



AWIS NEWSLETTER

ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE

San Diego

Mission Statement: The Association for Women in Science, Inc. (AWIS) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the achievement of equity and full participation of women in all areas of science and technology.

Letter from the President



Dear AWIS-SD Members & Friends,

In my opinion, some of the most rewarding aspects of AWIS-SD is our commitment to supporting the next generation of scientists. As professionals working in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), we serve as positive role models for young women of all ages.

Through our Outreach efforts, we show that science is fun and not just for nerds. I always enjoy volunteering at the various science fairs. My voice becomes hoarse during these demonstrations as I describe how a simple mixture of cornstarch and water, ‘Oobleck,’ has very unusual properties. The kids always have a blast and so do we. Kudos to the Outreach committee and co-chairs Julie Bordowitz and Vicki Hurless for organizing our participation at these events throughout the year.

Recently, I attended a dinner celebrating eight middle and high school girls for their outstanding science projects at the Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair (GSDSEF). Some background—the GSDSEF is an annual event held in March where hundreds of students throughout the county present their original projects at a giant poster session in Balboa Park. Volunteers from various professional societies judge the students’ work. This year, AWIS-SD judges selected six middle school and two high school projects covering topics from bullet-proof materials to computational biology. We hold an awards dinner to celebrate these girls’ achievements, and their families and teachers are invited to attend. I was extremely impressed with these eight young women, not only for the high quality of their science projects, but also because of their strong communication skills and enthusiasm for science. They will go far.

Another longstanding program is the AWIS-SD scholarships,

which encourages and rewards aspiring women scientists studying at local colleges and universities. Since 1996, we have awarded over 60 scholarships to students pursuing associates, bachelors, and graduate degrees in STEM fields where women are underrepresented. Thanks to the generosity of our corporate sponsors, we are pleased to continue the AWIS-SD scholarship program in 2014. This year, approximately 100 applications were received, and seven worthy recipients were selected by our Scholarship committee, led by Erna van Niekerk and Laura Cerviño.

We have a tradition of honoring the scholarship recipients, and this year, we are holding the AWIS-SD Scholars Celebration on Saturday, 7 June at 12:00 – 3:30 pm at the La Jolla Woman’s Club. I personally invite you to attend this exciting event, which will feature High Tea-style luncheon with mimosas, champagne, and wine. In addition to presenting our 2014 Scholars, four distinguished panelists will share their professional experiences and perspectives on the topic, ‘Women’s Health Today: Developments in Healthy Living.’ All are welcome, including AWIS-SD members, members of the community, as well as students (ages 8 and over). Please check our website (www.awissd.org) for more information, panelists, and registration (click [here](#) to register). I look forward to seeing you at the Scholars Celebration as we support our next generation of women scientists.

Most sincerely,
Grace
president@awissd.org

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April Strategy Session Report

Build an Effective Management & Leadership Style

By Leslie Crews Robertson

At the latest AWIS-SD Strategy Session, guest speaker, Richard Trafton, of the New Brain for Business Institute, challenged us to change our perspectives of what we perceive as “true,” explaining that everyone’s mind is constantly generating an internal narrative to describe reality. This storytelling function of the human brain is a relentless, evolution-derived, and automatic process that strongly influences – and often hinders – our social interactions and leadership capabilities.

Trafton and his colleagues Diane Marentette and Alisa Robinson explained that our brains are evolutionarily hard-wired to detect and interpret social cues, and the primary way that we do this is by creating “stories” to explain the world around us. These internal narratives describing our reality help us gain some sense of prediction in our chaotic world, helping us learn, communicate, and imitate what successful people do.

This pre-conscious process occurs extremely rapidly, and causes us to form internal narratives about new people we meet within milliseconds. Trafton argued that this constant internal storytelling process causes us to overestimate how our own and others’ intentions shape behavior. Simply put, we are always imagining what is going on in other people’s minds, but we are frequently wrong.

We were prompted to consider the example of sitting in merging traffic when another driver cuts past everyone on the shoulder of the freeway. As the conscientious driver waiting your turn to merge, you immediately apply all sorts of negative intentions to the other driver, creating a story in which he or she is generally a very bad person, i.e., Mr. Rude Driver.

Trafton suggested that we are all capable of improving our interactions with the world and other people by consciously changing our internal narratives. For example, we could

imagine that the ersatz Mr. Rude Driver could have just gotten a call that his child was sick at school, and he was in a rush to pick her up.

By creating a positive counter-narrative to defeat our internal storytelling spiral, we can avoid jumping to conclusions in both our social and professional lives. Trafton explained that business is first and foremost a social process, and most business problems can be fixed through social mechanisms. Letting go of negative inner narratives and focusing on the behavior of others, rather than our perception of the motives behind their behavior, and making a conscious effort to invent a new narrative that is helpful in dealing with a specific situation can benefit us in leading others as well as in responding in a constructive way to our co-workers, bosses and mentors.

To explain how we can apply this knowledge to become better leaders, Trafton shared five questions we should ask ourselves in order to create a “Personal Leadership Agenda.”

- 1) On leadership: what kind of leader do you want to be?
- 2) On relationships: how will you connect to others, and how will you decide who to connect with first?
- 3) On results: how will you decide which results are the most crucial to accomplish?
- 4) On learning: what skills or knowledge can you acquire for success?
- 5) On a personal level and work/life balance: how will you take care of yourself to achieve the success you want?

While each person might prioritize these differently, Trafton recommended focusing first on relationships.

For job seekers, Trafton suggested giving potential employers as much information about yourself and your qualifications as possible prior to an in-person interview to shape potential employers’ impressions and their automatic internal narratives about you before the first meeting. Such materials could include testimonials from coworkers, work samples, previous performance reviews, or recommendation letters.

In closing, Trafton and his colleagues presented insightful examples of how our social brains impact our performance in business environments, and provided helpful suggestions for improving our management and leadership strategies.

To learn more about the innovative work of Trafton, Robinson, and Marentette, you can follow the New Brain for Business Institute on [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/new-brain-for-business), or check out their website at <http://newbrainforbusiness.com/>.

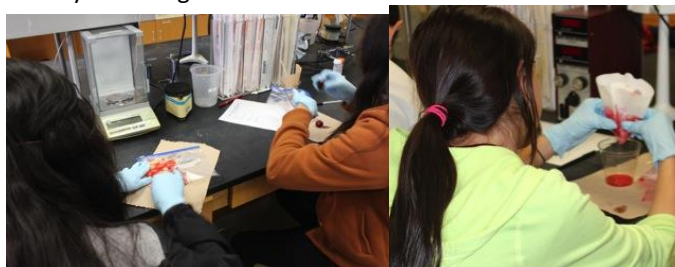
EYH 2014: Excuse me, your DNA is Showing!

By Shelly Trigg, Justine Swann, Robyn Wygal, and Supriya Sen



Ever wonder why we look the way we do? Why some get sick while others stay healthy? Why some plants grow better in certain climates? These questions were on the minds of young women who attended AWIS-SD Outreach Committee's DNA workshop, "Excuse me, your DNA is Showing!" at the Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) conference March 1. During a brief introductory presentation, girls in grades

seven through nine proudly shared their knowledge of DNA, like "It codes for eye color" and "It's found in the nucleus." They also eagerly asked questions like, "Can we clone DNA at home?" and "Why do plants have more copies of genes?" Teeming with enthusiasm from the get-go, it was no surprise that the subsequent hands-on DNA extraction activity was a big hit.



The girls first hypothesized how DNA could be extracted from cells using household products. Then, to put it into practice, each girl was given a strawberry, an extraction solution consisting of dish soap, salt, and water, and a plastic baggie. They dove right in, sealing the strawberry with solution in the bag and smashing it up into a juicy pulp. Next, they patiently waited for DNA to separate out of the coffee-filtered extract, adding rubbing alcohol to precipitate DNA from the solution. Eyes lit up when the girls saw gooey, whitish-looking DNA emerge. Saving the best step for last, the girls scooped out the DNA using a Popsicle stick and transferred it into an Eppendorf tube, which they snapped around yarn to make a cool necklace.

While the experiment in total only took about 15 minutes from start to finish, AWIS presenters, as well as the girls, were glad to have time afterwards to share their passion for



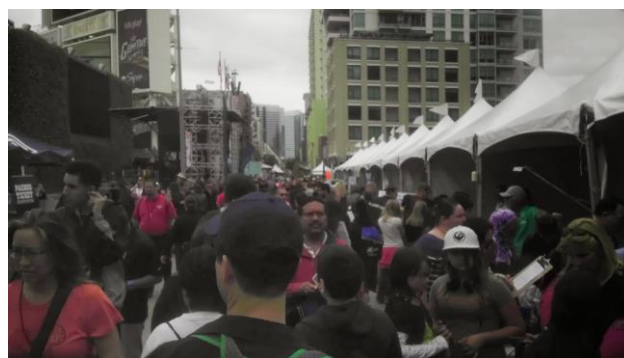
science. The girls were fascinated with the AWIS presenters' research, like HIV, biofuel crop cultivation, and mouse genetics applied to metabolic disease and cancer. It was so impressive to hear how much these girls already knew about DNA, like "putting ice fish DNA into tomato plants" for creating frost-resistant crops, and how inquisitive they were, like "I'm going to try to isolate DNA from my spit at home." There is nothing like the inspiration felt from instilling enthusiasm and witnessing the excitement of the future generation of women scientists.

EYH is an annual conference open to middle and high school-aged girls in San Diego County geared towards inspiring the future generation of women in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) fields. The conference features interactive workshops, which provide girls the opportunity to ask questions about succeeding in STEM careers and gain hands-on experience with experimental science. For more information check out www.eyhsandiego.org and <http://sdawis.org/get-involved/outreach-volunteer>

AWIS-SD Booth at the San Diego Science Festival Expo Day

By Nellie Shaul and Diana Morales-Hernandez

The San Diego Festival of Science and Engineering started with lots of excitement and continued to inspire science and technology learning until its culminating event on March 22, 2014 of EXPO Day. This year, there were more than 130 organizations from the San Diego area that provided interactive, hands-on activities showcasing STEM.



Shot of the huge crowds at EXPO Day.

AWIS outreach committee members and volunteers taught children and their families about the physical properties of matter using the oobleck experiment.



Oobleck is an example of a Non-Newtonian fluid made up of cornstarch and water, assuming solid physical properties when a force/pressure is exerted on it. Volunteers arrived early to mix various oobleck batches in different colors to start the fun.



Kids and adults alike came to our booth to touch, smell and play with this great material, appreciating in amazement how its physical properties changed when you applied different amounts of force. Most of them could not get enough of how simple and fun this material is to make and how it felt running through their hands, causing them to linger at times for more than 30 minutes in our booth. Overall, the activity was a major success, and we hope to continue our participation in EXPO Day in the future.

AWIS Members Tour the Stuart Collection

By Ray Seraydarian

On the clear spring morning of Sunday, March 9, 2014, about a dozen AWIS members, along with some friends and family, gathered on the UCSD campus for a tour of the Stuart Collection guided by its director, Mary L. Beebe. The Stuart Collection presently comprises 18 commissioned works of (mostly) outdoor public art scattered across the campus. It was started in the 1980s, and all the art is paid for by private donations.

The first stop on our tour would almost escape notice as a work of art by the casual observer: an untitled piece by sculptor Michael Asher that is a functional drinking fountain of polished granite. Another granite piece, one that interested several of the attendees, was Green Table by

sculptor Jenny Holzer, and many took photos of the philosophical musings, truisms, and other thought-provoking texts carved into its surface. On the whimsical side, there was Tim Hawkinson's Bear, a collection of eight rough boulders assembled into the shape of an enormous, 180-ton teddy bear.

The high point of our tour, literally, was Do Ho Suh's Fallen Star, a deceptively cozy-looking blue & white cottage stuck fast to a corner of the seventh floor of Jacobs Hall just east of the University's Geisel Library (see photos). Looking for all the world like an MIT hack (q.v.), Fallen Star is a deliberate mix of the familiar and off-putting: for example, no part of the cottage aligns with any part of the building to which it is attached. The interior is airy and cheerful, with furniture, books, family photos, and other common household objects, but the floor is several degrees off-plumb, and, more subtly, the floor to ceiling distance is not the same in all four corners. This juxtaposition of qualities reflects the artist's feelings of displacement years ago when he moved from Korea to the US.

At the end of the tour, many of the group remained together for lunch and conversation in the University's Price Center food court. More information about the whole Stuart Collection, including texts, photos, and videos narrated by Mary Beebe, can be found at <http://stuartcollection.ucsd.edu/>.



Group photo of the AWIS tour group standing in the (real) garden in front of Fallen Star on the 7th floor of Jacobs Hall at UCSD.

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AWIS members inside *Fallen Star*. The chandelier is vertical, the people are trying to stand up straight, but the floor is tilted. Mary Beebe, the Stuart Collection director, is at the far right in green.

Potential of a PhD: Career Choices and Growth Prospects

By Madhuvanathi Ramaiah

The first day of March brought with it a unique opportunity for post doctoral researchers and graduate students in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) disciplines to attend a career symposium organized by the [Postdoctoral Association at UCSD](#). The symposium, held at the [Sanford Consortium for Regenerative Medicine](#), was well attended and provided a bird's eye view into various career options, including traditional academic as well as alternative routes. While a research career in industry provides a choice of life in major cities, the research is dictated by the focus of the company at any given point of time and changes based on the monetary gains associated with the product or service being developed. On the other hand, being in academia gives you the freedom to pursue your research interests, but reduces your control over the place where you choose to live. Putting these points into perspective gave many of us in the audience a clearer understanding of the choices before us. The format of this symposium was a welcome change from a strict lecture style, as most of the sessions were in the form of panel discussions. This provided the audience with a chance to ask questions and get the information that they required.

The day-long symposium was split into sessions focused on research and development in industry, opportunities on the business side, medical/scientific writing, clinical and regulatory affairs, intellectual property law, teaching and non-academic positions in universities, honing interview skills, and understanding immigration requirements. By including a wide range of topics, this symposium provided its attendees a quick run through all the points to consider while making a career choice. To help accommodate all the sessions within a day, a number of them were held concurrently, and attendees could choose the sessions based on their interest.

An interesting, nontraditional academic career, which nonetheless exhibits some similarities to traditional research appointments in academia, was suggested by a session on teaching at liberal arts schools and community colleges. The panelists for this session included Drs. Dawn Page and Marie McMohan (representing Point Loma Nazarene University and Miramar College, respectively) who spoke at length about the sense of fulfillment in teaching the next generation of professionals. While teaching involves a bulk of their time, they still continue to do research and publish papers in peer-reviewed journals. Individuals who would like to remain in a university setting, but in a non-academic role, can choose to work at the technology transfer office. Some universities also offer non-tenure-tracked, research-only career tracks.

Another well-attended session, for very obvious reasons, focused on honing interview skills. Peggy Wallace from Making Conversations, LLC presented pointers to improve one's interviewing skills. She spoke at length on the importance of having a tailored resume for each job and a cover letter which brings out why you are suitable for the job/company you are considering. She emphasized the importance of non-verbal components like making eye contact, good posture, a firm handshake, and a cheerful demeanor in an interview process. But nothing is more important than your preparedness for the interview in terms of knowledge about the company and how you intend to contribute to their goals. Her tips, like reading through the annual report and letter to shareholders issued by a company, will benefit attendees who are preparing for future interviews.

The networking social hour offered a convivial conclusion to a day of information-driven career guidance. The attendees had an opportunity to interact with the exemplary speakers as well as their peers. In all, it was a successful event, providing both graduate students and post doctoral scholars an opportunity to explore career prospects.

HeraHub Partner Profile: Lana Feng

By DeeAnn Visk

Born in Beijing, [Lana Feng](#) grew up in China; both her parents were physicians. She attributes her desire to give back to humanity to her parent's desire to do the same, as evidenced by their career choice.

Feng moved to the United States for her graduate degree at Northwestern University. She then moved to San Diego for a post-doctoral fellowship at UCSD.

Her first memory of AWIS-SD was attending the Open House event and hearing Tina Nova speak about the future of personalized medicine. At the time, Nova was the president of the biopharmaceutical company Nanogen. Feng introduced herself to Nova after the talk; from there she continued to communicate with Nova and became a bench

scientist at Nanogen, her first industry job.



Lana Feng at Hera Hub. Photo credit: DeeAnn Visk

At Nanogen, Feng transitioned from bench to commercial operations by establishing a customer application lab to develop new products for its customers. The company pioneered reagents used to determine common hereditary diseases; since these elements were used in diagnostic testing, they were regulated by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

From Nanogen, Feng moved to the diagnostic company GeneOhm Sciences. A test for MRSA (methionine-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*) developed by the company became wildly popular. This bacterium causes bad infections in a hospital setting; soon all hospitals were testing for this microbe as part of their patient admission screening, making GeneOhm's products very profitable. Feng traveled with sales representatives as the scientific liaison for the commercial team. GeneOhm was so successful that it was purchased by Becton-Dickinson (BD). Feng continued working for BD for several months before moving to her next position.

Meanwhile, Nova founded Genoptix, offering testing to private physicians for blood cancer patients. Feng joined the team as Genoptix expanded its services to include support for clinical trials. A new trend was emerging in clinical research: companion diagnostics. This application of personalized medicine uses information about an individual's genome and/or their cancer's mutation to guide physicians in treatment of their patients. Additionally, the companion diagnostic can be employed to target a specific group of patients for a clinical trial based on their genetic profile.



Lana Feng in the open office area of Hera Hub in Sorrento Valley. Photo credit: DeeAnn Visk

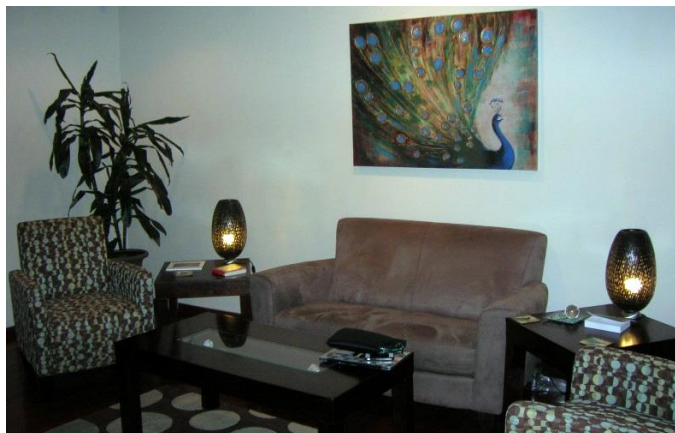
Again, because of Genoptix's success in their field, it was purchased by Novartis.

Presently, Feng runs her own company, [Personalized Genomics LLC](#). She made the jump to self-employment about a year ago and has enjoyed it immensely. Taking advantage of the explosive growth of the life sciences sector and the abundance of funding in China, much of her work involves assisting biotech/diagnostic companies with strategies to enter the Chinese market. Bridging the technical, language and cultural gaps between the two countries facilitates much of her success.

When asked for advice for those at the graduate or post-doc level, Feng suggests learning how to work on a team with other people, in contrast to the sometimes insular environment of academia.

Originally, she transitioned to industry as a scientist. But then she moved into the business side of the biotech industry. While changing your mindset from academia to business does involve a new way of thinking, she maintains that it is "much easier to teach a scientist business than to teach a business person science."

Feng discovered [HeraHub](#), a co-working space for female entrepreneurs and professionals, by reading an article in her local Del Mar newspaper. She knew she wanted to start her own business, but would be unable to focus at home and wanted an office setting. The day she left Novartis, she formed a limited liability company (LLC) and signed up for HeraHub. To improve the HeraHub experience for herself, she would love to have more scientists join.



Entry area of Hera Hub in Sorrento Valley. Photo credit: DeeAnn Visk

When not working, Feng enjoys spending time with her daughter and cooking. She also likes traveling, and gets to do plenty of it with her consulting business.

AWIS San Diego Scholars Celebration

By Dody Sears

Join us at noon on Saturday, June 7th to celebrate our 2014 Scholarship recipients at a fun and informative High Tea-style luncheon at the La Jolla Woman's Club, La Jolla's oldest historical site. The theme of the event is "Women's Health Today: Developments in Healthy Living."

In addition to presenting our seven 2014 Scholars, four distinguished panelists will share their professional experiences and perspectives related to women's health. The panelists are Linda Manza, Ph.D. (LL Manza Consulting, LLC, Toxicology and Quality Assurance), Andrea LaCroix, Ph.D. (UCSD Professor of Family & Preventive Medicine, 20+ years experience with the Women's Health Initiative), Cristina Giachetti, Ph.D. (Senior Vice President Research and Development at Hologic Gen-Probe, Inc.), and Ruth Patterson, Ph.D. (UCSD Professor of Family & Preventive Medicine, Cancer Prevention Program Leader Moores Cancer Center).

The AWIS San Diego Scholarship Program strives to encourage and reward women pursuing degrees in STEM fields where women are typically underrepresented. Awardees are selected from an outstanding applicant pool representing colleges and universities throughout San Diego County. The AWIS San Diego Scholarships, presented annually for the last 15 years, support the students' educational and research expenses. Please join us to celebrate the endeavors of these outstanding women.

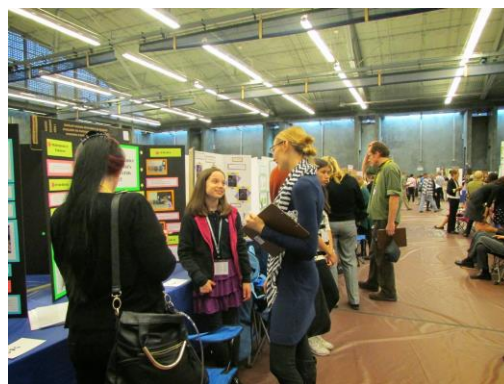
Registration includes lunch, one drink ticket and one opportunity drawing ticket. Early Bird Registration fees are: member, non-student - \$35; member, student/unemployed - \$25; non-member, non-student - \$45; non-member, student/unemployed - \$35; children (ages 8-17) - \$10. We

will have opportunity drawings for items, including gift cards and a \$500 UCSD Extension voucher. Additional opportunity tickets are available for purchase at the event (\$5 each, 5 for \$20). Proceeds support our Scholarship Program. All adults and children 8+ years old are welcome! Please register [here](#). Early Bird Discount Registration ends May 16th.

The Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Festival 2014 Highlights

By Kristin Bompiani-Myers

Creativity, passion, and resourcefulness describe the skills demonstrated by the 2014 winners from the Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Festival (GSDSEF). Twenty-one judges were organized by the AWIS-SD Outreach committee to participate in the festivities at the Balboa Park activity center on March 26th, where over 350 middle and high school girls showcased their science fair projects. After two hours of reviewing projects and intermingling with the girls, the judges had the arduous task of identifying just eight winners, two from the senior (high school) category and six from the junior (middle school) category. But the difficult task of identifying winners was overshadowed by more pervasive feelings of amazement and inspiration. The breadth of projects, insight of the young minds, and intelligent execution of their hypotheses was simply incredible. Science fair projects have sure come a long way since I was a kid.



The winners, along with their families and advisers, were invited to an award dinner on April 13th at the beautiful Martin Johnson House at the Scripps Institute of Oceanography. Outreach committee members again coordinated the event, which gave the winners a chance to show their projects to their families and advisers, as well as celebrate their achievement. The winners were individually acknowledged during a brief informal ceremony, where our new AWIS-SD chapter president, Grace Nakayama, presented the girls with a certificate of achievement and a monetary prize (\$100).

Following the awards, the attendees and AWIS volunteers enjoyed dinner and dessert amidst balloons, streamers, and the displayed winning projects. With an outpouring of

gratitude from the parents and the pervasive enthusiasm of the girls, it was clear our chapter accomplished its goal of supporting these girls and encouraging their interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math.

We concluded the event with a toast to say congratulations to the winners and thanks to the AWIS committee for both judging and organizing the event. A resounding success, AWIS-SD looks forward to continuing this tradition and supporting future scientists to come.



The 2014 AWIS-SD GSDSEF winners are as follow. Keep shining, bright stars, and congratulations!

Dominique Whittle (11th grade, Mt. Miguel High): “Effects of Liquid Fertilizer on Reproduction Rate of Freshwater Snails”

Min Jean Cho (10th Grade, Torrey Pines High): “Applying Bayes Theorem to DNA Sequence for Identification of Pathogenic Bacteria”

Alina Luk (8th grade, Marshall Middle): “The Musical Webs We Weave”

Dina Dehaini (7th grade, Islamic School of SD): “The Best Method to Fight Fungal Infections”

Shreya Ranganath (7th grade, Bonita Vista Middle): “A Sandwich Stops Bullets!”

Aya Nelson (8th grade, Pershing Middle): “The Effect of Filters on Polluted Water”

Nicole Valdivia (8th grade, St. Columba): “The Effect of Neodymium Magnets on Induction Loop Traffic Detectors”

Shayna Sragovicz (8th grade, Marshall Middle): “Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes”.

Science News Ticker

Synthetic Genomics, a La Jolla company, and Lung Biotechnology have teamed up in a new venture. Synthetic Genetics will create pig cells compatible with the human immune system and Lung Biotechnology will use the cells to create embryos that would be grown into pigs with transplantable organs, a process known as xenotransplantation. The goal is to create genetically modified pigs with wholly human proteins ••• A group of researchers at The Scripps Research Institute of La Jolla discovered a new vulnerable site on HIV. This is only the fifth vulnerability discovered to date. The knowledge will help create vaccines as well as help scientists design “cocktails” that keep the virus in check. ••• Evoke Pharma, a Solana Beach company, began a Phase 3 clinical trial for its gastrointestinal drug designed to treat diabetic gastroparesis. This condition slows stomach emptying, causing nausea, heartburn, and fluctuating blood sugar levels. Approximately 1.5 to 3 million Americans suffer from gastroparesis. ••• A federal judge blocked a Massachusetts ban, issued by the state’s governor in March, on the sale of opioid painkiller Zohydro ER. San Diego based company Zogenix produces Zohydro ER. The FDA approved the drug in late 2013, but opponents state the drug is a target for drug abuse in patients with no medical need. ••• According to a study lead by UC San Diego researchers, autism begins during pregnancy after a subtle disruption of the brain’s cortex. The study also identifies a mechanism for how the disruption leads to autism. If confirmed, the study results will allow scientist to develop therapies and prevention.

Upcoming Events

Mid Career Coffee Club

Thursday, May 15, 2014, 7:45am to 9:00am

Inside the UTC food court, 4505 La Jolla Village Drive

Informal peer networking forum for AWIS-SD members in leadership and/or management positions to openly discuss issues faced on a daily basis.

RSVP at: cniemeyer@awissd.org

Happy Hour at the H Bar

Thursday, May 15, 2014, 5:30pm – 8:00pm

Hyatt House, 10044 Pacific Mesa Blvd, San Diego, CA 92121

Free for AWIS-SD members, \$10 for non-members

For map and directions [click here](#).

Join us for a relaxed evening of socializing and networking. Soft drinks and delicious appetizers including hummus, southwestern chicken quesadillas, chips and dip, potato fries, and fruits will be served. Bring friends and business cards!

AWIS Back To Work – UCSD Extension Continuing Education Scholarship Application Deadline

Sunday, June 1, 2014, 5:00 pm

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The Rady School MBA develops leaders who are creating the next generation of science and technology businesses to meet the demands of the future.

UC San Diego Extension will be awarding two \$1,000 scholarships to AWIS members who are re-entering the workforce. This award will be used for continuing education at UCSD Extension. The award may be used for tuition or fees.

For more information regarding eligibility and to see the application, [click here](#).

Strategy Session: Build Your Networking Confidence

Monday, June 2, 2014, 6:00pm to 8:00pm

Hera Hub, Sorrento Mesa, 9710 Scranton Road #160, San Diego, CA 92121

Networking 6:00pm

Workshop 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Additional details TBD.

Light refreshments will be served. [Pre-registration](#) is essential for this members only event. Remember to bring your business cards!

This is an AWIS San Diego Members Only Event.

AWIS-SD Scholars Celebration

Saturday, June 7, 2014, 12:00pm – 3:30pm

La Jolla Woman's Club, 715 Silverado, La Jolla, CA

Join us for a fun and informative High Tea-style luncheon honoring our 2014 Scholarship recipients at La Jolla's oldest historical site. In addition to presenting our 2014 Scholars, four distinguished panelists will share their professional experiences and perspectives related to women's health and engage in discussion with the audience.

[Click here to register](#).

Mid Career Coffee Club

Thursday, June 19, 2014, 7:45am to 9:00am

Inside the UTC food court, 4505 La Jolla Village Drive

Informal peer networking forum for AWIS-SD members in leadership and/or management positions to openly discuss issues faced on a daily basis.

RSVP at: cniemeyer@awissd.org

Local Events of Interest

When Women Succeed, San Diego Succeeds

A Forum on Improving Economic Opportunity for Women

When: Tuesday, May 13th 2pm to 3pm

Where: Theatre of the Joan B. Kroc, School for Peace Studies
University of San Diego
5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego, CA

Sponsored by Congressman Scott Peters, this forum will include the following topics:

- Access to capital for women-owned businesses
- Equal pay for equal work
- Impact of available and affordable childcare

Speakers include:

- Congresswoman Linda Sánchez, Representative for California's 38th District – South Los Angeles
- Wendy Urushima-Conn, President & CEO of the Asian Business Association of San Diego
- Jamie Moraga, President & CEO of IntelliSolutions, inc. (A Women-Owned Small Business and EDWOSB)
- Felena Hanson, Founder of Hera Hub

RSVP to Sarah Czarnecki at Rep. Scott Peters' San Diego Office (Sarah.Czarnecki@mail.house.gov)

San Diego Pint of Science Festival

When: Monday, May 19; 6pm to 8pm

Tuesday, May 20; 6pm to 8pm

Wednesday, May 21; 6pm to 8pm

Where: Monday; Bella Vista Café (Torrey Mesa)

Tuesday; West Coast Tavern (North Park)

Wednesday; White Labs (North County)

San Diego is home to world-class science and beer — come enjoy both at the inaugural San Diego Pint of Science festival. Pint of Science is an international organization that aims to foster community interest in science through palatable presentations — over a beer! This year, San Diego locals will have the opportunity to join in this free event and find out about cutting-edge discoveries their neighbors are making in topics ranging from stem-cell to environmental research, all while enjoying specials on delicious craft beers.

Pint of Science will be held between 6-8pm at different neighborhood brew stops May 19th, 20th, and 21st. Join us in raising a pint to science in the San Diego community.

For more information and to RSVP, please visit <http://www.pintofscience.us/#!san-diego/cw4x>

Male Aggression and Violence in Human Evolution

When: Friday, May 16th; 1-5pm

Where: Salk Institute (De Hoffmann Auditorium)

In the last few decades, new sources of evidence have continued to indicate that male violence has played an important role in shaping behavior in the human lineage. The frequency and nature of such violence varies widely among populations and over time raises questions about the factors responsible for the variation. In the past, much controversy and even some acrimonious debate has occurred over the question of whether humans lived in a state of ancestral peace. The aim of this symposium is to set aside such theories and debates and take a fresh look at the causes and consequences of variation in aggression, both between and within species. The focus will be on speakers who can critically examine and represent the available evidence from

multiple sources, including comparative ethology, ethnology, archaeology, political science, and evolutionary neuroscience. While the symposium may not come to any definitive conclusions, it should allow for the best interpretation of the current evidence, and help suggest research agendas for the future.

REGISTRATION

Admission is free and open to the public; however, registration is required. To register, go to:

<http://carta.anthropogeny.org/events/male-aggression-and-violence-human-evolution>

LIVE WEBCAST

Note that the entire symposium will once again be viewable online via a live webcast. A link to the live webcast will be posted on the [event page](#) on the day of the event. You will need to log in to your CARTA account in order to access the live webcast.

TALKS/SPEAKERS

Warfare and feuding in Pleistocene societies

Christopher Boehm, *University of Southern California*

Intergroup violence: chimpanzees and lions

Anne Pusey, *Duke University*

Neuroendocrine regulation of aggression

Donald Pfaff, *Rockefeller University*

Bioarchaeological perspectives on male violence in prehistory

Patricia Lambert, *Utah State University*

Male violence among Aché and Hiwi hunter-gatherers

Kim Hill, *Arizona State University*

Resource unpredictability, socialization and war

Carol R. Ember, *Yale University*

Violence: What's culture got to do with it?

Polly Wiessner, *University of Utah*

The parallel evolution of humanity and savagery

Richard Wrangham, *Harvard University*

Do hunter-gatherers tell us about human nature?

Robert Kelly, *University of Wyoming*

Member News

Jaymee Davis' company, Miltenyi Biotec, was given permission by the Food and Drug Administration to use a reagent system to help people receiving allogeneic (not an identical genetic match) stem cell transplantation. The Reagent System, called CliniMACS CD34, is an in vitro medical device system that uses antibodies conjugated to magnetic beads to select and enrich for CD34+ blood stem cells from a donor prior to transplantation, while removing other cells that can cause graft versus host disease (GVHD). This is a step forward for those patients needing a bone marrow transplant for whom a genetically identical donor cannot be found.

Susan Forsburg was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology (AAM). Election of fellows is a lifetime honor, initiated by current members of AAM, which recognizes the fellow for significant contributions to microbiology. Congratulations on this achievement!

Radhika Gopal published a first author paper in *Virology* titled "Differential segregation of nodaviral coat protein and RNA into progeny virions during mixed infection with FHV and NoV" (PMID: 24725955).

Karin Lucas started a new job as Associate Director, Scientific Communications at Sarepta Therapeutics. Her new job involves working with various departments across the company to develop scientific communication materials to support corporate communications, medical affairs, marketing, business development and research and development functions. Additionally, she will ensure that the company has consistent and clear communications related to the research platform, as well as scientific and clinical data communications.

Erika Olson was awarded an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship.

Claire Weston's company, Reveal Biosciences, has become the first Contract Research Organization (CRO) to be certified as a preclinical service provider for the RNAScope® in situ hybridization assay from Advanced Cell Diagnostics (ACD). This highly sensitive technique allows the visualization of mRNAs in formalin fixed paraffin embedded (FFPE) tissue sections which can then be quantified, providing both localization and quantitative data. Following this link for more information:

<http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20140403006530/en#.Uz4ZV9weX1p>

About the AWIS Newsletter

The AWIS-SD Newsletter is published six times per year and provides AWIS members and supporters with information on Chapter activities, career development, and issues related to women in science.

Newsletter staff for May/June Issue:

Nurith Amitai, Afshawn Chakamian, Andria Del Tredici, Barbara Potts, Pat Rarus, and DeeAnn Visk

Contribute to the Newsletter

If you are an AWIS-SD member, we encourage you to contribute to the newsletter. Please send articles, photographs, and member news as MS Word attachments to <mailto:newsletter@awissd.org>. News articles should not exceed 250 words, event summaries should not exceed 500 words, and feature articles (special-interest stories and profiles) should not exceed 1000 words. The submission deadline for the next issue is June 10, 2014

About the Authors

Kristin Bompiani-Myers, Ph.D., is a postdoctoral research associate with a keen interest in translational research. She enjoys participating in research science projects that seek to develop new drugs to treat human disease. Kristin lives in San Diego with her husband and cat (who is named after a prominent Biotech company) and is often baking decadent things when not in the lab.



Leslie Crews Robertson, Ph.D., is a third-generation native San Diegan and cancer researcher at UCSD. As an aspiring professor of stem cell biology, she has a passion for all things stem cell. When she's not in the lab trying to figure out how stem cells work, Leslie also enjoys traveling, cooking, Scottish Highland dancing, and spending time with her family and three fluffy cats.



Ray Seraydarian has two degrees in applied physics from Cornell University's College of Engineering. He works at UCSD in a program related to the development of nuclear fusion as a low-radiation, carbon-free source of central station electric power. He lives in San Diego where he enjoys walking, cycling and sailing. He holds a season's subscription to the San Diego Symphony, and he occasionally attends

plays at the Old Globe and other local venues.



Nellie Shaul is a graduate student at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography where she studies the transport and fate of persistent organic pollutants in the marine environment.

Shelly Trigg is a graduate student in the Biological Sciences program at UCSD studying how pathway cross-talk contributes to overall cell health specific to biofuel crops. Outside of the science realm, Shelly and her husband reside in Encinitas and enjoy the great surfing and hiking that California has to offer.



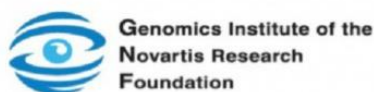
DeeAnn Visk, Ph.D., is a freelance science writer, editor, and blogger. She loves working at the bench in molecular biology, genetics, and microscopy. DeeAnn lives in the San Diego, California area with her husband, two kids, and two spoiled hens.

Remaining author information was not available at press time.



GNF: Accelerating the Pace of Drug Discovery

The **Genomics Institute of the Novartis Research Foundation (GNF)**, located in San Diego, is one of the Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research. GNF scientists and engineers are working together to understand the underlying causes of disease and to develop and manufacture unique technologies, such as high-throughput automation systems, that enable breakthrough biology and change the practice of medicine. **Learn more at www.gnf.org**



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