

AWIS

ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE

Washington Wire

Edited by Rachel Britt, PhD

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Dear Lauren,

With Women's History Month upon us, we will hear so much about the work we still have to do, the ground not yet gained. We will hear about birth control, women in leadership, sexual harassment, and work-life integration. Here at AWIS, we know there aren't enough women leaders in STEM. We know pregnant women are still discriminated against, that gender bias still impacts the workplace, and paid family leave isn't a universal right. We all know that there are still barriers holding women back.

It, too, is important to remember how far we have come and remind ourselves that we work hard every day for ourselves, our families, and for our fellow women. We can reflect on the great women who help lead our country, like Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Senator Kristen Gillibrand, First Lady Michelle Obama, and a few others including Dr. Cheryl Martin, Interim Director of the [Advanced Research Projects Agency - Energy](#), Maryam Mirzakhani, an Iranian mathematician and professor at Stanford University, who is the first woman to ever win the Fields Medal, she is also on the cover of the winter edition of [AWIS Magazine](#).

Member Profile

Lauren Dembeck

Member Type:

Junior

Member Expiration:

2/4/2015

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Featured Jobs

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As we celebrate Women's History Month with a glance toward the future, we should also remember to reflect on the women who came before us, and the women who are fighting alongside us right now, working to make a difference for future generations.

Sincerely,

Allison J. Kimble
Communications Manager

Questions/Comments? Email us at awis@awis.org or call [703.894.4490](tel:703.894.4490). We love hearing from you.

Careers

Contributed by Shabnum Patel

Best Paying Jobs for Women

While women today still earn \$0.78 for every dollar a man earns, a recent White House report claims that in dual-income households, women are the primary breadwinner one-third of the time. However, it's not all gloom for women workers, particularly in STEM fields. Some of the best paying jobs for woman in 2015 include sales engineers, nurse anesthetists, petroleum engineers, and physicists.

[\\$STEM jobs](#)

3 Must-Do's for Career Advancement

The Financial Women's Association recently took a poll to see what women must do to help advance their own careers. Both men and women were polled and the top three must-do's included moving outside your comfort zone, advocating for yourself, and increasing use of potential connections and networks.

[Advance your career](#)

Education

Contributed by Jaime Smith

Feds Support Transgender Teen in Lawsuit against Schools

The federal government has offered its support for a teen, born female but identifies and lives as a male, who is accusing Michigan school districts of transgender discrimination. The mother of the teen sued the districts for

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failing to protect her child from bullying. The government's involvement in this case represents a significant milestone in transgender policy.

[Feds against bullying](#)

5 Steps to Help Make College Saving Manageable
Skyrocketing tuition and mounting student loan debt makes saving for college a daunting task. That's why the Northwestern MutualVoice Team shared tips for how a family can go about planning for their child's higher education. Among the pointers, they recommend opening a college savings account, starting the saving process early, and getting your children involved. Encouraging kids to set aside part of their earnings can go a long way toward achieving your goal.

[A penny saved is a penny learned](#)

Science and Technology

Contributed by KengJin Lee

Why Is It So Hard To Understand Science?

While it might be easy for people with non-scientific backgrounds to talk about other subjects they do not completely understand such as politics, deflated footballs, or reality television - most come to a roadblock when discussing science. Why is that? Education and a host of other factors are part of the problem. This is concerning because a lack of scientific understanding and communication may lead to the return of diseases we once thought conquered and to falling behind other nations in scientific breakthroughs.

[Talk nerdy to me](#)

Hi-Tech Shirts to Help Autism

Keeping track of special needs children who may wander away from supervision has been a long-standing problem. Lauren Thierry, whose son is autistic, created Independence Day Clothing, a line of clothing that carries GPS devices to find lost kids. The GPS devices in these clothes, unlike traditional devices such as anklets and bracelets, are lightweight, wireless, and fit into a small pocket sewn into every garment. The clothes also have features such as reversibility to help kids dress themselves.

[Special shirts for special needs](#)

Work-Life Integration

Contributed by Lauren Dembeck

Franz Kafka on Work-Life Balance

Were he alive today, Franz Kafka, one of the most influential writers of the 20th century, would be considered a workaholic of sorts. He wrote and re-wrote stories about his daily activities in an attempt to obtain perfection and considered personal pleasures to be distractions. However, his formal literary products were few. Nearing his death from tuberculosis, he reflected upon work-life balance in his diary acknowledging the unintended consequences of his approach.

[Kafkas thoughts](#)

Volunteering may improve feelings of work-life balance

Though many people argue they don't have time to volunteer, it may be worthwhile to make time for it. A recent study of Swiss workers showed that individuals who volunteer feel less burnout and better mental health than those who do not. These personal gains may enhance



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productivity in the long run.

[Volunteer for yourself](#)

Health

Contributed by Jaime Smith

Feeding Infants Peanut Products Could Prevent Allergies

A new study in the New England Journal of Medicine suggests that most peanut allergies can be prevented by feeding children peanut products from infancy. With peanut allergies on the rise, this compelling study, which turns conventional wisdom upside down, could have significant clinical implications. Current American Academy of Pediatrics guidelines recommend that peanuts be withheld from at-risk children until three years of age.

[Sometimes you feel like a nut](#)

Contributed by Rachel Britt

Longer-term Risk for Depression after a Stillbirth

While symptoms of depression are normal expressions of grief for a woman immediately after a stillbirth, the symptoms can extend up to 3 years. This is much longer than the normal 6 months usually associated with the grieving process. This new finding, recently published in Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology, could have important mental health screening implications for women years after a stillbirth.

[Support after stillbirth](#)

Editor's Choice

[Women are Leaving the Tech Industry in Droves](#)

[Support Women of Color in STEM](#)



Events

[AWIS Webinar: Flops and Failures: Using Mistakes to Learn and Maximize Success](#)

Wednesday, March 11, 2015

[National Postdoctoral Association 2015 Annual Meeting](#)

Friday, March 13 - Sunday, March 15, 2015

[Society of Women Engineers Capitol Hill Day: Diversity and Inclusion Fuels Innovation in STEM](#)

Wednesday, March 18 - Thursday, March 19, 2015

For more information on upcoming events for 2014, or to register for an event, visit the [AWIS Events Calendar](#) online!



Opportunities

BBRG Scholars-in-Residence Program

The BBRG Scholars-in-Residence Program is open to senior and junior faculty (tenured and untenured), visiting scholars, postdoctoral scholars and independent scholars, from any country, whose work is centrally on gender and women. Applicants must have received their Ph.D. (or its equivalent) at least one year prior to the projected beginning of their residency at BBRG. Applicants must have received their Ph.D. (or its equivalent) at least one year prior to the projected beginning of their residency at BBRG.

Applications due by March 15, 2015.

2015 AAMC Learning Health System Research Learner award

This award allows individuals to connect with leaders in the field as a means to advance their own professional development and rise as a leader at their own institution. LHS Learners are interested in focused learning opportunities and in bridging connections between research, clinical care, and education at their institution. Awarded LHS Learners will be invited to the LHS Research Award kick-off meeting on Thursday, February 12, 2015 at the AAMC headquarters in Washington, DC. Travel and lodging fees will be waived for the LHS Learner awardees. To apply, please email your current CV and contact information to rocc@aamc.org.

BBRG Affiliated Scholars Program

The BBRG Affiliated Visiting Scholars Program is designed to accommodate scholars who would like to spend a relatively short period of time in residence, ranging from one month to six months. The BBRG Affiliated Visiting Scholars Program is open to senior and junior faculty (tenured and untenured), visiting scholars, postdoctoral scholars and independent scholars, from the U.S. and abroad, whose work is centrally on women and gender. Applicants must have the Ph.D. (or its equivalent) in hand one year prior to the beginning of the appointment. (Applications accepted throughout the academic year)

Travel Award Program for Early Career Investigators

Keystone Symposia on Molecular and Cellular Biology will offer a limited number of travel awards to early career investigators at the Assistant Professor or equivalent industry scientist level.

Small Business Postdoctoral Research Diversity Fellowship

The Small Business Postdoctoral Research Diversity Fellowship program aims to encourage creative and highly-trained recipients of doctoral degrees in NSF-supported science, technology, engineering and mathematical disciplines to engage in hands-on research projects in their areas of expertise at the kind of small innovative businesses that historically have fueled the nation's economic regime. Each research fellow will receive a stipend of at least \$75,000 plus health insurance benefits.

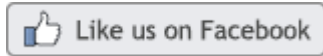
NSF's Career-Life Balance (CLB) Initiative

Scientists now have the opportunity to submit supplemental funding requests to support additional personnel (e.g., research technicians or equivalent). This will help sustain research when the Principal Investigator is on family leave.

White House OSTP Internship Program

The Office of Science and Technology Policy advises the President on the effects of science and technology on domestic and international affairs. The office serves as a source of scientific and technological analysis and judgment for the President with respect to major policies, plans and programs of the Federal Government. Interns are accepted for one of three annual terms (Spring, Summer, or Fall), which each last no more than 90 days. While these positions are without compensation, the assignments provide educational enrichment, practical work experience, and network opportunities with other individuals in the

science and technology policy arena. For questions, please contact Rebecca Grimm rgrimm@ostp.eop.gov.



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