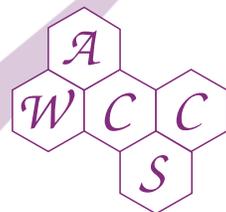


WOMEN CHEMISTS



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



WCC Open Meeting and Reception in Celebration of 80 Years of Women in Science

The Chicago ACS National meeting provided a second opportunity for local section representatives to mingle prior to the start of the meeting. Local organizations that support women in science, the Chicago Section Women Chemists Committee, Iota Sigma Pi, the Chicago Chapter of Association of Women in Science (AWIS), and the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) Women in Science and Engineering Program (WISE), presented posters and participated in a panel discussion.

The session at the Hyatt Regency Chicago was webcast by ACS. Speakers were Janet R. Clark, National President of Iota Sigma Pi-National Honor Society for Women in Chemistry; Heather Behanna, President, Chicago Chapter AWIS; Susan Shih, Chair, Chicago WCC; and Veronica I. Arreola, Director, UIC WISE.

WCC Chair Amber Hinkle

provided a brief update on the status of WCC programs. This meeting was a perfect opportunity to network with women chemists from many sections around the country who were attending the ACS meeting.

The WCC greatly appreciates its local co-sponsors, the Chicago Section WCC, Iota Sigma Pi, AWIS, and WISE. These local sponsors prepared posters and served as gracious hosts to the representatives of local WCCs from many locations. The networking was excellent, driven by the outstanding posters. The posters provided great ideas for innovative programs that can be transferred to other local sections.

The WCC has a similar event planned on Saturday evening in Boston, so be sure to check the WCC website for details. While you are on the WCC website, please check to see that we have current e-mail addresses for the leadership of your local WCC and inform Arlene Garrison, garrison@utk.edu, of any updates.

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A Note from the Chair

In 1927, the American Chemical Society (ACS) Women's Service Committee was established. In 1972, it became the Women Chemists Committee (WCC). The name was changed but the mission has remained the same! The committee's mission is to be leaders in attracting, developing, and promoting women in the chemical sciences by increasing their participation in the sciences and related disciplines, advocating for pertinent issues, providing career development opportunities, and promoting and recognizing their professional accomplishments. For many individuals, this has been more than a mission rather, a vision actively pursued. For more than 80 years, it has taken courage, commitment, and a spirit of serving to progress along this path. As Committee Chair, I am honored to be counted as a leader in living this vision. To celebrate the WCC's 80th anniversary, I would like to give thanks and issue a challenge.



Amber Hinkle
2007 WCC Chair

PHOTO BY LINDA WANG

We have made considerable progress since 1927. Through efforts such as those of the ACS and the WCC, the scientific community has come to recognize the value of contributions from both men and women, as well as from diverse groups in general. This creative thinking and synergistic effect has propelled science into the future. Eighty years later, we can celebrate that women are truly recognized as leaders in their own right, as exemplified by the current ACS governance. Thank you to the great women who have served passionately on the WCC. Thank you to the insightful men who have realized that these are their issues, too. Thank you to the incredible women who have served in ACS governance and continue to lead the Society forward. Thank YOU for all you do. I believe the original members of the Women's Service Committee would applaud this progress but would also say, "Don't stop now."

The WCC mission is still right in line with the needs of the scientific community and will continue to be a living vision. Due in part to this vision, the ACS will continue to be instrumental in the progress of diversity in science. However, only a handful of ACS members actively participate in ACS initiatives. My challenge to you is to identify your passion and volunteer to be part of the solution. One individual can make a difference and a group of individuals is even more effective. In order to prepare for the future of science, each of us needs to do what we can within our sphere of influence. Thank you for your efforts. I welcome your ideas and suggestions. — Amber Hinkle, WCC Chair.

Symposium in Honor of Professor Emeritus Bojan Jennings:

Recipient of the 2007 ACS Award for Encouraging Women into Careers in the Chemical Sciences



Bojan Jennings

PHOTO BY JAYNE LARATE

In Chicago, the Women Chemists Committee (WCC) was honored to sponsor the award symposium for Bojan Jennings, the 2007 recipient of the ACS Award for Encouraging Women into Careers in the Chemical Sciences. Bojan Jennings is a delightful woman who spent more than

40 years formally encouraging young women scientists in her position at Wheaton College. However, from the presentations given in her honor, it is clear that she has been encouraging women informally for much longer and continues to do so today. Suzanne Purrington, Professor Emeritus at North Carolina State University, organized this symposium and included warm salutes from both friends and family of Bojan, all of whom have been positively influenced by her through the years.

A remarkable scientist in her own right, Bojan chose her career path in the 1930s, at the age of 12. She first became interested in biology and thereafter discovered that chemistry was actually much more exciting. Despite many barriers to women scientists at that time, she received an A.B. in chemistry from Bryn Mawr in 1941 and a Ph.D. in chemistry, in 1955 from Radcliffe. She joined the faculty of Wheaton College in 1943, which was an exclusively female student body until after she retired in 1985. From the anecdotes shared by her former students, it is clear that Bojan used her tireless energy, her sense of humor, and her boundless compassion to encourage students. She made them realize that they could achieve whatever they strove for and mentored them through many personal situations as well. The WCC applauds Bojan Jennings for these extraordinary efforts and for the extraordinary women scientists and educators that she has gifted us with through her efforts.

—Amber Hinkle

Women in Industry Breakfast

The morning of the industry breakfast, more than 100 women attended. The goal of the morning was to explore “speed networking” as a way to both practice our “elevator speech” and as a way to network with a large number of women. Amber Hinkle [Chair of the national Women Chemists Committee (WCC)] started the meeting by describing the key aspects of the elevator speech, a 2.5-minute sales pitch for oneself while the attendees ate breakfast. Sarah Paisner followed with a short introduction of the origins of speed networking and its goals. Afterwards, we did six or seven rounds of 5-minute speed networking sessions. Each round

gave each attendee a chance to practice her 2.5-minute elevator speech on the person across from her at the table.

In attendance were not only wide ranges of industrial, academic, and student ACS members but also representatives from the ACS governance, including the CEO and Executive Director Madeleine Jacobs, Immediate Past-President Ann Nalley, WCC members, and councilors. This event has grown over the years from a small breakfast of 20-30 people, to one with more than 120 tickets sold.

The networking in the room was remarkable, with all the women (and men) who attended, spending more than 45 minutes networking with various other attendees. The energy in the room was great, and

we hope that the women (and men) who participated had a better elevator speech having practiced, and a few business cards of women (and men) to contact in the future. The goal of speed networking was for women from different areas in the ACS (industrial, academic, government or professionals, graduate and undergraduate students) to interact in a format they might have otherwise not found comfortable. The “forced” networking gave women a chance to introduce themselves to the CEO of the Society, something not everyone normally would have a chance to do.

It was a highly successful event—one that should be repeated.

—Sara Paisner, Ph.D.

Book Report — Why Aren't More Women in Science?: Top Researchers Debate the Evidence

The above title of this new book, edited by Stephen J. Ceci and Wendy M. Williams, asks a question that has long held the interest of women chemists. This book is evidence-based and features 15 essays by leading psychology researchers. Work by Virginia Valian, long respected and quoted in chemistry circles, is very prominent. Dr. Valian's chapter provides a concise discussion of gender schemas and the accumulation of advantage. Her other books are highly recommended for more details on these topics. Other chapter authors provide a variety of perspectives on the issue.

The importance of the issue of women's under-representation in the sciences explains the interest in this and similar texts. One common conclusion of many authors is that society must find ways to engage all our talent for competitiveness in science-related disciplines. Data from many countries appear throughout the book, laying to rest many common myths about gender-related abilities while affirming others.

The authors focus on the gender differences in participation and possible reasons for the differences rather than on remedies. This book is very interesting reading, as it

addresses many aspects of the issue, such as differences in preferences and abilities as well as the magnitude of the measured differences. One very important discussion revolves around differences at the high end of the intellectual bell curve rather than differences at the average IQ level. The book does not provide answers but provides the quantitative data that would supplement an informed discussion. This book, published in 2007, is available through the American Psychological Association, Washington, DC, <http://books.apa.org/books.cfm?id=4316085>. It can be purchased through many on-line retailers as well, often at a discount from the full price of \$59.95.

Women Achieving Success: The ACS as a Platform in Leadership Development

On Tuesday morning, a very helpful symposium was offered to any woman wanting to learn how to develop her leadership qualities. Amber Hinkle, the current Chair of the Women Chemists Committee (WCC), led off a series of speakers who spoke on the value gained from volunteering in ACS and how that volunteerism can lead to benefits in your professional life. Catherine Erwin, Carolyn Ribes, and Maureen Chan followed Amber. All of

these women at one time have been the Chair of the WCC.

The afternoon session featured talks by Past-President, Ann Nalley; Madeleine Jacobs, CEO and Executive Director of the ACS; and Cynthia Maryanoff. All of these women honored Dr. Madeleine Joulie of the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Joulie was also coincidentally celebrating her 80th birthday, and the audience gave a spirited rendition of “Happy Birthday”.



Madeleine Joulie with WCC friends

WCC Local and Regional Outreach

Looking for information on women chemists groups in your local area? Interested in networking with women chemists while attending a regional or national meeting? The Local and Regional (LR) subcommittee of the national WCC committee acts as the “local” connection for the activities of women chemists, and you can find what you need on the WCC website at <http://membership.acs.org/W/WCC/>.

The LR-WCC subcommittee serves as a resource to help local groups of women who often call themselves a local WCC but may use other names. Depending on the local situation, graduate students or women who work together at a company or government laboratory may lead the groups. 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 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 can assist with identifying women in the area who might be interested in participating.

If you are interested in starting a new local group, check out the links under the Local and Regional heading on the web page. There are some great examples of local and regional women chemists’ activities that can provide ideas for dynamic programs.

—Arlene Garrison



WCC Open Meeting/Reception

Successful Women in Chemistry Article



Robin Garrell

In the 8th grade, Robin Garrell “knew” she wanted to be a biophysical chemist. As a junior high student, she loved biology,

chemistry, and physics, so why not combine them! To learn more about her newly chosen future profession, she and a friend went through magazines and found coupons for a 1000 things to get free. While some of her friends were sending away for free cosmetics, Garrell sent away for information from professional societies. Robin liked the material from American Chemical Society (ACS) about chemistry. She has never looked back.

“When I was in graduate school, I wanted to build companies and products, so I planned for an industrial position in polymer development,” says Garrell, but a mentor challenged that idea and said, ‘Why not academics?’ Moreover, given her accomplishments, it was a great choice. Robin was an Assistant Professor on the

faculty of the University of Pittsburgh until 1991, when she joined the faculty of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of California, Los Angeles, where she is now Professor of Chemistry. At UCLA, she is the elected Chair of the Faculty of the College of Letters and Science, Associate Director of the Institute for Cell Mimetics in Space Exploration (CMISE), Principal Investigator of the UCLA NSF-IGERT Materials Creation Training Program, member of the Chemistry-Biology Interface Training Program Executive Board, and member of the Biomedical Engineering faculty and California NanoSystems Institute (CNSI). Garrell’s research awards have included the National Science Foundation Presidential Young Investigator Award, Herbert Newby McCoy Award for Outstanding Research at UCLA, Iota Sigma Pi Agnes Fay Morgan Award, and the 2007 Benedetti-Pichler Award from the American Microchemical Society. She has also received the Hanson-Dow Award for Teaching Excellence at UCLA and the UCLA Distinguished Teaching Award.

For Garrell, making discoveries and

find out how things work are some of the greatest joys of chemistry. In her current role, she balances individual scientific contributor and administrative roles that include facilitating academic programs and processes along with facilitating the discoveries of science. “I really haven’t gone over to the dark-side,” remarks Garrell of her administrative role. “Being able to facilitate innovation and change rather than obstructing it and being fueled by the positive comments from my colleagues about my role in the change process have been very gratifying.”

Recently, Garrell was asked to lead a UCLA committee on facilitating interdisciplinary education and research across the institution as part of the UCLA-wide effort to prepare for an upcoming reaccreditation review. As Principal Investigator for an National Science Foundation, Integrative Graduate Education, Research Training (IGERT) Program, and an Associate Director of a Center as well as her other roles, she certainly has the background. Robin credits her role as IGERT PI as an example of what has made her

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transition to administrative roles possible. “Being the leader on a big project with campus-wide recognition gives you credibility and experience working with a wide range of people. It can open doors,” says Garrell.

What is one of her biggest challenges these days? “Answering all the e-mail!” jokes Garrell. “Sometimes keeping up with all the projects is a challenge.” Often times when people are known for getting the job done, they are asked to take on more jobs.” For Garrell, she has had to learn how to say no to requests for her involvement, and stay focused on those tasks that she finds the most rewarding. “It’s not easy to say ‘no’. You do not want to be perceived as unwilling or unresponsive. I often test my responses with others I trust to be sure my reasons for saying no make sense,” says Garrell. Moreover, for someone who views success as the impact we have on others and how they develop both professionally and personally, it isn’t always easy to say no when asked to help.

So what are the lessons Robin has learned?

- “Don’t sweat the small stuff, and it’s all small stuff.” Robin has learned how important it is not to

be hung up on what might seem important but really is not in the long run.

- “People do what they are going to do. Focus on what you do.” You cannot control others or their actions, but you are in charge of how you react, and how you allow others to make you feel. Do not allow yourself to feel small or put down.
- “Listening means you need to know when not to talk.” Communications skills are very important for professional and personal growth and satisfaction. Knowing the balance between listening and hearing versus talking is very important.
- “Be critical of your own work. Eschew hype, but be aware of the importance of visibility.” Visibility and communicating your work are important parts of the business of science. Learn how to be an effective advocate for your work, the ideas, and your ability to carry them out.
- “Don’t suppress your personality and who you are to be successful.” Be yourself. You will be happier and so will everyone else. As the lone female faculty member in the Chemistry Department at the University of Pittsburgh, Garrell

had no role models and was constantly breaking new ground and trying to find ways to make it all work. At UCLA, she was the fifth of the now 10 women faculty in the department. “We have a wide range of personal and professional styles, but all are true to ourselves and successful,” says Garrell.

Robin is married to Kendall N. Houk, also a UCLA chemistry professor (computational/physical organic). They have no children, but want to know if his-and-her black Porsches count? Given the cost of upkeep, maybe! Robin’s hobbies include photography, painting, and gourmet cooking. Maybe she’s a future Food Network star, as her TV appearances include guest chef on Pittsburgh 2-Day (baked cake on TV—a chocolate torte—and she’ll share the recipe) and “What’s Cooking in Chemistry”, available on Amazon (ahi tuna sashimi napoleon!) Looks like two TV appearances were listed.]. She was also featured in a research vignette in Glue (“Modern Marvels” series on the History Channel) and another research vignette in Biomimicry (award-winning documentary for Canadian public television). Robin was also a panelist on “Lou Dobbs Tonight” (re: the Larry Summers controversy over women in science).

Life after Graduate School

Have you been wondering what you will do now that you have finished graduate school? ACS offers two wonderful programs that can give you valuable assistance in making that decision.

If you decide that academe is for you, then check out the Academic Employment Initiative (AEI). Past-President Charles Casey started this program in 2004. It allows graduates the opportunity to meet academic recruiters from institutions with whom they might not have had a chance to interview. The AEI allows recruiters to meet new graduates at the Sci-Mix Poster Session held the Monday evening of the National Meeting. The graduates present their research, mingle, and interact with representatives

of numerous institutions.

If you decide that industry is for you, then look into Preparing for Life after Graduate School (Pflags). Pflags is a two-day workshop that prepares students for the interview market in industry. It shows them how to prepare a résumé, and allows them to participate in mock interviews. It also gives the student an idea of what research is like in industry.

Both of these programs are offered through the Office of Graduate Education. The WCC would love to hear whether you have participated in these programs and let us know what your impressions of them were. Please contact Colleen Pasley at colleen.pasley@us.army.mil.



(l-r) Garvan Olin Medalist Laura Kiessling and Amber Hinkle

The Women Chemists Committee (WCC) celebrated the start of its 80th year with a working luncheon held at Sheraton Chicago Hotel. The festivities began with poster presentations by some of this year's Eli Lilly/WCC Travel Grant Awardees. The award

winners were able to talk science and network with other attendees prior to the lunch.

The ceremonies continued with recognition of Dr. Madeleine Joullie, Professor of Chemistry at the University of Pennsylvania, on her 80th birthday.

The pinnacle of the WCC event came with the presentation of the 2007 Francis P. Garvan-John M.

Olin Medal by WCC Chair Amber Hinkle to Professor Laura L. Kiessling. This award, given annually, recognizes a woman who has exhibited exceptional scholarship and tireless encouragement of young scientists, especially women.

Dr. Kiessling is a professor and MacArthur Fellow at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. She earned her bachelor of science in chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She earned a Ph.D. in chemistry at Yale University synthesizing antitumor natural products in Stuart Schreiber's group. Following the completion of her degree, Kiessling conducted postdoctoral research in the area of DNA triple-helix formation at California Institute of Technology with Professor Peter B. Dervan. She joined the faculty at Wisconsin in 1991 and has since gathered numerous awards including a MacArthur Foundation fellowship (1999) and the 2005 Harrison Howe Award.

Happy 80th Anniversary Women Chemists Committee

The Women Chemists Committee (WCC) is celebrating its 80th anniversary this year. The committee has planned a number of events to honor and recognize the achievements of WCC since 1927. We will continue our celebration at the American Chemical Society's 234th National Meeting in Boston, MA.

Key scientific symposia planned include:

- "Many Faces of Chemistry: Women at the Forefront", featuring six of the twelve rising stars identified in 2002.
- "From Peptide Bond Formation to Functional Proteins: Symposium in Honor of Ada Yonath", which will recognize Professor Ada Yonath of the Weizmann Institute for jointly recently receiving the Wolf Prize. This highly respected structural biologist will also be the keynote speaker at the WCC luncheon on August 21.

Key Events planned include:

- The WCC open meeting on August 18 will be an exciting collaborative effort, co-sponsored by the North-

eastern local section, and will include talks on "WCC 80 Years, a Lifetime in Chemistry."

- The WCC is conducting a fabulous workshop on Sunday afternoon, August 19th, called "Build Your Brand—Promote Yourself!", where participants will learn how to better communicate their own achievements and to speed network for improved career opportunities. You can register on-line for the workshop when you register for the national meeting.
- While registering for the ACS Meeting, you can also sign up for the 4th Annual Women Chemists Committee and Northeastern Section Scramble Golf Tournament at Brookline Golf Club, Putterham Meadows to be held Wednesday

afternoon. Sponsorship opportunities are also still available.

Key Awards and Honors:

- The WCC will again be recognizing several recipients of the WCC/Eli Lilly Travel Awards and the recipient of the Overcoming Challenges Award in Boston.
- New at this meeting, five recipients of the Merck Index Women in Chemistry Award will be recognized at the Women in Industry breakfast on Monday morning.

We will also be selling new lapel pins to commemorate this special occasion. Look for these pins with a design that harkens back to the traditional WCC "benzene ring" logo. Other spectacular events and programs are in the works.

ROADMAP

WCC Events for Fall 2007 in Boston

Saturday, August 18

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

Sunday, August 19

WCC Workshop "Build Your Brand—Promote Yourself!"
Register via the ACS online system
1:30–4:30 pm

Monday, August 20

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

Many Faces of Chemistry: The Merck Index Women in Chemistry Award Symposium
9:15–11:40 am

Many Faces of Chemistry: Women at the Forefront Symposium
1:30–4:15 pm

Many Faces of Chemistry: Merck Index Women in Chemistry Poster Session
1:00–3:00 pm

Tuesday, August 21

From Peptide Bond Formation to Functional Proteins: Symposium in Honor of Ada Yonath
8:15–11:00 am

WCC Eli Lilly Travel Award Poster Session/Reception
11:30 am–12:00 pm

WCC Luncheon (*Ticketed Event*)
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Ada Yonath, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel
12:00 noon–1:30 pm



Many Faces of Chemistry: Careers in Chemistry Symposium
2:10–4:15 pm

Diversity Reception: Careers in Chemistry
5:00–6:30 pm

Wednesday, August 22

The ADVANCE Project Symposium
8:30–11:15 am

Many Faces of Chemistry: Sisters in Science Symposium
1:00 pm

WCC/Northeastern Local Section Golf Tournament
Brookline Golf Club at Puttermeadows
2:00 pm

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 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 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 fall/winter 2006 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.

If you did not receive the fall/winter 2006 newsletter, you may opt-in for future newsletters from the WCC webpage <http://membership.acs.org/W/WCC/>.

WCC SPONSORS AND CONTRIBUTORS IN 2007

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

Bruce E. Bursten
ACS President-Elect

Catherine T. Hunt
2007 ACS President

ACS Chicago Local Section

ACS Northeastern Local Section

Eli Lilly & Company

Kenneth Black and Frankie Wood-Black

Al and Helen Free Foundation



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. For more information about promotional blocks, contact ACS Member Services at 800-333-9511 or by e-mail at service@acs.org.

Women's Service Committee—Women Chemists Committee

ESTABLISHED AUGUST 1927

The Women Chemists Committee (WCC) is celebrating 80 years as an integral part of the American Chemical Society (ACS). The seeds of a committee were planted at a luncheon held by women chemists during the Fall meeting of the ACS in 1926. Glenola B. Rose was appointed Chair of a temporary committee charged with answering the question of "whether some organization of the women chemists, within the American Chemical Society, would be helpful or desirable." Mrs. Rose selected the following members for this committee, each of whom represents a different area of women in chemistry:

Emma Perry Carr-Teaching; Mt. Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA • Ruth O'Brien-Government Service; Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. • Mary E. Pennington-Independent Consultant; New York, NY • Lois Woodford-Chemical Foundation editorial and organizational work; New York, NY

In April of 1927, this committee of five, made the following recommendations:

- That a formal organization of women chemists within the American Chemical Society is not desirable.
- That an informal gathering of women chemists at each general meeting of the Society is helpful.
- That there is opportunity for constructive work, in increasing the membership of women chemists in the Society and in cooperating in the work of the various functions of the Society.

Accordingly, the Committee suggests that this group recommend to the Executive Committee of the Society that a committee representing the women of the organization should be formally appointed by President Rosengarten, for the purpose of developing the mutual interests of the women chemists and the American Chemical Society." The Executive Committee of the ACS Council voted unanimously via mail ballot to endorse these recommendations.

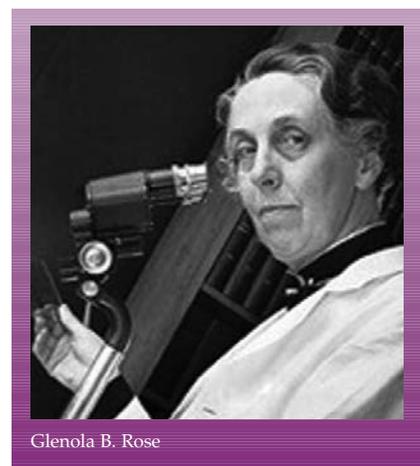
Thus, in 1927 these five women became the first official members of what Glenola B. Rose, the first Chair of the committee, named the Women's Service Committee. Their purpose was "to render helpful service in stimulating the active interest of women chemists in the work of the Society; in increasing the membership; and in promoting the attendance of women chemists at general meetings." Subsequently, in 1936, the committee was also given the respon-

sibility of sponsoring the Garvan-Olin Medal, which is an ACS national award given each spring to a woman chemist for outstanding contributions to the field.

Since the seed was planted in 1926, the contributions of this committee's members have far exceeded the goals of stimulating interest and increasing participation in the ACS. We could fill volumes with the contributions of this outstanding committee, but here we can only highlight a few. Anna J. Harrison, became a Women's Service Committee member in 1962 and went on to be the first woman President of the ACS in 1978. Mary Good, member of the Women Service Committee from 1968 through 1973, became the next woman ACS President in 1987. Helen M. Free, joined the Women's Service Committee in 1965. Before being ACS President in 1993, Helen Free was the Chair of this committee and in 1972 she changed the name of the committee to the Women Chemists Committee. Many former WCC members have gone on to do great things in other parts of the Society as well, including many as leaders in Council, on Committees, and as members of the Board of Directors. Additionally, you can read about recent WCC accomplishments throughout this newsletter and at the WCC website. There indeed was and still is "opportunity for constructive work, in increasing the membership of women chemists in the Society and in cooperating in the work of the various functions of the Society"!

In tribute to the fabulous women who have made this possible, the following are listed the original committee pioneers from 1927 and their successors; represented by committee chair names only.

If you have any information regarding the early years of the committee, please send it to WCC@acs.org. We would love photographs as well!



Glenola B. Rose

1927-1931

Glenola B. Rose, Chair
Emma P. Carr
Ruth O'Brien
Mary E. Pennington
Lois Woodford

1932-1937

Glenola B. Rose

1937-1940

Lois W. Woodford

1941-1942

May L. Whitsitt

1943-1946

Cornelia T. Snell

1947-1948

Hoylande D. Young

1949-1950

Marjorie J. Vold

1951-1953

H. Marjorie Crawford

1954-1957

Gladys A. Emerson

1958-1963

Essie White Cohn

1964-1966

H. Gladys Swope

1967-1969

Florence H. Forziati

1970-1972

Helen M. Free

1973-1975

Susan S. Collier

1976-1978

Nina Roscher

1979-1980

Wanda Brown

1981-1983

Maureen Chan

1984-1985

Marion Baker

1986-1988

Margaret Cavanaugh

1989-1991

Kathleen Trahanovsky

1992-1994

Mary E. Thompson

1995-1997

Christina Bodurov

1998-2000

Frankie Wood-Black, Chair

2001-2002

Valerie Barrett

2003-2005

Carolyn Ribes

2006-2007

Amber Hinkle

ACS Awards — 2007 ACS Awards to Women Honorees

Congratulations to the women chemists honored with 2007 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.

Emily Ann Carter, Princeton University, received the ACS Award for Computers in Chemical and Pharmaceutical Research for her development and application of computational chemistry methods in the fields of surface and materials science, leading to quantum mechanics-based methods for understanding and controlling the behavior of molecules, metals, ceramics, and semiconductor crystals, surfaces, and interfaces.

Robyn E. Hannigan, Arkansas State University, received the ACS Award for Encouraging Disadvantaged Students into Careers in the Chemical Sciences for her leadership in promoting diversity by mentoring underrepresented groups through development of a program designed to pair a minority student with a mentor to work in a research lab over the summer.

Bojan H. Jennings, Wheaton College, received the ACS Award for Encouraging Women into Careers in the Chemical Sciences for her work over more than four decades in supporting, mentoring, encouraging, and advocating for women in chemistry.

Laura Kiessling, University of Wisconsin, received the Francis P. Garvan-John M. Olin Medal for her application of synthetic organic chemistry in research to explore how multivalent interactions influence cell adhesion and cell signaling, and her status as an engaging and enthusiastic teacher in the classroom and an outstanding mentor in the research laboratory.

Janis Louie, University of Utah, received an Arthur C. Cope Scholar Award for her

development of highly versatile nickel-based catalysts that affect a variety of useful cycloadditions and rearrangements.

Eleanor W. Siegrist, Hollidaysburg Area Senior High School, Hollidaysburg, PA, received the James Bryant Conant Award in High School Chemistry Teaching for outstanding teaching of chemistry and her work with the outreach program, Science in Motion.

Cheryl D. Stevenson, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, received the ACS Award for Research at an Undergraduate Institution for research over 25 years with more than 100 undergraduates and master's students, resulting in more than 170 papers in top-tier journals.

Margaret Wu, ExxonMobil Research & Engineering, Annandale, NJ, received the ACS Award in Industrial Chemistry for her creative and outstanding research contributions leading to breakthrough synthetic lubricant products of considerable commercial and environmental importance.

Xiaowei Zhuang, Harvard University, received the ACS Award in Pure Chemistry for her use of single-molecule optical measurements to study such biological systems as viral infection and the dynamics and function of RNA and ribonucleoprotein enzymes.

Margo McIvor, senior science and technology technician at Dow Corning, received the 2007 National Chemical Technician Award, recognizing her innovative approach to solving problems and her strong work ethic.

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