



ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE

PALO ALTO CHAPTER

<http://www.pa-awis.org/>

<http://www.awis.org/>

January/February 2004

From the President

by Michelle Boytim

Welcome to the New Year! I am sure we all are looking forward to a fresh start. Last year was a rough one for job prospects, and I know we are all hoping for a better one this year. For those of you who are out of work or transitioning to a new role, being involved with an organization like AWIS can help fill “holes” in your resume. You can demonstrate leadership skills, project management, budgeting, and mentoring through your AWIS experience. For more information on how to fit volunteer work into your resume, please visit the following sites:

<http://charityguide.org/charity/motivation/resume.htm>

http://www.hotjobs.com/htdocs/tools/search/Volunteering_A_GiveandTake_Experience__2003710-1657-us.html

Speaking of volunteers, I would like to thank Anna Chinn and Lalitha Subramanian for serving as our Membership Co-chairs. They will step down later this year, and will be greatly missed. If you are interested in helping out with Membership, please email the Committee at awis_pa@yahoo.com or you can sign up on our website: www.pa-awis.org.

Upcoming Programs and Events

JANUARY

Jan 12 – Sacramento Valley AWIS Chapter Meeting: Time Management Seminar

Jan 14 – Palo Alto AWIS Chapter Meeting: The Feminine Face of Leadership in Science, PARC Auditorium

Jan 27 – Palo Alto AWIS Mentoring Meeting, 7-9pm

FEBRUARY

Feb 4 – BioE2E “First Wednesday each month”

Feb 12 – Palo Alto AWIS Chapter Meeting: Decision Making, PARC Auditorium

For more information on these upcoming events, please see flyers on pages 6 and 7, and Calendar of Events on page 8.

Editor’s Note

by Angelie Agarwal

This issue of the newsletter focuses on the upcoming elections at the local (PA-AWIS) and national (AWIS Executive Board) levels. You can read about the elections, as well as descriptions of all Palo Alto-AWIS board positions—which will be up for election in April. Becoming a board member is a great way to keep that New Year’s resolution to volunteer and get involved in the community!

Reasons to Join AWIS-Palo Alto

by Fong-Yih Bih, VP

AWIS-Palo Alto is a local nonprofit organization, with programs for mentoring, community outreach and professional development. We are an organization where you can:

- Network and receive support from other women in science and technology.
- Problem-solve with others who have been where you are now.
- Develop leadership skills and strategies to advance your career.
- Project a voice with impact on national issues such as science education, gender equity, career advancement and federal policy.
- Promote opportunities for women
- Exercise your commitment to foster the next generation of women in science.

To join AWIS-Palo Alto and National AWIS, sign up on our web page: www.pa-awis.org.

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Meeting Highlight: Winter Networking Social and Recipe Exchange

by Staff Correspondent

The December chapter meeting brought the masses to PARC, armed with a variety of desserts ranging from cookies to cakes. The meeting allowed people to network and exchange information in an informal setting, while sampling an array of contributions for the recipe exchange. The most popular recipe of the night was a perennial favorite: chocolate fudge.



A sampling of the desserts at the Winter Networking Social/Recipe Exchange



PA-AWIS member enjoying the selection of desserts

Focus On: ELECTIONS

Calling for Nominations

by Chapter President, Michelle Boytim

Our chapter elections will be coming up in April and all board positions will be up for election, including President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Member-at-Large. Several board members have reached their term limits, so there is a special need for nominations this year.

President: responsible for holding board meetings 2-3 times per year, serves as the primary contact person with National AWIS, and submits a report on Chapter Activities to National once per year.

Vice-President: assists the President with chapter activities, fills in for the President in her absence.

Secretary: takes meeting minutes during board meetings, submits a board meeting report to the board members and the Newsletter, and maintains the chapter archive.

Treasurer: receives all chapter dues and donations, maintains financial records and the chapter bank account, writes checks for chapter expenses, and creates an annual financial report.

Member-at-Large: serves to break any ties in voting during a board meeting, works with the other board members to make sure the interests of the members are served by the chapter.

You are welcome to self-nominate. Please send nominations to the nominating committee at pa_webteam@yahoo.com. Questions or want to find out more? Contact our board members through our website on the Meet the Board page.

National AWIS Executive Board Election

by Staff Correspondent

The following AWIS Executive Board positions are up for election: secretary, treasurer, and 2 councilors. To view instructions for voting, candidates' statements, and a fax ballot please go to <http://www.awis.org/elections>. All ballots must be received by January 1, 2004, to be counted. Your opinion is important, please vote.

We are currently seeking nominations for the 2004 AWIS Fellows. Launched in 1996 as part of the

News and Happenings

Third Mentoring Meeting: January 27, 2004

*by Susan Bernhard and Adina Paytan, Co-Chairs
AWIS Mentoring program*

Ms. Adina Glickman will present a short talk 'Decisions, Decisions' to the AWIS mentoring group on Tuesday Jan 27th, 2004. Adina is Assistant Director for Peer and Academic Support in the Undergraduate Advising Center at Stanford, and she teaches a mini-course on decision analysis in the School of Education. This topic will interest and benefit both mentors and protégées, as we will all come away with practical tips and better skills. As part of the program, Yvonne Thorstenson, Michele Nikoloff and Patti Segarini will offer an interactive panel. These 3 friends were all postdocs at Stanford when they formed a peer-mentoring group with an emphasis on support and decision-making. Their group, called "WET" - Women of Exceptional Talent, met monthly for about 3 years, during which time each member transitioned into the workplace and started her professional career. We'll learn how to form a group, how meetings can be structured to foster decision-making, and hear examples of how the process helped. For more information about this program or to RSVP, send email to mentoring_awis@yahoo.com before Jan 23rd.

Meeting Registration

by Programs Committee and Refreshment Committee

We are implementing a new registration system for meetings through Acteva. This will assist us to make sure that we have enough food at each meeting and will help us to speed up the sign-in process at the check-in table. Just go to

www.acteva.com/go/pa-awis

to RSVP for the next meeting. The meeting will still be free, so there is no charge to you to RSVP, although we will still request a donation at the meeting to help cover the cost of refreshments. Thank you for your patience while we implement this new system.

National AWIS Fellows

by Staff Correspondent

celebration of the 25th anniversary of AWIS, the Fellow Program aims to recognize and honor women and men who have demonstrated exemplary commitment to the achievement of equity for women in science and technology. All elected Fellows will be honored at the AWIS annual reception to be held in conjunction with the AAAS annual meeting in Seattle on Sunday, February 15, 2004. Please send your nominee's contact information, a short paragraph detailing his or her achievements, and your contact information to Emily Rasmussen at rasmussen@awis.org before December 15, 2003. We encourage all chapters to nominate a member.

Why Network?

by P.A. Moore and Susan Bernhard

Networking is important for overall knowledge: for example to stay current in ancillary fields in order to better capitalize on resources, technology and advances being made. It can also help me take advantage of work others have done that may be applicable to work I am doing.

Networking is important to help students and subordinates. If as an academic I am supervising workers, then those workers might have come from (or be going to) industry, and having a colleague in industry for informal reference might be very helpful.

I frequently have students asking me for job opportunities, and I feel that I have to know something about the larger scientific environment in order to foster other people's growth and development, especially when a student isn't suited for the field she is in, or is dissatisfied for some reason.

Networking is important to me on a personal level. Some networking can be done at work with colleagues both in and out of my own department. There may be times when I need perspective on a work related topic, but if it is a sensitive subject and I can't talk about it within my own department, then I need contacts in an external network.

Finally, I'm preparing for the future. Funding in academic settings is not plentiful or guaranteed. Job security in industry is a thing of the past. Change and growth are inevitable. Who can say if or when I might need that external network somewhere down the road?

AWIS meetings are a great place to network, whether the stated purpose of the program is dedicated to networking or not. The informal social time before AWIS meetings allows the opportunity to exchange business cards and meet new people, as well as catch up with old friends. If I make an effort to follow-up with new acquaintances by sending an email after we meet, my network will flourish and be

there to help me (or my co-workers) when it is needed.

In the Community

Recognition Awards

by NCC Committee

It's time for the first call for recognition award nominations. The NCC-AWIS Annual Recognition Awards will be presented in April. So who has helped you or women you know to become a science professional?

Each year NCC-AWIS presents awards to women who have combined pursuing their own careers with support of other women in science. Training and education in science is not enough. We each need to find our individual ways of using our science and developing a professional life and career. In honoring individual women, AWIS recognizes the importance of mentoring and of teaching and sharing with others more than just the content and techniques or our science.

Two awards go to women working in research or technological advancements in academia or industry: one to a woman established in her field, one to a woman early in her career. A third award, the Distinguished Professional Award, is for women who are using their science away from the bench.

To nominate a woman who merits recognition, send a letter of nomination explaining how the nominee meets the criteria for the award and a brief resume or CV giving the nominee's educational background, current position/career, and notable achievements in service to women in science. A full resume or CV and bibliography is not necessary. The scientific and career achievements are usually readily discernable. Assisting other women in professional growth and career development is harder for those not directly involved to see. For more information, visit our website www.pa-awis.org/BanquetAwards.htm

Send nominations by February 15 to Mary Alice Yund, yund@worldnet.att.net.

Call for Nominations

by NCC AWIS Chapter Rep, Nancy Jennerjohn

In April 2004, hundreds of women from the four the Northern California Chapters of AWIS will gather together at Genentech to celebrate the 10th Annual Recognition Awards Banquet. Three awards will be presented that night: the Judith Poole Award, the Ellen Weaver Award and the Distinguished Professional Award. It's your party!

Who will this years recipients be? This is ***your chance*** to nominate a fabulous woman who deserves to be praised and recognized. Guidelines are general so women with different life experiences can qualify (see description of awards that follows). The nomination process is easy. Send a letter to your chapter President, NCC chapter rep or directly to Mary Alice Yund (yund@worldnet.att.net) describing the nominee's accomplishments. A formal CV is not required. Nominations are accepted during January and February.

About the Awards

About the Awards, What They're For

The Judith Pool Award is named after the first President of National AWIS who was a Professor of Medicine (Hematology) at Stanford and mother of three until her death in 1975. The Judith Pool award is given to a senior scientist who has a distinguished research track, and been an active role model and mentor for other women in science.

The Ellen Weaver Award is named after a Palo Alto member who is past-President of National AWIS and Professor Emeritus of Genetics at San Jose State University. The Ellen Weaver award is given to one who is a junior level scientist, who has been an active role model and mentor for other women in science.

The Distinguished Professional Award honors a woman using her science outside the laboratory, who has mentored and promoted the careers of other women in science.

Be a Voice for Policymakers

by Mirella Bucci

You may never notice the effects of the recent announcement of the Bush administration's plans to deal with mercury pollution, or their plans to make it more difficult for foreign scientists to work in the US, but eventually a policy decision made by Congress will affect you and your work. I recently spoke with Stephanie Lornager of the DC-based American Federation of Scientists (AFS) about how scientists might get involved in shaping the opinions of our representatives. With the dissolution of the Office of Technology and Assessment, keeping Congress abreast of science and technology has fallen on the less-equipped General Accounting Office and the National Academy of Sciences.

Did you know that less than 5% of the approximately 535 Congressional members have any scientific or technical training at all? Do you think it is important to be heard by the leaders that make policies affecting you and your work? Do you know how your representatives have voted? Do you think that they had input from scientists? Various groups, including the AFS and the Stanford-based Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC) encourage your participation in giving voices to scientists. Check out <http://www.senate.gov/> and <http://www.house.gov/writerep/>, to find out how you can send a letter to your Senator or Congressperson. Most of them have local offices where you might also be able to talk to a staffperson. Think about inviting them to visit your labs, make mention of their recent voting status on NIH or NSF issues, basically, do whatever you can to keep the issues that face scientists at the forefront of your Congressperson's mind. If they haven't already, policies made by your leaders will affect you, with or without your input.

Bridging the Gap Science Career Roundtable Discussion Group

AWIS Palo Alto Chapter wants to know your opinion on launching a new program. This program would be designed to help the advancement of women's science careers, and to promote networking opportunities among members. Please send your opinions to AWIS_survey@yahoo.com. If you support the program, please indicate which topic

would be of most interest to you. A program called "science career roundtable discussion group" will be organized for members to meet and discuss a particular career path at a convenient time and location. Several senior women leaders in the field will be invited to share personal experiences on: what are the requirements to get into a particular field, what personal traits will help that particular career path, where to find resources, how to do well, what is the next step after doing well in the position, etc. This is in addition to our regular monthly program and will be in a small group setting.

Each event will be limited to 10-20 participants with priority to members. The event is free to all AWIS members, but an additional \$10 will be charged to non-members. A coordinator will be assigned to host, communicate with discussion leaders, and facilitate the process.

Possible Topics:

Academia, Bioinformatics, Business Development, Business Consulting, Executive Officer, Clinical Trial, Executive Recruiting, Marketing, Preclinical Trial, Patent Agent, Patent Attorney, Process Development, Project Management, R & D in a Start-up, Medical Writing, Science Education

Please let us know if launching this program would be of interest or benefit to you. Please submit to AWIS_survey@yahoo.com.

Volunteer Opportunities

L'Oreal Fellowship Reviewers

by Staff Correspondent

AWIS and the AWIS Educational Foundation are in immediate need of many reviewers for fellowship applications to the new graduate and postdoctoral fellowships sponsored by L'Oreal USA. We need reviewers with expertise in astronomy, biology (cell, developmental, ecology, evolution, genetics, molecular, neuro, physiology, virology, etc.), chemistry, computer science, engineering (bio, chemical, civil, environmental, mechanical, etc.), math, physics. Applications will be sent to reviewers in early January and reviews will be due about four weeks later. Each reviewer will receive about 15 applications and be asked to select the best one and prepare a one-page written review on only that application. Interested members should send an email to Barbara Filner at awisedfd@aol.com, with a brief resume attached (field of expertise, education, professional experience) in addition to their contact information. Help us select promising graduate students and postdocs for these important awards.

AWIS Banquet

the NCC AWIS Banquet in April. Work with our caterers to pick out the perfect menu for the event. Contact Michelle Boytim at mlboytim@yahoo.com.

We are looking for someone to help plan the menu for

Beata Lewis

The Feminine Face of Leadership in Science: Do You Recognize Yourself?

Beata Lewis is a coach to highly accomplished leaders, especially women in technology and science. Applying a somatic orientation to coaching that integrates mind, body, heart and spirit, Beata helps individuals and teams develop awareness and implement practices to achieve tangible and sustainable improvements in leadership, trust building and collaboration.

Following a brief overview of findings from the study she conducted in early 2003, Beata Lewis will share insights about essential leadership awareness and skills for women leading in science. Over 50% of participants in the Feminine Face of Leadership in Science study are AWIS members. From her perspective as a leadership coach, Beata will share highlights about what the highly accomplished women she spoke with face and what they need as they strive to make valued contributions and succeed as leaders in what remain male-dominated professions.

DATE:	Wednesday, January 14, 2004
TIME:	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
LOCATION:	PARC Auditorium 3333 Coyote Hill Rd, Palo Alto

Schedule

7:00-7:30 pm	Networking and light supper
7:30-7:45 pm	Announcements
7:45-8:45 pm	Program
8:45-9:00 pm	Discussion

PLEASE RSVP at <http://www.acteva.com/go/pa-awis>

- **Welcome!! Meetings are open to the public. We ask for a \$5 donation at the door to help offset meeting expenses.**
 - ***All scientists, students, and their friends are welcome. Men too!***

Directions from the North:

Take Hwy 280 SOUTH, exit at Page Mill Rd and at the bottom of the ramp turn LEFT and head towards Palo Alto. Turn RIGHT onto Coyote Hill Road. PARC (formerly Xerox PARC) is on the left, just past the crest of the hill. The Auditorium is at the north end of the parking lot (down steps) – look for AWIS signs.

Directions from the South:

Take Hwy 280 NORTH, exit at Page Mill Road, turn RIGHT at the bottom of the off ramp and head up hill towards Palo Alto. Turn RIGHT onto Coyote Hill Road. PARC is on the left, (follow directions above).

ALTERNATE: Take Hwy 101, exit at Oregon Expressway heading west towards Stanford. As you cross El Camino, Oregon is renamed Page Mill Road. Follow Page Mill Road WEST, cross Foothill Expressway, and take a LEFT on Coyote Hill Road. PARC is on the left, (follow directions above to Auditorium).

LOCAL (from Stanford): Take Foothill SOUTH towards Los Altos, and turn RIGHT at Page Mill Road heading WEST. Turn LEFT onto Coyote Hill Road. PARC is on the left, (follow directions above to Auditorium). See also <http://www.parc.com/company/directions.html>

Don't Take Yourself Out of Decision Making

By Darlene Crane
President of PCI Crane Consulting

- Do you wonder how you can make better decisions about your career?
- Do you face the conflicts between your scientific or technical background and the demands of business?
- Decision making capability is critical to everyone's career.

Darlene Crane, author, educator and advisor in improving business performance through excellence in decision making will share tools and insights from developing decision making capability across organizations.

DATE:	Thursday, Feb. 12, 2004
TIME:	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
LOCATION:	PARC Auditorium 3333 Coyote Hill Rd, Palo Alto

Schedule

7:00-7:30 pm	Networking and light supper
7:30-7:45 pm	Announcements
7:45-8:45 pm	Program
8:45-9:00 pm	Discussion

PLEASE RSVP at <http://www.acteva.com/go/pa-awis>

***Welcome!! This Meeting is free. You don't need to be a Member to attend.
All scientists, students, and their friends are welcome. Men too!***

Directions from the North:

Take Hwy 280 SOUTH, exit at Page Mill Rd and at the bottom of the ramp turn LEFT and head towards Palo Alto. Turn RIGHT onto Coyote Hill Road. PARC (formerly Xerox PARC) is on the left, just past the crest of the hill. Enter main door and look for signs to the Auditorium.

Directions from the South:

Take Hwy 280 NORTH, exit at Page Mill Road, turn RIGHT at the bottom of the off ramp and head up hill towards Palo Alto. Turn RIGHT onto Coyote Hill Road. PARC is on the left, (follow directions above).

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See also <http://www.parc.com/company/directions.html>

CALENDAR of EVENTS

**ebAWIS Chapter Meeting:
January/February**

ebAWIS sponsored event:

January 2004 TLC - Women Business Owners of Scientific / Hi-Tech Ventures, Number of spaces available: 6. They represent large, established companies as well as new ventures. Beata C. Lewis, Bridging Lives 415-332-8338

beata@bridginglives.com or see <http://www.TLCforWomenLeaders.com>

**Palo Alto Chapter Meeting:
January/February**

Wednesday, January 14, 2004
7:00-9:00 pm

The Feminine Face of Leadership in Science: Do You Recognize Yourself?
Beata Lewis

PARC Auditorium
3333 Coyote Hill Road, Palo Alto

Thursday, February 12, 2004
7:00-9:00 pm

Don't Take Yourself Out of Decision Making
Darlene Crane

PARC Auditorium
3333 Coyote Hill Road, Palo Alto

See flyers on page 6 and 7 for details

BioScience Forum

www.bioE2E.org

**sfAWIS Chapter Meeting:
January/February**

For details, please visit:
www.nccawis.org/chapters/sfawis/sfAWISHome.html

WILS

Women Leaders in Science
Seminar Series

Parnassus HSW 300
UCSF

For details, please visit:
<http://itsa.ucsf.edu/~wils/WILS.html>

**Institute for Women and
Technology**

www.iwt.org

**Sacramento AWIS Chapter
Meeting**

Monday, January 12, 2004
7:00 pm

Time Management Seminar

Community Room of Willows
Apartment Complex
1959 Lake Blvd
Davis, CA

For details, please visit:
www.nccawis.org/chapters/sacvalley/sacvalleyhp.html

**Professional Business
Women of California**

May 4, 2004

15th Annual PBWC Conference

Moscone Center
San Francisco

For details, please visit:
www.pbwc.org

**Healthcare
Businesswoman's
Association**

www.hbanet.org/chapters/sanfran.asp

**Women Chemist's
Committee**

www.calacs.org

**ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN
IN SCIENCE
PALO ALTO CHAPTER**

<http://www.pa-awis.org/>
<http://www.awis.org/>

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Chapter dues \$25.00 per year. Student/unemployed \$10.00. Membership in National AWIS required. Pick up an application at a chapter meeting or visit the web site!



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