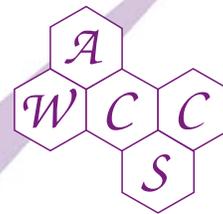


# WOMEN CHEMISTS



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

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

## Symposium Honoring Catherine Middlecamp

Winner of the 2006 Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation Award for Encouraging Women in Careers in the Chemical Sciences

Colleen Pasley and Cathy Middlecamp

**T**he 2006 Award for Encouraging Women in Careers in the Chemical Sciences was presented to Catherine (Cathy) Middlecamp, professor and director of the Chemistry Learning Center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Middlecamp has designed, supervised, and taught in programs for students underrepresented in the sciences. She has been an active supporter of women in science across cultures.

In the opening talk, Cathy focused on her career in chemistry and the lessons learned along the way. She began her presentation with a story:

“Old woman, how much for that rug in the stall?” the man on horseback called. “One-hundred rupee, sir,” the old woman answered. “It is a fine rug, and I will not sell it for a single rupee less.” “One-hundred rupee, woman?” the man said. Why, in all my travels I have never seen a rug so fine. Why in the name of Allah are you asking only one-hundred rupee? And the old woman paused in wonder and in pain and said, “Because, sir, until now I never knew that there were any numbers



PHOTO BY JANET BRYANT

(left to right: Betsy Kean (California State University, Sacramento (retired)), Cathy Middlecamp, (University of Wisconsin-Madison), Anne Bentley (Purdue University, postdoc), Maggie Phillips (University of Wisconsin-Madison, graduate student))

above one hundred.” (Sufi tale) Cathy, who uses stories with real-life lessons in her teaching, added the following analysis of the story. “Learning is both exhilarating and painful. We, both women and men, are spared neither of these emotions. We recognize ourselves in all of the characters. I am the old woman. I am the man on horseback. Truth be told, I am also the rug.”

The women and men who spoke after Dr. Middlecamp all dealt with the methods used to encourage women and men in their pursuit of science and the progress women have made in science overall. In the culminating talk, Cooking for Cathy, Ralph Middlecamp, Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, told of his marriage to a “liberated woman” and what he has learned about women and men in science.

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## Message from the WCC Chair

Hello, and welcome to another issue of the Women Chemists Committee (WCC)

newsletter! I hope that you are enjoying electronic access to this newsletter at this time. If you cannot access electronically, please see page 7 for important information in this edition on how to "opt-in" for such access.

As the new chair for the WCC, I would like to introduce myself to those of you who I may not have had the chance to meet in person. I have been with the WCC since 1997 and most recently served as chair of the subcommittee that focused on career development for women in chemistry and related disciplines. As such, I have had the great privilege of editing the WCC book, *Successful Women in Chemistry: Corporate America's Contribution to Science*, which was released last year. My other full-time job is quality lead for Bayer Material Science at its polycarbonate manufacturing facility in Baytown, TX. However, my most important job is that of raising two small boys, ages five and two.

Now that you know a little about me, I would like to share some exciting upcoming activities with the WCC. We are all aware of the changes that the American Chemical Society (ACS) is making to better serve its members. In parallel, the WCC is currently re-evaluating its programs as well, by making room for new initiatives and continuing those that are most valuable to our constituency. One new initiative is a formal partnership with other ACS committees whose focus is diversity, so that we can combine resources when appropriate. We are also focusing considerable effort on increased national, regional, and local programming. The year 2007 should be lively in this regard, as the WCC will be celebrating its 80th anniversary as an influential component of the ACS.

Consisting primarily of volunteers, the ACS and its committees are operated by members for members like you. Each of us, as individuals, is a piece of the solution. I am honored to chair the WCC, and I look forward to serving you for the next three years. I welcome your ideas and suggestions.



Amber Hinkle  
2006 WCC Chair

PHOTO BY LINDA WANG

## Women Leaders in Chemistry: Stories of Challenges Met

Judith Iriarte-Gross

The Women Chemists Committee (WCC) of the American Chemical Society (ACS) established the Overcoming Challenges Award to recognize a woman undergraduate for her efforts in overcoming hardship (economic, personal, or academic) to achieve success in chemistry. During a visit to middle Tennessee in spring 2005, ACS President Ann Nalley suggested that it would be interesting and inspiring to hear the stories of women chemists who have already met such challenges and who are now leaders in chemistry. The program included talks about women chemists who have made a difference for other women in chemistry and presentations about leadership programs that support women chemists and their professional development.

Amber Hinkle, WCC Chair, opened the symposium with comments about women and leadership. The first speaker, Jeannette Brown (education consultant, Hillsborough, NJ) told the inspiring story of Dr. Marie Daly, the first African American woman to earn a Ph.D. in chemistry in 1947. Jeannette also discussed her work with the African American Women Chemists History Project. Judith Iriarte-Gross (Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro) talked about how Dr. June Anderson challenged salary discrimination on her campus and began a scholarship program for undergraduate women majoring in chemistry and other non-traditional majors. Carol Miderski (Catawba College, Salisbury, NC) presented several biographies of successful women scientists and discussed how social influences may affect a woman's choice to pursue a career in science.

Cornelia Gillyard (Spelman College, Atlanta, GA) talked about the Women in Science and Engineering Program at Spelman College. She noted the importance of mentoring and research experiences and training as some of the many factors in developing strong women leaders in the sciences. Elisabeth Bell-Loncella (University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, PA) talked about her experiences and challenges as the first woman in the tenure stream in the chemistry department. She also mentioned the importance of mentoring, which contributed to her success as a woman leader in chemistry. Ruth Woodall, director of the Tennessee Scholars Program, talked about how women have made a difference in leading a local section of the ACS. She reminded the audience that women are "metals" (shiny and solid) and men are "non-metals" (dull and gaseous). Ruth has mentored several women leaders in her local section, Dr. Iriarte-Gross included.

We also learned about the Committee on the Advancement of Women Chemists (COACH) from Dr. Kristin Bowman-James (The University of Kansas, Lawrence). COACH has played a proactive role in programs for the development of women leaders in academia. She also discussed the recent workshop cosponsored by the National

*continued on page 6*

# Keeping It Real—Women in Industry Breakfast

Arlene Garrison

The Women in Industry Breakfast on Monday in Atlanta was a sellout crowd as always! The food at the Marriott was excellent, and Teri Quinn-Gray had again selected outstanding topics for the table discussion. The meeting theme was “Keeping it Real”. Groups of students, industrial chemists, retirees, and others reported back on the specific discussion topics at their tables. Highlights of the reports were:

## **Applaud yourself and others.**

Share your challenges and accomplishments. Ask for what you are worth. Remember you aren't alone. Encourage others to not be intimidated. When acknowledging others, be specific.

**Embrace change.** Change is inevitable and often desirable, such

as graduating, getting a job, or retiring. Chemistry is excellent training for adapting to change. Change is what gives you stories to tell. Change can be managed. Communicate to sell it.

**Learn from your losses.** Know your goals. Learn to not be distracted by setbacks. Miscommunication is easier to handle the earlier it is addressed.

**Refuse to be average.** Give passion and energy to all you do. Most chemists are specialists and by definition not average. Do your job for more than money. Create opportunities by communication with your boss. Become involved in ACS.



PHOTO BY JANET BRYANT

Spring 2006 WCC Women in Industry Breakfast, Atlanta, GA

The Women in Industry Breakfast is held on Monday morning at each national ACS meeting. Contributors make it possible to offer discounted tickets to students. Buy your ticket when you register for the meeting to be sure you have a seat for this popular event.

## Alfred Bader Award in Bioinorganic or Bioorganic Chemistry—Symposium Honoring F. Ann Walker

Kristin Bowman-James

F Ann Walker, (University of Arizona, Tucson) received the 2006 Alfred Bader Award in Bioinorganic or Bioorganic Chemistry. Ann received her bachelor's degree in chemistry from the College of Wooster, in Ohio, in 1962. After earning her Ph.D. degree in physical inorganic chemistry at Brown University in 1966, she began her career at Ithaca College, NY, followed by a move to San Francisco State College. In 1990, she moved to the University of Arizona, where for the past 26 years she has been professor of chemistry and, for the past five years, regents professor of chemistry. Throughout her career she has focused on the spectroscopy of metalloporphyrins to the extent that today she is recognized as one of the leading world authorities in this area. Largely through her efforts, bioinorganic chemists now have an in-depth understanding of how finely tuned porphyrin frameworks control the redox properties of electron transport metalloporphyrin-containing proteins known as cytochromes.

The well-deserved award resulted in a joyous occasion and excellent science at the daylong symposium held in her honor on Sunday, March 26. Speakers included internationally renowned bioinorganic chemists, Ann's colleagues and collaborators, former students, and postdoctoral associates. Included in this star-studded list were Ivano Bertini of the University of Florence, in Italy; Mario Rivera of the University of Kansas; Alan L. Balch of the University of California at Davis; Harry B. Gray of the California Institute of Technology; W. Robert Scheidt of the University of Notre Dame, IN; Volker Schünemann of the Technical University Kaiserslautern in Germany; and colleagues Liliya A. Yatsunyk, William R. Montfort, Katrina M. Miranda, and Dennis L. Lichtenberger at the University of Arizona. Topics ranged from the power of spectroscopy in investigating heme proteins, including NMR, EPR, and Mössbauer to exploring the chemistry of NO in biological systems.

## WCC Local and Regional Outreach

Arlene Garrison

The local and regional subcommittee of the national Women Chemists Committee (WCC) acts as the “local” connection for women chemists activities. The subcommittee serves as a resource to help local groups of women who often called themselves a local WCC but may use other names. Depending on the local situation, the groups may be led by graduate students or women who work together at a company or government laboratory. Information about operation of some local women's chemists groups is available on the Web site at <http://membership.acs.org/W/WCC/>. Women's groups that are associated with a local ACS section are eligible to self-nominate for three awards given by the WCC as part of the ChemLuminary celebration at the fall ACS meeting.

The committee also works with regional ACS meetings to encourage and facilitate women's

programming. A typical program would include a women's luncheon with an outstanding woman speaker and a half-day session focused on women chemists. Many regional meetings have used the “Thriving in the Workplace” program developed by the PROGRESS (Partnerships, Reflection, Openness, Grants, Resources, Education, Site Visits, Successes) initiative. The committee now works to broaden the use of the program at regional or local ACS meetings. The half-day program includes talks on mentoring and networking and a panel discussion by successful women chemists. The committee assists with identifying women in the area who might be interested in participating.

Check out the links under the Local and Regional heading on the Web page, where you will find some great examples of local and regional women chemists activities!

## WCC Local Section Networking—New Format for San Francisco

In Atlanta, representatives of a number of local section women chemists committees met for a Dutch treat lunch on Sunday. The group met in the Prime Meridian at the Omni, which was near the convention center. Information was shared, and old and new friends had a chance to talk about recent activities in their local Women Chemists Committee (WCC).

For the San Francisco meeting, the local section opportunity to network will be a bit different. The WCC wants to allow for more extensive networking than is possible over lunch on Sunday. As an experiment during the fall 2006 meeting, the local networking event

will be held very late Saturday afternoon. Most attendees should be on-site by Saturday night and with fewer conflicts, since the technical program is not yet underway. Plans are to meet from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. in conjunction with the WCC committee open meeting. The purpose of the event will be to share your experiences with a local women chemists group—so bring pictures! Refreshments will be served, and representatives of the very active California local section WCC will be present.

**Check the WCC Web site or the ACS meeting information for the specific location. Hope to see you there!**

## Women Chemists Eli Lilly Travel Awards

Women Chemists Committee (WCC) is pleased to announce that the Eli Lilly/WCC Travel Awards program will be offered in 2007. Awards will be given with preference to the following order: 1) any applicant who will be making her first presentation (regardless of format) at a major scientific meeting; 2) a graduate or postdoctoral applicant who has not presented at a national or major meeting since undergraduate school. Grants are for registration, travel, and accommodations only and are restricted to meetings within the United States. The application deadline is February 15 for meetings between July 1 and December 31, 2007, and September 15, 2007, for meetings between January 1 and June 30, 2008. For more information, check the WCC Web site <http://membership.acs.org/W/WCC/>, or send e-mail to [wcc@acs.org](mailto:wcc@acs.org). Ten Eli Lilly/WCC Travel Awardees made presentations at the spring 2006 meeting in Atlanta.



Eli Lilly Travel Grant Recipients at this meeting take a group photo with the “brass”: L-R (back row): Felicia Dixon, Bill Carroll, Madeleine Jacobs, Amber Hinkle, Lindsay Batory; Jayme Lentz, Bryn Lipovsky, Rozlyn Chambliss, Aimee Usera, Katie Hunt, Dawn Brooks, L-R (sitting): Smruti Amin, Yolanda Vasquez, Andrea Benovin, Lisa Marie Ambrosini, Susan Billings

PHOTO BY JANET BRYANT

# “An Interdisciplinary Life”

First Time Ever, Garvan-Olin Medal is Awarded at WCC Luncheon

Amber Hinkle



Amber Hinkle and Lila Gierasch

At the Women Chemists Committee (WCC) Luncheon in Atlanta, Committee Chair Amber Hinkle had the distinct honor of presenting the Francis P. Garvan-John M. Olin Medal to the 2006 recipient, Lila M. Gierasch. This medal was awarded to Gierasch by the American Chemical Society (ACS) “for her vision of the central role of chemistry in understanding biological phenomena and her persuasive leadership in transforming both the local and national institutions in which she works.” While the WCC spring luncheons usually feature the current recipient of this award, presenting the medal itself was a new and exciting addition.

After receiving her medal, Professor Gierasch delivered the keynote address titled, “An Interdisciplinary Life”. Gierasch received her undergraduate education at Mount Holyoke College, graduating with a chemistry major in 1970. She then obtained her Ph.D. in biophysics from Harvard University in 1975. She has held faculty positions

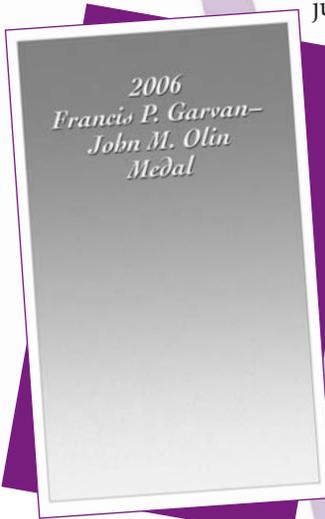
at Amherst College and the University of Delaware in chemistry and at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in pharmacology. She joined the faculty of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, in 1994, where she was head of the Department of Chemistry from 1994 to 1999 and head of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from 1999 to 2005. She is now professor in both departments. She has published more than 190 papers in her career, and her work is currently supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health. Gierasch has received many distinguished awards during her career and has served on many scientific advisory bodies, including editorial boards for several important journals. She passionately strives to enrich the biological/chemical interface with all that she does.

In an entertaining and highly enjoyable talk, Gierasch paid tribute to former medal winners, described the choices that led her through her own career, and briefly discussed her current work in protein folding. From her successful experiences, Gierasch

profoundly recommended a “melding of the fields of biology, chemistry, and physics so that their boundaries become blurred and the scientists who carry out the research lose their labels.” On the role of women scientists, Gierasch commented, “Perhaps we are less territorial and more inclined to form partnerships without worrying about who gets credit.”

She also shared career advice that applies across all disciplines, including these favorites:

- “Watch out for number 1.” You are the only one who has your own best interest as a top priority.
- Recognize when you are miserable and do something about it.
- Don’t count on being lucky, but if luck comes your way, seize the opportunity.
- Try to say “no” without guilt or fear of disappointing someone.
- By all means: Share what you’ve learned with others who are your juniors.



This presentation and the overall luncheon festivities received rave reviews. We invite you to join us at future luncheons, which are held at each national meeting. Lila M. Gierasch gave this luncheon audience a final piece of advice, which we would all do well to heed. “Keep a balance in your life, indulging in activities that please you and keep you healthy in spirit and mind.”

# Successful Women in Chemistry

An Interview with Dr. Bilin Tsai, University of Minnesota, Duluth

Rita Majerle

**B**ilin Tsai earned a B.S. degree in chemistry from the University of Chicago in 1971. She went on to earn her Ph.D. in physical chemistry at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, where she studied photoelectron and photoionization spectroscopy of gas-phase ions. After a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, she joined the Department of Chemistry at the University of Minnesota, Duluth (UMD), in 1976. Bilin is currently a professor of chemistry and department head of the UMD Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. Her academic career has followed a fairly traditional route and has included several administrative positions.

Bilin was born in Seattle, WA, the second of four children. Her father, first-generation Taiwanese, was a minister; her mother, second-generation Japanese-American, was a librarian. "Education was highly valued in our family, and all of my siblings also earned graduate degrees." The combination of a great high school science teacher and the national commitment to science education after Sputnik sparked her interest in chemistry. As a college junior and senior, she worked in the laboratory of Professor Clyde Hutchison on a physical organic EPR project. "I enjoyed being part of his research group, and there was a lot of institutional support for undergraduate research at Chicago" said Bilin.

Her first and only job in academia was at the UMD teaching physical chemistry, general chemistry, and graduate courses. She was the only woman in the department when she

was hired. Shortly after receiving tenure, she was appointed Associate Dean of the College of Science and Engineering, a position she held for five years. Prof. Tsai is now completing her 11th year as professor of physical chemistry and head of the department of chemistry and biochemistry.

One of the challenges of being a new faculty member is finding good mentors and building networks to prevent both professional and personal isolation. "Not only were my research advisors strong role models, but I have been fortunate to have had great colleagues, wonderful women friends in other departments, and deans who supported and mentored me."

When asked to define success, she said, "My success as a faculty member is defined by the students I have moved toward their educational goals as a classroom and laboratory instructor, as an adviser, and as a role model. As an administrator, I am proud of some of the programs I initiated in advisement, general chemistry laboratories, and classroom-based research. We recently moved into a new \$33 million facility and have made several excellent new faculty hires in both the chemistry and biochemistry programs."

While at UMD, Bilin's life has grown to include her husband, Donald Poe, a professor of analytical chemistry, and two children who are both studying the chemical sciences. Bilin's advice to women who are considering a traditional academic career is to develop breadth (interdisciplinary, computational, experimental, etc.), as well as depth in



their scholarly pursuits. "Success at a later time depends on the work you do now." Developing leadership and organizational skills in addition to technical skills is very important.

*Women Leaders...continued from page 2*

Science Foundation, the Department of Energy, and the National Institutes of Health, on building strong academic departments through gender equity. A workshop on women leaders in chemistry would not be complete without a presentation by ACS Past-President Helen Free on the PROGRESS (Partnerships, Reflection, Openness, Grants, Resources, Education, Site Visits, Successes) Project, initiated by ACS to support the advancement, participation, and leadership of women chemists and chemical engineers in the workplace. Carolyn Ribes, immediate past-chair of the WCC, closed our symposium with a discussion about how the WCC is a platform for leadership development. She pointed out how members of the WCC have been and continue to be leaders in attracting, developing, and promoting women in the chemical sciences.

## WCC ROADMAP 2006 Fall ACS National Meeting San Francisco, CA

- **Joint Reception/WCC Open Meeting**  
Saturday, September 9  
5:00 – 6:30 pm  
Hilton San Francisco, Yosemite A  
*Cosponsored with both the California Section and WCC California Section*
- **ACS Diversity Reception: Honoring the Life of Percy Julian—A Presidential Event**  
Sunday, September 10  
6:00 – 8:30 pm  
Hilton San Francisco, Grand Ballroom Salon A  
*Cosponsored with CMA, CWD, WCC, and YCC*
- **Women in Industry Breakfast, Ticketed Event**  
Monday, September 11  
7:30 – 9:00 am  
Hilton San Francisco, Continental Ballroom 4  
*"Sustainable Energy"*
- **WCC/Eli Lilly Travel Grant Award Poster Session**  
Tuesday, September 12  
11:30 am – 12:00 pm  
Hilton San Francisco, Parlor 7/8
- **Women Chemists Committee Luncheon, Ticketed Event**  
Tuesday, September 12  
12:00 noon – 1:30 pm  
Hilton, San Francisco, Continental Ballroom 6

### WCC COSPONSORED SYMPOSIA

**Entrepreneurship in Polymers and Technology**  
*Sponsored by POLY, Cosponsored with BMGT, PRES, SCHB, WCC, and CEPAP*

**Symposium in Honor of Sylvia Ware: An Educational Leader and Visionary**  
*Sponsored by CHED, Cosponsored with WCC*

**Dr. Percy L. Julian—Scientist, Humanist, Educator, Entrepreneur, and Inspirational Trailblazer**  
*Sponsored by CMA, Cosponsored with PRES, Committee on Public Relations and Communications, Committee on Patents and Related Matters, Committee on Project SEED, ad hoc Committee on National Historic Chemical Landmarks, Board Task Force on Percy Julian, ANYL, CHED, HIST, COMSCI, CPS, CPT, WCC, YCC, SOCED, and PROF*

**In Remembrance of Doris Kasey Kolb: An Anthology**  
*Sponsored by CHED, Cosponsored with WCC*

**The ACS Throughout My Career**  
*Sponsored by YCC, Cosponsored with PROF, and WCC*

**Women Chemical Entrepreneurs**  
*Sponsored by SCHB, Cosponsored with WCC, PROF, and YCC*

**Dr. Percy L. Julian—Scientist, Humanist, Educator, Entrepreneur, and Inspirational Trailblazer**  
**The Making of the Percy Julian Film**  
*Sponsored by CMA, Cosponsored with PRES, Committee on Public Relations and Communications, Committee on Patents and Related Matters, ad hoc Committee on National Historic Chemical Landmarks, Board Task Force on Percy Julian, ANYL, CHED, HIST, COMSCI, CPS, CPT, WCC, YCC, SOCED, and PROF*

**Strategies for Being a Successful Ph.D. Student**  
*Sponsored by YCC, Cosponsored with CHED, and WCC*

**Academic Employment Initiative**  
*Sponsored by AEI, Cosponsored with Chemists with Disabilities, PRES, CHED, CEPAP, CMA, SOCED, WCC, PROF, and CPT*

**Honoring Mary Wirth, Recipient of the Spectrochemical Analysis Award**  
*Sponsored by ANYL, Cosponsored with WCC*

**Writing in the Undergraduate Chemistry Curriculum**  
*Sponsored by CHED, Cosponsored with WCC*

**Honoring Alanah Fitch, Recipient of the J. Calvin Giddings Award for Excellence in Analytical Education**  
*Sponsored by ANYL, Cosponsored with WCC*

## WCC SPONSORS AND CONTRIBUTORS IN 2006

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

William Carroll, Jr.  
2006 ACS Past-President

Catherine T. Hunt  
2006 ACS President-Elect

Janet Bryant  
WCC Member

Lissa Dulany  
ACS Atlanta Section

Amber Hinkle  
WCC Chair

Doug Hinkle  
Doug Hinkle Photography

John & Brenda Wong Palmer  
ACS San Diego Section,  
Host of the 2007 Western  
Regional meeting

Cheryl Brown  
ACS Staff

Eli Lilly & Company

Kenneth Black and  
Frankie Wood-Black

Al and Helen Free Foundation

Polymer Chemistry  
Innovations Incorporated

## 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 Chemist's Committee (WCC) Web site. Please send a short description of your event by e-mail to Arlene Garrison, garrison@utk.edu, and we'll put it on the Web! Short articles are welcome either before or after the event. The WCC Web site 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 GOING ELECTRONIC!

Starting in the Fall 2006, the WCC newsletter will be sent electronically only.

If you received an electronic notice for the Spring 2006 newsletter, we have your correct email address, and you will receive notices of 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 email alert for this newsletter, you may opt-in for future newsletters from the WCC web page <<http://members.ams.org/W/WCC/>>.



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 Felicia Dixon, 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)

# Workshop on Internships for Students

Eleanor Brown

More than 50 student members of the American Chemical Society (ACS) participated in a panel discussion on internships, sponsored by the Division of Chemical Education, cosponsored by the Women Chemists Committee (WCC) and the Younger Chemists Committee (YCC), and organized by Adam Boyd, ACS.

The panel consisted of experienced mentors Joe Sundeen of Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS); Amber S. Hinkle of Bayer; Eleanor Brown of Agricultural Research Service (ARS), U.S. Department of Agriculture; and experienced student interns Nytarsha Brown, a senior at Texas Southern University, and David Weinberger, a senior at Millersville University. Dr. Sundeen opened the session with an overview of the internship program at BMS. Drs. Hinkle and Brown briefly compared programs at their workplaces with the BMS model. Nytarsha Brown, a chemistry major with minors in mathematics and biology, participated in a research internship at Stony Brook University in 2004 through the Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professorate. During her internship, she researched connexin expression in the Physiology and Biophysics Department. In 2005, she participated in a second

internship at the University of Hawaii-Manoa, in Honolulu, through the Marine Science Undergraduate Research Fellowship (MSURF) program, where she researched poly (hydroxyalkanoates). David Weinberger, a senior chemistry major at Millersville University, performed research during a National Science Foundation funded internship at the Geophysical Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution in Washington. His research was based on the synthesis of hydrocarbons via naturally occurring transition metal catalysts at varying pressures and temperatures. After the introductions, discussion with the audience members focused on questions such as:

## What can I expect to get out of an internship experience?

*Real-world laboratory experience, an advantage when applying for a permanent position, the opportunity to network with professionals in your field*

## Why do companies hire interns?

*Outreach to the next generation of scientists, preview potential employees*

The experiences of student panelists were particularly valuable.

## 3rd Annual WCC Golf Classic

Janet Bryant & Lissa Dulany

The beautiful Bobby Jones Golf Course in Atlanta, GA, was the site of the 3rd Annual Women Chemists Committee (WCC) Golf Classic on March 29, 2006, where a small, but enthusiastic, field of golfers and several volunteers and guests enjoyed a lovely afternoon. Thanks to our sponsors, including the ACS Presidential Succession and Corporate Sponsors, who contributed generously to WCC Programs.

It was a close contest, with a card-playoff to determine "Team Hunt" as the overall winners. "Team Carroll" was second; "Team Lester", third. Golf awards went to the following: Chipping Challenge: Bern Stapleton; Putting Challenge: Bill Carroll; Longest Drive: Al Hutchins; and Closest to the Pin (KP): Jack Breazeale.

Sponsors for this tournament included: Katie Hunt, ACS President-Elect; William (Bill) Carroll, Jr., ACS Immediate Past-President; Polymer Industry Innovations, Inc.; John & Brenda Wong Palmer, San



L-R: 1st Place Team for the 3rd Annual WCC Golf Classic was "Team Hunt": Wes and James Wolf, (Felicia Dixon—WCC Staff Liaison), Al Hutchins, and Peter Kelley

Diego Section, Host of the 2007 Western Regional Meeting; Cheryl Brown, ACS Staff; Doug Hinkle, Doug Hinkle Photography; Amber Hinkle, WCC Chair; Janet Bryant, WCC; and Lissa Dulany, Atlanta Section. We are grateful for your support of WCC Programs! See: <http://membership.acs.org/W/WCC/golf.html> for recap and photos.

## 2006 ACS Awards Eight Women Honorees

**C**ongratulations to the women chemists honored with 2006 ACS Awards. The Women Chemists Committee (WCC) salutes nominators, nominees, and the American Chemical Society (ACS) for sustained momentum in attracting, developing, and promoting women in the chemical sciences.

**Susan R. Fahrenholtz**, *Fordham University, New York, NY*, received the ACS Award for Encouraging Disadvantaged Students into Careers in the Chemical Sciences for her proactive work to enable students to overcome cultural and economic barriers and prepare for careers in science.

**Alice P. Gast**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge*, received the ACS Award in Colloid and Surface Chemistry for her contributions to the understanding of the physical and chemical processes governing the behavior of "macromolecular" liquids, complex fluids such as colloidal and polymer solutions and their influence on bulk properties through a combination of colloid science, polymer physics, and statistical mechanics.

**Lila M. Gierasch**, *University of Massachusetts, Amherst*, received the Francis P. Garvan-John M. Olin Medal for her work at the intersection of chemistry with biology and physics, her contributions to understanding the relationship between amino acid sequence and the preferred conformations of peptides and proteins, and her status as a gifted teacher who is comfortable at every student level.

**Barbara Imperiali**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge*, received the Ronald Breslow Award for Achievement in Biomimetic Chemistry for her development of chemical tools that allow biologists to answer questions such as how and why proteins are glycosylated in vivo, to investigate complex signal transduction pathways, and to make sensors of metal ions such as zinc.

**Raquel L. Liebeman**, *Northwestern University, Evanston, IL*, received a Nobel Laureate Signature Award for Graduate Education in Chemistry for her work with her Ph.D. advisor, Amy C. Rosenzweig, to determine the structure of particulate monooxygenase (pMMO), an integral membrane metalloenzyme that catalyzes the oxidation of methane to methanol in methanotrophic bacteria.

**Gwendolyn S. Marbury**, *DeMatha Catholic High School, Hyattsville, MD*, received the James Bryant Conant Award in High School Chemistry Teaching for outstanding teaching of chemistry at this all-boys school, where she often uses examples from her previous life in chemical research.

**Catherine H. Middlecamp**, *University of Wisconsin, Madison*, received the ACS Award for Encouraging Women into Careers in the Chemical Sciences for her successes in supporting, mentoring, encouraging, and advocating for women in chemistry and bringing women's issues to the programs of national professional meetings, creating scholarship on the role of women in science, and designing chemistry courses and teaching materials more inclusive of women.

**F. Ann Walker**, *University of Arizona, Tucson*, received the Alfred Bader Award in Bioinorganic or Bioorganic Chemistry for her imaginative and thorough investigations of the electronic structure of nearly every biologically relevant heme oxidation and spin state. Her identification of the role of axial ligation, axial ligand orientation, and porphyrin substitution and geometry in the electronic structures of low-spin iron (III) porphyrins has boosted the understanding of how nature controls the oxidation-reduction properties of the electron-transfer proteins known as the cytochromes, which are important biological electron carriers.

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