Women Win a Tiny Percentage of Research Awards from Scientific Societies

WIA Report, March 29, 2012
A study published in the journal *Social Studies of Science* finds that women win significantly fewer awards for their research than men. The study looked at awards given out by 13 scientific and medical societies in 1991 and 2010. The research found that women won 78 percent more awards in 2010 than in 1991. But the data showed that women won just 10 percent of the awards for scholarship and research but 32.2 percent of the awards for service and 37.1 percent of the awards for teaching.

This study supports one published in *Nature* in January, 2011 by Lincoln et al.

Colleges battle gender gap in math, science, engineering

Quad-city Times, March 28, 2012
In the old nursing building on the St. Ambrose University campus in Davenport, Jodi Prosise stood in front of a group of 12 male engineering students and talked over the loud roar of a mill as it carved a pattern out of a plastic block. Prosise, an assistant professor of engineering and physics, is one of seven women hired in science, technology, engineering and math, or STEM, fields at St. Ambrose out of 10 new hires in the past five years. She works in a field where women are vastly under-represented, according to national statistics. Of the 15 faculty members hired in STEM fields at Augustana College in Rock Island in the past five years, six were women.

Women ‘do better’ in College, study says

*The Lantern, March 26, 2012, by Ayan Sheikh*
The number of women attending Ohio State has increased significantly, and the same is true among universities across the country since 1982, according to a recent study conducted at OSU. According to the study, the increase in numbers is partly due to the availability of programs and funds aimed at creating incentives for women to continue their college education. Claudia Buchmann, associate professor of sociology at OSU, conducted the study, which showed women tend to do better than men in college and it's not because they opt for "easy" majors. "Women have always out-paced men in terms of performance in schools. They get better grades, they tend to enjoy school more," said Anne McDaniel, postdoctoral research scholar at Columbia University. "Girls have fewer behavioral problems and they’re less likely to be diagnosed with learning disorders."
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:

- Wednesday, April 18th, Noon- 1:00pm, A211 Animal Science Building, East Campus
- Tuesday, May 8th, Noon-1:00pm, Beadle Center room N263

Opportunity for current Freshman

Each summer Proctor & Gamble hosts a science seminar designed to expose freshmen in college to opportunities for using their science degree after school. The seminar is an all expense paid opportunity to spend 3-4 days immersed in a Fortune 50 company's R&D organization. On top of that, participants will interview and if successful, will leave with an internship or co-op for 2013.

The program is targeting students who are currently enrolled as a 1st year Bachelor's or 1st year Associates degree student in a Science or Engineering Technology related discipline [i.e., Chemistry, Biology, Biochemistry, Other Life Sciences, Chemical Engineering Technology (CET), Mechanical Engineering Technology (MET), etc.]. Online applications must be received by June 8, 2012, to be considered for the 2012 Research your Future in Science Seminar which will be held July 31-Aug 3, 2012. To Apply Visit: www.experiencepg.com

Applications must be received by June 2012.

Can Science be fun?

How can we teach science, technology, engineering and math so that these subjects are engaging for female students? SciGirls, a PBS Kids series, has some answers, and they're rooted in research about how to engage girls in STEM. Here are two of the proven strategies for engaging girls in STEM, from SciGirls:

- Girls benefit from collaboration, especially when they can participate and communicate fairly. Girls and women, overall, are energized by the social part of science, by working and learning together. Teachers can engage them by providing opportunities for small group work and encouraging female students to talk about their ideas and consider a full range of possibilities before digging in.
- Girls are motivated by projects they find personally relevant and meaningful. As an educator, you'll want to look for ways to connect your curriculum materials, and the lab experiments, to the girls' lives. If you are teaching an environmental study's lesson for instance, you may want to ask your students about environmental issues in the areas they live.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to many of our esteemed colleagues in STEM who were awarded professorships, awards for teaching, service or research and for distinguished teaching at UNL. We are so proud of you! Many congratulations from ADVANCE-Nebraska!