

## Special Interest Articles:

- National Academy of Science elects record number of women
- The XX Factor: What's holding Women Back?
- The STEM Profession that Women Dominate

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## National Academy of Science elects record number of women

"[This year's class](#) of 84 new members includes 26 women. That number far exceeds the previous record of 19, set in 2005. In addition, the class's average age has dropped by 3.5 years from last year, to 58. "We are trying to become more diverse by age, gender,

geographic location, and ethnicity," says Susan Wessler, a plant geneticist at the University of California, Riverside, and NAS home secretary. "But we haven't changed the criterion—it's still outstanding science." "The share of women in the new class—

31%—also breaks the previous record of 26% set in 2005, the high-water mark in a 3-year stretch when women comprised roughly one-quarter of each new class. [Read full article.](#)

## The XX Factor: What's Holding Women Back?

May 7, 2012 by Sue Shellenbarger

You would think the problem would be solved by now. Business and government leaders have been talking for decades about advancing more women to top leadership and professional roles. Young women today are entering the workforce

better prepared and more ambitious than ever, with more education and higher career aspirations than men. In the executive suite, the idea is no longer even controversial. When McKinsey & Co. asked senior executives at 60 big companies recently why they are trying to advance women, "they laughed at us," says Dominic Barton,

McKinsey's global managing director. The common response, he says: "Are you kidding?" Almost nine in 10 CEOs agree that tapping female talent is important to "getting the best brains" and competing in markets where women now make most of the purchasing decisions.

[Read the full article.](#)

## The STEM Profession that Women dominate

Do you know which major STEM field boasts as many women in the profession as men? Where almost half the college degrees – even at the PhD level – are granted to women? Where women have a significant presence in the most influential circles of the profession? There's so much attention paid to the participation of women in science, technology,

engineering and mathematics that you'd think this would be front page news, but most haven't even noticed.

Some are even spreading misinformation – inadvertently, no doubt, yet it's important to set the record straight. I'll refrain from naming names, but I was disappointed recently when a professional group invited me to a seminar–

that promised to cover this topic: "Women in Analytics...a rare specimen – how we can change that."

In fact, far from rare specimens, women are well represented among analytics professionals. There are as many women mathematicians and statisticians as men. [Read full article.](#)



## UNESCO-L'Oreal Fellowship

If you know of any women scientists (35 or younger) working in the life sciences who either have a PhD or are pursuing one, they might be great candidates for the UNESCO-L'Oreal Fellowship for Young Women in the Life Sciences. This \$40,000 prize is awarded to each of 15 young women from around the world. If you know of any American women scientists who might be great candidates for this fellowship, they can find more information [here](#), and apply [here](#). The deadline for application for this fellowship is **6/15/12**. For more information about this fellowship, go to [http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL\\_ID=44170&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=44170&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

## REACH for Commercialization

Ohio State will host a workshop "[REACH for commercialization](#)" in Columbus on September 23 –25.

The workshop is intended to give women faculty and postdocs in STEM an introduction to entrepreneurial engagement, and will include a market assessment of each participant's research program. The workshop is supported by the National Science Foundation, through an ADVANCE grant.

Please note that applications for fellowships are due in early July; open registration will be available in late June.

## On-Ramps into Academia

The third "On-Ramps into Academia" workshop will held October 14-16 2012. The workshop speakers will primarily be successful women faculty members who began their post-Ph.D. careers in industry, research labs, consulting, or national labs. The lead speaker will be President Maria Klawe of Harvey Mudd College. Before entering academia, she was at IBM. She was recently profiled in the New York Times and is a wonderful advocate for women in STEM:

[http://www.nytimes.com/2012/04/03/science/giving-women-the-access-code.html?\\_r=2&scp=1&sq=klawe&st=cse](http://www.nytimes.com/2012/04/03/science/giving-women-the-access-code.html?_r=2&scp=1&sq=klawe&st=cse)

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until August 31, 2012 (or until we reach 30 participants). Registration is free and travel funding for airfare and hotel is available. General information about the workshop can be found here:

<http://www.engr.washington.edu/onramp>

## NSF Rotator Positions

STEM Women – Think about rotator positions at NSF. Please consider applying.

[http://www.nsf.gov/about/career\\_opps/rotators/](http://www.nsf.gov/about/career_opps/rotators/)

A huge "Thank You" to all the STEM faculty who provided articles for this year's ADVANCE e-news! We hope you have a wonderful and productive summer.

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On-Ramps  
into Academia

