

ADVANCE E-NEWS VOL. 1, NO. 1, 4 SEPTEMBER 2008

Greetings! The ADVANCE-Nebraska office is up and running in 21 Canfield (Admin). Jill Hochstein is our Project Manager and Mary Anne Holmes (Geosciences) is Program Director. Please feel free to drop by, phone (2-5211 for Mary Anne; 2-3304), or communicate with us via email (advance2@unl.edu).

Thanks to Dr. Nancy Busch, Associate Dean of Libraries, and Melissa Sinner, our website is up and running and waiting for more content: <http://advance.unl.edu>.

I've been getting lots of emails from folks all over campus, from other ADVANCE-IT institutions, and from professional associations that I think might be useful or interesting to those of you interested in ADVANCE goals. We will compile these and distribute to you all as this "e-mail news" a couple of times a month, as the items pile up. Please feel free to send us anything that you think might be of interest to the campus.

If you know of anyone else on campus who would be interested in receiving this, please forward it and let us know email addresses to add.

The purpose of these emails will be to facilitate communication to anyone interested in issues related to women in STEM.

If you don't wish to receive these e-mailings, there is an "unsubscribe" mechanism at the bottom of this email.

1. AWIS, the Association for Women in Science, is in the process of compiling a list of names of outstanding women in STEM, with brief blurbs about their expertise, to forward to the two major campaigns as **potential advisors on STEM issues in the new administration**. Mary Anne is on the AWIS committee that is compiling the names. If you have any that you would like forwarded for consideration, please email M.A. at mholmes2@unl.edu. You don't have to know the nominee; AWIS will take care of contacting and explaining what's involved.

2. Funding Opportunities

A. L'Oreal offers Post-Doc fellowships for women in STEM, up to \$60,000.

ELIGIBILITY:

- * Applicants must be women postdoctoral researchers
- * Applicants must be American born, naturalized citizens, or permanent residents
- * Applicants must be affiliated with a U.S.-based academic or research institution
- * Applicants must conduct their postdoctoral studies and research in the U.S.
- * Applicants must be involved in life or physical/material sciences, engineering, technology, computer science or mathematics

WHEN:

- * Applications open September 22, 2008
- * Applications close October 31, 2008

For more information and application visit:
<http://www.lorealusa.com/forwomeninscience>

B. The National Academies of Science and of Engineering offer research associateships for post-docs (within 5 years of PhD) and **senior scientists** and engineers (>5 years from the PhD).
<http://www7.nationalacademies.org/rap/>

3. Do you know women who have left the academic pipeline?

Shelly Heller, Professor in the Department of Computer Science and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the Mt. Vernon Campus of The George Washington University, is conducting a survey of women who have left academia. The data Dr. Heller is collecting will fill in a huge hole in our understanding of the pushes and pulls that women experience as they make the decision to leave academia.

Please forward this information to anyone you've watched leave the pipeline with regret (yours and/or hers).

<http://sciencewomen.blogspot.com/2008/09/are-you-woman-who-has-left-academic.html>

4. New Articles and Papers on Women in STEM:

A. From Inside Higher Ed, Sept. 22: New Questions on Women, Academe and Careers, By Scott Jaschik

<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2008/09/22/women>

This is a report on a research symposium held by the Stanford C. Bernstein and Co. Center for Leadership and Ethics at Columbia Business School, 19 Sept 08. Details of the symposium, with links to papers by the presenters, can be found here:

<http://www4.gsb.columbia.edu/leadership/events/confsept08>

By examining the success of women choosing different professional career paths, the researchers were able to tease out **characteristics of professions that are more conducive to women's advancement and pay equity**. Among the characteristics Claudia Goldin, professor of economics at Harvard, is finding among the career paths that are both attracting and retaining women: flexibility in schedules, "transparent career paths," and "predictable milestones" on the path to a career. The latter is important, she said, because the research shows that women are quite willing to study for long years (as in medicine) to be trained, but they want a clear path.

Women leave the sciences at greater rates than men do, and their reasons for leaving are completely different: men leave for better economic opportunities. Women leave because of discontent with the nature of science (particularly the intensely competitive nature of some endeavors), a lack of mentoring, and family responsibilities. Sciences that expect multiple PhDs at different institutions discourage women who often travel with a partner (see next item).

B. The Michelle R. Clayman Institute for Gender Research at Stanford University released a report in August on **Dual Career couples in academia**. Their findings include: the proportion of academic couples has not increased in the last 20 years, but the number of academic couples hired into two tenure-track positions has increased. Dual Career couples now comprise 10% of all academic hires. More academic women than academic men are married to other academics (40% vs. 36%), and the proportion of STEM women academics married to another STEM academic is much greater (83% vs. 54% of male STEM academics). 88% of dual career couples said they would not have considered an institution that would not have hired both of them.

Download the 8-page executive summary and/or the 108-page full report:

<http://www.stanford.edu/group/gender/ResearchPrograms/DualCareer/>

C. The Pew Research Institute released a report in August on survey results that address the question: "**Men or Women: Who's the Better Leader?**". Although women scored higher on most leadership traits (as scored by men and women), both men and women trust a man more to be a leader. <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/932/men-or-women-whos-the-better-leader>