

May-June 2007

May 16
Meeting

Ethical Dilemmas in
Delivering the
Benefits of Genetic
and Genomic
Research
Dr. Sally Tobin
p. 10

June 13
Meeting

Networking Social
p. 11

13th Annual
Recognition
Awards and
Banquet

p. 3-6

Job Listings

p. 7



Newsletter

Association for Women in Science Palo Alto Chapter Newsletter

President's Note:

By Rachel Harte

During May, we had the annual NCC-AWIS Awards Banquet on Wednesday May 2nd. It was a wonderful evening of camaraderie, networking and recognition of women. It was very well attended - we had over 100 attendees. Firstly, the East Bay and Palo Alto chapters honored their scholarship recipients with certificates. These were all deserving young women from junior college who received awards to help them to get started in their chosen careers. Palo Alto presented three scholarships to students from De Anza College. This included the Iris Ferber Memorial Scholarship. Following this, awards were

presented to three very inspiring women who have been active in mentoring and supporting other women in science (see page 3 for more news of the Banquet). This month we have a very interesting and exciting program for you with Dr. Sally Tobin from Stanford University who will be talking about **Bioethics** (see flyer on p. 10). This is very timely in the era of genomics and with the advent of personalized medicine. For June 13, we have one of our popular **networking socials** (p. 11). Please join us for ice-cream and to practice your introduction and make new contacts.



13th Annual Recognition Awards and Banquet

SURVEY

Are you interested in a quicker way to network, in addition to or when you can't make the meetings? Now you have options! Everyone on the mailing list has been invited to our Google group. Look for your LinkedIn invitation too.

* Group name: Palo Alto AWIS

* Group home page: <http://groups.google.com/group/pa-awis?hl=en>

* Group email address pa-awis@googlegroups.com

Have any more ideas for getting the most out of AWIS? Join the membership committee. It can be a great way to

EVENTS Calendar

**For a convenient listing of these and future meetings, link from your gmail account to our Google calendar, [awis.pa@gmail.com!](mailto:awis.pa@gmail.com)*

**Looking for a particular topic? Help us plan our future speakers and meeting topics by contacting Ashley at afouts@stanford.edu.*

May 9 – SF AWIS networking social. See www.sfawis.com.

May 12 -- 5K run/walk or Half Marathon in Alameda to support Girls Inc., an afterschool program in Alameda, helping girls be strong, smart, bold! They do a lot of hands-on science stuff (among other things) in a positive, fun environment. Please pass the word around.

http://www.active.com/event_detail.cfm?event_id=1397206

May 16 – Palo Alto bioethics and genomics meeting (see flyer and www.pa-awis.org)

May 16 – Biosf.org hosts Ivan Lieberburg, MD, PhD, Executive Vice President & Chief Medical Officer from Elan Pharmaceuticals in Millbrae, \$35-45.

May 22 – Mentoring committee's last meeting of the year, a wine and cheese event on Stanford campus. RSVP to mentoring_awis@yahoo.com by May 18th

May 24 – Our vice president Mirella Bucci, editor at Nature Chemical Biology, will speak at the East Bay AWIS meeting at Novartis in Emeryville: "Is Academia the Alternative Career for PhDs? (and how to get published in Nature)". See www.ebawis.org.

June 12 - Gregg Alton, Gilead speaks of Bio2Device Group. These meetings are held on Tuesdays starting at 8:30 AM at 505 West Olive, Sunnyvale, Room 510. www.biodevicegroup.org.

June 13—Palo Alto networking meeting (see flyer and www.pa-awis.org) and SF AWIS mentor panel (www.sfawis.com)

June 20 – Biosf.org meets in Millbrae with Professor James A. Wells, PhD, from UCSF.

July 11 – SF AWIS networking social

July 18 – Biosf.org meets in Millbrae with co-founder of Theravance.

Tuesday, July 17 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m --

Precision Questioning Workshop

Asking insightful questions makes all business interactions more productive. Former physicist and faculty at Stanford's Center for Teaching and Learning, Dr. Dennis Matthies shares his insights from years in corporate training through his company www.verago.com.

Hilton San Jose
300 Almaden Boulevard
San Jose, California
\$595

July 26 – East Bay AWIS meeting at UC Berkeley with Christina Galitsky, LBNL inventor who is helping women in Darfur and water quality in India and China, and was named one of MIT Review's 35 top Inventors under 35 in 2006.

Sept. 27 -- East Bay AWIS meeting at UC Berkeley with Mina Bissell, Distinguished Scientist from LBNL. She is a pioneering breast cancer researcher and former head of LBNL Life Sciences Division.

Election Results

by staff correspondent



The results of the Executive Board elections for the Palo Alto Chapter have been tabulated. Congratulations to all! The elected Board for Palo Alto Chapter for the term June 30, 2007- July 1, 2008:

President, Rachel Harte
Vice-President, Mirella Bucci
Member-at-Large, Neesha Suvarna
Treasurer, Chitra C
Secretary, Josephine Salcedo

This is a good time to say THANK YOU to the Officers and Committee Chairs who have worked so tirelessly for us all year. We are very fortunate to have several Board members offer to run for different elected offices so that the collective experience is staying on the Board. Of course it is nice to have fresh faces on the Board too – our thanks to newcomers Neesha, Chitra and Josephine who have joined the Board this year. We invite anyone who is interested in serving on a Committee, or learning more about the Board, to please say 'hello' and offer your services at the next chapter meeting on May 16th.

PA-AWIS Volunteer Appreciation Picnic: Thank you Susan for Hosting!!

AWIS board and committee members, new and old, enjoyed each other's company April 28th at a lovely thank-you party. Long-time mentoring chair, past president and hike leader Susan Bernhard graciously offered her garden and grill. We enjoyed great goodies, creative crafts (see our new badges) and lively conversation with fellow women scientists and their families. Please contact the board if you are interested in future events.

Summer Reading List

by staff correspondent

We encourage everyone to gradually build a personal library of books for her own career development, inspiration, leadership training - and to share with others. Books can provide much needed perspective and insight. Palo Alto is always on the lookout for books that can be given away as door prizes, at the Awards Banquet, mentoring meetings and chapter meetings throughout the year. (Perhaps you have been a lucky door-prize winner?)

If you have, why not write a book review for the next newsletter?!



Here are 14 books that were given away at the NCC-AWIS Awards Banquet:

Office Yoga, Darren Zeer
 The Creative Habit, Twyla Tharp
 Blink, Malcolm Gladwell
 Every Other Thursday, Ellen Daniell
 Three Cups of Tea - Greg Mortenson
 Dilbert and the Way of the Weasel - Scott Adams
 The Female of the Species - Joyce Carol Oates
 The Monk Who Sold His Ferrari - Robin Sharma
 Brag! The Art of Tooting Your Own Horn Without Blowing It - Peggy Klaus
 The Google Story - David Vise
 The Art of Imperfection - Veronique Vienne
 The Tipping Point - Malcolm Gladwell
 Social Intelligence - Daniel Goleman
 The Leadership Moment - Michael Useem

13th Annual Recognition Awards and Banquet

by staff correspondent

The Annual Awards and Recognition Banquet is our big annual AWIS PARTY, the gala event of the year for women in science. It was held at the Doubletree Hotel in Burlingame, with superb arrangements made by Katie Templin. We were delighted that more than 100 people attended. The wine flowed freely, service was great and the food was delicious from appetizers to dessert.

The highlight of the evening is always the Awards and Scholarships. Rachel Harte our President and Scholarship Chair presented scholarships to 3 deserving students from DeAnza College: Claudia Caballero, Uyen Pham and Nithakan Chou. The 2007 Judith Pool award was given to Ann Reisenauer, PhD. The 2007 Ellen Weaver award was presented to Adina Paytan, PhD (Geological and Environmental Science, Stanford University), and Monica Rosoff, PhD (Genentech) received the 2007 Distinguished Professional Award. Photos of the event will be posted on our website.

Ellen Weaver attended the Banquet and helped present the awards. This grand lady of science was the very first Membership Chair of AWIS back in the 70's and she served as National AWIS President in the 80's. Ellen worked on the Manhattan Project in WWII and later taught at San Jose State. Now retired, Ellen lives in Marin County but still remains a great supporter of AWIS. She brought her granddaughter and a friend to the event this year. Ellen has witnessed in her lifetime the tremendous gains that women in science have made. Ellen encouraged us to

keep AWIS strong by volunteering and being active members.



Let's not take what we have now for granted. The program was inspiring and uplifting. Each of the award winners stressed that she had not done anything remarkable – but only what was needed. Acknowledging there is a need for mentoring at all levels, Monica emphasized that you get as much goodness in return, every time you do. All the speakers emphasized that the future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams. Adina pointed out the need to work for a culture

change in academia, to place value on qualities such as collaboration, and the human perspective, as well as science. Ann reminded us that there's a time for learning, earning and returning in life. Paraphrasing Ghandi, Ann said 'you need to be the kind of change you want to see in the world'.

If you missed the Banquet this year, please plan to join us next year. It is worth every penny, great people and a great event.

NCC-AWIS events are a joint effort by the three Bay Area AWIS chapters, but there is always a core group who

takes the lead. Katie Templin, Rachel Harte and Mirella Bucci were key organizers. Mary Alice Yund (NCC) prepared the program and acted as MC. Other contributors include Violet Votin, Martha Murari, Cathie Magowan, Kitty De Jong, Katy Korsmeyer, Ashley Fouts, Lachelle Arnt and Susan Bernhard. These ladies did behind-the-scenes tasks that made this a memorable evening and a wonderful success. Thank you ALL!







Mentoring Meeting -May 22

By Adina Paytan and Susan Bernhard, co-Chairs '06-07

May 22nd has been chosen as the date for our final program, 7p-9p, at Stanford University. Please RSVP to mentoring_awis@yahoo.com by May 18th if you plan to come. The speaker, program and location of this meeting are still being worked out, but please put the date on your calendar. We can tell you there will be a wine-and-cheese social before the program and, it will be worth your time. All AWIS members are welcome – but be prepared to be asked to volunteer as a mentor for next year!

March Meeting Highlights:

By Ashley Fouts

Submarine groundwater discharge and coral reef sustainability - Adina Paytan PhD.

How does all that *E.coli* get into the oceans? What impact do humans have on coastal waters? Dr. Adina Paytan answered these questions in a fantastic talk about how groundwater reaches and affects near shore ocean water. Dr. Paytan explained that subsurface groundwater brings all sorts of contaminants, nutrients, and sediment into the

oceans. This can be a particular problem when these contaminants are toxic to humans or to coral reefs, which tend to live in shallow coastal waters.

Paytan's group can be found at numerous sites around the world filtering massive amounts of water to determine the contribution of fresh groundwater in seawater. The group measures the minute particles of radium that wash into the ocean in submarine groundwater. Dr. Paytan made the complex calculations involved in enabling comparisons between different regions seem very simple so everyone in the audience felt like an expert.

All of us in the audience were surprised with the group's findings that unsafe levels of *E.coli* at one California beach (Huntington) coincided with the highest tides of each month indicating that the increased bacteria were coming from the sand and subsurface water. This work showed that sand does not effectively strain out bacteria and that these microorganisms are easily washed into the oceans. The knowledge that *E.coli* are entering the ocean in submarine groundwater hopefully will enable efforts to reduce this occurrence!



Jobs Jobs Jobs....

Job opportunity at Stanford:

I am looking for a fixed term part-time research assistant in charge of in vivo animal studies. This position is in the Department of Medicine, Division of Blood and Marrow Transplantation, Stanford University, investigating

hematopoietic stem cell transplantation for autoimmune diseases. We have been researching in two preclinical animal models -- spontaneously arising Type 1 diabetes in NOD mice and experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis, a form of multiple sclerosis -- and we have gotten some encouraging data.

Qualifications: Undergraduate or graduate in biological sciences or related field; must be technically adept.

Contact: Dr. Li-Fen Lee at (650) 725-2988.

Genentech Opportunities and Preferred Qualifications

For 30 years, **Genentech** has been at the forefront of the biotechnology industry, using human genetic information to develop novel medicines for serious and life-threatening diseases. Today, Genentech is among the world's leading biotech companies, with multiple therapies on the market for cancer and other unmet medical needs. The company is the leading provider of anti-tumor therapeutics in the United States.

Our founders believed that hiring highly talented, enthusiastic people would make Genentech a success. Today, we still believe our employees are our most important asset. At Genentech, we aim to provide employees with a stimulating and collaborative environment where they can make important contributions and thrive as professionals. Our culture is characterized by a commitment to science, a dedication to patients and a respect for individuals and their contributions.

As we work to deliver the next generation of breakthrough medicines, we remain committed to our employees and unique culture. Genentech is dedicated to fostering an environment that is inclusive and encourages diversity of thought, style, skills and perspective. To learn more about our existing products, research and pipeline go to www.gene.com. For a complete list of current positions, visit www.gene.com/careers. Genentech is an equal opportunity employer.

- Full-Time employment
- Post-Doctoral Fellowships

Three year assignments following the completion of Ph.D. Conduct research alongside world-renowned scientists.

- Internships

Undergraduate & Graduate, 10-12 weeks full-time (May-September)

To be eligible for an internship, students must have completed their sophomore year at an accredited college or university and must have plans to return to school in the following term.

Work full-time during the summer and part-time during the school year

Augment your education with hands-on work experience

Typical Majors

Disciplines (B.S., M.S., Ph.D., M.D.)

- Medical Degree
- Biomedical/Biochemical Engineering
- Biochemistry
- Chemistry
- Biology
- Molecular Biology
- Pharmacology
- Mathematics/Biostatistics

Senior Process Engineer

SRI International

Menlo Park, CA USA

http://www.tinytechjobs.com/cgi-bin/details?job_id=931

R&D Precision Mechanical/Opto-Mechanical Engineer, 2014723

Agilent Technologies

Santa Clara, CA USA

http://www.tinytechjobs.com/cgi-bin/details?job_id=931

Director Engineering / Manufacturing

Thin Film Photo-Voltaic Company

Silicon Valley, CA USA

http://www.tinytechjobs.com/cgi-bin/details?job_id=944

Post Doc Fellowship - Molecules for Advanced Patterning and

Nanoelectronics

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Berkeley, CA USA

http://www.tinytechjobs.com/cgi-bin/details?job_id=939

Senior Researcher, MicroSystems Engineering Center, 2373

SRI International

Menlo Park, CA USA

http://www.tinytechjobs.com/cgi-bin/details?job_id=930

SCHOLARSHIPS

July 12-14, 2007

PURPOSE:

The workshop, funded by the National Science Foundation ADVANCE Program, is intended to provide post-doctoral research fellows and upper-level graduate students, particularly women, in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics with necessary skills to become successful tenure-track faculty in the United States. Special attention is paid to including women from underrepresented groups.

Apply by **May 18** at one must apply on-line

<http://www.umbc.edu/advance/registration07/>

Funds are available to defray the cost of participation.

Please share this announcement widely.

Please email advance@umbc.edu for any additional information or questions. For

the most up-to-date workshop information, please visit www.umbc.edu/advance and click on Faculty Horizons.

The Third Wave Foundation's (<http://www.thirdwavefoundation.org/>)

United States Social Forum Fund provides full scholarships (registration, travel, lodging, and food) for young women activists between the ages of 15 and 30 to attend the United States Social Forum (<http://www.ussf2007.org/>), June 27-July 1, 2007, in Atlanta, Georgia.

The foundation is accepting applications from individuals that are currently working for positive social change in their communities, as part of youth-led and intergenerational organizations, especially those that are multi-issue and multi-strategy.

<http://fconline.fdncenter.org/pnd/10007028/thirdwavefoundation>

Deadline: **May 10**



opportunities to explore science!" --J. Salcedo, Outreach Volunteer.

Outreach

Female Scientists Inspire at Science Festival

by staff

Two female scientists, Josephine Salcedo and Shabnam Siddiqui, volunteered for 4 hours on Sunday morning of April Fool's Day to inspire girls with hands-on science at the Sally Ride Science Festival. This year, this annual festival for hundreds of girls and parents was held on the beautiful Santa Clara University campus. Josephine and Shabnam hung our chapter banner and led 2 hands-on activities at the AWIS booth.

Shabnam explored the sensitivity of UV beads by working with girls to make UV indicators on lanyard hooks. Girls took this lesson home with colorful UV indicators on their zippers or backpacks. We hope they will test these out in the future when they put on their sunscreen! Josephine explored the magic of glow sticks by combining question-answer demonstration and presentation. The girls learned about the chemistry behind these common toys and were excited to take glow stick necklaces home. We'll see how long they can make the glow last from their lesson about temperature and chemical reactions!



"I had fun at the Sally Ride Festival. I'm glad I volunteered! We were a popular booth. The girls (and some parents and other adults) were very enthusiastic and interested. I hope they learned some science. It was definitely a worthwhile experience for me. The reactions of the girls were precious. It's great that these girls are given

If you would like to be added to the AWIS Outreach list serve to volunteer and inspire in our community, please send an email to <kuokaty@scientist.com> or sign up on our chapter web site www.pa-awis.org.

Workshop for Budding Scientists in High School

By Rachel Harte

On Saturday March 17th, many young high school women gathered at UC Santa Cruz for the annual EYH workshops. A co-worker, a graduate student and I presented two workshops titled "The Genome: A Scavenger Hunt". Firstly, we introduced ourselves and gave some background on how we got into a career in bioinformatics and talked about the how it is both fascinating and exciting to work in genomics and be part of world-wide collaborations.



We talked about the human genome sequencing project and then went on to describe the UCSC Genome Browser which is a freely available graphical viewer on the internet for viewing genomes and annotations. A brief introduction to using the Genome Browser was followed by hands-on experience where the girls did a scavenger hunt to search for genes, find DNA sequences and determine if mice can see the color red as well as seeing evidence for human chromosome 2 being a fusion of two chimp chromosomes. Feedback showed that the workshop was well-received, and a number were quite enthusiastic about the field and felt that they had benefited from the experience.



Ethical Dilemmas in Delivering the Benefits of Genetic and Genomic Research

**Speaker: Dr. Sally Tobin,
Senior Research Scholar at Stanford
in the Program for Genomics, Ethics, and Society
at the Stanford Center for Biomedical Ethics**

Innovative genetic technologies are changing the face of medical care as they move from bench discoveries to clinical applications. The potential benefits to individuals and to the public are significant, including individualized treatments, targeted medications, lifestyle changes, and informed reproductive choices. Yet many aspects of the development process involve dilemmas for researchers, research participants, medical professionals, and patients. This talk will present several (mostly) realistic cases that involve aspects of genetics and genomics in current clinical medicine and in research approaches.

DATE:	Wednesday, May 16, 2007
LOCATION:	PARC Auditorium 3333 Coyote Hill Road, Palo Alto
RSVP:	online http://www.acteva.com/go/pa-awis

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

***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!
We ask for a \$3 donation to offset the cost of food.***

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 Foothill/Junipero Serra. Turn RIGHT on Hillview, and the entrance to PARC (formerly Xerox PARC) is the 2nd driveway on the right. Park and follow signs to the Auditorium (walk uphill through parking lot then down a flight of stairs).

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 on Foothill/Junipero Serra and RIGHT again on Hillview. PARC is on the right. Park and follow signs to the Auditorium (walk uphill through parking lot then down a flight of outdoor stairs).

Directions from Stanford: Take Foothill SOUTH towards Los Altos. Turn RIGHT on Hillview and PARC is 2nd driveway on the right. Park and follow signs to the Auditorium (walk uphill through parking lot then down a flight of outdoor stairs).

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

For more info: www.pa-awis.org, or email awis.pa@gmail.com



Annual Networking Social

Join the fun on:

Wednesday, June 13, 2007

Join us for our Annual Networking Social! We will have dinner, desserts, great conversation, and a few fun networking games that will help you get over that initial shyness and have a great time meeting new people with similar interests. Whether you are looking for a new job or a walking buddy, this is the event for you!

Schedule

7:00-7:30 pm	Networking and light supper
7:30-7:45 pm	Announcements
7:45-8:45 pm	Brief welcome and networking overview
8:45-9:00 pm	Networking games and small group discussions

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!

We ask for a \$3 donation to offset the cost of food.

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

For more info and online RSVP: www.pa-awis.org

Email: awis.pa@gmail.com

AWIS Palo Alto Board Members, 2006-2007		
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