**Lynn Conway’s Talks at University of Victoria, Nov 9-10, 2016**

**Titles/Abstracts/URLs:**

**Honorary Degree Comments &** [**Convocation Quoem**](http://ai.eecs.umich.edu/people/conway/Memoirs/Quoems/What_Are_Quoems.pdf)(Nov. 9)

***What Words Will You Leave To Guide Them***

[Lynn Conway](http://www.lynnconway.com), Prof. of EECS, Emerita, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

[Madam Chancellor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shelagh_Rogers), Leaders and Faculty of the [University of Victoria](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_Victoria), what a joy it is to join you, on this special ground, at this great university. I am deeply moved [to receive this honor](https://web.archive.org/web/20161026182623/http:/www.uvic.ca/research/transchair/what-we-do/events/index.php), and in turn, [to help you honor and celebrate all the young people](https://www.uvic.ca/convocation/past/2016-nov-09-am.php) receiving degrees here this day. And on nearing [Remembrance Day](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Remembrance_Day), I’m reminded how appropriate it would be to envision our futures through the words of earlier pathfinders . . .

<http://ai.eecs.umich.edu/people/conway/Memoirs/Talks/UVIC/What_Words_Will_You_Leave_to_Guide_Them.pdf>

<http://ai.eecs.umich.edu/people/conway/Memoirs/Quoems/What_Are_Quoems.pdf>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PGx3h3mnIyI> (VIDEO)

**Public Lecture** (Nov. 9)

***Our Travels Through Techno-Social Space-Time:***

***Envisioning Incoming Waves of Technological Innovation\****

Lynn Conway, Prof. of EECS, Emerita, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

How can we visualize our life-journeys through an ever-more rapidly-changing techno-social landscape? How did the processes of social-change begin speeding-up in the first place? Where are we headed as we enter the looming techno-social age? These questions are on ever-more minds all around the world. For some insights we reflect on, and then follow, these words of wisdom from Winston Churchill:

*“The farther backward you can look, the farther forward you can see.”*

\*Based on Lynn’s lecture [at the Royal Society of Edinburgh](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bw2mPAp4XGk) on the occasion of her being awarded the [James Clerk Maxwell Medal](http://ai.eecs.umich.edu/people/conway/Memoirs/Talks/RSE/Maxwell_Medal_Citation_by_Barry_Shoop.pdf) by the IEEE and the RSE, Nov. 12, 2015.

<http://ai.eecs.umich.edu/people/conway/Memoirs/Talks/UVIC/Techno_Social_Talk.pptx>

**Public Lecture** (Nov. 10)

***An Invisible Woman:***

***The Inside Story Behind the Microelectronic Computing Revolution in Silicon Valley\*\*,\*\*\****

Lynn Conway, Prof. of EECS, Emerita, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

In 2015 [Megan Smith](https://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ostp/about/leadershipstaff/smith), Chief Technology Officer of the United States, [raised profound questions](http://boingboing.net/2015/05/08/cto-megan-smith-explains-how-w.html) about women’s contributions in science, engineering and math being erased from history. In this talk we explore a case study of such erasure, and surface a very counter-intuitive conjecture about the underlying causes and effects.

\*\*Based on Lynn’s [Pride Keynote](http://ai.eecs.umich.edu/people/conway/Memoirs/Talks/NSF/Images/NSF_2015_Pride_Program.jpg) at the [National Science Foundation](http://www.nsf.gov/od/odi/sep/lgbt.jsp), Arlington, VA, June 10, 2015.

\*\*\*In remembrance of pioneering novelist [Ralph Ellison](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ralph_Ellison), author of [Invisible Man, 1952](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Invisible_Man)

<http://ai.eecs.umich.edu/people/conway/Memoirs/Talks/UVIC/Inside_Story_Talk.pptx>