

Special Interest Articles:

- Bias Persists for Women in Science
- Working Together
- Where are all the black women in science?

WELCOME TO Lisa Pollard, ADVANCE-Nebraska's new Project Manager

THANKS AND GOOD LUCK to Jill Hochstein!!

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Bias Persists for Women in Science

New York Times, September 24, 2012
Science professors at American universities widely regard female undergraduates as less competent than male students with the same accomplishments and skills, a [new study](#) by researchers at [Yale](#) concluded. The bias was pervasive, the scientists said, and probably reflected subconscious

cultural influences rather than overt or deliberate discrimination. Female professors were just as biased against women students as their male colleagues, and biology professors just as biased as physics professors — even though more than half of biology majors are women, whereas men far outnumber women in physics.

"I think we were all just a little bit surprised at how powerful the results were — that not only do the faculty in biology, chemistry and physics express these biases quite clearly, but the significance and strength of the results was really quite striking," said [Jo Handelsman](#), a professor of molecular, cellular and developmental biology at Yale. [Read the full article.](#)

Working Together

NATURE | VOL 489 | 13 SEPTEMBER 2012, Mary Anne Holmes

It is a process common on university campuses around the world. A faculty search committee ploughs through piles of applications, sorts them, evaluates them, brings the best candidates to campus and interviews the top few. It eventually arrives at the perfect

person for the job. The head of the department makes the offer — only to discover that the perfect candidate has a partner, and the dreaded two-body problem must be addressed. It can be a nightmare: the whole search collapsing as the clock runs out and the committee tries to find a position for the partner. But

at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln (UNL), we have developed a means of dealing with the problem to help both candidate and recruiter. By the time a job offer is made, a substantial amount of time and money has been invested.

[Read the full article.](#)

Where are all the black women in science?

New Scientist, September 19, 2012, Jenny Blair,
As a child, Erika Dommond wrote letters to Oprah Winfrey, telling the TV icon about school and asking if Oprah would adopt her. When she graduated this year with a mathematics degree from Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia, the oldest historically black college for women in the US, her

idol gave the commencement address. "Epic — it was epic," Dommond recalls. "I was in awe." Creeping in! Winfrey is among a host of trailblazing African American women to inspire young people. And they're not just media moguls, nor first ladies — Michelle Obama also recently spoke at Spelman...

Despite these role models, black female scientists are still a rarity... According to research carried out by Donna Nelson of the University of Oklahoma, even in 2012 there are only four black female tenure-track physics professors employed at the top 100 research universities.

[Read the full article](#)

THANKS and Farewell to Jill Hochstein

who served ADVANCE-Nebraska as the Project Manager from its beginning in 2008. We hope Jill stays *E. coli*-free at the School of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences!

PLEASE WELCOME Lisa Pollard,

who joins us as new Project Manager. Lisa hails most recently from the U.S. State Department. Lisa's email is lpollard2@unl.edu

We're on the Web!

See us at:

Advance.unl.edu

UNL STEM Couple Looking for a House-Sitter

Contact:

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Equal Futures Partnership

From The White House, Office of the Press Secretary, September 24, 2012

The United States has come together with 12 other founding partner countries to launch the [Equal Futures Partnership](#) with the support of key multilateral partners including UN Women and the World Bank, as well as leading businesses and non-profit organizations. Building on existing priorities of the Administration, the United States and its private sector collaborators are announcing new initiatives in response to the President's call to action.

OPENING DOORS TO QUALITY EDUCATION AND HIGH-PAYING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH

Women employed in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields earn on average 33 percent more than their non-STEM counterparts, but they represent only one-quarter of all workers in these sectors. As one way to address this disparity, the Administration intends to take new steps to expand workplace flexibility policies at select science and technology (S&T) agencies. Additionally, the U.S, in collaboration with private and non-profit stakeholders, is announcing a number of new steps, including:

Improving data collection and dissemination: The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) intend to compile data on women's participation in selected Federal S&T programs, including to identify any disparities.

Building the skilled mentor pool: The Department of Energy will expand women in STEM mentoring efforts to office sites across the country, the National Science Foundation (NSF) will connect its scientists with opportunities to mentor girls, and the Environmental Protection Agency will work with organizations to encourage STEM mentoring for college women.

[Read the Full Press Release.](#)

Save the Date!

Thursday, October 11th

ADVANCE-Nebraska and Academic Affairs
8:00 am – 10:30 am, City Campus Union, Georgian Suite (Breakfast @ 8:00 am)
Workshop for Deans, Chairs, and Search Chairs: "Strategies to Maximize the Diversity of Applicant Pools & Hires"

Friday, October 19th

11:30 am - 1:00 pm
Dr. Marinda Li Wu, 2012 American Chemical Society President-Elect
Room 548 Hamilton Hall
<https://sites.google.com/site/marindawu/>

Friday, November 2, 2012

Dr. Christina Falci
11:30 am – 1:30 pm, City Campus Union, Georgian Suite
Highlights from the 2011 Faculty Network and Workload Study (FNWS)
Space is limited, please RSVP advance2@unl.edu.

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