A ‘Stop the Clock’ Penalty

Inside Higher Ed June 14, 2012 by Scott Jaschik
As colleges and universities have moved to make themselves more “family friendly” to parents, “stop the clock” policies have proliferated. As a benefit, a new parent -- female or male, although generally more women use the benefit -- can have an extra year before the tenure review. The idea is that the additional time demands of becoming a new parent are bound to make it more difficult for a scholar to finish the next book, land the next grant or do whatever is expected before promotion. As more colleges have adopted these policies, many of those who would be eligible for the extra year have debated whether to take it. Read the full article.

Reach for Commercialization

Ohio State will host a workshop “REACH for commercialization” in Columbus, OH 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 our ADVANCE grant. Funds are available to support participants, and thus issue a call for applications for fellowship packages. Please note that applications for fellowships are due in early July; open registration will be available in late June. More information is available on this flyer.

Why Women Still Can’t Have it All

Atlantic Magazine, July/August 2012. By Anne-Mare Slaughter
It’s time to stop fooling ourselves, says a woman who left a position of power: the women who have managed to be both mothers and top professionals are superhuman, rich, or self-employed. If we truly believe in equal opportunity for all women, here’s what has to change. EIGHTEEN MONTHS INTO my job as the first woman director of policy planning at the State Department, a foreign-policy dream job that traces its origins back to George Kennan, I found myself in New York, at the United Nations’ annual assemblage of every foreign minister and head of state in the world. On a Wednesday evening, President and Mrs. Obama hosted a glamorous reception at the American Museum of Natural History. I sipped champagne, greeted foreign dignitaries, and mingled. But I could not stop thinking about my 14-year-old son, who had started eighth grade three weeks earlier… Read the full article.
Elite Women Put a New Spin on an Old Debate

New York Times, June 21, 2012, If a woman has a sterling résumé, a supportive husband who speaks fluent car pool and a nurturing boss who just happens to be one of the most powerful women in the world herself, who or what is to blame if Ms. Supposed-to-Have-It-All still cannot balance work and family? A magazine article by a former Obama administration official has blown up into an instant debate about a new conundrum of female success: women have greater status than ever before in human history, even outpacing men in education, yet the lineup at the top of most fields is still stubbornly male. Is that new gender gap caused by women who give up too easily, unsympathetic employers or just nature itself? Read full article.

The Five Personalities of Innovators: Which one are you?

Forbes Magazine, March 21, 2012

Whenever I try to conjure up what innovation looks like, the same slideshow of images clicks across my mind: that photo of Einstein with his tongue sticking out, Edison with his light bulb, Steve Jobs onstage in his black turtleneck, introducing the latest iThing. Unoriginal and overdone, to be sure. And not all that accurate. Because it’s not just about that romantic “ah ha!” moment in front of a chalkboard or a cocktail napkin, it’s about the nitty-gritty work that comes after the idea: getting it accepted and implemented. Who are these faces? And, most importantly, as I’m sure you’re all asking yourselves: where do I fit in? Read the full article.

UNL Big Ten STEM Writing Retreat

June 17th through the 22nd, Advance-Nebraska hosted the first Big Ten STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Writing Retreat at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Campus. This writing retreat was funded through the Elsevier Foundation’s New Scholars Program. Twenty-four faculty members from five Big Ten institutions (including UNL) and five additional institutions attended. Faculty attended from all ranks and included a broad range of STEM fields. Participants stayed at The Esther L. Kauffman Academic Residential Center in the heart of UNL City Campus. The writing retreat consisted of large blocks of unstructured writing time and the opportunity to meet one-on-one with a writing coach, while UNL’s partnership with the Lincoln Children’s Museum allowed eleven children to take part in a unique, week long, STEM-themed kids’ day camp.

Please send your articles for submission into the ADVANCE newsletter to advance2@unl.edu.