

CBL WiC looks back on **2022**

CBL Women in Chemistry had a busy 2022, we continued to write articles for the CCR-FYI Newsletter, hosted Dr. Wendy Hartsock and Prof. Phoebe Glazer, and held our first Networking Event for NCI Fellows. We have highlighted these events below and what our plans are for 2023.



Join us!

2023 Updates

We are excited to expand the group, as we said goodbye to Dr. Jen Smith, who is now a Senior Scientist as Genetech and Dr. Tori Klein, who transferred to NIDDK at the Bethesda campus, but who will continue to help with virtual events.

Dr. Sierra Marker and Dr. Tania Lopez-Silva will be stepping down as WiC cochairs in June 2023.

We want to take this opportunity to thank them for their contributions, hard work, and commitment to WiC. We wish them the best in their future endeavors.

WiC new co-chairs

Join us to welcome the new WiC co-chairs!



Peri Prestwood

Peri is a postbac in the Schneekloth lab working on synthesizing and analyzing drug-like small molecules targeting RNA. She received her BS in biochemistry from the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee, and plans on pursuing a PhD in chemistry or chemical biology.

Caitlin Strain

Caitlin grew up in Basking Ridge NJ. She received her BS in both chemistry and neuroscience at Muhlenberg college. She is a postbac in the Barchi lab working on enzymatically glycosylating mucin type O galNac glycans (specifically MUC4 peptide) and also doing some synthetic work on chemically forming glycoconjugates. She loves to cook in her free time.





Dr. Melissa Lucero

Melissa is a postdoc in the Schnermann lab working on antibody-fluorophore conjugates to study antibody uptake and internalization kinetics in cancer. She received her PhD in chemistry from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where she developed photoacoustic imaging probes for various in vivo applications.

Dr. Xiaoyi Li

She is currently a postdoc in Martin Schnermann's group, working on the synthesis of new fluorophores for bio imaging and polar linkers for antibody labeling.



Our 2022 Projects

WiC Contributes to the CCR-FYI Newsletter

WiC continued to write or edit articles for the CCR-FYI Newsletter. Our goal of these articles is to highlight the achievements of outstanding women in science, typically by featuring women Nobel Laureates. Unfortunately, in the Fall 2022 issue of the Newsletter, we completed all of the women Nobel Laureates, so we highlighted the NIH's role in and appreciation for Women's History Month in the Spring 2022 issue. Luckily, we now have a new woman Nobel Laureate, Dr. Carolyn Bertozzi, so please be on the lookout for our article in an upcoming CCR-FYI Newsletter 2023.



WiC Hosts Dr. Wendy Hartsock for Our Careers in Chemistry Seminar Series

In March 2022, we hosted Dr. Wendy Hartsock at our annual Careers in Chemistry Seminar Series. Dr. Hartsock is Director of Scientific Acceleration for CEM Corporation. While we were unable to hold this even in-person, Wendy gave an excellent talk about her somewhat unconventional pathway to success and her advice for fellows who are interested in pursuing "non-traditional" scientific careers. This year, we plan on continuing this seminar series, hopefully in-person, so be on the lookout for updates on this event.

WiC Hosts Prof. Edith (Phoebe) Glazer for the Molecular Discovery Seminar Series

Every year, WiC hosts a speaker for the CBL's Molecular Discovery Seminar Series (MDSS). This year, we hosted Prof. Edith (Phoebe) Glazer, who is an Associate Professor at the University of Kentucky. Prof. Glazer gave an amazing talk about her contributions to the field of metals in medicine. Fellows also enjoyed a very honest and unedited coffee hour after the talk with Phoebe, where she gave her thoughts on what it means to be a woman in science, the challenges she has faced, and how far we still must come to create equality in science. Her advice for fellows: "failures make you stronger," to be assertive with what you want and deserve, and to create a network of women for support.

This Spring, we are excited to host another amazing scientist, Prof. Caroline Proulx from North Carolina State University on March 23 rd in-person! We will again hold a coffee hour for all fellows to join and ask Prof. Proulx questions and hear about her scientific journey.

WiC Held Our 1st Annual Networking Event for NCI Fellows

As we start to come back to normalcy since the pandemic started in 2020, we realized how difficult it was to build a network of scientists as fellows. This network is vital for communicating science and finding support both professionally and personally. Therefore, WiC felt that we could help with this issue by creating a Networking Event for NCI Fellows to meet and discuss various career paths with amazing scientists in the area. So, in the Fall of 2022, we hosted 10 scientists from areas of academia, industry, government, and science policy. Fellows were able to choose which professionals they wanted to speak with in their Zoom break-out rooms and discuss what their careers entailed and what advice the professionals had to transition to these careers. We found that the professionals enjoyed this event just as much as the fellows did and both professionals and fellows created a new scientific network.

We plan on holding our 2nd Networking Event this Fall, hopefully in-person, so please let us know if you have any professionals/career paths you would like to see at this event.

WIC Looks foward to 2023

We are very thankful for the support from the PIs and the CBL community, especially Dr. Dina Sigano, who has been vital in helping organize our events. We can't wait for our upcoming events and being to connect with everyone in-person.

WiC is still recruiting co-chairs/members for 2023, so if you are interested in being a part of the group, please email Tania (tania. lopezsilva@nih.gov), Srijani (srijani.sarkar@ nih.gov), or Sierra (sierra.marker@nih.gov) with any questions.

WiC 2023 events

•March 23rd: WiC Hosts Prof. Caroline Proulx for MDSS and Coffee Hour

•May 5th: WiC Hosts Informal Coffee Break for All CBL Fellows

•Spring/Summer: Careers in Chemistry Seminar Series

•Fall: 2nd Annual Networking Event

FYI Newsletter

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