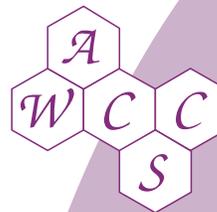


# WOMEN CHEMISTS

FALL/WINTER 2007

To Be Leaders in Attracting, Developing, & Promoting Women in the Chemical Sciences and Related Disciplines



American Chemical Society  
Women Chemists Committee  
1155 Sixteenth St., N.W.  
Washington, DC 20036  
<http://membership.acs.org/W/WCC>

## A Note from the Chair

The Women Chemists Committee (WCC) had a wonderful time celebrating its 80th anniversary in 2007, as you can see from the activities described in this newsletter. However, this wasn't just an anniversary for those of us who are WCC members at the national level but a celebration of the American Chemical Society (ACS) recognizing the contributions of all women members. I would like to specifically acknowledge all of the WCC efforts at the local and regional levels. In the past 10 years, the number of local WCC groups has more than doubled. At last count, 45 groups across the country meet, both within local ACS sections and at various academic institutions. Additionally, the number of regional meetings hosting successful WCC activities continues to grow every year.

Some of the resulting benefits include, at the local and regional level, female students having the opportunity to seek career advice; women scientists supporting their peers; and increased diversity of membership, programming, and events. Also, these groups frequently contribute to their communities through scientific outreach activities. Often events organized by these volunteers cover topics pertinent to everyone such as networking, mentoring, and work-life balance.

Individuals who participate in local WCC groups have many potential benefits as well, such as these:

- Professional development
- Low-risk environment to develop and practice leadership skills
- Opportunity to practice communication skills
- Improving interpersonal skills: involving others, building consensus, influencing others
- Networking/contacts
- Coaching/mentoring
- Learning from other members, role models
- Personal satisfaction in helping others/making a difference
- Making a lasting contribution
- Opportunity to directly impact women chemist issues
- Visibility within ACS; also visibility of company/institution name
- Increased knowledge of the ACS
- Leadership training and future opportunities in ACS

If you are interested in becoming more involved, I encourage you to join or even start a local WCC group in your community. For related tips and resources, please see the WCC website at: <http://membership.acs.org/w/wcc>.

For those of you WCC members who are active at the local and regional levels, thank you for your efforts! In order to attract, promote, and recognize women within the chemical field, we must first reach them in their local communities. I welcome your ideas and suggestions.

—AMBER HINKLE  
WCC Chair

PHOTO BY LINDA WANG



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# The 2007 Merck Index Women in Chemistry Scholarship Results Announced!

## ACS Meeting Symposium and Poster Session Honors Recipients

The Merck Index launched an annual scholarship program this year for outstanding women entering a graduate program in Synthetic Organic or Medicinal Chemistry. Winners were chosen based on academic performance and undergraduate research accomplishments. This year's winners were:

### Anna Allen

Anna holds a B.S. and a M.Sc. in chemistry from the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada. She completed her undergraduate research in organometallic chemistry with Dr. Arthur Carty at the National Research Council of Canada, and her M.Sc. research in metal catalysis with Dr. William Tam at the University of Guelph. Anna has discovered a novel reaction in metal catalysis and has published four papers in a number of top-tier chemistry journals. Anna ranked first in both her undergraduate and graduate chemistry classes at the University of Guelph and has won more than 20 undergraduate and graduate awards and scholarships, including the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council Canada graduate scholarship, the National Research Council Women in Engineering and Science Scholarship, and the University of Guelph Entrance Scholarship. Anna plans to pursue a Ph.D. in organic chemistry at Princeton University and a career in academia as a synthetic chemist.

### Sheel Dodani

Sheel has a perfect 4.0 GPA at the University of Texas at Dallas, where she is currently pursuing a B.S. in chemistry. She has completed several undergraduate research projects involving synthesis of functionalized Wurster's crown ethers under the direction of Dr. John Sibert. She has five manuscripts in preparation and has presented her work at several American Chemical Society (ACS) meetings

and other symposia. Sheel has won numerous scholarships and awards based on her academic performance and research presentations. Sheel plans to pursue a Ph.D. in organic chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley, and a career in academia.

### Autumn Maruniak

Autumn is a dual-major in chemistry and biochemistry—molecular biology at the University of California, Irvine, where she maintains a 3.91 GPA. She has completed numerous undergraduate research projects, including synthesis of tetrahydropyran rings by the Mukaiyama–Michael cascade reaction and Prins cyclization with Dr. Scott Rychnovsky, examination of Kruppel-like transcription factor and Forkhead Box Class O factors in B cells with Dr. David Fruman, and study of ligase and gyrase B inhibitors with Dr. Steve Margosiak at Quorex Pharmaceuticals. Autumn has received numerous honors, including a National Organic Symposium Travel Award, an Allergan Undergraduate Research Fellowship, and a 4-year BIOCUM scholarship. Autumn plans to pursue a Ph.D. in organic chemistry at Stanford University and postdoctoral studies involving cell signaling pathways and drug design strategies.

### Jessica Tanuwidjaja

Jessica holds a B.S. in chemistry, with a concentration in organic chemistry from the University of California, Berkeley. Her research accomplishments include work on asymmetric synthesis of nitrogen-containing compounds using tert-butanefulfinamide, and on one-step synthesis of nitriles from aldehydes using microwave chemistry under the direction of Dr. J. A. Ellman. She is first author on a paper published in the *Journal of Organic Chemistry*. Currently, Jessica works under the direction of Dr. John Flygare at Genentech on a project to construct high-molecular-weight dimeric drug candidates. Jessica plans to pursue a Ph.D. in organic chemistry

at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a career as a research scientist in the pharmaceutical industry.

### Sarah Wengryniuk

Sarah is a chemistry and biology double-major at Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC, where she was named a Winthrop Scholar, and holds a full academic scholarship. Among her numerous accomplishments, she is a Presidential Scholar Athlete in Track and Cross Country and the 2004 National Collegiate Athletic Association Track Scholar Athlete of the Year, and she received the Rudsill-Hamm Scholarship for Outstanding Performance in the Sciences at Winthrop University. Sarah has worked on several research projects under the direction of Dr. Aaron Hartel, including optimization of the selective reduction of alpha, beta-epoxycarbonyls with silyl-lithium reagents and development of a 7-step linear synthesis of racemic nicotine for use in an advanced undergraduate laboratory setting. Sarah plans to pursue a Ph.D. in synthetic organic chemistry at Duke University and a career in drug design and synthesis.

The winners each received a \$5000 scholarship and a personalized imprinted copy of *The Merck Index*. The awards were presented at the Women in Industry Breakfast at the 234th ACS National Meeting on August 20, 2007, in Boston, MA. Immediately following the awards breakfast, the scholarship winners presented their research at a symposium titled, "Many Faces of Chemistry: The Merck Index Women in Chemistry Award Symposium". Emma Parmee, Ph.D., delivered a keynote presentation titled, "From Organic Chemist to Drug Discovery Scientist: A Career in Diabetes Research".

In addition to the five scholarship winners, the selection committee identified 7 outstanding applicants, who each received \$500 and a personalized

*continued on page 3*

## The Many Faces of Chemistry: Women at the Forefront

In 2002, a group of 12 women were honored by the American Chemical Society (ACS) as 12 of the most-promising young female chemists in the country. The outstanding science performed by these women was highlighted in monthly articles in *Chemical and Engineering News* throughout 2002. The Women Chemists Committee (WCC) was integral in identifying these rising stars and has been following their careers for the past five years. As part of its 80th Anniversary celebration, the WCC sponsored a symposium at the Fall meeting in Boston, in which six of these now risen stars were available to speak on their science and their careers.

Dr. Valerie Ashby was first on the agenda and spoke about designing polyester and polyester urethane biomaterials. She

also told the enraptured audience about her move from Iowa State University to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she is currently Director of the Research Education Support program, which is a Program to increase the number of underrepresented minorities in Ph.D. programs. Her advice was to approach moves or job changes as challenges worth pursuing. Also speaking was Dr. Wendy Cornell, Director of the Applications Modeling Group at Merck, in Rahway, New Jersey. She joined Merck in 2004 after spending seven years at Novartis in New Jersey. She described an evaluation of computational approaches to identifying lead compounds, or chemical starting points, for drug discovery programs. The rich symposium covered a breadth of scientific topics. Another guest speaker, Dr. Angela Belcher, received her B.A. in creative studies and her Ph.D. in chemistry at the University of California, Santa Barbara. She is the Germeshausen Professor of Materials Science and Engineering and Biological Engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Professor Belcher spoke on the genetic control of the synthesis and assembly of materials for electronics and energy. She emphasized the challenges of doing science at the interface of many disciplines but also noted that this is where it all comes together for major breakthroughs. These speakers also addressed the topic of work-life balance and the importance of having strong relationships both in the lab and at home.

After intermission, Dr. Kathleen Havelka, Senior Director of Consumer Products at Lubrizol Corporation, in Cleveland, OH, spoke on advances in renewable fuels and advanced technology vehicles. This talk was unique in focusing on the product development chain leading directly to consumers, such as those of us in the audience. Also well known for her science and leadership, Dr.

Allison Campbell, Director of the William R. Wiley Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory, spoke next on biomineralization, biomimetics, and biomaterials: lessons learned from nature. She portrayed fascinating results from the development of self-renewing coatings for ceramics used in implants and for the prevention of bacterial infection in pins inserted to stabilize broken bones. The final speaker of the afternoon was Dr. Julia Chan, Associate Professor of Chemistry at Louisiana State University (LSU). She shared her research on crystal growth of intermetallics. She balances her research with participation in the LSU Symphony Orchestra and agreed to organize other musical scientists for a performance at the WCC Open Meeting and Local Section Reception in New Orleans.

All of these women find involvement in the ACS and other professional organizations to be valuable. They also shared their passion for the education of not only young people but also the general public on science and technology issues. It was clear from the intellectual prowess and leadership demonstrated by these fabulous women that they are indeed at the forefront of the advancement of science. The WCC thanks them for continuing to share their knowledge and advice with us. Look for a symposium series book, which will feature science from these and other risen stars to be published soon.

—Amber

*Merck Index Women—continued from page 2*

imprinted copy of *The Merck Index* and presented their work at “Many Faces of Chemistry: The Merck Index Women in Chemistry Poster Session”. The poster session awardees are:

**Cynthia Crosswhite** (Wellesley College and Massachusetts Institute of Technology), **Jennifer Guerra** (Kansas and Colorado State University), **Vanessa Marx** (University of Manitoba and Dalhousie University), **Rebecca Parkhurst** (Hamilton College and Massachusetts Institute of Technology), **Danielle Stacy** (Truman State University and University of Wisconsin), **Hanna Wisniewska** (University of California, Berkeley, and University of California, Irvine) **Lisa Yong Wu** (San Francisco State University and University of Washington, Seattle)

The 2008 application deadline is March 17, 2008. The full application criteria and application forms can be found at [www.merck-books.com/mindex](http://www.merck-books.com/mindex).

—Dawn Brooks



PHOTO BY JUTTERIM

## A Successful Open Meeting and Reception Honoring Local Section WCCs



At the 2007 ACS Boston National Meeting, the Open Meeting of the Women Chemists Committee (WCC) again expanded to include a reception for local WCC networking. The reception, part of the celebration of the 80th anniversary of the WCC, included cake and balloons and was sponsored by the Northeastern Local Section.

Two local women chemists, Cathy Costello and Bette Bridges, addressed the group with thoughts on the changes in chemistry throughout their careers. Bette discussed the change in style of chemistry teaching, involving more interaction with students and much less “sage on the stage”. Cathy talked about how her personal adventure in chemistry had provided opportunities to be engaged in a global community of scientists and especially the excitement of international travel. American Chemical Society (ACS) President Catherine (Katie) Hunt and President-Elect Bruce Bursten dropped by and made brief remarks as well. Katie mentioned that she is the sixth woman President of ACS. Amber Hinkle, Chair of the ACS, also made brief remarks on the

status of current WCC projects.

Local WCC contacts from the many local section WCCs across the country were invited to the talk and reception. The event on Saturday evening, from 5:00 to 6:30 in the Boston Sheraton, did not conflict with programming and attendance was outstanding. The networking was excellent, driven by the outstanding posters prepared by the presenters and the local sponsor. The posters provided great ideas for innovative programs that can be transferred to other local sections

The WCC is planning a similar event on Saturday evening in New Orleans, so be sure to check the WCC website for details. While visiting the WCC website, check to see that we have current e-mail addresses for the leadership of your local WCC and inform Arlene Garrison, [garrison@utk.edu](mailto:garrison@utk.edu), of any updates.

—Arlene Garrison



## Build Your Brand—Promote Yourself!

WCC Workshop held at the Fall 2007 ACS National Meeting in Boston

Mary K. Boyd

Judith (Judy) Giordan, Women Chemist Committee (WCC) Consultant currently on detail to the National Science Foundation as Program Director for the Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) Program, led a sold-out workshop for over 30 participants at the Boston ACS National Meeting. “Build Your Brand” guided participants in developing a successful communication strategy to achieve their personal goals and promote their professional advancement. Judy started the workshop by reminding the participants that each person is responsible for his/her own “brand” through active choices in goal setting, building networks, and communication style. Each person must “own” his or her interactions in order to promote one’s advancement; this is particularly true for women given the slow rate of social change towards equality.

In order to understand their own dominant behavioral style, participants first listed three attributes defining their own brand. Participants then completed a brief social style analysis to gain insight into his or her own dominant style and compared this style to the self-described brand statements. Judy described the characteristics of the four styles, with examples showing how the different styles can collide. Awareness of other social styles and versatility in adapting to the preferred style of others improves interpersonal effectiveness.

Each participant then created a “60-second sketch”, a focused and compelling approach to quickly describe to another person one’s credentials and build common interest, leading to a connection for future discussions. Judy guided participants through the five steps of a successful 60-second sketch, beginning with a

self-introduction and followed by an acknowledgement of the common challenge to draw in the other party. The next step describes what each participant could bring, as a result of one’s background, to address the challenge, and then give the other party an opportunity to engage in potential future interactions. The sketch concludes with an exchange of business cards with contact information.

Participants were uniformly enthusiastic about the workshop, calling Judy the “best speaker on personal career development” and “a wonderfully dynamic and knowledgeable presenter!” The workshop was called an “excellent presentation” that will “help in developing more effective working relationships, particularly with superiors.” The WCC looks forward to offering additional career development workshops at future ACS meetings.

# Four Generations in the Workplace—Women in Industry Breakfast

Eleanor Brown

The theme for the Women in Industry breakfast, sponsored by the Women Chemists Committee (WCC) at the National Meeting in Boston, was Four Generations in the Workplace, a preview of sorts of the National Chemistry Week 2007 theme, "The Many Faces of Chemistry". For the first time in American history, four different generations are working side-by-side, and the rules for interactions are being rewritten daily. Tables were labeled (Silent, Boomer, Gen-X, and Gen-Y) to reflect these four generations, and the groups at most tables represented at least three generations.

WCC Chair, Amber Hinkle, introduced the discussion by detailing the age ranges and unflattering stereotyped descriptions for the generations. To coincide with the WCC 80th anniversary celebration, she defined the Silent generation as those born between 1927 and 1945, and seen by others as lifeless or retired-in-place. Boomers, born between 1946 and the early 1960's, were described as guilt-ridden overachievers. Generation X, born between 1965 and 1978, might be seen as tattooed slackers. Generation Y, born after 1978, are brash and casually dressed, who need freedom and flexibility to impact the world.

Discussion was spirited, with most participants disagreeing with the stereotype of their generation. During the reporting period, all representatives from the Silent generation declared that they had never been silent. Boomers saw themselves as having paid their dues and deserving of their positions. Members of Generation X saw themselves as problem-solvers who demand perfection and do not sport tattoos. Generation Y's, although super accomplished, complained of helicopter parents who hovered and instilled in them a need for constant reassurance of their value.

With great discussion and good food, the attendees left feeling energized for the meeting, with a better understanding of the other attendees, and a take-home message that will be useful in the work place.

## 2007 Successful Women in Chemistry Interview

In this issue we highlight, Dr. Nancy Foster-Mills, Manager of User Administration Office at The William R. Wiley Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory (EMSL), a U.S. Department of Energy national scientific user facility located at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) in Richland, WA. The EMSL provides integrated experimental and computational resources for discovery and technological innovation in the environmental molecular sciences to support the needs of the Department of Energy (DOE) and the nation.



Dr. Nancy Foster-Mills

Nancy received a B.S. degree from Purdue University and a Ph.D. in analytical/environmental chemistry from the University of Colorado. She began her career at PNNL as a Postdoctorate Research Associate. In 1998, Nancy accepted a permanent position at PNNL as a Research Associate in the Environmental Dynamics and Simulation (ED&S) division. In 2003, she became Technical Lead of EMSL's Environmental Spectroscopy and Biogeochemistry Facility, which focuses on experimental and modeling studies of chemical phenomena and mechanisms on mineral and microbe surfaces, and on complex heterogeneous environmental materials from soils, sediments, and groundwater zones. In 2005, Nancy accepted her current position as Manager of User Administration at EMSL. Her responsibilities include the implementation and maintenance of the management systems used to facilitate access to the EMSL, including the EMSL User Proposal System, the EMSL Resource System, and the EMSL Proposal Review System; developing and managing calls for scientific proposals based on EMSL's scientific signatures; interfacing with the individual facilities within EMSL to address user needs and issues while managing the EMSL user survey; tracking user products and statistics; and working with the communications manager in outreach activities among other duties.

Nancy has been recognized for her scientific accomplishments, receiving the PNNL Lab Director's Fitzner-Eberhardt Award for Outstanding Contributions to Science & Engineering Education in June 2001. Nancy is the author of over 20 publications and 5 patents, and her work has been cited in many publications. One of Nancy's many strengths is her dedication to mentoring for which she has received several awards, including the 2001 PNNL Chet Cooper Mentor-of-the-Year Award in December 2000 and the DOE Outstanding Mentor Award, February 2002.

When asked how she defines success, Nancy replied being happy in your career, feeling valued and respected, and being needed by others. She stressed how important it is to find a position that suits your strengths so that you enjoy what you do. For example, Nancy's career path has led to her current position as Manager of User Administration, which focuses on her organizational administrative abilities as well as encompassing her scientific background. As Nancy states, "It's important to work to live, not live to work"

Her answers to our interview questions below are further proof why Nancy is so successful.

### How did you get started in chemistry or your field of endeavor?

*I always knew I wanted to be involved in the sciences, and chemistry seemed*

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like a good fit. As I wanted to go to a state public school in Indiana for college, I attended Purdue University. (Nancy's research interests include photoacoustic spectroscopy, FTIR spectroscopy, environmental redox chemistry in heterogeneous natural systems, and analytical environmental chemistry related to hazardous waste treatment, sensors, and methods development.)

**You have been recognized for your dedication to mentoring; how important do you think mentoring is to your career, and have you had a mentor?**

Recently I have been giving a talk entitled, "Pit Stops and Lane Changes, My 2 Decades in Chemistry", which outlines the path my career has taken. I feel many students don't understand how their interest in the sciences will relate to a career. Therefore, it is important to talk with as many people as possible about their positions and their career paths. For example, as an undergraduate I was struggling with the decision to go into industry or for an advanced degree. When I asked my undergraduate adviser for an opinion, it was clear to him that I should go for an advanced degree in analytical and environmental chemistry,

as I enjoyed this work. While seeking input is difficult, sometimes it helps us see the bigger picture. It's also important to solicit constructive feedback. This is where a mentor can be instrumental.

**What sacrifices did you have to make to achieve your success?**

I wouldn't exactly say I've made sacrifices, but I did have to balance my family life with my career in order to be successful. Of course, this means my husband does a lot of the housework.

**What do you do outside work for fun?**

I recently tested and earned my black belt in Tae Kwon Do. This takes up much of my time these days, as I practice 5-6 times a week at the dojang. I am looking forward to competing in several breaking (wood and concrete) tournaments this year. Importantly I've been able to set up my work and family life to accomplish these goals."

The WCC would like to thank Nancy Foster-Mills for sharing her thoughts and advice with us. We hope that this interview has sparked ideas that will help you in your career. Look for interviews with successful women in upcoming issues of Women Chemists.

—Judith Cohen

## WCC Awards Three ChemLuminary Awards to Local Sections

The annual ChemLuminary awards, held on Tuesday, August 21, were a highlight of the meeting. These awards recognize the outstanding volunteer efforts of local sections of the American Chemical Society (ACS). Local Womens Chemist Committee (WCC) groups were nominated by their local sections for these awards. The WCC was pleased to present three awards for outstanding performance in outreach, an outstanding single event, and the outstanding overall performance by a local WCC. Congratulations to all these excellent WCCs associated with local sections! For 2008, the award structure will be somewhat different, with some awards broadened to include nominations from any local section diversity group.

### Outstanding Outreach to Girls and Women

#### Finalists:

**Georgia**—Members of the local section held two events with the local

Girl Scouts, engaging over 450 girls. The "case of the mystery skull" was solved using chemical tests. The WCC demonstrated food science experiments, and distributed National Chemistry Week (NCW) gift bags as part of "Girls Stay Fit".

**Richland (WA) Section**—The fifth year of Girls in Science brought together 109 girls in Grades 6–8 in Northeastern Oregon. The day-long event theme was "Save Our Fish" and involved extensive outreach to Native American girls. Parents had a program on preparation for college, while the girls were engaged in science activities.

**California (San Diego)**—In conjunction with ChemExpo, over 200 Girl Scouts participated in a variety of age-appropriate badge activities. The activities were adapted to this year's NCW theme, and girls earned a NCW patch as well as the Girl Scout badges.

**Winner: TIE Georgia and Richland Sections**

### Outstanding Overall WCC

#### Finalists:

**California**—The California section WCC provided leadership for a networking event at the San Francisco National ACS meeting. Posters and snacks enhanced a great venue for local section WCCs to share ideas for programs. The WCC also organized a symposium and luncheon at the Western Regional Meeting. This very active group also held their usual four meetings a year.

**Michigan State University**—The WCC group organized multiple events this year, including a luncheon at the regional ACS meeting and numerous outreach activities. They provided badge activities for both Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts and participated in the American Cancer Society Breast Cancer Walk.

**Nashville, Tennessee**—Numerous activities of this active section included a month to honor women in science, an event at the local science museum, and ongoing participation in "Expanding Your Horizons". Numerous volunteers were involved in all these events.

**Winner: California**

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## The ADVANCE Project

Among the “Many Faces of Chemistry” symposia at the Boston meeting was “The Advance Project”. One goal of this symposium was to inform the audience about the efforts of PROGRESS, which “supports the advancement, participation, and leadership of women chemists”, according to Felicia Dixon, our first speaker. Nancy Tooney discussed the American Chemical Society (ACS) Academic Awareness site visit program. One important comment that she made was that our chemistry and chemical engineering departments have a “catalytic effect” on early and mid-career women faculty. Susan Nolan presented results from the PROGRESS survey

study. She noted that best practices such as active recruitment of women faculty and formal policies concerning the tenure clock, two-body policy, and mentoring are helpful. For the PROGRESS study, focus groups of female and male graduate students, postdocs, faculty, and administrators were interviewed about barriers that women encounter in their careers. Cecilia Maarzabadi noted that hiring practices, tenure and promotion retention, climate and the career-life balance are concerns. Best practices that address these concerns include mentoring and career assistance that addresses career and family issues. Deborah McCarthy talked about “strengthening our academic foundations” in terms of education, recruitment, and retention and promotion of women faculty. She pointed out that the development of a more welcoming environment is important to the recruitment and retention of women faculty. Deb’s advice, “fix the system not the woman, because she is not broken”, should be told to all women students who are majoring in chemistry or chemical engineering. Sally Chapman summarized the results of the site visits by saying that the climate for women faculty and students is highly variable and that the women are “voting with their feet”. She noted, however, that progress is being made with and without Advance projects. One example, Stanford University Department of Chemistry initiated a childcare policy for graduate student families. Valerie Kuck held conversations with more than 700 graduate students at the top-25 ranked chemistry departments. She found that despite an absence of gender difference with regards to the talent of entering graduate students, women considered themselves “lucky” to be in a top-rated graduate program rather than attributing their success to their abilities and achievements. Women were also reluctant to self-promote compared with men in these programs. What a wonderful world chemistry would be when the “faces” of women chemists are recognized as “faces”.

—Judith Iriarte-Gross

WCC Awards—continued from page 6

### Outstanding Single Event Promoting Women

#### Finalists:

**Georgia**—In collaboration with Georgia Tech Women in Science, the Georgia WCC sponsored a negotiation workshop for 46 graduate students and postdocs from 5 area universities. Facilitators directed the event, which provided key skills in a topic of great interest and need to young professional women. Evaluations were very strong, and the section plans to continue such activities.

**Indiana**—As part of a strong resurgence of this section, WCC collaborated with AWIS (Association for Women in Science) and WILD (Women in Lilly Discovery) to hold a reception in conjunction with a presentation by former ACS President Helen Free.

**Tennessee (Nashville)**—The Tennessee (Nashville) WCC held a celebration in recognition of the 10th anniversary of Expanding Your Horizons. The all-day event included activities for girls and refreshments.

#### Winner: Georgia

—Arlene Garrison

## Report on The WCC Symposium: “From Peptide Bond Formation to Functional Proteins: Symposium in Honor of Ada Yonath”



PHOTO BY JANET BRYANT

This symposium honored Dr. Ada Yonath from the Weizmann Institute of Science, co-recipient of the 2007 Wolf Prize. It was co-sponsored by the divisions of Biological Chemistry, Chemical Education, and Professional Relations and was held on Tuesday morning. Organizers Amber Hinkle and Janet Bryant brought together an international group of speakers who discussed several aspects of ribosomal structure and protein synthesis and highlighted Professor Yonath's pioneering efforts in these fields. George H. Lorimer, from the University of Maryland, spoke on the involvement of the chaperonin cycle in the protein-folding process. His presentation delineated the different conformations of chaperonins and how binding of specific ligands causes shifts in the equilibria among the conformations. Rachael Green, from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, then discussed the molecular mechanism of translation “through the eyes of t-RNA.” She identified a key nucleotide interaction that causes a conformational change and allows catalysis of peptide bond formation. Wayne A. Hendrickson, from Columbia University, returned to protein folding with a discussion of the effects of “trigger factors”. Amnon Horovitz, from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, explored effects of conformational changes in chromatin on rates of protein folding. Ada Yonath concluded the symposium with a discussion of how the ribosome provides the scaffolding within which the t-RNA can shift from the A site to the P site opening the A site for binding of the next aminoacyl t-RNA.

—Dan Libby

# 4th Annual WCC Golf Classic, hosted by Northeastern Section of the ACS (NESACS)

Janet Bryant and Amy Tapper

The historic Brookline Golf Club, at Putterham Meadows in Brookline, MA, was the site of the 4th Annual Women Chemists Committee (WCC) Golf Classic on August 22, 2007. Tournament Directors Harry Mandeville and Amy Tapper and the Northeastern Section of the ACS (NESACS) hosted a lovely day for 87 golfers and several volunteers and guests.

It was a competitive scramble contest, with the overall winners, Stu Needleman, Jim Bannister and Paul Delfino, carding an impressive 14 under par 57. Matt Halvorsen, Aimee Hodge and Damon Abernathy were second; and Amy Tapper, Geoff Tapper, Harry Mandeville and Panos Kalaritis were third. "Closest to the Line" award: Bridge Hunter and Trish Fremgen. Closest to the Pin (KP) award: Perry Catchings and Amy Tapper. The winning teams received gift certificates to Golfer's Warehouse, while the last place team - good sports that they are - each got a can of tennis balls.



Thanks to our sponsors, including the ACS Presidential Succession and Corporate Sponsors, who contributed generously (>\$15K!) to NESACS and WCC Programs. The sponsors will be recognized on the NECACS website for 1 year at [www.necacs.org](http://www.necacs.org). Click on the "sponsor" link to view the services of these generous folks. Sponsors for this tournament included: ACS President Katie Hunt; ACS President-Elect Bruce Bursten; ACS Past-President William (Bill) Carroll, Jr.; Presenting Corporate Sponsor Lyophilization Service of New England, Inc.; Major Corporate Sponsors: IRIX Strong Solutions, Shasun Pharma Solutions, Strem Chemicals, Inc., and Zink Imaging; and Corporate Sponsors: Cambridge Major Labs, OXY Chem, Vertex Pharma, and PCI Synthesis.

We are grateful for your support of NESACS and WCC Programs! See: <http://membership.acs.org/W/WCC/golf.html> for recap and additional photos.

## Roadmap

### WCC Events for Spring 2008 in Boston

#### Saturday, April 5

WCC Open Meeting/Reception  
5:00–6:30 pm

#### Sunday, April 6

STARS: Science & Technology Awards and RecognitionS for Professionals in the Chemical Sciences Symposium. Register via the ACS online system  
Cosponsored by ACS WCC and AIChE Women's Initiatives Committee, JOINT, PROF, CMA, and YCC  
9:00–11:00 am and 1:30–4:00 pm

#### STARS Exhibit

8:30 am–5:00 pm

Entrepreneurship in Polymers for the Energy and the Environment Tutorial

Sponsored by POLY, Cosponsored by ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry and AIChE Materials Engineering and Sciences Division (Group 8), BMGT, SCHB, CEPA, WCC, ENGENV, and JOINT

Ronald Breslow Award for Achievement in Biomimetic

Chemistry: Symposium in Honor of Joanna Aizenberg

Sponsored by ORGN, Cosponsored by WCC and BIOL

#### Monday, April 7

WCC Women in Industry Breakfast (Ticketed Event)  
7:30–9:00 am

ACS Award for Achievement in Research for the Teaching and Learning of Chemistry: Symposium in Honor of Dorothy L. Gabel  
Sponsored by CHED, Cosponsored by WCC

A GREAT TEAM: Technicians, Engineers and Chemist

Sponsored by TECH, Cosponsored by CTA, PROF, WCC, and YCC

#### Tuesday, August 4

Tools for Entrepreneurs from the Kauffman Foundation

Sponsored by SCHB, Cosponsored by ACS Division of Small Chemical Businesses and AIChE Management Division (Group 5), CHAL, POLY, YCC, JOINT, WCC, and BMGT

WCC Eli Lilly Travel Award Poster Session/Reception

11:30 am–12:00 pm

WCC Luncheon (Ticketed Event)  
Garvan-Olin recipient and Keynote Speaker: Dr. Elizabeth C. Theil, Senior Scientist, Children's Hospital Research Center, Oakland, CA

12:00–1:30 pm

ACS Award for Encouraging Women into Careers in the Chemical Sciences: Symposium in Honor of Esther Conwell  
Cosponsored by PROF

2:30–4:15 pm

Best Steps for the Chemical Entrepreneur

Sponsored by SCHB, Cosponsored by ACS Division of Small Chemical Businesses and AIChE Management Division (Group 5), BMGT, POLY, WCC, YCC, and JOINT

Careers in Chemical Information

Sponsored by CINE, Cosponsored by CHAL, PROF, COMP, CEPA, and WCC

# BULLETIN BOARD

## Share Your WCC Success Story

Have you had a successful local or regional event with a focus on women chemists? We need your story to include in the updated Women Chemists Committee (WCC) website. Please send a short description of your event by e-mail to Judith Cohen, [jcohen@crdus.jnj.com](mailto:jcohen@crdus.jnj.com), and we'll put it on the Web! Short articles are welcome, either before or after the event. The WCC website can serve as a resource for suggestions to local sections and regional meeting planners, and we need your reports on what has (and has not) worked.

## e-Women Chemists

### THE WCC NEWSLETTER IS NOW SENT ELECTRONICALLY!

The WCC Newsletter is now sent electronically!

If you received the spring-summer 2007 newsletter electronically, we have your correct e-mail address and you will continue to receive future issues. To provide an alternate e-mail address, or for other inquiries, please contact us at: [service@acs.org](mailto:service@acs.org).

If you did not receive the spring-summer 2007 newsletter, you may opt-in for future newsletters from the WCC webpage <http://membership.acs.org/W/WCC/>

## Sponsorship

*Thanks to the following individuals and organizations for their support of WCC programs and activities.*

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Are you an American Chemical Society (ACS) member who is not receiving but would like to receive the Women Chemists Committee (WCC) newsletter? You may have asked to block promotional e-mailings in your ACS membership profile. Requests for copies of the WCC newsletter should be directed to the WCC Staff Liaison, at [wcc@acs.org](mailto:wcc@acs.org). For more information about promotional blocks, contact ACS Member Services at 800-333-9511 or by e-mail at [service@acs.org](mailto:service@acs.org).

# Women Chemists Committee—2007

**Dr. Amber S. Hinkle, Chair**  
Bayer Material Science  
8500 West Bay Road, MS #18  
Baytown, TX 77520  
amber.hinkle@bayerbms.com  
(281) 383-6465  
(281) 383-6410 (fax)

**Dr. Marjam G. Behar**  
12 Hawthorne Circle  
Lafayette Hill, PA 19444-2416  
mgbehar@aol.com

**Dr. Donna Staurup Bossman**  
Trane  
3600 Pammel Road  
La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601  
dbossman@trane.com

**Dr. Dawn A. Brooks**  
10762 Forest Lake Court  
Indianapolis, IN 46278  
brooks\_dawn\_a@lilly.com  
(317) 433-4950  
(317) 276-4507 (fax)

**Dr. Eleanor M. Brown**  
ERRC,ARS,USDA  
600 East Mermaid Lane  
Wyndmoor, PA 19038  
ebrown@errc.ars.usda.gov  
(215) 233-6481  
(215) 233-6795

**Ms. Janet L. Bryant**  
PNNL  
902 Battelle Boulevard  
MSIN: K6-50, Box 999  
Richland, WA 99352-0999  
janetlbryant@pnl.gov  
(509) 375-3765  
(509) 375-5921 (fax)

**Dr. Arlene A. Garrison**  
University of Tennessee  
1534 White Avenue  
Knoxville, TN 37996-1529  
garrison@utk.edu  
(865) 974-6410  
(865) 974-7400 (fax)

**Dr. Etta C. Gravely**  
North Carolina A&T State  
University  
1601 E. Market Street  
New Science Building  
Greensboro, NC 27411  
gravely@ncat.edu  
(336) 433-6706  
(336) 334-7124

**Dr. Teri L. Quinn Gray**  
Stine-Haskell Research Center  
DuPont Crop Protection  
1090 Elkton Road, S315/1214  
Newark, DE 19714-0030  
teriquinn.gray@usa.dupont.com  
(302) 451-3334  
(302) 451-3569 (fax)

**Dr. Judith M. Iriarte-Gross**  
Department of Chemistry  
Middle Tennessee State  
University  
Box X161  
Murfreesboro, TN 37132  
jiriarte@mtsu.edu  
(615) 904-8253  
(615) 898-5182

**Ms. Jody A. Kocsis**  
The Lubrizol Corporation  
29400 Lakeland Boulevard,  
052C  
Wickliffe, OH 44092  
Jody.kkocsis@lubrizol.com  
(440) 347-2782

**Dr. R. Daniel Libby**  
Moravian College  
Chemistry Department  
1200 Main Street  
Bethlehem, PA 18018-6614  
rdlibby@cs.moravian.edu  
(610) 861-1436  
(610) 625-7918 (fax)

**Dr. Rita S.K. Majerle**  
Hamline University  
Department of Chemistry  
1536 Hewitt Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55104-1284  
rmajerle01@gw.hamline.edu  
(651) 523-2765  
(651) 523-2620 (fax)

**Dr. John G. Palmer**  
7927 Gaylen Road  
San Diego, CA 92126-2630  
jpalmer@ucsd.edu  
(858) 534-5906  
(858) 534-6255 (fax)

**Dr. Nancy M. Tooney**  
100 Remsen Street, Apt. 5G  
Brooklyn, NY 11201  
nmt02@att.net  
(718) 855-5020

## Committee Associates

**Dr. Mary K. Boyd**  
Department of Chemistry  
Georgia Southern University  
PO Box 8064  
Statesboro, GA 30460  
mboyd@georgiasouthern.edu  
(912) 681-0715

**Dr. Novella Bridges**  
Batelle Pacific NW National Lab  
902 Battlle Blvd  
MSIN: K2-44, Box 999  
Richland, WA 99352  
novella.bridges@pnl.gov  
(509) 372-4806  
(509) 375-2186 (fax)

**Dr. Amber F. Charlebois**  
213 Lakeside Avenue  
Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849  
charleb@fd.edu  
(973) 443-8761  
(973) 919-3642 (fax)

**Dr. Christine S. Chow**  
Department of Chemistry  
Wayne State University  
5101 Cass Avenue  
Room 441  
Detroit, MI 48202-3929  
csc@chem.wayne.edu  
(313) 577-2594

**Dr. Judith H. Cohen**  
Cordis Corporation  
107 Citadel Court  
North Wales, PA 19454  
jcohen@crdus.jnj.com  
(215) 628-5059

**Ms. Elizabeth M. Howson**  
49 Hillside Avenue  
Madison, NJ 07940-2612  
chemphun@optonline.net  
(201) 787-0108  
(973) 822-2575 (fax)

**Dr. Patricia A. Mabrouk**  
Department of Chemistry  
Northeastern University  
360 Huntington Avenue  
Boston, MA 02115-5005  
p.mabrouk@neu.edu  
(617) 373-2845  
(617) 373-8795

**Dr. Sara N. Paisner**  
Electronic Materials Technology  
Lord Corporation  
110 Lord Drive  
Cary, NC 27511-7917  
sara.paisner@lord.com  
(919) 469-2500  
(919) 469-9688 (fax)

**Ms. Colleen K. Pasley**  
PO Box 37  
Bloomburg, TX 75556-0037  
cpasley@redriver-ex.army.mil  
(903) 334-3191  
(903) 334-3898

**Dr. Laura S. Sremaniak**  
2716 Kilgore Avenue  
Raleigh, NC 27607  
laura\_sremaniak@ncsu.edu  
(919) 515-2937  
(919) 515-8909 (fax)

**Dr. Francis A. Via**  
2389 Ridge Street  
Yorktown Heights, NY 10598-  
3831  
via@frlicense.com  
(914) 962-5583  
(914) 962-0379 (fax)

**Dr. Gail H. Webster**  
Guilford College  
5800 W Friendly Avenue  
Greensboro, NC 27410-4108  
gwebster@guilford.edu  
(336) 316-2486

## Committee Consultants

**Dr. Shannon Davis**  
223 Wellington Circle  
Statesboro, NC 30458-9157  
alchem84@gmail.com

**Dr. Judith Giordan**  
The Atrium  
1530 Key Boulevard North  
Apt 1106  
Arlinton, VA 22209-1541  
judy@visionsineducation.com  
(732) 245-0621

**Dr. Doris C. Lorz**  
2402 S. Claremont Circle  
Springfield, MO 65804-4123

**Ms. Felicia F. Dixon**  
Staff Liaison  
American Chemical Society  
1155 Sixteenth Street, NW  
Room O-1116  
Washington, DC 20036  
f\_dixon@acs.org  
(202) 872-6334  
(202) 776-8003 (fax)

**Ms. Mamie W. Moy**  
Committee on Committee  
Liaison  
Department of Chemistry  
University of Houston  
136 Fleming Building  
Houston, TX 77204-5003  
mmoy@mail.uh.edu  
713-743-2720  
713-743-2714 (fax)

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<http://membership.acs.org/W/WCC/>.