

Witches in the Server Room, or the Power of Rebellion

- **Speaker:** Kerri-Leigh Grady
- **Room:** HC 203
- **Time:** Sun 3:00 pm – 3:30 pm
- **Format:** Lecture (30 Min + Q&A)
- **Difficulty:** Introductory
- **Track:** Random
- **Presenter Location:** In-person
- **Experience:** umpteenth time speaking

Description:

Throughout history, women who dared to learn, experiment, and wield knowledge were labeled as witches. In today's tech world, those who understand systems, code, and the power of community can face similar suspicion — especially when they challenge norms or refuse to stay quiet.

This provocative talk reclaims the **“witch”** archetype as a symbol of rebellion, mastery, and community care in technology. Kerri-Leigh explores how disobedience fuels innovation, why shared power is amplified power, and how those who push boundaries often do so to make tech more humane, inclusive, and just.

Attendees will reflect on the cultural narratives that shape who is seen as “allowed” to hold technical knowledge — and why embracing the rebel spirit can strengthen communities and transform systems. Bring your broom... or at least your rebel yell.

Target Audience:

- Underrepresented folks in tech

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