

AWIS Newsletter

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.



Bimonthly Newsletter for AWIS San Diego

Volume 6, Edition 5

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October/November 1998

1998-1999 AWIS Board Members!



Lee Fortunato
Marcelle Miller-Vogel
Sharon Wampler
Chen Xu

Lee Fortunato

I was born and raised on the East Coast, but consider San Diego my home now, as I have been here for about 11 years. After graduating from MIT with my BS in Life Sciences, I decided I needed to "take it easy" and come to graduate school in San Diego. Needless to say, my conception of an easy time was quickly abolished, but several years and milestones later I am still at UCSD. I am now a project scientist in the Biology Dept., and as such am learning the ropes of being an "academic"....writing for grants, teaching classes, "shepherding" students in the lab. Although I am still not sure that academia is where I will be 10 years from now, I am truly enjoying the stimulating and enriching environment that the University setting provides, both scientifically and socially (where else could I take dance and yoga classes for practically NOTHING!!!!).

I view my appointment to the AWIS board as a chance for me to meet some new people (we're all looking for connections, aren't we), to serve the membership at large and most of all, to get the project that is closest to my heart, the mentoring of young girls so that they STAY interested in science, into full swing! I look forward to meeting many of you at our monthly events and in serving the membership to the best of my ability for the next year.

Marcelle Miller-Vogel

Marcelle Miller-Vogel is currently Marketing & Membership Manager for BIOCOM/san diego, reporting directly to the Managing Director. Prior to joining BIOCOM in August 1995, she spent five years in Pharmaceutical marketing and market research for Goldline Laboratories and Baker Norton Pharmaceuticals, both subsidiaries of the IVAX

Corporation (now known as IVX Biosciences), the world's largest generic pharmaceutical manufacturer based in Miami, Florida. She holds a B.A. degree in Media Communications from Florida State University.

She is active with several local organizations, is a board member and Workforce Chair of the Medical Marketing Association San Diego Chapter and is very pleased to join the AWIS board for 1998-1999. Her involvement with AWIS began with the 1997 AWIS Women in Bioscience conference where she served as Publicity Chair, key speaker, panelist and workshop moderator. In other words, Marcelle believes in jumping in wholeheartedly for a worthy cause.

Sharon Wampler

When I moved to San Diego to attend graduate school at UCSD, I never envisioned that ten years later I would still be here. "America's Finest City" has a way of growing on you. Perhaps it is the "sunshine factor", the casual lifestyle, or the availability of numerous outdoor activities that makes it so appealing. In addition to all of these aspects, one other has influenced my decision to call San Diego home - the burgeoning biotech community.

For those of us who have chosen a career in science, San Diego offers opportunities essentially unparalleled in most other areas of the country. This is exciting because it allows for variety and growth in our careers; along with research, we can expand into other areas including publishing, patent law, or business, to name a few. With the recent announcements about Novartis funneling over \$800 million into several new research institutes, it is evident that the opportunities in this locale will continue to grow.

In the context of this flourishing scientific community, AWIS plays an important role. This organization is a rich source of information, camaraderie, and new ideas - an EXCELLENT network for women. Although I have been a member of AWIS for three years and attended several sponsored events, only this year did I become more actively involved. I contemplated, why belong to an organization if I could not contribute something as well as reap the benefits (except to write it on my resume)? The mission of AWIS to support the advancement of women in science is important and I am very excited about serving on the board this year. I hope my decision to become more involved might encourage some of you to attend a happy hour or serve on a committee. You never know what you will learn or who you will meet... and you might even have some fun!

Sharon Wampler grew up outside of Philadelphia, PA. She attended the University of Delaware as an undergraduate and completed her Ph.D. in Biology at UCSD in 1993. Following a post-doc at Ligand Pharmaceuticals, she worked at a start-up biotech (now called Diversa) as a protein biochemist. She currently is a Research Scientist at Immunisol, Inc.

Chen Xu

I was born and raised on the East Coast, not of the U.S. like Lee, but the one that is far away. After finishing my undergraduate and graduate school from Shanghai Medical University 10 years ago, I came to the United States to pursue my dream. After four and a half years of hard work, I received a Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from Purdue University. Since then, I have lived in California, the Midwest, the Southeast and the East Coast for a couple of years working in the biotech industry and as a postdoc in academia in the field of protein chemistry, bioanalytical chemistry, and gene therapy.

My employment experience includes Shanghai Institute for Drug Control, Shanghai, China; Systemix, Inc., a subsidiary of Novartis, based in Palo Alto, California; Prizm Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Selective Genetics), a gene therapy company based in San Diego, California; and currently Molecular Biosystems Inc. in San Diego.

I am very happy to live in San Diego, not only because San Diegan's open mindedness, "relaxed" life style, and ethnic diversity makes me feel at home, but also San Diego's intensive biotech community allows me to stay tuned to the ever changing biomedical field.

The experience of joining AWIS, San Diego Chapter and being a member of the scholarship fundraising committee early this year opened a new window above my daily working bench space. It gives me a very good opportunity to meet new people, make connections, and develop organizational skills. I am sure being an AWIS board member will be another challenge for me. I will enjoy the new learning experience and working with the other AWIS board members to better serve you in 1998.

WELCOME!

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AWIS San Diego News

AWIS PO BOX AWIS San Diego

Earlier this month there was a problem with the AWIS PO BOX address. For those of you who received returned mail, please send your mail again.

The problem has been fixed. Thanks for your patience!

September's Event Financial Seminar

Last month, AWIS held a "Financial Seminar" at the UTC Offices of Solomon Smith Barney. The event was a huge success! Thanks to all of you who attended. Robin Bottomley, Financial Consultant with Solomon Smith Barney, led an informative seminar. For those of you who missed it and for those who attended who would like more information or to meet for a financial consultation, please contact Robin Bottomley at 619.597.7777

Scholarship Committee *Tina Kuus-Reichel*

The AWIS Scholarship Committee will be awarding a \$500 prize to our first recipient.

For more information about the scholarship fund and how to apply, please see the flyer accompanying this newsletter.

Upcoming Events

AWIS October Event *How to Be a Consultant*

Looking for ways to enhance your resume, gain experience, or do more networking?

On Thursday, October 29, from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. you are invited to attend the lecture, "How to Be a Consultant", at 5751 Pacific Center Blvd. (Qualcomm Bldg.), Room 230A.

Here are some of the topics that will be discussed:

- What it's been like working as a consultant
- How to begin consulting
- Start-up procedures
- Marketing
- Accounting and Finance
- Legal Form (i.e., Sole Proprietorship, S-Corp, Corp, LLC, etc)
- Practice Management and Administration

If you are interested in attending, RSVP to Sharon Cherf: e-mail scerf@qualcomm.com or call 619.651.1148. There is no fee, but the room is limited to the first 45 people who RSVP. Speaker: JR Patterson of Patterson Consulting, San Francisco.

Women in Non-Traditional Occupations Exhibit *Women's History Reclamation Project*

From October 16 - December 21, 1998 at 2323 Broadway, Suite 103, Downtown San Diego, the Women in Non-Traditional Occupations Exhibit will be open.

This exhibit will highlight the efforts of ten women from San Diego County who currently hold positions in fields considered non-traditional for women. Woven throughout the exhibit will be an historic pictorial of women trailblazers who have contributed significantly to fields such as science, engineering, technology, etc. They will be featured in a multi-dimensional interactive exhibit targeted to stimulate the interest and enthusiasm of children, teens, and young adults.

Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., weekends by appointment. There is no fee, but contributions are accepted. For more information phone Marcella at 619.233.7963.

The Women's History Reclamation Project was incorporated in 1983 as a non-profit organization dedicated to collecting, preserving, and displaying historical information and educational materials on women's achievements throughout history and today. The Project maintains a research library of over 1,500 books and a collection of archival materials,

operates a Speaker's Bureau and a Community Outreach Program to provide presentations to organizations and classrooms regarding women's history.

Also underway is an Oral History Program which records women's history as told by the women themselves. Future plans include the establishment of a permanent location in San Diego for a Women's History Museum.

Negotiating Strategies and Tactics Lecture

Sponsored by Athena

On Thursday, November 12 from 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m., at the Sheraton Grande Torrey Pines, you are invited to attend a lecture on "Negotiating Strategies and Tactics".

Raising money, forming strategic partnerships, entering into joint ventures, participating in mergers and acquisitions, hiring a new employee, working on a team, and asking your boss for a pay raise and promotion all require successful negotiating skills.

Panelists include:

- Julie Brown, Executive Vice President of Business Development and Planning for DuraPharmaceuticals
- Karen Klaus, President/CEO of Digirad Corporation
- Craig Andrews, Partner at Brobeck Phleger & Harrison LLP and chair of the firm's Business & Technology Group.

Athena facilitates networking among senior women executives of UCSD CONNECT member and sponsor companies.

For further information or reservations, call CONNECT at 619.534.6114 or see <http://www.connect.org/>.

Fee: \$25 for Athena members and \$35 for others.

AWIS December Event

A Holiday Concert with the San Diego Symphony

San Diego FINALLY has their symphony back! Come celebrate the holiday season and support the arts with AWIS on Friday December 11th