

# AWIS

ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE

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## Washington Wire

Edited by Rachel Britt

Issue II November 2016



Dear Lauren,

Thank you for celebrating all our Smart Women Doing Cool Stuff in STEM on #GivingTuesday. Many women were deservedly recognized as a result. We are excited to welcome many new members to the AWIS community and continue to raise the visibility of brilliant women in STEM!

While #GivingTuesday may be over, AWIS will continue with our campaign of donations and gift memberships through the end of the year. Your tax-deductible donation not only gives her personalized recognition from AWIS but goes to support AWIS research and advocacy in driving equitable practices in STEM workplaces.

Let's make recognizing the women you care about a new way of celebrating the season of giving! [Click here](#) if you would like to make a donation or gift membership.

## Member Profile

**Lauren Dembeck**  
**Member Type: Junior**  
**Expiration: 8/26/17 0:00**



**Featured Jobs**

Thank you once again to members, allies, and sponsors for your generosity. And welcome to the new members of the AWIS community

Sheri Potter,  
Director of Community and Stakeholder  
Engagement  
Association for Women in Science

## Careers

Contributed by Lauren M. Dembeck

### Encore Careers Becoming a Trend in the U.S.

*Financial Times* Associate Editor Lucy Kellaway recently announced she would be leaving after 30 years as a journalist to become a math teacher. This is an encore career. Lucy hopes to encourage others at mid-life to consider switching to a more rewarding, though lower-paying, job. Read on for examples of individuals who have made this life change and about training opportunities for those who seek to do so.

[2nd acts for the greater good](#)

### Seven Highest Paying Jobs for Women and Men

Data collected in the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey shows that women in some of the highest-paying professions are particularly affected by the gender pay gap. For example, female physicians and surgeons earn on average 71 cents for every 1 dollar earned by men in the same job. See the lists in the link below to find more examples and statistics on the professions.

[Career comparisons](#)

## Education

Contributed by Mrinalini Muralidharan

### A Break in Graduate Studies is a Gamble

Ever considered hitting the pause button on your Ph.D.? The pressure to barrel through a graduate degree without a break can be disheartening. This

### Senior Scientific Researcher Applied Proteomics Group, Protein Sciences

Genentech  
South San Francisco,  
California

### Chief Technology Officer

The National Institutes of  
Health  
Bethesda, Maryland

### Professor of Ecology, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

Princeton University  
Princeton, New Jersey

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

## AWIS Member Spotlight



### Dr. Aiman Sadvakas

Professor; Associate Dean,  
College of Science, Purdue  
University

Dr. Aiman Sadvakas teaches clinical laboratory diagnostics and molecular medicine at Kazakh National Medical University. She has previously interned at the Buck Institute for Research on Aging in the USA, specializing in molecular genetics. In June, Aiman traveled to the Innovation Center of Moscow to present

article provides perspectives of those who took time off, as well as some tips on successfully managing a break.

[Give me a break](#)

### **Dutch Science Academy: Men Need Not Apply**

The Royal Netherland Academy of Arts and Sciences plans to hold special 'women only' elections to recruit 16 members over 2 years. While it is the boldest step of any science organization to address the underrepresentation of women, it has also attracted some criticism.

[Votes for women](#)

## **Science, Technology, & Health**

Contributed by Sophia Jeon

### **To Floss or Not to Floss: That Is the Question**

Remember a study from a few months ago that found flossing does not result in measurable oral health benefits? It caused a lot of stir in- and outside the dental research and dental practice communities, leading some to believe they should ditch their dentists' advice to floss regularly because science said it wasn't worth the effort. This *New York Times* article attributes the confusion to common misconceptions about the relation between scientific research, evidence, and expert opinion. It suggests distinct forms of knowledge cannot be judged by the same standards.

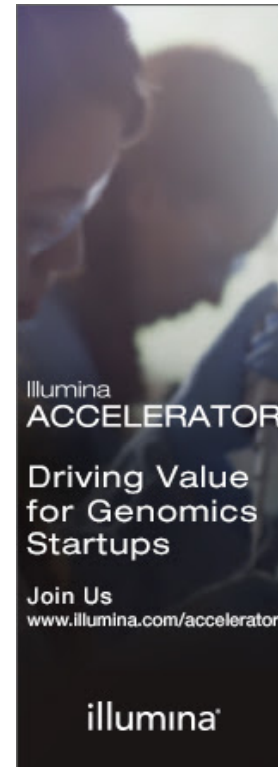
[The art of evidence-based medicine](#)

### **The Curious Case of a Fuel-less Rocket**

EMdrive is an asymmetrical cavity that, for some mysterious reason, experiences thrust when microwaves are bounced around inside of it. This strange device has been harshly criticized because it seems to defy a fundamental law of physics. The device's inventor, Roger Shawyer, challenged others to build the device and verify the results for themselves. NASA scientists recently did exactly that, and it turns out, the results were repeated. NASA published their findings in a peer-reviewed scientific journal.

her work on the development of nucleoprotein for HIV infections treatment, where her work was recognized by Dmitry Medvedev, the Prime Minister of Russia.

Learn more about the benefits of [joining AWIS](#).



[Was Newton wrong?](#)

## **Want Faster Internet? Elon Musk Is On It**

SpaceX has big plans for high-speed internet about 200 times faster than what is currently available. Elon Musk, founder of SpaceX, plans to surround the Earth with over 4000 internet-providing satellites and recently asked the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for permission to launch these satellites. The system would provide broadband and communications services for a wide range of potential purposes, including residential, commercial, institutional, and government uses.

[Space internet](#)

## **Work-Life Integration**

Contributed by Mrinalini Muralidharan

### **Different Perceptions of Work Perks**

A recent study shows that 63% of employers believe their company provides sufficient options to promote healthy work-life balance, but only 34% of employees concur. The disconnect arises in differing opinions on which perks promote work-life balance in a meaningful way.

[Not eye to eye](#)

### **Managing Holiday Stress**

The holiday season has begun. For many, it is a time to celebrate with family and friends, but it can get overwhelming. If you find yourself in a festivity funk this season, here are some simple tips to help manage holiday stress.

[Keep calm & carry on](#)

## **Opportunities**

[Association for Women in Science](#) and [National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences](#) joined NIH cohosts ([NHLBI](#) and [NCI](#)) to produce a webinar about programs and funding opportunities that support entrepreneurs and

researchers, including women-owned small businesses and women in research and technology transfer organizations. NCATS supports biotechnology and healthcare small businesses through open funding opportunities available through the NIH's Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs.

[Watch the webcast archive now.](#)

The webinar is now archived and available to view. Stream the webinar to learn about programs and funding opportunities, including:

- An overview of SBIR and STTR programs and funding opportunities
- Examples and case studies of women founders of bio- and healthcare-technology early-stage businesses
- Tips and tools for applying for funding and resources available for entrepreneurs and researchers, including women and individuals from socially and economically disadvantaged backgrounds

*Please note: The most current information about NCATS small business funding can be found [here](#) and active funding opportunities are available [here](#).*

Check out these funding opportunities:

- [2016 Omnibus Solicitation](#)
- [SBIR Direct Phase II](#)
- [SBIR Technology Transfer](#)
- [Platform Delivery Technologies for Nucleic Acid Therapeutics](#)

All opportunities have an application deadline of Jan. 5, 2017, 5:00 p.m. local time.

**TRAVEL GRANT OPPORTUNITY** (pending final NSF approval)

XIIth [Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research International Biology Symposium](#): Scale Matters  
Leuven, Belgium, 10-14 July 2017

The XIIth SCAR International Biology Symposium will bring together scientists from around the world with interests in Antarctic biology. The Symposium is an excellent opportunity to present, view and discuss the most recent and important results of

research on Antarctic biology and related disciplines.

Applications for partial travel support (airfare and meeting registration) are sought from students, post-doctoral researchers and other scientists at US institutions (funding cannot be provided to anyone at a non-US institution). Preference will be given to individuals from underrepresented groups in the sciences (i.e., women, persons with disabilities, African-Americans, Latino/as, and Native Americans) [are encouraged to apply](#).

Deadline for Applications: 4 Jan 2017. (Decisions are expected by 30 Jan 2017.)

Association for Women in Science, 1667 K Street, NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20006

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