



NEWSLETTER

**ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN IN
SCIENCE
PALO ALTO CHAPTER**

<http://www.pa-awis.org/>

<http://www.awis.org/>

May/June 2004

From the President

by Michelle Boytim

Summer is approaching quickly and with it comes the end of this board's term. I have very much enjoyed my time as president of the chapter and I appreciate the hard work of the board and committee chairs. Without their efforts, the chapter would not exist. Thank you to Fong-Yih Bih, Keiko Mitsonubu, Christine Jesser, and Annette Lewis. Special thanks also go out to the new board for volunteering. I know they have some great ideas for the chapter and I look forward to working with them during the transition.

I hope you were able to attend the annual NCC banquet. It is always a fun and inspiring event that honors women who have made significant contributions to mentoring. In addition, each chapter gives scholarships to deserving women in the community. The Northern California Chapters umbrella organization is responsible for raising the funds to support this event and the scholarships given at the banquet. If you would like to find out more about NCC, visit their website at www.nccawis.org.

Upcoming Programs and Events

MAY

- May 11** – ebAWIS Chapter Meeting, Chiron
- May 12** – Palo Alto AWIS Mentoring Meeting
- May 20** – Palo Alto AWIS Chapter Meeting, PARC
- May 22-26** – World Congress on *In Vitro* Biology, SF

JUNE

- June 6-9** – BIO 2004 Convention, SF
- June 22** – Palo Alto AWIS Networking Social, PARC

For more information on these upcoming events, please see flyers on pages 5 and 6, and Calendar of Events on page 7.

Editor's Note

by Angelie Agarwal

This issue of the newsletter contains results from last month's Board elections, as well as information on upcoming AWIS events and activities. Highlights include the final Mentoring meeting of the season, the May PA-AWIS Chapter Meeting, and the June Networking and Ice Cream Social! You will also find a new section: Career Opportunities. Happy Spring!

Election Results!

by Staff Correspondent

Our annual election was held in April, and the results are in! Congratulations to our new Palo Alto chapter board:

- President: Mirella Bucci
- Vice President: Laurence Fayadat
- Secretary: Keiko Mitsonubu
- Treasurer: Rachel Harte
- Member at Large: Debbie Isaksen.

The new board will begin their positions this summer, with a transition over the next few months with the former board. An announcement will be made when the transition board meeting is scheduled.

Thank you to all of you who voted!

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Meeting Highlight

NCC AWIS Annual Awards Banquet

by Staff Correspondent

The 10th Annual Awards Banquet was held on April 29th this year, at Genentech. As usual, there was a full house of about 100 people. If you have never attended the banquet, please try to come next year. It is a great party with a catered sit-down dinner, wine, flowers and tablecloths – the works! Scholarships, awards and short talks formed the bulk of the short after-dinner program.

Each year, three women are honored with awards that recognize their dedication to mentoring other women in science. The 2004 award recipients are:

Judith Pool award – **Elaine S. Yamaguchi, Ph.D.**
Chevron Oronite Company

Distinguished Professional – **Susan L. Bernhard, Ph.D.**, Elan Pharmaceuticals

Ellen Weaver award – **Maureen A. Scharberg, Ph.D.**,
San Jose State University

ABOUT THE AWARDS

Judith Pool Award

The Judith Pool award is given to a woman who is senior in her career, and well-established in her field – usually a research scientist. In addition to scientific achievement, the award recipient will have placed a priority on mentoring and helping other women in science. Judith Pool, Ph.D. was very active in promoting opportunities for women in the field of medicine and science. She was the founding co-President of National AWIS in 1971, and the founder and first chairwoman of the Professional Women of Stanford Medical School. Dr. Pool was an exceptional scientist, who made major contributions to the fields of physiology and hematology. Her method for purifying Factor VIII from plasma has greatly improved the lives of hemophiliacs. In 1972, Dr. Pool was promoted to full Professor, one of the first two women to attain this position at Stanford Medical School. She was married and raised three children. Judith Pool died of cancer in 1975, at age 56.

Ellen Weaver Award

The Ellen Weaver award is given to a woman who is relatively junior in her chosen field of science. In addition to scientific achievement, the award recipient will have placed a priority on mentoring and helping other women in science. Dr. Weaver was a friend of Judith Pool and was the first Membership Chair for National AWIS. Dr. Weaver has been a member of AWIS since 1971, and served as National AWIS president from 1992-93. Dr. Weaver earned a B.A. in chemistry, an M.A. in biological sciences from Stanford and a Ph.D. in genetics from UC Berkeley. She worked as an analytical chemist for the Manhattan Project, for Standard Oil of Ohio and Stanford Research Institute, before joining the faculty of San Jose State University where she taught for many years. In addition, Dr. Weaver served as Director of the SJSU Foundation and as Interim Executive Vice President. After retiring in 1991, she served as Associate Dean for Development in the College of Science. Dr. Weaver is an ardent conservationist and is on the board of The Textbook League which works towards the improvement of secondary texts in science, history, social sciences, geography and health.

Distinguished Professional Award

The Distinguished Professional award was established in 2000. It is given to a woman who continues to promote career development for women scientists, while her professional role has moved her away from the research bench into administrative, teaching, management or other spheres of influence.



BioGENEius Award Winner

by Staff Correspondent

AWIS-Palo Alto and the Society for In Vitro Biology have selected Michael Lin of Saratoga High School for the first Synopsis Championship BioGENEius Award, presented at Great America on April 4th. Michael's project is titled "Context-Dependent Binding by the MYC Oncoprotein: The Cellular Basis for Sustainable Tumor Regression". Our chapter and SIVB provided a \$100 cash prize along with a certificate and a 3 year subscription to Your World magazine, which focuses on issues in biotechnology.

Thank you to Fong-Yih Bih, Louise Handly and Katy Korsmeyer for volunteering their time and expertise to judge the award on behalf of the chapter!

Michael has been working on this project for several years at Stanford University. He will be attending Stanford next year and continuing his research. Michael will have the chance to compete for the International BioGENEius award at the June BIO conference. Congratulations and good luck!

News and Happenings

Good News from our Members

Congratulations!

Nancy Jennerjohn has been accepted to the UCLA Doctoral Program in Environmental Health Sciences.

Susan Bernhard was honored at the NCC-AWIS banquet with the Distinguished Professional Award.

Have good news to report? Send it to the Newsletter. You can submit articles online at <http://www.pa-awis.org/activities/articleform.htm>.



Volunteer Opportunities

Webmistress Needed!

Sophia Kuo, one of our webmistresses is planning on stepping down this year. We are looking for someone to help maintain our website. Previous experience with Microsoft FrontPage is helpful, but not necessary. If you are interested, please contact our webteam at:

pa_webteam@yahoo.com

Volunteers Inspire by Example!

April 18-24th was National Volunteer Week. Thank you to all who volunteered their time and expertise on behalf of Mentoring, Outreach, Programs and the Newsletter. Our chapter couldn't provide all these services and events if it weren't for our members and volunteers! Not only do we benefit personally and professionally, but our communities benefit as well when we volunteer.

Give yourselves a pat on the back, a round of applause and a cheer! You are much appreciated. Keep up the good work and spread the word!



Mentoring

Mentoring Events: Spring 2004

by Susan Bernhard and Adina Paytan, Mentoring co-Chair 2003-04

On May 12th, there will be a dinner meeting on the Stanford campus that will feature a panel discussion on 'Career Paths and Transitions'. There will be four fabulous, friendly and diverse panelists: Angelie Agarwal, Marilyn Barrett, Ali Boehm and Jing Tang. The speakers are from both academia and industry, physical and biological science. One is engaged, one is married with children, one just started a first job after her postdoc, one is an associate professor, another has 10 years in industry. Each speaker will briefly describe her career path and respond to questions from the audience. The program will raise awareness about the different ways to mix life with science, and how each woman carves out her own path and explores diverse options. We will talk about trade-offs, transitions and timing. Please RSVP to mentoring@yahoo.com for more information.

Let us hear from you! There is a short (10 questions) feedback form on the Palo Alto AWIS webpage for both mentors and protégées. Please let us know how the program worked for you and what we can do better. Results will be shared at the May 12th meeting.

We held an informal Mentor Social on April 8th to thank our mentors past and present for their great gift of energy, ideas and time. 20 mentors attended the social, and we enjoyed each other's company and the chance to chat. The Palo Alto AWIS Mentoring Program is about to wrap up its 14th year and we discussed many ways to reinvent and improve the program next year. If you would like to volunteer as a mentor, or find out more about the program, please contact us at mentoring@yahoo.com.

Sunset Walks Resume

Do you enjoy nature? Like to get out and walk? This spring, we have had two Saturday morning walks (one at the Baylands and one in Pacifica). Now that daylight savings time is in effect, we can resume our weekday sunset walks. We usually walk around the 'Dish' near Stanford, between 6pm and 8pm. Want to join a small group for informal networking, and unwind after a busy day? Contact Susan.Bernhard@elan.com for details.

Summer Reading List

We have an extensive list of recommended summer reading, depending on what you need to know. We think these make great gift books and they are good references to have in your personal library as well.

- Getting It Right: How Working Mothers Successfully Take Up the Challenge of Life, Family and Career by Lorraine T Zappert
- The Door In The Dream: Conversations With Eminent Women in Science by Elga Wasserman
- Patently Female: From AZT to TV Dinners (women inventors) by Ethlie A Vare
- How To Say It For Women: Communicating With Confidence and Power by Phyllis Mindell
- Be Your Own Mentor: Strategies from Top Women
- The Creative Habit by Twyla Tharp
- 96 Great Interview Questions to Ask Before You Hire by Paul Falcone

Career Opportunities

Research Assistant, Exelixis

Support the development of biochemical and cell-based assays for high-throughput screening and evaluation of lead optimization compounds. Conduct high-throughput screens of the Exelixis Discovery Library, confirmation of active compounds and evaluation of confirmed compounds including IC50 determinations. Careful laboratory skills/good record keeping required. Tissue culture experience a plus. BS in a biological science required, prefer background in biochemistry or cell biology. Experience in drug discovery desirable

Research Assistant, Exelixis

Develop and perform cell-based assays for GPCRs to support screening, lead validation and chemical optimization of small molecule drugs. Perform tissue culture, characterization of lead compound activity, mechanism of action, selectivity profiling, data analysis and report preparation. Work in a dynamic team environment interacting with scientists in New Lead Discovery and Molecular Pharmacology. The successful candidate will be capable of working independently as part of a project team. BS/MS in a biological science; industrial experience highly desirable. Ability to maintain accurate and timely written reports and to handle large data sets. Experience in tissue culture, cell-based assay development, and familiarity with signal transduction methodology is required. Familiarity with automated liquid handling, plate readers and robotics is desirable.

Association for Women In Science

Palo Alto Chapter

Manage Your Own Performance Profile Tips for Career and Leadership Development

By Krista Henley, M.A., LMFT, and Rossella Derickson,
www.Corporate-Wisdom.com

It is extremely important during career transitions to evaluate your performance and the key areas that were your stumbling blocks with your previous employer. Courageously facing past performance issues can guarantee that you don't repeat negative experiences. Understanding blind spots and belief systems, often at the root of poor communication and performance, allows awareness and learning to replace resistance and misunderstandings. Using a leadership development checklist, participants can begin to examine workplace and career limitations that often remain a mystery without safe and effective feedback. Participants will learn simple introspection tools that will help them to self-examine and manage performance challenges. **Krista Henley, M.A., LMFT**, and **Rossella Derickson**, have translated their business experience into the Wisdom in the Workplace training modules, to coach and to teach individual and group dynamics. Ideas presented will be applicable to scientists in all stages of career development.

DATE:	Thursday, May 20, 2004
LOCATION:	PARC Auditorium
	3333 Coyote Hill Road, Palo Alto
RSVP:	RSVP online http://www.acteva.com/go/pa-awis

Schedule

7:00-7:30 pm	Networking and light supper
7:30-7:45 pm	Announcements
7:45-8:45 pm	Program
8:45-9:00 pm	Discussion

Welcome!! This Meeting is free. You don't need to be a Member to attend. All scientists, students, and their friends are welcome. Men too! We ask for a \$5 donation to cover the cost of food.

Directions from the North:

Take Hwy 280 SOUTH, exit at Page Mill Rd and at the bottom of the ramp turn LEFT and head towards Palo Alto. Turn RIGHT onto Coyote Hill Road. PARC (formerly Xerox PARC) is on the left, just past the crest of the hill. Enter main door and look for signs to the Auditorium.

Directions from the South:

Take Hwy 280 NORTH, exit at Page Mill Road, turn RIGHT at the bottom of the off ramp and head up hill towards Palo Alto. Turn RIGHT onto Coyote Hill Road. PARC is on the left, (follow directions above).

ALTERNATE: Take Hwy 101, exit at Oregon Expressway heading west towards Stanford. As you cross El Camino, Oregon is renamed Page Mill Road. Follow Page Mill Road WEST, cross Foothill Expressway, and take a LEFT on Coyote Hill Road. PARC is on the left, (follow directions above to Auditorium).

LOCAL (from Stanford): Take Foothill SOUTH towards Los Altos, and turn RIGHT at Page Mill Road heading WEST. Turn LEFT onto Coyote Hill Road. PARC is on the left, (follow directions above to Auditorium).

See also <http://www.parc.com/company/directions.html> for map/directions

Midsummer Networking & Ice Cream Social

We will enjoy fresh fruit and ice cream with informal networking, and then play structured networking games.

- We will introduce an effective networking game that enables you to meet and exchange information with many people in a very short time.
- Afterwards, we will break up into small groups, based on interests.
- You will get to meet EVERYONE in an informal, friendly setting!
- Come to polish up your 'introduction', exchange cards, share networking skills, make new friends, and find out who's doing what in Bay Area science.

DATE: Tuesday, June 22, 2004
TIME: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
LOCATION: PARC Auditorium
 3333 Coyote Hill Rd, Palo Alto
PLEASE RSVP at <http://www.acteva.com/go/pa-awis>

Please bring your business card or facsimile to be included in the contact sheet and to be eligible for the door-prize drawing!

Schedule

7:00-7:30 pm Networking and light Supper
 7:30-7:45 pm Announcements
 7:45-8:45 pm Program
 8:45-9:00 pm Wrap-up

- ***Welcome!! You do not need to be a Member to attend.***
- ***We ask for a \$5 donation to help cover the cost of food.***
- ***All scientists, students, and their friends are welcome! Men too!***

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CALENDAR of EVENTS

**ebAWIS Chapter Meeting:
May/June**

Tuesday, May 11, 2004
6:30-8:30pm

What Mad Cow Disease (BSE) has to
Teach Us

Paul J. Shadle
Shadle Consulting

Chiron Corporation
420 Horton Street
Emeryville

**Palo Alto Chapter Meeting:
May/June**

Thursday, May 20, 2004
7:00-9:00 pm

Manage Your Own Performance
Profile: Tips for Career and
Leadership Development

PARC Auditorium
3333 Coyote Hill Road, Palo Alto
see flyer on page 4 for details

Tuesday, June 22, 2004
7:00-9:00 pm

Mid-summer Networking and Ice
Cream Social

PARC Auditorium
3333 Coyote Hill Road, Palo Alto
see flyer on page 5 for details

BioScience Forum

www.bioE2E.org

**sfAWIS Chapter Meeting:
March/April**

For details, please visit:
www.nccawis.org/chapters/sfawis/sfAWISHome.html

WILS

Women Leaders in Science
Seminar Series

Parnassus HSW 300
UCSF

For details, please visit:
<http://itsa.ucsf.edu/~wils/WILS.html>

**Institute for Women and
Technology**

www.iwt.org

**Sacramento AWIS Chapter
Meeting**

Monday, May 10, 2004
7:00 pm

An Empowerment Seminar

Zondra Evans
Empowering Women

Fair Oaks Community Library
11601 Fair Oaks Blvd
Fair Oaks, CA 95628

For details, please visit:
www.nccawis.org/chapters/sacvalley/sacvalleyhp.html

**Professional Business
Women of California**

May 4, 2004

15th Annual PBWC Conference

Moscone Center
San Francisco

For details, please visit:
www.pbwc.org

**Healthcare
Businesswoman's
Association**

www.hbanet.org/chapters/sanfran.asp

**Women Chemist's
Committee**

www.calacs.org

**Society for In Vitro
Biology**

Society for In Vitro Biology Meeting

May 22-26
San Francisco
<http://www.sivb.org>
Kary Mullis is keynote speaker!

**ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN
IN SCIENCE
PALO ALTO CHAPTER**

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Chapter dues \$25.00 per year. Student/unemployed \$10.00. Membership in National AWIS required. Pick up an application at a chapter meeting or visit the web site!



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ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE
PALO ALTO CHAPTER

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