Women continue to be underrepresented in science, technology, engineering, and mathematic (STEM) fields. This public talk will present results from a cross-national, cross-sector (academic and non-academic) study of women’s retention and advancement in engineering and information and communication technology (EICT) careers. The primary objective of the study is to identify the impact of welfare state entitlements, job factors, and family/individual circumstances on women’s career satisfaction and intent to stay or leave their jobs. Results are presented from a survey administered to women in Germany (n=363), Canada (n=276), and Sweden (n=75). Overall, our findings suggest that despite increased efforts to improve gender equity across STEM fields, inequalities, stereotypes, and biases remain problems in Germany, Sweden, and Canada to varying degrees, which shape women’s day-to-day workplace experiences across employment sectors.

Dr. Peter will be presenting with her research team: Dr. Lyn Hoang (postdoctoral fellow); Dr. Jennifer Dengate (Director, EDI Research and Projects), and Ms. Cornelia Kauenhowen (graduate student).

The research talk will take place in cooperation with Priv.-Doz. Dr. Andrea Wolffram, Institute of Sociology, Chair of Sociology of Technology and Organization, RWTH Aachen University.
Dr. Tracey Peter is an award-winning Professor of Sociology and the Vice-Provost (Academic Affairs) at the University of Manitoba in Canada. She is the principal investigator on the federally funded (SSHRC) multi-year grant investigating women in engineering and computer science and has been involved in numerous large-scale national and international studies involving women and other marginalized populations.

An impactful academic, Dr. Peter specializes in research that advances equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) as well as social justice and human rights for marginalized populations, particularly relating to gender equity and LGBTQ youth. Her research appears in books, peer-reviewed journals, and research reports and national agencies have supported her work with more than 6 million dollars in funding.