Honoring women in mathematics

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Lisa Fauci, professor of mathematics at Tulane University, was chosen to deliver the 2016 Kovalevsky Lecture “for her pioneering contributions to mathematical and computational modeling of aquatic locomotion, microorganism motility and fluid dynamics of human reproduction.” (Photo by Paula Burch-Celentano)

Sonia Kovalevsky was the most widely known Russian mathematician of the 19th century as well as an advocate for women’s rights and the first modern European woman to attain a full professorship.

It’s no wonder that well over a century later, she is celebrated worldwide. There are high school math days and lectures, one of the most prestigious being the Kovalevsky Lecture, delivered annually at the meeting of the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM).

At this year’s meeting July 11-15 in Boston, Tulane University mathematics professor Lisa Fauci will give the lecture, having been chosen for the honor by SIAM and the Association for Women in Mathematics “for her pioneering contributions to mathematical and computational modeling of aquatic locomotion, microorganism motility and fluid dynamics of human reproduction.”

Lisa Fauci boasts a history of service to the mathematical community and a legacy of mentoring early career scientists and women in mathematics.
Fauci said she is especially honored to deliver the Kovalevsky Lecture, as it honors one of the world’s most brilliant mathematicians.