
AWIS-PHL News



President's Update

Angela Steel, President

On behalf of the AWIS-Philadelphia Board I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year.

In the months ahead we have an exciting and varied program of events and meetings that we hope will entice you to brave the cold weather and join us.

On January 28th we have a program entitled "Yuk or Yum? An examination of human eating behavior with special reference to food neophobia" at the Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia. In addition to the talk by Yolanda Martins, Ph.D., this meeting will also include a tour of the facility. It promises to be a mouthwatering event so please join us!

The Board has finalized the Spring events featuring a program on achieving balance between work and personal goals (February), a Biotechnology panel night (March, joint with AWIS-Central Jersey Chapter) and a meeting focused on the emerging science of ergonomics (April). We will conclude our program for the year with our annual awards banquet in May, which is always a wonderful celebration of women in science.

Also in our newsletter we feature an article on our very successful High School Program "Is Science in Your Future?" that we hosted at the University of the Sciences, Philadelphia on the November 16, 2002.

We look forward to meeting you at the winter and spring events and, as always, we encourage you to participate and share any ideas and thoughts you may have.

Best wishes for 2003!

New Web Address and Webmaster

Note that our web address has changed. In addition, we welcome a new webmaster, Becky Greenwood. Many thanks go to Holly Gaede for initiating our website and keeping it current up until now.

AWIS on the Web

AWIS-PHL: <http://www.awisphl.org/>
National AWIS: <http://www.awis.org/>

Upcoming AWIS-PHL Events

January 28, 2003 Yolanda Martins, Ph.D. speaks on "Yuk or Yum? An Examination of Human Eating Behavior with Special Reference to Food Neophobia" at Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia.

February 26, 2003 Judith Mauer (GSK) speaks on resilience – achieving balance between work and personal goals at the Drexel University College of Medicine Queen Lane Campus.

March 25, 2003 Biotechnology Panel held jointly with the Central Jersey chapter of AWIS at the Sheraton Bucks in Langhorne.

April 22, 2003 Lisa Clayton, BSN, MBA (Ergonomic Consultant, Dupont Safety Resources) speaks on "The Science of Ergonomics" at the A.I. duPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington, DE.

May 2003 Annual Awards Banquet at Arcadia University

September 2003 Networking Meeting

2002 Elizabeth W. Bingham Award



Dr. Yvonne Paterson, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, receives the 2002 Elizabeth W. Bingham Award from Dr. Eleni Anni, president of AWIS-PHL, the Philadelphia Chapter of the Association for Women in Science. The award is given every year to honor an outstanding scientist who has significantly influenced the advancement of women in science. Others honored at the annual awards dinner, held at Arcadia University, Glenside, PA, on May 14, 2002, included Michelle Kofron, Drexel Student Travel Award; Thao Nguyen, University of Pennsylvania, winner of the University of Pennsylvania Women's Club Student Travel Award; and Lynn Reis, Great Valley High School, winner of the AWIS-PHL sponsored Delaware Valley Science Council Award.

Call for Nominations for the Elizabeth Bingham Award

Think back on your career, no matter how long or short it has been. Has there been someone who has had a great impact on your career as a role model, or as a mentor? Was there someone who helped you and others select or advance in your careers or who was willing to listen to your problems and give you support when needed? If so, you now have an opportunity to recognize that person's contribution.

AWIS-PHL is now accepting nominations for our Elizabeth Bingham Award. This award is given to a distinguished scientist who has significantly

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influenced the advancement of women in science. An engraved plaque is presented to the winner at our May awards banquet. Nominating letters, accompanied by a brief biography (no set format for nominations) are due by March 3, 2003, to Dr. Angela Steel at 304 Welsh Circle, Chester Springs, PA 19425 or by e-mail at <Angela_Steel-1@gsk.com> .

Chapter Officers

Anyone wishing to nominate or be nominated for a position on the AWIS-PHL Board for 2003-2004, please contact Dr. Nancy E. Rawson by email <rawson@monell.org> or phone at (215) 898-0943 by March 14, 2003.

Briefly, the duties of each officer are:

President-Elect (first year-coordinate elections, second year-President, third year-Past President, travel awards)

Vice-President (one year term) - coordinate meeting programs for the chapter

Secretary (one year term) - coordinate all mailings for chapter (meeting announcements, newsletters, etc.), take minutes at board meetings

Treasurer (one year term) - coordinate finances for chapter (chapter bills, membership dues, etc.)

“Is Science in Your Future” – Workshop for 11th Grade Girls a Success

Angela Steel, Ph.D.



On Saturday, November 16, 2002, the AWIS-PHL chapter sponsored a workshop program entitled "Is Science in Your Future? Exploring Careers in the Sciences!" This was a wonderful event designed to

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give 11th-grade women a flavor of the options available if they elected to pursue a scientific career. The program was hosted at the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia (USP) by Dr. Margaret Kasschau in conjunction with USP's Admissions Office. There was a wonderful panel of invited speakers who gave insight into their diverse careers, shared personal anecdotes about their career choices and experiences, and enthusiastically endorsed science as a field of endless opportunity. Twenty-four young women from high schools across the Delaware Valley participated, several of whom were accompanied by parents or teachers.

In the first session Jessica Dunlap, Reannon Rollings, Erica Martin, and Lauren Sperber, four women early in their scientific careers, shared their experiences and described their decision making process and their plans for the future. After discussion and a tour of the laboratories at the USP, the second session featured the later career choices of women from a broad range of disciplines who had made diverse career choices. The enthusiasm of Sue Inniss, Sharon Haynie, Marcia Keener, and Kristin Kelley was infectious and inspired participants and organizers alike.

A post-session evaluation by the students was uniformly positive. We hope to offer this type of program again in rotation with workshops for college-age women, graduate students, and postdocs. The speakers, students, program committee, sponsors, and our friends at USP are to be congratulated on the success of the event. Accompanying photos depict the speakers (minus Erica Martin), the students at registration, and a portion of the Workshop audience. (A video tape of the program is available through our chapter library. Contact Ellie Cantor (ecantor@cjres.com) to borrow the tape. There is also an accompanying resource pack that lists some science career websites and information.)

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In the News

There was a nice write-up in the Daily Pennsylvanian about our November 6th meeting featuring Dr. Linda Greenbaum and held at the University of PA. To view the article, go to: http://www.dailypennsylvanian.com/vnews/display.v/ART/2002/11/11/3dcf8ceeda7cf?in_archive=1

Dr. Davies pointed out that the Meredith cited in the article is actually Meredith Chiaccio, not Abramson.

If you haven't joined (or rejoined) AWIS, please consider doing so. Your membership dues help support our section and allow us to present programs of interest to all. Contact Edyth Malin for membership forms.

E-mail addresses

Angela Steel, Ph.D., President
Angela_Steel-1@gsk.com

Eleni Anni, Ph.D., Past-President
Eleni.Anni@mail.tju.edu

Nancy Rawson, Ph.D., President-Elect
rawson@monell.org

Diane VanHekken, Ph.D., Vice-President
dvanhekken@arserrc.gov

Janet Graden, Ph.D., Recording Secretary
Janet_Graden@yahoo.com

Suzanne McCahan, Ph.D., Mailing Secretary
smmccaha@NEMOURS.org

Anne-Marie Inglis, Ph.D., Treasurer
Anne_Marie_L_Inglis@gsk.com

Edyth Malin, Ph.D., Membership
emalin@arserrc.gov

Ellie Cantor, Ph.D., Librarian
ecantor@cjres.com

Ellie Brown, Ph.D., E-mail List
ebrown@arserrc.gov

Sheryl Meyer, Ph.D., Newsletter Editor
smeyer@cephalon.com

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Many new members have joined since the beginning of 2002. Please be sure to introduce yourself when you see them at our upcoming meetings:

Stacey Allen, Christy Beal, Karen Buchkovich-Sass, Carolyn Cannuscio, Sylvia de Bruin, Lauren Michelle DeSalle, Kelly George, Dawn Harper, Nicole Javelly, Danielle Kreeger, Katie Laux, Catherine Mancuso, Rachel Ann Merz, Janeta Nikolovski, Jennifer Phillips, Sonia Planey, Elizabeth Pollina, Stacey Polsky, Mathilde Poussin, Phoebe Qi, Amy Rosborough, Mary Ann Seltzer, Debra L. Simpson, Patricia Spera, Anu P Thomas

We have been approached by the Philadelphia Weekly for suggestions of women scientists for them to interview for an upcoming article on "Women on the Verge". They are looking to include women scientists that are early in their careers who are doing cutting-edge research. Please forward your suggestions to Eleni Anni at Eleni.Anni@mail.tju.edu.