

AWIS

ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE

Washington Wire

Edited by Rachel Britt

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Dear (Contact First Name),

For 45 years, the Association for Women in Science (AWIS) has been dedicated to championing women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). That's why, when we received a notice from the White House Council on Women and Girls about its upcoming Summit on the United State of Women in Washington, DC on June 14, we wanted to share this opportunity with you, our members.

The Council wants to find real-life heroes who are showing their commitment to gender equity through action. [If you know someone whose story should be recognized at the Summit, you can nominate him or](#)

Member Profile

Rachel Britt

Member Type:

6/4/2016 0:00

Member Expiration:

Professional

Featured Jobs

Supervisory Medical

Officer

SAMHSA

Rockville, MD

[her \(or yourself\) here](#). They're looking for individuals who are leading in these six key areas:

1. Educational opportunity and STEM
2. Economic prosperity
3. Entrepreneurship and innovation
4. Civic engagement, leadership, and visibility
5. Preventing violence against women
6. Women's health

So, if you know someone whose work ought to be recognized, [make sure to nominate him or her](#) before May 16 at www.theunitedstateofwomen.org.

Best wishes,



Janet Bandows Koster

Careers

Contributed by Sophia Jeon

Could the Fifties Be the Most Exciting Phase of Your Career and Life?

People have changing personal priorities throughout their life, depending on their life stage. Many employers are starting to rethink traditional career phases and are taking a more gender-balanced approach that would allow employees to look after personal priorities while continuing to grow and develop their careers. Young mothers may prefer having flexible work schedules and focusing more on family while women in their 50s may wish to experience new and more exciting career opportunities.

[Career in your 50s](#)

How to Stop Having "A Bad Week" at Work

Everyone has a bad day once in a while. However, if you think that you had two bad days in a row on Monday and Tuesday, you may be more likely to believe that it is a pattern and make the rest of week worse. According to a study from the University of Leicester in England, remembering and affirming values that are important to you can help alleviate stress, improve performance and turn a bad week around.

[Turn that frown upside down](#)

Career Advice You Rarely Hear

Dean, Brody School of Medicine

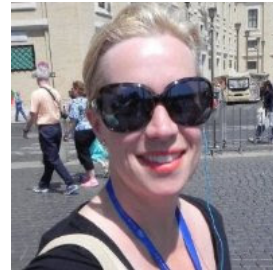
East Carolina University
Greenville, NC

Faculty - Assist./Assoc.

Van Andel Research
Institute
Grand Rapids, MI

[Click here to visit the AWIS Career Center!](#)

AWIS Member Spotlight



Margo Lee, PhD

Margo has been president of the AWIS Austin affiliate since 2014 and an AWIS member since 1995. She earned her PhD in science and technology policy with specialization in biotech policy from George Mason University and received her training at the National Institutes of Health, National Center for Human Genome Research and at the National Cancer Institute.

[Learn more about Margo here.](#)

If you are tired of the same old career advice you see online, here are a few fresh pieces of career wisdom you may not have encountered yet. Thirteen people with a wide range of jobs, including an entrepreneur, CEOs and a career coach suggest not looking too busy and going to happy hours with your colleagues. They also suggest going out of your way to help others, even if they may be old colleagues who left or the next person to do your job.

[13 pieces of career advice](#)

Education

Contributed by Lauren M. Dembeck

All of Google's Computer Science Education Resources in One Place

Did you know Google offers many computer science education resources for people of all ages? For example, "Made with Code" was implemented to inspire girls to code. Google's new CS Education website has four main topics: "Learn Computer Science," "Participate in Academic Opportunities," "Access Career Opportunities" and "Meet Our Partners." The motivation for the site is to offer students a "pathway to innovation, to creativity, and to exciting career opportunities."

[One stop shop](#)

Business Leaders and Governors Urge Congress to Require Computer Science Education

Despite the ubiquitous need for computer proficiency and coding in the workplace, 75% of K-12 schools in the U.S. do not offer any computer science (CS) classes. The Computer Science Education Coalition asked Congress to provide \$250 million for CS programs across the nation. The group contends CS is a basic skill that needs to be included in the curriculum.

[Funding CS learning](#)

Science and Technology

Contributed by Mrinalini Muralidharan

Nanowire Batteries Could Last a Lifetime



MESOTHELIOMA RESEARCH FUNDING

The Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation (Meso Foundation) requests proposals for its 2016 round of research grant funding. The Meso Foundation (formerly known as MARF) will award grants of **\$100,000 each**, \$50,000 per year for two years, for innovative mesothelioma benchwork, translational or clinical research that is not presently funded or pending review. **The application deadline is August 5, 2016.**

Details on how to apply are listed on the Meso Foundation's website at curemeso.org/apply and accepted directly through the Proposal Central system operated by Altum.com.

curemeso.org

A vertical advertisement for New Scientist magazine. The background is a red stadium with a person lying face down on the seats. Text on the ad reads: "There are five different types of boredom..." followed by "AVOID THEM ALL" in large yellow letters, and "Subscribe now" below. At the bottom, there are images of New Scientist magazine covers and the text "New Scientist #LiveSmarter".

Join the Conversation!



A usual iPhone battery begins to decay after 300-400 charges. Researchers from University of California-Irvine serendipitously invented nanowire-based battery material that can be recharged hundreds of thousands of times, moving us closer to a battery that would never need replacement. The breakthrough work could lead to commercial batteries with greatly lengthened lifespans for computers, smartphones, cars and even spacecraft.

[Charged up](#)

Your Skull - The Last Password You Would Ever Need

Traditional passwords are impossible to escape and can be easily hacked. German researchers describe a new biometric system using skull echoes to identify people with up to 97% accuracy. Google Glass with microphones were used to listen to minute differences in how sounds reverberate inside people's skulls. Extensive real world testing is still needed before you can use this technology to log into your bank account, though.

[Use your head](#)

Super Stretchy Plastic Can Heal Itself

Researchers have created a material that can stretch to 45 times its original length and is capable of self-healing when punctured. It also twitches like a muscle when jolted in an electric field. These properties make the material an ideal starting place for the development of prosthetics with the ability to perform human-like movements controlled by electrical signals from a wearer's brain.

[Artificial muscle](#)

Menstrual Cycle in Space?

Sally Ride's tampons might have been the most-studied tampons in the world. With women now participating in long term space missions, the practicality of having periods in space is being questioned. A study in the journal *Microgravity* also surveys different birth control methods to assess which might be best for women colonizing the cosmos.

[End it . . . period!](#)

Work-Life Integration

Contributed by Keng Jin Lee

Lessons from the World's Happiest Countries

The U.S. landed the 13th spot in the latest United Nations' annual World Happiness Report, which indicates there is room for improvement. Denmark leads this list, mostly due to their healthy work-life balance. The most surprising stat? People in Denmark devote 68% of their day, or 16.3 hours, to personal care and leisure.

[Defining happiness](#)

Startups Offer Less Work-Life Balance, but Better Pay for Women

A new study shows that in early-stage startups, the gender wage gap is about 4%, which is lower than in major corporation's, where the difference is 7%. Lead author Jessica Kirkpatrick says it is likely the increased compensation at startups is to make up for less control over work-life balance, fewer benefits (including parental leave) and infamously unbalanced gender environments. She also found that when women get multiple job offers, they only go with the higher-paying job about half of the time.

[Money isn't everything](#)

Health

Contributed by Michelle Gomes

Fertility Experts Divided on Mosaic Embryos

Advances in technology enable better detection of abnormal and normal cells within an embryo during in vitro fertilization (IVF). However, such mosaic embryos could result in a spectrum of outcomes from a healthy baby to a baby with severe birth defects. Recently, researchers reported a 40% IVF success rate with the so-called mosaic embryos, leading fertility experts to debate what to do if mosaics were the only viable IVF embryos a couple had left.

[Hidden mosaicism](#)

Why We Experience First Night Insomnia

If you have ever had a hard time falling asleep in a new place, it may be because the left half of your brain is staying partially awake to keep watch. The phenomenon is known as the "first night effect," when the vigilant half of the brain is thought to serve as a "night watchman." This could provide protection when sleeping in new environments, where we have minimal information about possible threats.

[Brain night watch](#)

Greenness Associated with Reduced Chronic Diseases in the Elderly

A new study by public health researchers showed that higher levels of greenness, or vegetative presence, including trees and grass in low-to-middle income neighborhoods, are associated with significantly reduced rates of chronic illnesses like diabetes, hypertension and cholesterol among the older population. The green space encourages increased time outdoors, physical activity, social interaction and seemingly provides health benefits that enhance quality of life.

[Greenspace for health](#)

Opportunities

National Institute of Justice Funding Opportunity

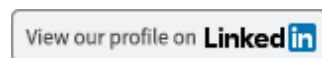
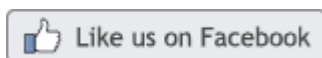
Two of the National Institute of Justice's (NIJ) program offices, the Office of Science and Technology and the Office of Research and Evaluation, jointly support a new solicitation for community corrections - the Technology Research, Development, and Evaluation to Improve Supervision and Outcomes.

The goal of this solicitation is to improve supervision and outcomes by advancing the state-of-the-art of the technologies used for electronic monitoring. To accomplish this goal, NIJ will be seeking proposals for funding in two topic areas:

1. Development and evaluation of smart technologies that include Artificial Intelligence solutions for community supervision.
2. Development of improved means to monitor the location of individuals under supervision in the community, including the use of mobile devices.

The deadline for applications under this funding opportunity is May 19.

[For more information, click here.](#)



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