



*W*omen's *i*nitiatives *C*ommittee

NEWSLETTER

October, 2016

Welcome to 2016's Fall e-newsletter of the Women's Initiatives Committee. We have exciting events coming up at the 2016 Annual Meeting. You will also find information about our past events held at the 2016 AIChE Spring Meeting. Enjoy!

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Message from the Chair

Dear Colleagues,

WIC is having a great year with a talented group of volunteers that are excited to put together engaging programs that will benefit a large amount of AIChE members. I can't thank our volunteers enough for their efforts for WIC and AIChE.

We had a great spring meeting with our luncheon speaker Laura Leonard who provided a unique perspective on work-life balance. In addition to these traditional activities, our team, led by Megan Donaldson, Dow Chemical Company and Past-chair of WIC, put together a great workshop on re-entry into the work force for people who chose to take personal time away from their career. The keynote speaker, Beth Bryce, was very inspiring and gave great career advice. Please read more about these activities in this newsletter.

I'm really excited about the dynamic team we have putting together programming for the fall meeting in San Francisco. We will have unprecedented collaboration with the Young Professional Committee (YPC). Many of our morning workshops will be jointly sponsored by YPC and we invite both men and women to take part in these seminars by leading chemical engineers. In the afternoon, we will have a great opportunity for women to take part in a COACH workshop. The first COACH workshop I attended was in 2006 and it positively changed the way I approach negotiations and collaborative meetings. This is a great opportunity to learn new interpersonal skills that will help you to succeed in the future. Lalitha Ganapatibhotla, Dow Chemical Company, and Abigail Koppes, Northeastern University, have taken the lead to really expand our reach in these upcoming programs.

As we look to Spring 2017, we are continuing to expand our collaboration with YPC as we organize more panel discussions and workshops around relevant topics to professional life as a chemical engineer. We are excited to help the chemical engineering community in any way possible. If you have any suggestions or wish to join us, please contact me at heldt@mtu.edu.

Best regards,
Caryn Heldt
Associate Professor of Chemical Engineering
Michigan Technological University

Join WIC's Email List and Social Media

Please join our email list and social media groups. Here, we are hoping to create networks between women undergraduates, graduate students, post-docs, industry professionals, and academics. Please feel free to start discussions and post relevant articles.

Email:

<http://www.aiche.org/community/sites/committees/womens-initiatives/forms/keep-posted-on-wic-activities>

LinkedIn:

<http://www.linkedin.com/groups/AIChE-Womens-Initiatives-Committee-4823836>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/aichewic/>

2016 AIChE Annual Meeting San Francisco, CA, November 13-18 Announcements



Workshops

Mason (Hilton San Francisco Union Square), November 13

WIC will offer several workshops at the Annual Meeting that helps answer your questions on career choices. Tickets must be purchased for these events, either online (recommended) or, if tickets still available, onsite at the registration desk.

- [Women Undergraduates Workshop](#) (9:00am – 12:30pm)
- [Women Graduate Students and Post-Doctorates Workshop](#) (9:00am – 5:00pm)
- [Women Assistant Professors: Developing Your Career](#) (9:00am – 5:00pm)

Women's Initiatives Committee (WIC) Luncheon

Imperial A (Hilton San Francisco Union Square), November 14: 11:00am – 12:30pm

You are invited to join us for the WIC Luncheon, an event to honor and recognize exemplary students, mentors, and professionals. Our luncheon will feature keynote speaker **Cynthia Murphy-Ortega**, who will present "Reflections on an Engineering Career in the Energy Business." Cynthia is currently a Manager with University Partnerships and Association Relations of Chevron Corporation. Her organization manages Chevron's relationships with universities and professional societies and institutes throughout the world.

*This luncheon is priced at \$15 for graduate students and at \$25 for professionals. Advanced registration is required.

2016 AIChE Spring Meeting Recap Houston, TX, April 10-14



WIC Women's Workplace Retention & Reentry (W2R2): Reentry to Industry: Keynote, Panel Discussion & Workshop

The AIChE Women's Initiatives Committee offered a new workshop dedicated to retention and reentry of women to the engineering profession at the 2016 Spring AIChE Conference. The 3-hour workshop focused on reentry to industry to provide key strategies for getting back into the workforce after taking time off. The keynote speech was delivered by Beth Bryce (Career Services Director, Adult Degree & DeVos Graduate School of Management, Northwood University). Beth talked about how to position seasoned professionals for success by providing 12 career transition strategies that will deliver the changes they are seeking in their career.

The Keynote speech was followed by a panel discussion (Participants: Beth Bryce (Career Services Director, Adult Degree & DeVos Graduate School of Management, Northwood University), Julie Mialaret (General Manager Safety - Upstream Americas, Shell), Cynthia DeBisschop (Adjunct Faculty, Howard University) and Teresa Newman (Principal Engineer, Lubrizol)).

Luncheon

At our spring meeting networking luncheon, Laura E. Leonard (Senior Product Line Manager, Gasoline Technologies, Process Technology & Equipment, UOP, A Honeywell Company) delivered a keynote presentation entitled "Work Life Balance: A Two Variable Equation with Many Solutions." Laura addressed over 40 attendees with her strategy and insight into achieving balance within one's life and successfully achieving realistic goals.

1-on-1 Career Discussions With Reentry Candidates

This session was a spin-off from the WIC Women's Workplace Retention & Reentry (W2R2) and presented the opportunity for reentry candidates to have one on one sessions for more intimate discussion of career planning and management.

WIC Mission

The American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) Women's Initiatives Committee (WIC) will lead in promoting the entry, development, and full participation of women in the Institute and the profession through the following strategies:

- Develop / distribute resources on subjects pertaining to women in the profession.
- Mobilize AIChE to meet the needs of existing and potential female members of AIChE and the profession.
- Provide networking means for women in AIChE to use each other as resources.
- Increase the visibility of women within AIChE and the profession.

2016 WIC Executive Committee

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*Donating to WIC is critical to having continuing programming. You can donate online now at <http://www.aiche.org/community/giving/donate>.

Scroll to "Women's Initiatives" at the bottom of the page. Also, look for a donation box for WIC when renewing your AIChE membership.