



Spring 2016  
Volume 24, Issue 2

# Newsletter

*Mission Statement: The Association for Women in Science, Inc. (AWIS) champions the interests of women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics across all disciplines and employment sectors. Working for positive system transformation, AWIS strives to ensure that all women in these fields can achieve their full potential.*

## Message From the President



Dear AWIS-SD Members and Friends,

Spring is an exciting time for us as we award scholarships to deserving young women to advance their careers in STEM. On May 21<sup>st</sup> we will be honoring our scholarship recipients at the [Scholars Celebration](#) with a High Tea at the UCSD Faculty Club.

If this is not your cup of tea, there are many other events of interest organized by AWIS-SD and other local organizations. All AWIS-SD members are encourage to attend the members-only events put on by our chapter volunteers. Check out the event calendar on our website for the latest information: [www.awissd.org](http://www.awissd.org).

To add value to your AWIS-SD membership and build new skills, get involved with a committee. For example, consider the [Events Committee](#) that organizes events throughout the year, such as the summer Family Event, the Holiday Party, and Happy Hours. Skills developed by joining this committee are:

- Coordinate with event venues for prices or tours
- Publicizing the events
- Develop new ideas for events and venues
- Budget expenses to maximize benefits
- Promote communication with AWIS-SD
- Provide networking opportunities to members
- Recruit speakers for events

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### Message From the President—Cont.

If you really want to maximize benefits of joining the Events Committee, then consider becoming a Co-Chair.

Benefits you will receive include:

- Organize and lead committee meetings
- Train new members to assist with events

To find out more about the events committee—maybe attend their next meeting—email them at [events@awissd.org](mailto:events@awissd.org).

Finally, I want to thank you all for your contribution to the chapter. I am amazed at how much all our volunteers accomplish. When I attend events, I am constantly complimented by the quality of our meeting. My typical response is “Thank you. The [fill-in-the-Committee-Name] has done all the hard work. I am just here enjoying the event.”

All the best to everyone,

*DeeAnn*

DeeAnn Visk, President AWIS-SD

### Highlights from the 2016 Greater San Diego Science & Engineering Fair

By Geetha Subramanian and Kristin Bompiani-Myers

We had the great honor of representing AWIS-SD while judging the annual the Greater San Diego Science & Engineering Fair held on March 26<sup>th</sup>. An awesome experience, the AWIS-SD booth was organized by our wonderful Outreach Committee. This year there were over 400 science projects by female students from all over San Diego. A total of 27 judges from local research institutes such as UCSD and TSRI, as well as a mixture of AWIS members and non-AWIS volunteered to judge on behalf of AWIS-SD. Huge efforts were undertaken to fill the Balboa Park Activity Center with students representing many schools and professional organizations who volunteered their lunch hour to talk with the young scientists.

As we entered the Balboa Park Activity Center, we realized how gigantic the event was; there were rows and rows of student’s projects. We were fascinated by the diverse range of topics the students chose, including:

- using entropy to decipher secure passwords online,
- determining if people can remember grouped numbers rather than number sequences,
- studying how responses to gender based ads are used in marketing products, and

asking how children and adults get fooled by medicines which are look like candies.

After two hours, we along with the other AWIS judges identified 14 winning projects. The winners, their families, advisers, and AWIS volunteers gathered to view the winning projects and present the awards at a banquet celebration held on Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at the UCSD Moores Cancer Center. AWIS-SD President DeeAnn Visk with Outreach Co-Chairs Anne Kornahrens and Robyn Wygal, presented the certificates and prize money to the young women as their families and advisers beamed from a packed auditorium. Our celebration on a warm Sunday evening, where each winner was recognized for their efforts and success, culminated in a grand dinner that was enjoyed by all.

In all, AWIS-SD Outreach gave 14 awards to six high school projects and eight middle school projects. Directly supporting the Outreach Committee’s mission of nurturing and educating young women’s interest in science, AWIS-SD gave the most awards of any professional society that judged that day. Congratulations to our 2016 Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair AWIS-SD Award Winners.

## Highlights from the 2016 Greater San Diego Science & Engineering Fair—Cont.



Winners of the 2016 Science Fair Awards and members of the Outreach Committee at the Moore Cancer Research Center.

### Senior Category

- Karissa Jackson: “The Predatory and Risk Behaviors of *Anolis carolinensis*”
- Esther Peluso: “Chymosin Deglycosylation Affects its Substrate Specificity, Kinetics, and Cheese-Making Efficiency”
- Noa Dahan: “Identification of MDM2 as a novel antiapoptotic factor in Grade IV Astrocytoma”
- Araceli Santana: “The Depths of Helping Behavior”
- Alexandra Kuo: “High Entropy Password Encryption Device”
- Emerson Alatorre and Emma Rand (joint project): “Bioremediation of Salt Pollution Through Co-Culture of Radishes and Barley”

### Junior Category

- Natalie Ramirez: “The Effect of Filtered Water on Plants”
- Ashley Kleszewski: “The Effects of Eutrophication on Pond Water”
- Reem Awad: “Miswak vs Toothpaste”
- Sydney Gerlach: “The Effects of Positive Vs. Negative Advertising on Generosity”
- Lauren McKittrick: “Candy or Medicine: Can You Tell the Difference?”
- Alex Boren: “Fantastic Plastic”
- Rachana Madhukara: “Devising a Secure and Efficient Hybrid Cryptosystem”
- Shravya Sanigepalli: “Ocean Acidification vs. *Halimeda incrassata*”

# WORK FROM HOME?



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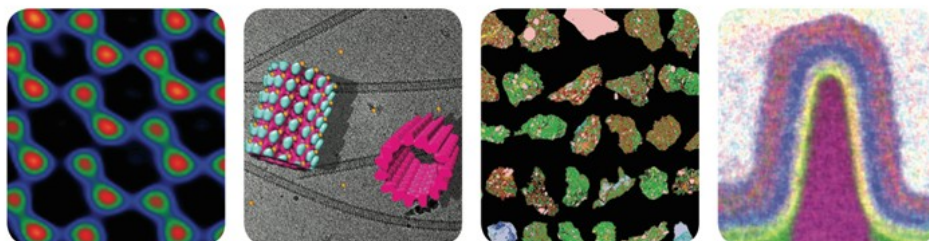
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Science News Ticker

- The Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO) has named Representative Scott Peters of San Diego, along with two senators, as biotech legislators of the year. Peters, who represents district 52, was given the award for his support of biotech research funding, patent protection, and economic growth in the biotech industry.

- Salk Institute researchers from the labs of Michael Downes and Ron Evans have discovered a role for estrogen-related receptor gamma in the post-natal metabolic maturation of pancreatic beta cells. This receptor drives a transcriptional network that stimulates efficient glucose-responsive insulin secretion. This knowledge will assist in the production of beta cells for implantation into diabetic patients.

- La Jolla and South San Francisco-based startup Ideaya Biosciences has raised \$46 million to develop cancer therapeutics. The company focuses on synthetic lethality to treat cancer. This approach uses the genome sequence of tumor cells to find single mutations that would kill cancer cells but not healthy cells.



(From left to right) Atomic resolution phase image of graphene. Sample courtesy of N. Alem and A. Zettl, University of California, Berkeley. Images Joerg Jinschek and Emrah Yucesen, FEI, Hector Calderon, IPN, Mexico, and C. Kisielowski, NCEM, USA. Exit wave reconstruction by Joerg Jinschek. Helical reconstruction of microtubules decorated by an Eg5-metallothionein-gold complex. Image: Cedric Bouchet-Marquis. Drill cuttings from a CO<sub>2</sub> injection well. Image: CO2CRC, Australia. 22 nm PMOS transistor structure. Image: FEI NanoPort.

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### Science News Ticker— Cont.

- Researchers led by Tariq Rana of the UCSD School of Medicine found that Zika virus targets TLR3 in cerebral organoids grown from stem cells to model the developing brain. This immune response impairs the development of the organoids and causes some cells to die. This indicates that inhibition of TLR3 could prevent microcephaly in fetuses whose mothers have been infected with Zika.
- UCSD's Adam Burgasser and coworkers have discovered three planets orbiting a small and faint star about 40 light years away from our sun. Two of these planets orbit within the star's habitable zone, meaning they receive just enough radiation to allow liquid water to exist on their surfaces. While these planets are not likely to support life, these findings motivate the search for planets orbiting similar stars, which are very common in our galaxy.

## Projecting a Positive Career Transition by Ksenya Cohen Katsenelson

The first AWIS-SD strategy session of 2016 was dedicated to the topic of career transition for all experience levels. AWIS-SD members gathered to hear about the different possibilities to acquire new skill-sets for a successful career transition. Opportunities are available to international professionals regarding immigration status and work visas.

Lin-Chien Huang, a neuroscientist at The Scripps Research Institute, presented Hugo Villar, the director of Science and education program at UCSD extension. Villar then presented an overview of the current skills that are in demand in life science industries. He presented three different sectors in life sciences: industrial, agricultural and biomedical biotechnology, and the skills that are needed in each of the fields.



Villar presents at Strategy Session meeting.



## Projecting a Positive Career Transition—Cont.

It was interesting to learn that when looking for a job, one should not focus on only one specific sector of life sciences; otherwise, many other job opportunities might be missed. By learning the skills needed in each sector and locating the areas of rapid change in industry, one can increase her chances of finding the right job opportunity. Current areas of rapid change are automated medical equipment, genomics and biotechnologies, as well as information and communication.

Hiring managers are seeking individuals with cross-functional skills. Therefore, one should always look for opportunities to upgrade her skills. Quality matters, and learning new techniques is important no matter which career level you are. Many companies are merging, and when that happens, individuals with similar skills tend to lose their jobs. By having a unique set of skills, one increases her chances of keeping her job.

“You don’t have a job for life. The life science industry is like Hollywood – you need to have skills that are in demand, otherwise you will be replaced with better actors,” states Villar. It is good to keep in mind that UCSD Extension offers a great variety of classes with certificates in many new trending areas for professional development.

Later in the session, Lin-Chien presented attorney Diana Vellos Coker, from Larrabee Albi Coker LLP, who specializes in immigration. Vellos explained the key points of immigration law and provided insights on the various options available to foreign candidates seeking job opportunities in the U.S.



Vellos presenting at the AWIS-SD Strategy Session

## Science News Ticker—Cont.

- Five teens from San Diego earned a place in the sixth White House science fair in April. They designed an Android app called Spectrum, which aims to provide a social media support network for the LGBTQ community.
- Ali Torkamani and colleagues of the Scripps Translational Science Institute published the results of their “Welllderly” study, which sequenced the genomes of hundreds of people who have lived into their 80s and beyond without significant medical problems. These individuals were found to have genetic protections against some conditions, such as Alzheimer’s and heart disease, but were otherwise not significantly different from the average US population.
- According to statistics from the US Patent and Trademark Office, San Diego area inventors were granted a total of 34,000 patents between 2000 and 2013. San Diego ranks ninth in the nation for number of inventions, a trend driven by the area’s biotech industry, telecommunication industry, and research universities.



## Projecting a Positive Career Transition—Cont.

Vellos advised job seekers to be honest with prospective employers and notify them whether visa sponsorship is needed. However, by coming prepared and knowing the right options available, you can help your employer find an effective solution. The most common work visa is H1B. Due to the high demand for this visa, there is a lottery each year, and only about 35% of the applicants will actually receive it. Other popular visas include the O1, for individuals of extraordinary abilities; and the J1 for research purposes. This one is limited to 5 years. There are also special visas for Canadians, Mexicans and Australians.

This strategy session emphasized the importance of continuously learning new skills. The session also provided insights into the different immigration options available to international persons seeking job opportunities in the U.S.

## Expand Your Horizons 2016: Return of the Crime Solvers by Diane Retallack

Solving crime using science was the focus of AWIS-SD “Crime Scene Sleuths” workshop at the 14<sup>th</sup> annual San Diego Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) conference. EYH was held at the University of San Diego on March 5th, 2016. Since 2002, EYH San Diego conference organizers have hosted this event for young women to explore numerous hands-on workshops and learn about career opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields. Scientists from organizations such as the University of California San Diego, Scripps Institute, General Atomics, and others, including members of AWIS-SD and AWIS LA/Ventura, hosted EYH workshops to encourage and empower young women from more than 90 San Diego county schools to explore careers in the STEM fields.



Diane Retallack instructs the students in Crime Scene Sleuths at EYH, 2016.



## Expand Your Horizons 2016—Cont.



This year's crime scene, *The Case of the Stolen Transgenic Rat*, was successfully solved by twelve teams of 6<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> grade scientists, representing about 60 of the 317 attendees. Led by AWIS-SD Outreach Committee members and volunteers Jinsha Liu, Anne Kornahrens, Sasha Moola, Kelly Kemp, Miriam O'Duill, Samantha Gonzalez, Jenny Fu and Diane Retallack, the girls worked in teams to analyze a variety of evidence to determine which of the five suspects committed the crime.

The girls analyzed five pieces of evidence: DNA, ink from a ransom note, shoe prints, an unknown liquid and fingerprints. Excited by the hands-on opportunity to perform laboratory experiments, the girls

rotated through the five stations, learning about techniques such as electrophoresis and chromatography, the difference between acids and bases, and how to analyze shoe prints and fingerprints.

The students discussed the evidence and their experimental results, eliminating suspects based on those results to come to a conclusion about which of

the suspects committed the crime. It was great to see the teamwork, which is an important aspect of solving scientific questions emphasized by our outreach volunteers. We invite you to join us next year for EYH 2017. New workshops are welcome, particularly those focused on STEM subjects highly popular with the students, such as coding and computer science.



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<sup>1</sup>Lichtenberg FR. NBER Working Paper No. 18235. Pharmaceutical innovation and longevity growth in 30 developing and high-income countries, 2000-2009. Available at <http://www.nber.org/papers/w18235>. Accessed May 2014.





## Thinking About Transitioning From Academia to Industry? By Juliati Rahajeng

What are you going to do next after getting your Ph.D.? Become a tenure-track professor in academia? That is the traditional goal for many graduate students and postdocs. However, with limited available faculty positions and funding resources, it has become increasingly difficult to obtain such academic positions. Therefore, the UCSD Postdoctoral Association (PDA), the Salk Society of Research Fellows, the Sanford Burnham Prebys Science Network, and the Scripps Society of Fellows teamed up to organize an event, "What Can You Be With a PhD?" STEM Career Symposium. This year was the PDA's third year creating such an event helping graduate students and postdocs learn about non-traditional careers outside academia.

The event started with a Keynote Speech by Wolfgang Glaesner, PhD, Chief Scientific Officer (CSO) of Applied Molecular Evolution Division of Eli Lilly and Company Dr. Glaesner described his long journey from the time he got his Ph.D. until his current position, and gave great advice for grad students and postdocs who are looking for a career in industry. During an interview, for example, an interviewee needs to show high level of energy and enthusiasm, demonstrate passion for the position, have a good knowledge about the company, show ambition or initiative, and exhibit listening and people skills. Asking lots of questions about the position and the company shows strong interest in the company and a great way to see whether you will make a good fit in the company. Additionally, when respond-





## Thinking About Transitioning From Academia to Industry—Cont.

ding to behavioral-based interview questions, he suggested using the **S**ituation **T**ask **A**ction and **R**esult (STAR) method. In this method, you need to describe a situation that you were in or a task that needed to be completed (situation), the objective (task), the action you took (action) and the outcome of your action (result).

The keynote speech was followed by eight different panel sessions: Research and Development in biology and non-biology fields, Clinical and Regulatory Affairs, Scientific Writing and Communication, Consulting and Management, Teaching, Business/Entrepreneurship and Intellectual Property Law and Science Policy. During each session, there were five to six speakers/panelists who shared their experiences for transitioning into industry. Each session ran for 65 minutes, followed by a 15-minute post-session networking opportunity.

During the R&D (Biology field) panel discussion, for example, everyone in the panel emphasized the importance of networking, collaboration and sharpening communication and people skills. Karsten Sauer, the Director of Cancer Immunology at Pfizer, specifically suggested taking some

classes to improve skills or gain more knowledge, reading several books and practicing presentations or answering interview questions. He recommended a book “The First 90 Days” by Michael D. Watkins, as a guide for strategies after transitioning into a new role or landing a new position in industry.

If you are interested in pursuing a career in clinical and regulatory affairs, a panel of six clinical and regulatory affairs professionals gave very helpful tips on how to transition to private industry. Taking online classes in regulatory affairs from Regulatory Affairs Professionals Society (RAPS), UCSD extension or SDSU will increase your knowledge in the field. They also recommend joining San Diego Regulatory Affairs Network ([SDRAN](#)) since this group offers many great programs including Regulatory Affairs Certification (RAC) a study group, internship and mentoring programs.

The bottom line: regardless of whatever career goal you have in mind after earning your Ph.D, it does not hurt to be familiar with non-traditional career options available. If you are interested in attending such events, you should check out the UCSD PDA events calendar at <http://pda.ucsd.edu/events/index.html>.

## San Diego Festival of Science and Engineering EXPO Day by Antonia Darragh and Miriam Cohen

EXPO Day is the opening event of the San Diego Festival of Science and Engineering. This free city-wide event at PETCO Park brings together students, teachers, industry leaders, parents, and members of the community to explore science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). This year the event took place on Saturday March 5,

2016 and attracted around 25,000 people. EXPO day is full of STEM exploration through demonstrations and hands-on activities including DNA extraction, sticking a stick through a balloon without popping it, and manipulating robots. The festival’s mission is to “engage and encourage kids in science and engineering, and work

## San Diego Festival of Science and Engineering EXPO Day—Cont.



AWIS-SD Outreach hosts a booth at EXPO day annually. This year Outreach Committee members Miriam Cohen, Antonia Darragh, and Outreach Co-Chair Robyn Wygal organized the booth featuring the non-Newtonian fluid Oobleck (cornstarch and water). Visitors played with Oobleck with their hands and animal toys and experienced how it switches between a solid-like state and a liquid-like state.

AWIS-SD Outreach volunteers explained to visitors how the interactions between cornstarch molecules and water molecules give Oobleck its non-Newtonian fluid properties. At our booth we also included a blank poster board for people to write and/or draw what they like most about STEM. Many wrote "Science is fun!"

Some kids wanted to take Oobleck home with them, many parents requested the recipe, and some educators were interested in incorporating the activity into their classrooms. Other examples of non-Newtonian fluids including body armor and gel shoe soles interested attendees of all ages.





## San Diego Festival of Science and Engineering—Cont.

The Outreach Committee would like to extend a special thanks to the volunteers and organizers who made this event a truly successful and rewarding experience. Interested in participating next year? Stay posted on AWIS-SD events: <http://www.awissd.org/index.php/all-events/events-calendar>.

Interested in running this workshop for a different event? Check out <http://www.awissd.org/index.php/page/outreach-resources>.

## And the Winner of the Science-Technology Category of LA Times Book Prize is... By Lynne Friedmann

Science writer Lynne Friedmann, AWIS Fellow, was a judge in the science-technology category of the LA Times Book Prize.

On April 9, she moderated a panel on Science, Technology and the Human Condition at the *LA Times Festival of Books*. Panelists included authors Beth Sharpiro, Ph.D. (*How to Clone a Mammoth: The Science of De-Extinction*), David Morris (*The Evil Hours: A Biography of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder*), John Markoff (*Machines of Loving Grace: The Quest for Common Ground Between Humans and Robots*), and Michael Hiltzik (*Big Science: Ernest Lawrence and the Invention that Launched the Military-Industrial Complex*).

[The one-hour panel session](#) is available on C-SPAN.

Friedmann and fellow category judges considered nearly 100 books in order to arrive at five finalists. The winning science/technology book for 2015 is [The Invention of Nature: Alexander von Humboldt's New World](#) by Andrea Wulf.

*The Invention of Nature* reveals the extraordinary life and myriad scientific discoveries of the visionary naturalist Alexander von Humboldt (1769-1859), and how he single-handedly created the way we understand nature today. During his lifetime, he was the most famous man in the world after Napoleon. There are more plants, animals, minerals, and places named after Humboldt than any other scientist. In California alone, a county, a bay, a college, and a state park all bear his name. He is a founding father of environmentalism, who predicted man-made climate change as early as 1800.



## And the Winner of the Science-Technology Category of LA Times Book Prize (Cont.)



Born into an aristocratic Prussian family, Humboldt discarded a life of privilege and spent his substantial inheritance on a dangerous five-year exploration of Latin America. He ventured deep into the mysterious rain forests in Venezuela and paddled along crocodile-infested tropical rivers. He walked thousands of miles through the Andes, from Bogota, Colombia, to Lima, Peru — climbing active volcanos along the way. When he returned to Europe, his trunks were filled with dozens of notebooks, hundreds of sketches and tens of thousands of astronomical, geological and meteorological observations, and some 60,000 plant specimens. Over the next 50 years, Humboldt published so many books that even he lost track.

He turned scientific observation into poetic narrative, and his writings inspired naturalist Charles Darwin, poets William Wordsworth and Johann Wolfgang von Goethe,

and also President Thomas Jefferson. The book presents evidence that it was Humboldt's influence that led John Muir to his ideas of preservation and shaped Henry David Thoreau's *Walden*.

Author Andrea Wulf has done a masterful job in bringing back to life this lost hero to science and the forgotten father of environmentalism.

Take it from Lynne Friedmann: This is a “must read” book.

The LA Times Festival of Books, held annually on the campus of the University of Southern California, is the largest book festival in the United States. This year's two-day event drew more than 150,000 attendees. Read about all of the [winners of the 2015 competition](#).

## Upcoming Events

### Academia 2 Industry Coffee Club

Friday June 3, 2016

4:00pm-6:00pm

[Bella Vista Social Club](#)

2880 Torrey Pines Scenic Dr, La Jolla, CA 92037

Informal meet-up for women interested in transitioning to Industry from academia. All are welcome to participate. Please [RSVP](#).

### Projecting Your Inner Businesswoman

Strategy Session

Monday June 6, 2016

6:00pm-8:00pm

[Hera Hub Sorrento Valley](#)

4010 Sorrento Valley Blvd #400, San Diego, CA 92121

Business 101 for STEM – introduction to business topics that can help people both in industry and academia develop their skills for business. Ideas: This introductory seminar will address questions about business concepts such as business practices, leadership, preparing a business plan, and applying marketing techniques to business and research in STEM.

As part of this AWIS SD Strategy Session, we are pleased to welcome special guest speaker Gioia Messinger from UCSD's Jacobs School of Engineering. She will be speaking on current topics in business and sharing her wisdom and experience as a business entrepreneur.

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

If you are not currently an AWIS San Diego member please join or renew your membership online ([www.awis.org](http://www.awis.org)). Remember to select San Diego as your chapter. If you register and later discover that you are unable to attend, please notify us by sending an email to [StrategySessions@awissd.org](mailto:StrategySessions@awissd.org).

### Mid-Career Coffee Club

Thursday June 16, 2016

7:45-8:30 am

[Corner Bakery, UTC](#)

4575 La Jolla Village Dr, San Diego, CA 92122

A small informal group of AWIS-SD members in managerial or equivalent positions that meet monthly. Everything said at the Club is kept confidential.

Please [RSVP](#) for this members only event.

## Member News

**Claire Weston**, CEO of Reveal Biosciences, sign a new five year contract with Explora BioLabs and the National Institute on Aging to provide a bank of aged rodent tissue samples for researchers. Read more about it at this [link](#).

AWIS-SD Newsletter committee member **Corine Lau** is now a cancer genomics scientist at Human Longevity Inc.

AWIS-SD member **Donna O. Perdue**, Ph.D., J.D. gave a talk entitled "[Biobased products and potential impacts of the Nagoya Protocol!](#)" at 2016 BIO World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology in a session entitled "What is required to protect research and innovation in industrial biotechnology" on April 18, 2016.

**Donna O. Perdue** recently published a paper in the Biotechnology Law Report entitled "Whither Innovation: The R&D Sector and the Nagoya Protocol at One Year After Entry into Force". [Ed.Note: This was to appear in the AWIS-SD Winter Newsletter, but was accidentally overlooked.]

## Upcoming Events

### **Project Planning and Management for Academic and Industry Applications**

Strategy Session

Monday August 4, 2016

6:00pm-8:00pm

[Hera Hub Sorrento Valley](#)

4010 Sorrento Valley Blvd #400, San Diego, CA 92121

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

If you are not currently an AWIS San Diego member and would like to attend this event, please join or renew your membership online ([www.awis.org](http://www.awis.org)). Remember to select San Diego as your chapter. We would love to have you join us!

### **Mid-Career Coffee Club**

Thursday, August 18, 2016

7:45-9:00am

Corner Bakery, UTC

4575 La Jolla Village Dr, San Diego, CA 92122

A small informal group of AWIS-SD members in managerial or equivalent positions that meet monthly. Everything said at the Club is kept confidential.

Please [RSVP](#) for this members only event.

## Other Upcoming Events of Interest

### **15th San Diego Bio-Pharma and Bio-Partnering Conference 2016**

Saturday June 11th, 2016

8:00am-5:00pm

[San Diego/ Del Mar Hilton](#)

15575 Jimmy Durante Blvd, Del Mar, CA 92014

As one of the nation's premier innovation centers, San Diego biotech beach in recent years has witnessed mega-deals of mergers and acquisitions, highly successful IPOs, the groundbreaking of multiple state-of-the-art research institutes, and many recent launches of new drugs into the market. All these achievements are

### **Member News (Cont.)**

**Dorothy (Dody) Sears**, former AWIS-SD President, was awarded a grant to study heart health among Latinas. Sears' role in the study will be looking for biomarkers of sedentary behavior-associated cardiovascular disease risk in women of Hispanic origin. More details on the multi-year, multi-million dollar study can be found [here](#).

**DeeAnn Visk**, published an article on [GPCR's](#) in *Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology News* in April.



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# UC San Diego|Extension

## Other Upcoming Events of Interest—Cont.

by many of the forward thinking leaders of our scientific community with great visions and strong determinations to help tackle the most daunting challenges of our time, and to translate scientific discoveries to clinical utilities to benefit mankind. Come to meet some of these visionary leaders at our upcoming Sino American biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Professionals Association (SABPA) Bio-Pharma conference to learn more about the latest breakthroughs in science and new trends in our industry, and to network with your peers. It is one of the biggest San Diego biotech events that you don't want to miss.

Cost and registration information can be found [here](#).

### About the Newsletter

The AWIS-SD Newsletter is published four 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 this issue:*

Corine Lau, Pat Rarus, Jean Spence, Alyson Smith, and Dee-Ann Visk

## About the Authors



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Other author biographies were not available at press time.



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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 [newsletter@awissd.org](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 [July 10, 2016](#)

**Important Contacts**

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