Featured Speaker at the AWIS September Meeting:
Gail K. Naughton, Ph.D.
National Inventor of the Year
Source: Advanced Tissue Sciences press release.

Gail K. Naughton, Ph.D., President and Chief Operating Officer of Advanced Tissue Sciences Inc., will be the featured speaker at the next AWIS meeting on Wed. Sept. 6, 6:00pm, at Ligand Pharmaceuticals (see attached flyer).

Dr. Naughton was named the 27th annual National Inventor of the Year on June 28 by the Intellectual Property Owners Association (IPO) in honor of her pioneering work in the field of tissue engineering. As the first individual woman to earn this award, Dr. Naughton is honored for the process she invented to produce human tissues and organs outside of the human body. Her invention utilizes stem cells, which are the cells that form the surrounding matrix of a tissue. These cells are seeded onto a three-dimensional scaffolding and placed in a specially designed “bioreactor” that simulates the body. There the cells multiply in layers, secreting proteins and numerous cellular factors, ultimately forming a tissue matrix. Her pioneering work in tissue engineering has helped define a new industry dedicated to helping the millions of people who suffer tissue loss or end-stage organ failure.

“We are proud of Gail’s achievements and delighted that she is being recognized for the patent which has resulted in the successful development of an exciting portfolio of human-based products,” said Arthur J. Benvenuto, Chairman and CEO of Advanced Tissue Sciences. “Her ingenuity has shown us all that some of the best inventions come about simply by mimicking nature. By observing and learning from the human body, we have been able to develop new tissue engineering technology that may ease suffering and help the body heal itself.”

Dr. Naughton co-founded Advanced Tissue Sciences, Inc. (Nasdaq: ATIS) in order to realize her vision of bridging the gap between patient need and the shortage of tissues and organs for transplantation. Since then, significant advances have been made and numerous scientific challenges have been overcome. The first commercial product using her technology, TransCyte, is used to treat patients with second and third degree burns. A second product for diabetic foot ulcer patients, Dermagraft, is being used in parts of Europe and is in a pivotal clinical trial in the U.S. These products represent advancements in tissue engineering.

Trega Biosciences, Inc. has been supporting AWIS fundraising efforts for several years. In 1997, they were a Platinum level sponsor of the Women In Bioscience conference. In 1998, they sponsored the scholarship program, also at the Platinum level. Their support continued in 1999 and year 2000 at the Gold level for both the Women In Bioscience conference and the scholarship program. We thank Trega for their continuing support and generosity.

Trega Biosciences, Inc. (formerly Houghten Pharmaceuticals) was founded in 1992 and is involved in discovery and development of small molecule therapeutics. Trega’s goal is to rapidly identify new drug candidates that have a high probability of clinical success. They use three approaches to accomplish this goal: combinatorial chemistry, predictive modeling or bioinformatics, and internal drug discovery projects.

Through the use of combinatorial chemistry, Trega has systematically created large “libraries” of possible drug candidates which are then tested for effectiveness against biological targets and made available to customers in their portfolio of drugs, ChemFolio™.

Trega’s subsidiary NaviCyte, along with a consortium of biotech and pharmaceutical companies, developed Trega’s predictive modeling software (IDEA™ - In Vitro Determination for the Estimation of ADME). The software can be used to predict absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion (ADME) of drugs or other substances.

Trega also has an internal drug discovery program involving compounds active against melanocortin receptors, which are important in inflammatory conditions and diabetes. One compound developed at Trega, HP228, is being evaluated in a Phase II clinical trial of patients with post-surgical pain.

For more information about Trega, visit their website at www.trega.com or call 858-410-6500.

Meet our Corporate Sponsors

Women in Bioscience Conference

MARK THE DATE! The next Women In Bioscience Conference will be held May 5, 2001, at the Salk Institute. This day-long conference offers a variety of workshops on careers for women with science backgrounds, as well as issues such as balancing family and career, management skills, and negotiation strategies.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!! We will be forming committees for fund-raising, publications, speakers, conference website, facilities, and publicity. If you are interested in helping to organize this conference, please contact Elaine Weidenhammer at eweidenhammer@nanogen.com. Indicate a committee preference if you have one. The WIB conference is a great way to get more involved in AWIS-SD, so sign up today!

Meet our Corporate Sponsors

Inside this Issue (AWIS September Event, continuation from page 1)}
bioengineering, manufacturing and cryopreservation in an emerging industry that has had to create its own solutions. In addition, cartilage, heart tissue and other organs can be bio-engineered with this unique human-based technology and have the potential of addressing the significant shortage of worldwide donor organs.

The National Inventor of the Year award is the oldest and best-known award for current American inventors from all fields of technology. Winners receive a $5,000 award and Dr. Naughton chose to donate this award, along with a matching amount from Advanced Tissue Sciences, to AWIS in order to provide undergraduate and graduate scholarships. "I am extremely honored to receive this prestigious award," said Dr. Naughton. "I am equally honored to donate the prize money to AWIS so that more women can excel and achieve in the sciences."

"Our inventors are a national resource," said IPO President Ronald E. Myrick. "We should support them in their efforts to develop a constant stream of new products which serve to strengthen the economy and improve our standard of living." The Intellectual Property Owners Association (IPO) is a Washington, DC trade group that honors recent American inventors. The IPO Web site is located at www.ipo.org.

Dr. Naughton received an M.S. and Ph.D. from New York University where she also pursued postdoctoral training. She holds 26 U.S. patents and has published extensively in the field of tissue engineering. More information about Dr. Naughton and Advanced Tissue Sciences can be found on the Internet at www.advancedtissue.com. A replay of the cybercast of the press conference at which Dr. Naughton was named Inventor of the Year is also available on the web site (www.advancedtissue.com).

## San Diego Chapter Welcomes the Following New Members:

- Kelly Andres
- Susan Boensch Meyer
- Cathy Chang
- Erin Corcoran
- Kristin Gillotte-Taylor
- Ashley Hall-Hicklin
- Barbara Kempf

- Lyon & Lyon, LLP
- Lyon & Lyon, LLP
- Digital Gene Technologies, Inc.
- UCSD

## About the AWIS Newsletter

The AWIS Newsletter is published bimonthly and provides AWIS members and supporters with information on chapter activities, career development, and issues related to women in science. The newsletter is free to AWIS members. Subscription rate for non-members is $20 a year.

**Sept/Oct. Newsletter staff:**

- Susan Brown  Christine Haws  Cathy Manner
- Tobey Tam  Barbara Armstrong  Janice Payne

Send news items and subscription requests to Barbara Armstrong via email: bamwis@nether.com or AWIS, PO Box 178096, San Diego, CA 92177-8096. If you would like your article to be included in the next issue, please send it by October 6, 2000.

**July Event:** Speaker Marsha Chandler Ph.D.

*Scaling the Ivory Tower*

by Michelle Krakowski

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**Members on the Move**

Sandy Slivka writes:

About three years ago, I submitted an article to the San Diego AWIS newsletter about my part-time teaching at Miramar College. I wrote: "For the last three years I have been involved in one of the most rewarding community activities a scientist can choose. As an adjunct faculty member of Miramar College, I have had the unique opportunity to nurture students’ interest in the growing biotechnology industry. The program is designed to provide hands-
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE VOLUNTEER NEEDED

The AWIS-SD Membership Committee needs a volunteer to assist in follow-up to inquiries about membership, chapter activities, etc., and to encourage interested women to “actually fill out the membership form.” If you are interested in helping, contact Susi Jennings at sd-awis@san.rr.com.

Non-AWIS Events

Sept 26 - 27
Interphex California (formerly Interphex West)
Long Beach Convention Center
Info: www.biotech-in-la.com/interphex/htm#top

Sept 27, 5:30 - 8:00 pm
San Diego Biotech Discussion Group
Dura Pharmaceuticals
7475 Lusk Blvd., San Diego
Info: www.sdbiotech.org

Sept 28
San Diego Biotechnology Calendar Vendor Show
UCSD Price Hall
10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Info: www.biotech-calendar.com

Oct 30 - 31
CalBioSummit
Hosted by BIOCOM/San Diego, BIO and UCSD Connect
Oct. 30 Career Fair Sponsored by BioSpace.com (Free to attendees)
San Diego Convention Center
Info: www.calbiosummit.org

AWIS Speakers Bureau Director Honored

AWIS would like to thank Diana Hussey for serving as the Director of the Speakers Bureau since 1997. The Speakers Bureau, a program of the Outreach Committee, was one of the ways that AWIS used to encourage young women to study science and to raise the profile of women scientists. Diana, a science teacher at Ray Kroc Middle School, greatly improved our organization’s outreach to the education community and, therefore, the public.

Posting Jobs in the AWIS newsletter: To post a job in the AWIS newsletter, contact Barbara Armstrong via e-mail: baawis@nethere.com or AWIS PO Box: 178096, San Diego CA 92177-8096. AWIS will request a donation of $25.00 per posting to offset the cost of printing and mailing. Deadline for
inclusion in the Nov./Dec. newsletter is October 6, 2000. If submitting by snail mail, be sure to write Attn.: Newsletter Editor on the bottom left corner of the envelope.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT**

![AWIS Logo]

**San Diego Chapter**

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San Diego, CA 92177-8096

**National Chapter**

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**Web Site:** [http://awis.org](http://awis.org)  
**Email:** awis@awis.org  
**Mail:** AWIS National  
1200 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 650  
Washington, DC 20005

Moving? Address change? Please give us your new address so you won’t miss our mailings! You may e-mail Susan Jennings at: sdawis@san.rr.com, phone AWIS voicemail: (619) 687-5580 or mail changes to AWIS – San Diego, PO Box 178096, 92177-8096.

**IMPORTANT CONTACTS**

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