

NEWSLETTER

Association for Women in Science

- San Diego Chapter -

CALENDAR

October 16 (Sat) -- Women in Bioscience: Opportunities in the Nineties, all-day event on the UCSD campus.

November 13 (Sat) -- Technology Today and Tomorrow, high school science day program, all-day event at General Atomics (see write-up below).

TECHNOLOGY TODAY AND TOMORROW

General Atomics (GA), an energy research and development company, will present a High School Science Day on Saturday, November 13. Entitled "Technology Today and Tomorrow," there will be presentations on both fusion and fission, as well as the opportunity for small groups of students/teachers to visit two laboratories on site and discuss projects with GA scientists and engineers. The day is geared to high school junior and seniors and their teachers in chemistry and physics. For more information contact **Patricia Winter**, General Atomics, 455-3335.

MEMBER NEWS

Barbara Armstrong, of General Atomics Biosciences Division, is part of a company team developing new hands-on teaching units to be used in 7th through 12th grade science classrooms throughout the county. GA, together with San Diego schools, have formed a science education outreach program to develop the teaching aids for city, county, diocese, and private schools. The first teaching units are expected to be ready by early fall.

PUBLISHER WANTED

Anne Cardoza, author of 36 books on career topics, is seeking a publisher for a book on career opportunities for women in bioscience. If you know of a publisher of career-related books who might be interested in this project, contact her at 4174 Hamilton Street, San Diego 92104; phone 295-0961.

WOMEN IN BIOSCIENCE UPDATE

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 16, when AWIS San Diego and UCSD CONNECT will sponsor **Women in Bioscience: Opportunities in the Nineties**. Since an initial call for volunteers, a committee has been formed, facilities booked, catering arranged, speakers invited, and publicity generated. In response to write-ups in the UCSD Guardian, San Diego Biotechnology Calendar, and Society of Women Engineers Newsletter, more than 100 women have called requesting registration information.

Word of the conference is rapidly spreading throughout the state. Representatives from **U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein** and **Mayor Susan Golding** offices will be attending, and **Lt. Governor Leo McCarthy's** office recently contacted the organizing committee requesting the names of top women in biotechnology to participate in a series of industry roundtables.

A fund raising effort directed at the San Diego biotech and service industry is currently underway to help underwrite conference expenses.

AWIS would like to thank the following companies for in-kind donations to date of photocopying, postage, advertising, and office staff time: **Isis Pharmaceuticals**, **La Jolla Institute for Experimental Medicine**, **The Biotechnology Calendar**, and the law firm of **Cooley, Godward, Castro, Huddleson & Tatum**. If your company is interested in making a monetary or in-kind donation, please call 793-3537.

The following women make up the organizing committee and have been hard at work over the past several months to make the Women in Bioscience conference a reality:

Barbara Armstrong, General Atomics
Judy Berlfein, Freelance Science Writer
Rosemary Fellows, La Jolla Inst. for Exper. Medicine
Patricia Ferber, DPR Construction Inc.
Lynne Friedmann, Friedmann Communications
Lisa Grillone, Isis Pharmaceuticals
Joan Kanter, UCSD School of Medicine
Yolanda Nieuwkerk Lerner, Biotechnology Calendar
Sue Lowrey, University of San Diego
Michele Ramirez, Gensia Pharmaceutical, Inc.
Sandra Slivka, Tanabe Research Labs USA
Caroleen Williams, San Diego Supercomputer Center
Elinor Williams, Picnic People

If you haven't registered for the conference, do it today! Space is limited. For a registration form, call 793-3537.

SOUND FAMILIAR?

The following phrases, frequently found in technical writings, are defined here for your edification and enlightenment. (source: *BIOPEOPLE*, Issue 4, 1993)

"It has long been known..." *I haven't bothered to look up the original reference.*

"Of great theoretical and practical importance." *Interesting to me.*

"While it has not been possible to provide definite answers to these questions..." *The experiments didn't work out, but I figured I could get publicity out of it.*

"Extremely high purity." *Composition unknown except for the exaggerated claims of the supplier.*

"Three of the samples were chosen for detailed study." *The results on the others didn't make sense and were ignored.*

"Accidentally stained during mounting." *Accidentally dropped on the floor.*

"Handled with extreme care during the experiment." *Not dropped on the floor.*

"Typical results are shown." *The best results are shown.*

"Presumable at longer times..." *I didn't take the time to find out.*

"These results will be reported at a later date." *I might get around to this sometime.*

"The most reliable values are those of Jones." *He was a student of mine.*

"It is believed that..." *I think.*

"It is generally believed that..." *A couple of other guys think so too.*

"It could be argued that..." *I have such a good answer for this objection that I shall now raise it.*

"It is clear that much additional work will be required before a complete understanding..." *I don't understand it.*

"Correct within an order to magnitude." *Wrong.*

"It is to be hoped that this work will stimulate further work in the field." *This paper is not very good, but neither are any of the others on this miserable subject.*

"Thanks are due to Joe Glotz for assistance with the experiment and to John Doe for valuable discussions." *Glotz did the work and Doe explained what it meant to me.*

CARING FOR AGING PARENTS

Somewhere between raising a family and planning for retirement, one of every four working-age adults will be called on to care for an aging parent.

To prepare for that possibility, the family should sit down together and discuss financial matters. Encourage aging parents to review their current resources and how they plan to pay for housing, food, and health care during their golden years.

Children should ask about their parents' pensions, retirement accounts, home equity, and investment assets. They also should know about any life-insurance policies that might be tapped for emergency cash.

By asking some tough questions, the family can try to estimate how long the parents' assets will last, given current spending habits. Members also can identify resources that may be needed during a sudden illness.

MONEY FOR COLLEGE

Most parents don't start thinking about saving for their child's college education until it is too late. Ideally, a family should start saving for college when their child is still an infant. Setting aside as little as \$260/month over 22 years will amass \$136,200 (assuming a 7 percent after-tax investment return and 7 percent inflation). In case you got off to a late start, there are still ways to amass college cash without wrecking retirement savings. Experts advise:

- **Don't deplete retirement savings** if at all possible. Some 401(k) retirement plans allow borrowing for education, but loans must be repaid within five years.

- **Don't borrow too much.** Often, parents faced with repaying college debts have to postpone retirement plans.

- **Home equity loans** and borrowing against cash-value life insurance policies can provide sources for income. At the present time, home equity loan interest is tax deductible.

- **Look for colleges with endowment money** available to help students needing financial aid.

The AWIS-San Diego newsletter is published bi-monthly 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. Send news items and suggestions to Lynne Friedmann, Editor, 168 Solana Point Circle, Solana Beach, CA 92075; phone 793-3537, fax 793-1144. Deadline for the next newsletter is October 10.