

## 1997 Women in Bioscience Conference Organizing Committee Update

by Shirley Johnson

The organizing committee for the 1997 Women in Bioscience Conference is off and running, thanks to the willingness of AWIS members as well as local women professionals to volunteer. We have had two meetings so far, and the group is enthusiastic about putting on a successful conference. We are modeling the conference after previous Women in Bioscience conferences held here in San Diego, as these conference have received stellar ratings from attendees.

Past conference committee members have given and continue to give us fantastic support and advice, and we especially appreciate the help and suggestions of past (co)chairs, Lynne Friedmann, Csilla Fenczik, and Teresa Young. In addition, we are taking past attendees' comments from conference evaluation forms to heart, including the recommendation to have conference facilities with a larger common area to promote interaction. So, this year we will hold the conference at a new location, the brand new conference center at the Salk Institute. We are greatly indebted to the Salk Institute for allowing us to use their facility. The conference will be held May 3, 1997, and this year's conference theme is "Making Connections" to emphasize the importance of networking.

As in past years, the conference will consist of plenary sessions followed by concurrently held workshop sessions of panelists. For more information on volunteering to be a speaker or panelist, please see the article entitled "Speakers Needed!"

A registration form is included with this newsletter. Past conferences have always sold out, so don't delay!

### 1997 Women in Bioscience

#### Organizing Committee:

co-chair: Shirley Johnson,  
shirleyj@gen-probe.com  
co-chair: Ann Lee,  
ann.lee@advancedtissue.com

#### Subcommittee Heads:

facilities: Tina Kuus-Reichel,  
tkr@beckman.com  
speakers: Isabel Corcos,  
icorcos@houghten.com  
fund raising: Robin Smith,  
rsmith@isisph.com  
publications: Sandi Parsons,  
sparsons@isisph.com  
publicity: Marcelle Miller Vogel,  
mvbiocom@mycogen.com

## SPEAKERS NEEDED!

by Isabel Corcos

It's time to think about the Women in Bioscience 1997 Conference. This one-day conference to be held on May 3, 1997 will focus on opportunities in the biosciences as well as highlight the achievements of women in science. Women at all levels will benefit from the program as there will be opportunities to learn about a variety of different careers in bioscience.

Women from academia, industry, and business will speak in plenary and workshop sessions, creating an informal, yet professional, atmosphere for women to communicate and to explore the bioscience community. Workshop topics will include research, clinical trials, QA/QC, regulatory, patent & intellectual property, business development, mentoring and education, senior management and entrepreneurship, job hunting and much more.

The main goals of our conference are to:

- highlight achievements of women scientists in the San Diego area.
- introduce women who are entering the biosciences, or who are looking for a career change, to the many career opportunities that exist in science.
- promote networking with other women scientists and science professionals.
- showcase positive role models for students and post-doctoral fellows.

We need your help, however. Please send suggestions for potential speakers to fill up our workshops. Shamelessly promote yourself, exploit your friends, or just suggest someone you think would be a valuable mentor. Please send the person's name, affiliation, address & phone number by email to icorcos@houghten.com or fax 455-2860.

## AWIS To Create A National Registry of Women Scientists

AWIS National has received an 18-month, \$99,728 contract with the Office of Naval Research to create a registry of women scientists. The objective is to develop a multi-disciplinary database registry of women in science and technology, accessible to organizations and individuals interested in increasing the diversity of professionals for applicant pools, review panels, committees, symposia speakers, and media inquires.

To fill the database, AWIS intends to draw from its membership base, and extensive contacts. All women in science are encouraged to participate by filling out a registry survey currently being designed by AWIS.

Once it is up and running, organizations and individuals will be able to access the database by phone, fax, or email. For more information on this exciting project, please contact Kate Durocher at AWIS, phone 202-326-8940; fax 202-326-8960; email durocher@awis.org



## Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair (GSDSEF) 1997

GSDSEF has lost one of its major sponsors and is soliciting donations to help put on the Fair this year. Last year students were charged an entry fee, a policy which they are continuing. This makes it even more difficult for students who are financially disadvantaged to participate. The San Diego AWIS board has approved a \$200.00 donation. A portion of this will help pay the entry fees of students who are unable to finance their own participation in the Science Fair.

If anyone knows of a company or organization that would be interested in providing financial support, contact Jennifer Royce. Also, contact Jennifer if you are interested in being a judge: email jroyce@scripps.edu or call 565-6479.

### About the AWIS Newsletter

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

Editor: Sharon Cherf  
Co-Editors: Barbara Armstrong,  
Csilla Fenczik

Send news items and suggestions to Sharon Cherf, 6455 Lusk Blvd, Q-243M, San Diego, CA 92121. If you would like your article to be included in the next issue, please send your items in by February 15, 1997. For AWIS membership information call the AWIS voice mail line at 619-687-5580.

Please call Sharon Cherf if you are interested in a newsletter position at 651-1148.



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