



ANNUAL REPORT



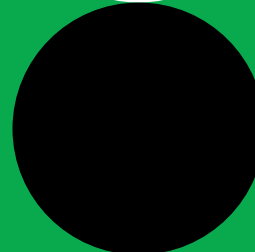
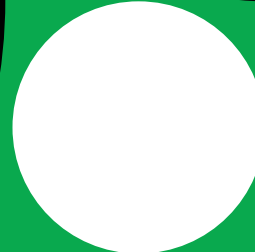
WOMEN IN DATA SCIENCE
ZURICH, 2018

2017 - 2018

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It was fantastic to be part of WiDS, sharing ideas around data science and how data science could be used to solve real world problems.

Danielle Belgrave
Microsoft Research, Cambridge, UK
Keynote speaker



DATA SCIENCE

Conference 2018



ORGA- NIZING TEAM

Rosa Visscher
Charlotte Bunne
Lidia Freitas
Anastasia Makarova
Natalie Barcicki
Leonie Hodel
Anna Volokitin
Bianca-Cristina Cristescu
Elsy Ngwa
Antonija Burcul



OUR MISSION

The Global Women in Data Science (WiDS) Conference aims to inspire and educate data scientists worldwide, regardless of gender, and support women in the field. This annual one-day technical conference provides an opportunity to hear about the latest data science related research and applications in a broad set of domains. All genders are invited to participate in the conference, which features exclusively female speakers.



OUR ACHIEVE- MENTS SO FAR

From the quantitative simulation of the astrophysical foundations of our universe, to a hands-on demo of one of the most advanced virtual assistants on the market, the first Women in Data Science (WiDS) Conference in Zurich was a feast for the aspiring data scientist and a testament to the power of women in the field. Held on March 20th, 2018 at the Swiss Re Center for Global Dialogue just on the outskirts of the Swiss metropolis, the event had **220 participants** (and a waiting list of 130 attendees!) led through a day of inspiring conversation by **16 female academics and professionals working in data science**. The aim of the conference was loyal to the Global WiDS mission: **to inspire, educate and support data scientists worldwide**, with an emphasis on highlighting the role of women in the field.

The WiDS conference was founded in 2016 at Stanford University by Margot Gerritsen, Director of Stanford University's Institute for Computational and Mathematical Engineering (ICME), and has been co-directed by Karen Matthys and Judy Logan, both Stanford staff members of the Institute for Computational and Mathematical Engineering (ICME). Since then, WiDS has become a **global movement**, spreading to over 100 locations and **over 50 countries** and drawing an online audience of almost 100,000 viewers in 2018.



The event was the first of its kind in Zurich, and was organized by a group of 10 machine learning and computer science researchers and students, aiming to make the city the European hub for WiDS. Attendees, composed of young professionals, academics and students, came from all over Europe. Through the generous support of our partners, it was possible to provide almost **40 travel grants** that recognized women on the basis of their academic excellence who are also making a positive impact on their home communities through technology. These grants helped them cover the costs involved with attending the conference, making it possible to host students from as far as the UK and Russia for the day.





keynote
speeches

lightning
talks

panel
discussion

mentorship
sessions

The program featured **keynote speeches, lightning talks, and a panel discussion**, broken up by lunchtime mentorship sessions led by speakers. The keynote speakers came from Microsoft Research, Google, Allianz and Credit Suisse, and provided insight into the whole spectrum of **current applications of data science in both research and industry**. Seven lightning talks by speakers from other top companies and institutions continued in this vein, while the panel discussion brought together minds from IBM, Novartis and the ETH to hone in on the impact of machine learning in healthcare. To top it all off, **lunchtime mentorship sessions** offered attendees the chance to chat directly to senior technical and business leaders about different aspects of career development and personal growth in a more intimate group setting.

With the event's overwhelming success, there is already anticipation and interest in planning next year's conference. It is safe to say that the first conference in Zurich achieved the goals it set out, and is a **promising view into the power and potential of the WiDS movement**. Those inspired and interested in becoming part of WiDS have already been encouraged to subscribe to the newsletter, join the organization team in Zurich or organize a local event in their hometowns.

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**With the support of
the WIDS travel grant,
I was able to participate
in this exciting, inspiring,
horizon-broadening
conference.**

Mirna Kramar
Göttingen
Travel grant recipient



FINANCES



An insight into
our expenses and
sponsorships for the
past financial year
(September 2017-
April 2018)

Revenue 103,770 CHF

Sponsorships: 101,520 CHF
Registrations: 2,250 CHF

Expenditures 96,106 CHF

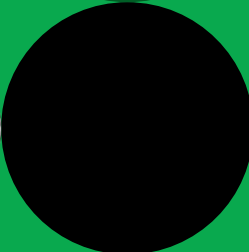
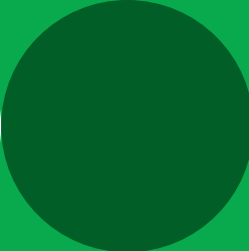
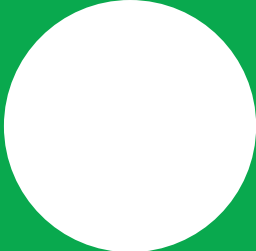
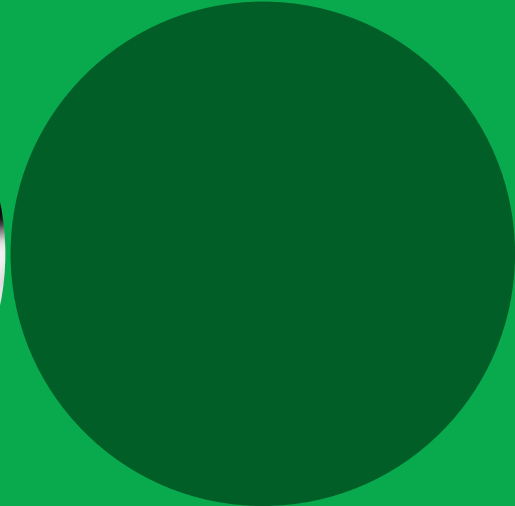
Promo material: 6,365 CHF
Website: 920 CHF
Printing & swag: 586 CHF
Speakers: 9,570 CHF
Venue: 59,465 CHF
Travel fellowships: 17,200 CHF
Miscellaneous: 2,000 CHF

Media reach

**The official WiDS Zurich
Facebook page**
(over 26 countries reached)

**#WiDSZurich2018 Twitter
feed**

Women 2.0 feature
"She's leading the tech
evolution of AI-powered
insurance"
(Gemma Garriga,
keynote speaker)
(among top 1% of articles by
social media shares published
on Women 2.0)



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**I am graduating soon,
so it was especially
useful for me to talk
to both academic and
industry professionals and
discuss possible future
career options.**

Polina Kirichenko
Moscow
Travel grant recipient

OUR PARTNERS





THANK YOU



WOMEN IN DATA SCIENCE
ZURICH, 2018

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