



Upcoming Events

- **Arizona Science and Engineering Fair: April 4-6, 2012**
- **AWIS Hands on Science Event: May 4, 2012**
- **End of the year reception: May 2012**

- **AWIS-CAZ Luncheon Seminar Series.**

We will be hosting a monthly seminar series featuring guest speakers who will be providing attendees with Career Development strategies. As an AWIS member you will receive email updates and the first opportunity to reserve a space at upcoming seminars.

- ⇒ Jan 12th, LSE 232, 11:30-1:00p.m., Jumpstarting STEM Careers Workshop Speaker Luncheon
- ⇒ March 1st, LSE 232, 11:30-1:00p.m., Arizona Imaging and Microanalysis Conference Speaker Luncheon
- ⇒ March 15th, LSE 232 11:30-1:00p.m., The Elevator Speech and Effective Networking
- ⇒ April TBA, Funding; the Early Years
- ⇒ April TBA, Career Options for STEM Undergrads

Professional Development

The AWIS-CAZ luncheon seminar series has two special presentations coming up this Spring including a career coach who will discuss how to perfect your elevator speech and networking skills and a panel of grant recipients who will share their strategy for success.

AWIS Central AZ Issue 02 Spring 2012



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QUARTERLY
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FOR STEM
PROFESSIONALS

AWIS-Central AZ



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2011-2012 AWIS-CAZ Board Members

President:

Page Baluch

Vice President:

Karla Moeller

Secretary:

Kimberly Pegram

Treasurer:

Karen Sweazea

Membership Chair:

Susan Holechek

Publicity Chair:

Peggy Coulombe

Past President:

Valerie Stout

Member at Large:

Susanne Neuer

Member at Large:

Faye Farmer

Member at Large:

Arianne Cease

Member at Large:

Winifred Doane

Spring 2012

We are off to a great start in 2012. In January we hosted the second annual Jumpstarting STEM Careers (JSC) Workshop*. It was a great success with many outstanding speakers. With future support from the School of Life Sciences and other STEM departments we are looking forward to hosting the event again in 2014, making it a bi-annual event.

AWIS-CAZ is a non-profit organization and in order to provide our members monthly seminar luncheons and other workshops and events we must acquire sponsorship or apply for grants. The JSC workshop was supported by an ADVANCE FUND grant through the **National Science Foundation** awarded to our East Coast collaborators from George Washington, Ottawa and Gallaudet Universities. The monthly luncheon seminars are possible because of a grant through the **Graduate Professional Student Association (GPSA)**.

*Previously known as Forward to Professorship.

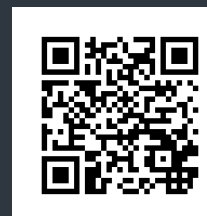
Coming up this semester we have a few Career Option seminars for STEM undergraduate students that will be sponsored by a grant from the **Undergraduate Student Government (USG)** as well as the Hands-on-Science Camp that is sponsored by **AWIS-CAZ**, the **School of Life Sciences**, **Biodesign** and **Chipotle**. Without the support of these sponsors we would not be able to offer these great programs and events.

As you can see we have a lot planned for this semester and can always use extra help. Let me know if you are interested and I can put you in contact with the specific organizers. I look forward to meeting you at an upcoming event!

Sincerely,

Page Baluch

AWIS-CAZ President



Benefits of being an AWIS member :

- Belong to a national network of professional women
- Participate in the MentorNet program for free
- Receive a yearly subscription to the AWIS Magazine
- Participate in STEM-inars sponsored through AWIS National
- Receive advanced registration notice for selected events
- Participate in member only networking events
- Meet and interact with a local group of outstanding female scientists

AWIS-CAZ on Twitter



AWIS-CAZ on Facebook



Member Spotlight

Recognizing the Achievements of our Chapter AWIS members

In-spi-ra-tion : 1. Stimulation of the mind or emotions to a high level of feeling or activity. 2. An agency, such as a person, that moves the intellect or emotions or prompts action.



Jennifer Glass

Jennifer Glass obtained dual BS degrees in Earth and Space Sciences and Oceanography in 2006 from the Univ. of Washington. She continued her studies at ASU pursuing a PhD in Biogeochemistry under the advisement of Ariel Anbar and graduated in 2011. During her doctoral studies, Jenn was awarded an NSF graduate research fellowship and the PEO Scholar award. She was active in AWIS as guest writer

for the AWIS magazine and during 2010-2011 was secretary of the Central Arizona Chapter.

Since graduating with her PhD, Jenn obtained a NASA Astrobiology postdoctoral position at the California Institute of Technology. Upon completion of her postdoc she will begin

as an Assistant Professor at Georgia Institute of Technology beginning 2013. You can read more about Jenn at: jennifer-glass.com

Susan Holechek, a native of Peru, began an early interest in the study of infectious diseases and developing low cost vaccine options for high disease risk countries. Susan joined the lab of Bertram Jacobs to study the vaccinia and dengue viruses. This work led to international collaboration between investigators of the Universidad de Costa Rica, the



Susan Holechek

Costa Rican Ministry of Health and ASU. Susan's research team went onto become finalists in the ASU Innovation Challenge.

“Career Tip: Successful scientists share their accomplishments with others.”

After graduating in 2011, Susan has begun a postdoctoral fellowship in the lab of Joseph Blattman at Biodesign to continue research on understanding the immune response evoked by vaccines.

Congratulations Ladies, you are an inspiration to all of us!

jumpstarting STEM careers



The year is not over yet. We still have a lot of great activities planned!

On March 2nd, ASU will be host to the **2012 Arizona Imaging and Microanalysis Society conference** (azmicroscopy.org/conferences.php). To help our members network, we are organizing a speaker luncheon on Thursday March 1st so they will have the chance to meet and talk with some of the best microscopists in the Nation.

March 15th we welcome

Amanda Collins, local career coach, who will help attendees improve their **elevator speech** and give advice on **professional networking**. Invitations will be sent out late February.

April 4-6th is the **Arizona Science and Engineering Fair** and AWIS-CAz will be selecting the top female scientists to attend the Hands on Science Event from the elementary, middle school and high school levels. Please contact Karla if you would like to volunteer as a judge (karla.moeller@asu.edu).

Also in April we will be organizing our first undergraduate student seminar where we will invite a panel of employers to discuss **Career Options** for those with a STEM bachelors degree. Later in April we are organizing a speaker luncheon with a panel of grant awardees to discuss **Funding; the Early years**.

In May we have the **Hands on Science Event** and End of the Year **Member reception**. Details about these events will be sent out in few months. Visit awis-caz.org for more details

AWIS-CAZ Sponsors

AWIS-CAZ is a non-profit organization. Events that we host are possible because of sponsorship. We are reaching out to our corporate colleagues to request sponsorship for some of our upcoming events such as:

- Enrichment Workshops
- Hands-on Science Program
- AWIS Speaker Series
- Scholarships
- Mentor Match Program

If you are interested in sponsoring any chapter events please contact Karen Sweazea for additional information (Karen.sweazea@asu.edu)

2012 Hands on Science Event

In conjunction with the Arizona Science and Engineering Fair, recipients of the AWIS-CAZ Outstanding Female Scientist award will be invited to attend the annual Hands-on-Science event at ASU on Friday May 4, 2012. These female scientists are invited to experience the atmosphere of a university lab and to meet and talk with women who run or work in these labs in hopes of encouraging them to pursue a career in STEM. Lunch will be generously donated by Chipotle.

