

March 16, 2012  
Volume 3, Issue 22

# ADVANCE-Nebraska E-News

Advancing Women, Advancing STEM

## Special Interest Articles:

- UNL STEM Writing Retreat – Save the Date!
- Big Ten STEM Writing Retreat
- Women Scientists lose out on Research Prizes

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## UNL STEM Writing Retreat – Save the Date!

Do you need a large chunk of uninterrupted time to finish a paper or a proposal?

Find the time and the space at ADVANCE-Nebraska's 4th annual week-long Writing Retreat, May 14 – 18<sup>th</sup>.

This year the retreat will be held on East Campus at the Law College, with wireless access,

unstructured writing time, breakfasts, lunches, and snacks.

Office of Research and Economic Development will host a workshop to help demystify the art of writing effective proposals, and professional writing coaches will be on-hand this year for workshops and one-on-one help. The

rest of the week is writing time, away from the distractions of your office. Past participants have finished up to three papers apiece!

Find applications at [ADVANCE-Nebraska](http://ADVANCE-Nebraska) and send to [advance2@unl.edu](mailto:advance2@unl.edu).

## Big Ten STEM Writing Retreat coming to UNL

In addition to the UNL STEM Writing Retreat, UNL has received a grant from the Elsevier Foundation to host a Big Ten STEM Writing Retreat on City Campus from June 17 – 22. This writing retreat will focus on bringing collaborators from the Big Ten (you, for example!) together to provide large blocks of

unstructured writing time, professional writing coaches, peer feedback and social networking opportunities, and opportunities to write with a collaborator on campus. Travel, food, room and board are included. Kids are invited to attend as well. A Special themed day camp for school and

pre-school age kids will be provided at the Lincoln's Children's Museum. Deadline to apply is March 31 with a \$200 registration fee. As an additional bonus, all UNL faculty who attend the May writing retreat will have the \$200 registration fee waived. So [Apply Now!](#)

## Women Scientists lose out on Research Prizes

Women are nominated for research prizes just as frequently as men, however unconscious bias and men running prize panels seems to be swaying award outcomes, suggests the study in the current *Social Studies of Science journal*.

Varying widely by discipline, women receive **about 40% of all doctorates** in science (around 70% of psychology degrees but

less in other fields) and engineering (about 10%), and have long suffered from lower odds of becoming full professors or attaining other markers of prestige in those fields. "A large body of social science research finds that work done by women is perceived as less important or valuable than that done by men," begins the study led by sociologist Anne Lincoln

of Southern Methodist University in Dallas. In their research, the study authors looked at award patterns from 13 scientific and medical societies from 1991 (206 awards) to 2010 (296 awards). [Read the full article](#). ADVANCE-Nebraska Director MA Holmes joined this study as part of AWIS' AWARDS grant.




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## Issues for Women in STEM Brown Bag Lunches

There will be a series of brown bag lunches this semester on the UNL campus for faculty wishing to discuss issues for women in STEM. Bring your lunch and get to know other women in STEM on campus. All faculty are invited to attend.

Meeting dates are as follows:

Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, Noon – 1:00pm, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Board Room, Whittier Building

Wednesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, Noon- 1:00pm, A211 Animal Science Building, East Campus

Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, Noon-1:00pm, Beadle Center room N263

## Early Career Investigator Travel Awards (ECITA)

Keystone Symposia has now some additional funds for Early Career Investigator Travel Awards (ECITA). These awards are for Assistant Professors from designated URM backgrounds in the U.S., who are “bench” researchers. The purpose is to support their research success by providing funds for them to attend one of the Keystone Symposia research meetings (Up to \$1800).

The application may be found on-line at [www.keystonesymposia.org/diversity](http://www.keystonesymposia.org/diversity). See ECITA. The application process **opened March 1, 2012 for all of our meetings between now and Feb 28, 2013.** However, the awards will be made upon review, on a first come basis. So interested applicants should view our meetings right away at [www.keystonesymposia.org/meetings](http://www.keystonesymposia.org/meetings) and find a meeting of interest for which they might want to apply. The awards are made for a particular meeting.

## Elusive Balance

*Inside Higher Ed, March 9, 2012, by Kaustuv Basu*

Will scientists who aim to strike a healthy balance between work and family end up leaving the STEM fields?

Experts raised the question Thursday, after the Association for Women in Science published an [international survey](#) that showed that a majority of researchers and scientists had conflicts between their work schedules and personal lives at least two to three times a week.

The survey includes answers from 4,225 scientists and researchers from around the world. Sixty-four percent of those who responded work for universities; 24 percent were from the United States. Seventy percent of the respondents were men; 80 percent were married or had a partner.

The results suggest that complaints heard in American university laboratories about the lack of family-friendly workplaces may be similar to those made by scientists around the world. “If there’s one-third of scientists who are unhappy, then we might lose a lot of people who are playing a role in science,” said Donna Dean, an AWIS board member and former president of the organization. She said there were no wide disparities between the numbers across countries, genders or disciplines.

[Read more.](#)



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