

ADVANCE E-NEWS VOL. 2, NO. 1, 24 SEPTEMBER 2009

ADVANCE-Nebraska: Advancing women, advancing STEM

Please feel free to forward, opt out, or provide feedback via email to: advance2@unl.edu.

Visit ADVANCE-Nebraska online: <http://advance.unl.edu>

Please forward any items (announcements, new or classic papers, funding and job opportunities) to advance2@unl.edu.

Thanks to all who contributed articles: Dan Claes, Barbara Couture, Julia McQuillan,

E-News took a long vacation over the summer and returned to a phenomenal "in" box. We hope to be back on a regular schedule for the academic year!



Today is National Postdoc Appreciation Day!

A. Announcements and News Items

1. COACH Workshop: Powerful Presentations in the City Campus Union, Oct. 26. 9am – 4:30pm.
2. September 24 is National Postdoc Appreciation Day
3. NSF considering reducing cost-sharing requirements of Universities
4. from National Academies Press: Engineering in K-12 Education: Understanding the Status and Improving the Prospects
5. Call for Nominations, two major awards from NSF
6. AAAS Webinar: Help for Graduate Students with Your Job Search
7. Eva Pell Named Under Secretary for Science at the Smithsonian Institution

B. Thanks to Presenters and Participants in Recent ADVANCE-Nebraska Programs

1. Writing Retreat
2. Bonnie Coffey's "Meeting with a Purpose"
3. Priscilla Grew's "The Seven Career Life: A Geological Perspective:"

C. New Papers and News Items on Work-Life Balance, Gender Equity, The Pipeline

1. Is Implicit Bias Dead? Not in Bozeman, MT
2. Recruiting Top Talent – MIT's take on increasing diversity in the Physics Department

D. Funding Opportunity

NSF East Asia and Summer Institutes for Graduate Students

E. Interesting Websites That Have Crossed Our Desks

1. Equal Couples: <http://www.equalcouples.com>, a blog sharing ideas
2. Resources for Mentoring Graduate Students in STEM



A. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. COACH WORKSHOP: POWERFUL PRESENTATIONS IN THE CITY CAMPUS UNION, OCT. 26. 9AM – 4:30PM. COME FOR ALL OR PART -

This workshop, which is designed to complement Strategic Persuasion and Strategies for Leading Change, will give women the opportunity to hone their speaking skills. In an interactive format, participants will learn techniques from the theater for increasing confidence and charisma, expanding

vocal power, using effective body language, and dramatic strategies. You will learn how to bring structural clarity to the content of their speech, whether speaking spontaneously or with prepared remarks. You will discover how power point can become a tool rather than a distraction. You will explore the relationship between time, structure, and silence, in order to most effectively land their points. Participants will be asked to bring in examples of their most challenging speaking events, whether in meetings, negotiations, informal presentations, or formal lectures. There will be plenty of practice and individual coaching on how to improve performance.

Participants will leave with the confidence and ability to present themselves and their ideas with power.

2. TODAY IS NATIONAL POSTDOC APPRECIATION DAY

The National Postdoctoral Association is celebrating the significant contribution that postdoctoral scholars make to the U.S. scientific research enterprise and, at the same time, increasing awareness of this contribution.

<http://www.nationalpostdoc.org/meetings-and-events/appreciation>

3. NSF CONSIDERING REDUCING COST-SHARING REQUIREMENTS

The National Science Board, the governing board for NSF, has recommended that NSF not require any cost-sharing from universities, as this policy tends to favor wealthier institutions and increases costs to both NSF and the grant recipient because cost-sharing must be tracked. From the Chronicle of Higher Education, August 31.

Read the whole report here: http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2009/nsb0920/nsb0920_1.pdf

4. FROM NATIONAL ACADEMIES PRESS: ENGINEERING IN K-12 EDUCATION: UNDERSTANDING THE STATUS AND IMPROVING THE PROSPECTS

Engineering education in K-12 classrooms is a small but growing phenomenon that may have implications for engineering and also for the other "STEM" subjects--science, technology, and mathematics.

5. NSF REQUESTS NOMINATIONS FOR TWO MAJOR AWARDS

The National Science Foundation has issued Calls for Nominations for two of its major awards: the [2010 Vannevar Bush Award](#), "honoring exceptional service to the nation in science and technology; and the [2010 National Science Board Public Service Award](#), "honoring service in public understanding of science and engineering." The deadline for nominations for both awards is November 4, 2009.

MORE DETAIL ON THE VANNEVAR BUSH AWARD:

Call for Nominations, 2010 Vannevar Bush Award

~ Honoring Exceptional Service to the Nation in Science and Technology ~

[Call for Nominations](#) (Deadline: November 4, 2009)

The Vannevar Bush Award honors truly exceptional lifelong leaders in science and technology who have made substantial contributions to the welfare of the Nation through public service activities in science, technology, and public policy. The Vannevar Bush Award is presented by the National Science Board, the policymaking board of the National Science Foundation.

Past recipients of the Vannevar Bush Award include such renowned leaders in science and technology as: Charles Townes, Harold Varmus, Maxine Singer, H. Guyford Stever, Phillip Abelson, Norman Ramsey, Linus Pauling, and James Killian.

For nomination instructions, please visit <http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/awards/bush.jsp> . All inquiries about the award or nomination procedures should be directed to Jennifer Richards, National Science Foundation (jlrichar@nsf.gov).

6. WEBINAR OFFERED BY AAAS: JOB SEARCHING FOR SCIENTISTS: TOOLS, TIPS, AND ESSENTIALS

Looking for some advice about how to conduct your job search?

[Join us](#) for a roundtable discussion that will look at academic and industry job searches for research scientists. We'll talk about using networking in the job search process, locating job openings, getting together your application materials, putting your best foot forward in an interview, and negotiating the best compensation package.

Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Time: 12 noon Eastern Time; 9 a.m. Pacific; 4 p.m. GMT

[Register for free today!](#)

Panelists include **Dave Jensen**, Columnist and Forum Moderator, Science Careers; **Sharon Milgram, Ph.D.**, Director, Office of Intramural Training and Education, National Institutes of Health; **Orlando Taylor, Ph.D.**, Vice Provost for Research, Dean of the Graduate School, and Professor of Communications, Howard University; and **Matthew Sammons**, Recruiter, Qiagen, Inc.

Questions can be asked live!

7. EVA PELL NAMED UNDER SECRETARY FOR SCIENCE AT THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Eva Pell, Dean of the Graduate School and Senior Vice President for Research at Pennsylvania State University, has been named the Under Secretary for Science at the Smithsonian Institution. She will start in January 2010, the first non-interim director since David Evans left the position in April 2007. A biologist whose research focuses on the effects of air pollution on plants, Pell will oversee roughly 1800 staff and a \$300 million annual budget while directing the Institution's research efforts.

B. THANKS TO PRESENTERS & PARTICIPANTS IN RECENT ADVANCE-NEBRASKA PROGRAMS

1. Writing Retreat: Ten Scholars met in the Love Library Resources Room each day during the week of August 10 and made great progress on ten papers! Well done!

2. Bonnie Coffey presented "Meeting With a Purpose" August 28 and helped participants practice entering a room knowing no one and leaving with new contacts for your network. Among Bonnie's recommendations for expanding your networks was **HARO: Help A Reporter Out** at <http://www.helpareporter.com/>. As scientists, engineers and mathematicians at the cutting edge of our fields, we could help make valuable contributions to educating the public by helping journalists who are seeking good information.

3. Thanks to ADVANCE-Nebraska **Speaker, Dr. Priscilla Grew**, Director of the Nebraska State Museum and Professor in Geosciences. Dr. Grew is the second woman in the United States to head a State Geological Survey, but before that, she supervised the survey head for the state of California. She was Vice Chancellor for Research at UNL and serves on numerous national and international committees directing public policy in the Geosciences. The moral of her story was the incredible power of networking.

Our favorite quote: "Marry someone who has the same office style as yours".

C. NEW PAPERS ON WORK-LIFE BALANCE, GENDER EQUITY, THE PIPELINE

1. Is Implicit Bias Dead? Not in Bozeman, MT

Argue pro or con for what Bridget Kevane, a professor of Latin American and Latino literature at Montana State University did with her kids: put a 12-year old in charge of her 8- 7- and 3-year olds, and dropped them off at the mall while she went home and took a nap. The elder girl and her friend did lose track of the younger children, who were found by a policeman "smiling and eating candy" and then arrested Dr. Kevane. What happened next is what concerns us: the prosecutor of Bozeman insisted on charging Kevane with "violating a duty of care," a child endangerment charge punishable by jail time because she (the prosecutor) "said she believed professors are incapable of seeing the real world around them because their 'heads are always in a book,'" Kevane writes. "I just think that even individuals with major educations can commit this offense, and they should not be treated differently because they have more money or education," the prosecutor wrote to Kevane's lawyer.

A "major education" – apparently something more than what it takes to become a prosecutor – appeared to be the real crime in this case. Read the whole story in the NY Times by Judith Warner at:

<http://warner.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/07/09/dont-hate-her-because-shes-educated/?8ty&emc=ty>

2. RECRUITING TOP TALENT – MIT'S TAKE ON INCREASING DIVERSITY IN THE PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

"If you restrict the applicant pool for any position, you may be excluding a star candidate," says department head Edmund Bertschinger. "There are extremely talented underrepresented minorities and women in physics that we can strive to recruit."

<http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2009/physics-diversity-0430.html>

C. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC SUMMER INSTITUTES FOR U.S. GRADUATE STUDENTS 2010 APPLICATION NOW OPEN

(Link: www.nsf.gov)

The National Science Foundation (NSF) East Asia and Pacific Summer Institutes for U.S. Graduate Students (EAPSI) is a flagship international fellowship program for developing the next generation of globally-engaged U.S. scientists and engineers knowledgeable about the Asian and Pacific regions. The Summer Institutes are hosted by foreign counterparts committed to increasing opportunities for young U.S. researchers to work in research facilities and with host mentors abroad. Fellows are supported to participate in eight-week research experiences at host laboratories in Australia, China, Japan (10 weeks), Korea, New Zealand, Singapore and Taiwan from June to August. The program provides a \$5,000 summer stipend, round-trip airfare to the host location, living expenses abroad, and an introduction to the society, culture, language, and research environment of the host location.

The 2010 application is now open and will close December 8, 2009. Application instructions are available online at www.nsf.gov. For further information concerning benefits, eligibility, and tips on applying, applicants are encouraged to visit www.nsf.gov/eapsi or www.nsf.gov.

NSF recognizes the importance of enabling U.S. researchers and educators to advance their work through international collaborations and the value of ensuring that future generations of U.S. scientists and engineers gain professional experience beyond this nation's borders early in their careers. The

program is intended for U.S. graduate students pursuing studies in fields supported by the National Science Foundation. Women, minorities, and persons with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply for the EAPSI. Applicants must be enrolled in a research-oriented master's or PhD program and be U.S. citizens or U.S. permanent residents by the application deadline date. Students in combined bachelor/master degree programs must have matriculated from the undergraduate degree program at time of application.

The first Summer Institutes began in Japan in 1990, and to date approximately 1,800 U.S. graduate students have participated in the program. For the 2009 competition, NSF received 317 applications and issued 187 awards. EAPSI applicants are representative of most U.S. states and territories. The 2009 awardees pool included representation from 95 universities and 40 states.

The NSF-EAPSI Operations Center is administered by the American Society for Engineering Education (www.asee.org/fellowships).[

Should you inquire additional information, please contact Mr. Ergys Ramaj by email at eapsi@asee.org or by phone at 1-866-501-2922.

E. INTERESTING WEBSITES THAT HAVE CROSSED OUR DESKS

1. Equal Couples: a blog sharing ideas

<http://www.equalcouples.com>

2. Resources for mentoring Graduate Students in STEM

"General Guidelines" on this website lays out clearly from the start what is generally expected of grad students and supervisors.

<http://www.rem.sfu.ca/COPElab/mentoring.html>

More help for mentors of both graduate and undergraduate students:

<http://serc.carleton.edu/NAGTWorkshops/earlycareer/research/students.html>