

NIEHS Hosts First Pi Day Event

March 2015 Grapevine

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The NIEHS Office of Scientific Information Management (OSIM) hosted Pi Day last Friday, March 13, 2015. In coordination with NIH, the event featured a live webinar with Dr. Eric Lander; a competition to see who could recite the most digits in Pi; and a chance to network with colleagues over fresh-baked pies.

Dr. Lander is the founding director and serves as a core member of the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard. One of the principal architects of the Human Genome Project, he and his colleagues have a long-standing interest in applying genomics to understand the molecular basis of human physiology and disease. Dr. Lander's lecture, "The Quantitative Future of Biomedical Sciences" was a lively mixture of anecdotes from his years as a researcher and insights into the next phases of big data.

Congratulations to Lauren Donoghue who won the Pi Recite competition by reciting 100 digits of Pi. She selected a mixed berry pie as the grand prize. Challengers Katy Hamilton and Robin Arnette also demonstrated their extensive knowledge of Pi.

The event was capped off with sixty NIEHS staff members joining in on the celebration by sampling eight delicious pie varieties.

In addition to Pi Day, OSIM's data science activities include the upcoming [Research Data Science Training](#) , Data Science Seminar Series, and the [Data Science Interest Group](#) .



A selection of freshly made pies
(Photo: Steve McCaw)



Lauren Donoghue, competition winner, works on writing down 100 digits of Pi
(Photo: Steve McCaw)



Pi Recite competitors and spectators, including Kelly Lenox, Robin Arnette, Greg Scott, Katy Hamilton, Lauren Donoghue.
(Photo: Steve McCaw)