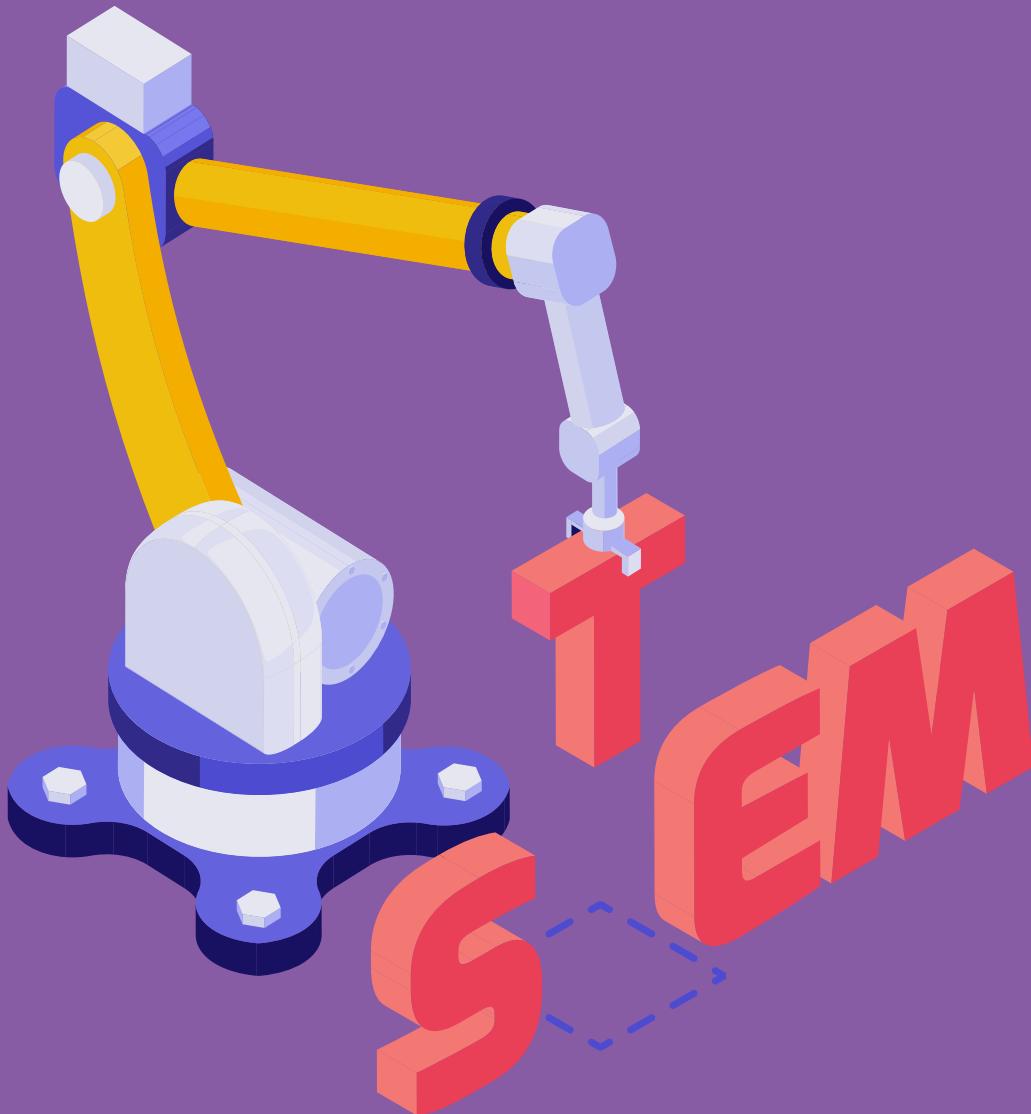# WOMEN IN STEM

THURSDAY, JULY 27TH

9am – 10pm via Zoom

RAE FERRIOLO
SENIOR DISCIPLINE MANAGER

Rae Ferriolo is a Senior Discipline Manager in the San Diego Electrical Department at Coffman Engineers, Inc. with over 16 years of experience as an electrical engineer. A San Diego native, she graduated high school from the Academy of Our Lady of Peace and then proceeded to earn her BS in electrical engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago where she specialized in Power Engineering.

Rae started her professional career as an intern at MWH Global in Chicago before transferring back to San Diego to be closer to family. Upon her return to Southern California, she joined Sparling where she spent 8 years as an electrical engineer, passed her EIT, and then her PE exam. She had a brief stint with a small electrical equipment manufacturing firm called Teal Electronics but eventually returned to Sparling/Stantec as a project manager.

In 2017, Rae joined Coffman Engineers to help support and grow their electrical engineering department. With Rae's help, the electrical team in San Diego has grown from 3 to 15 in just 5 years. She currently manages some of Coffman's most complex electrical design projects and multi-discipline projects in the Southern California market. Rae is well-versed in all things electrical and is well-respected throughout the AEC industry for her creative and dynamic solutions to the built environment. When she's not designing a new engineering solution, Rae is supporting Coffman's local business development and proposal efforts, mentoring the younger team members, and remaining active in the industry organizations such as the Women's Construction Coalition (WCC), Society of Women Engineers (SWE), and the Design-Build Institute of America (DBIA).

UC San Diego
JACOBS SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

CELESTE BEAN

SENIOR HARDWARE ENGINEER

Celeste Bean currently designs next-generation game controllers as a Senior Hardware Engineer for Sony Interactive Entertainment's (SIE) PlayStation in its Future Technology group. She is the Global Professional Development lead for Women@PlayStation, has filed over 50 patents, and helps lead PlayStation's internal hackathons.

Previous roles include rapid prototyping for a variety of sectors as an Electrical Engineer for Benchmark Electronics; simulating microgrids as a Graduate Research Intern at the National Renewable Energy Lab; and researching Quantum Cryptography at Los Alamos National Lab. She holds an MA in International Security Studies from the University of Arizona, an MS in Electrical Engineering from the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) with a thesis focusing on control theory, and an Honors BS in Computer Engineering from UCSB. She is passionate about leveraging technology to empower people, whether via electrification in developing communities or improving accessibility in consumer electronics.

UC San Diego
JACOBS SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

NANCY RONQUILLO

NAVAL INFORMATION WARFARE CENTER-PACIFIC ENGINEER

Nancy Ronquillo, Ph.D. is an engineer for the Naval Information Warfare Center-Pacific. Her research interests include using theoretical methods of information acquisition and processing as well as applications of machine learning for practical problems in areas such as millimeter wave communications and neural signal processing. With her collaborators, she is a recipient of the 2021 IEEE Communications Society and Information Theory Society Joint Paper Award. She is a recipient of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation's Minority Ph.D. program fellowship and the Department of Defense Science, Mathematics, and Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship. She is also a Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program scholar and a National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering scholar. She completed her B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees at the University of California, San Diego. In her free time, Nancy enjoys testing new baking recipes, salsa dancing, and going to Disneyland.

SOPHIA KRAUSE-LEVY

PH.D. CANDIDATE

Sophia Krause-Levy is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Computer Science & Engineering Department at UC San Diego. She will be starting as an Assistant Professor at the University of San Diego in the fall. Her research is in Computing Education and focuses on finding ways to improve how we teach computer science. She seeks to use her research to increase retention rates and decrease failure rates in computing programs, especially for students from underrepresented groups. She conducts research in multiple areas, including the mismatch between instructors' expectations and students' prerequisite knowledge, the effectiveness of student-tutor interactions, and the impact of students' sense of belonging in computing courses. Sophia is a recipient of the NSF Graduate Fellowship and one of her papers recently won the Computing Education Research Best Paper Award at SIGCSE '22. She has also received the UCSD CSE Department's Awards for Contributions to Diversity and Teaching.

BRIDGET KOHLNHOFER

SENIOR SCIENTIST AT ASPEN NEUROSCIENCE

Bridget Kohlnhofer, PhD, is a Senior Scientist at Aspen Neuroscience working in the iPS Cell Therapy field. Previously she was a Scientist II at Takeda Pharmaceuticals in the GI Cell Therapy group and held postdoc positions at Janssen (J&J) and UCSD where she modeled neurodegenerative and neuropsychiatric diseases using iPSCs. She is a first-generation college student and received her BS in Cell Biology from the University of Wisconsin – LaCrosse. She earned her PhD in Cell and Molecular Biology from the Medical College of Wisconsin. In her free time she enjoys yoga, gardening, cooking, and hiking.