

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

WOMEN IN GRADUATE SCIENCES

Inspiring | Supporting | Mentoring

Our Mission

The Women in Graduate Science (UOWGS) organization at the University of Oregon focuses on the professional development of women in all disciplines of science to enable them to become successful contributors to their fields.

2017-2018 Officers

President:

Andrea Steiger

Treasurer:

Lisa Enman

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Seminar Chair:

Dani Hamann

Outreach Co-Chair:

Lisa Eytel

Outreach Co-Chair:

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Hazel Fargher

JUMP! Chair:

Anne Fulton

Webmaster:

Bri Gordon

Recorder Chair:

Amanda Morris

Funding Chair:

Kira Egelhofer



Outgoing and incoming executive council members: Hazel Fargher, Loni Kringle, Lisa Eytel, Kate Walsh, Andrea Steiger, Kimmy Jones, Annie Greenaway, Dani Hamann, Bri Gordon, Michelle Sconce, Madison Meyers, Anne Fulton, Lisa Enman, Kira Egelhofer

Message from our President:

Dear UOWGS members, alumni, and friends,

I'm so excited for what WGS has planned for this upcoming year and for what new opportunities will come our way! The past several years have seen sustained growth in membership and participation across the STEM disciplines, as well as consistent engagement in the community and with outreach programs.

I have watched WGS accomplish so much in my few years as a member! My goal for this upcoming year is to continue to maintain the support we provide for one another through our workshops, outreach, scholarships, and social events, while investing time in some of our long term goals: to support the invitation of women in academia to speak at departmental seminars, to provide more opportunities for social engagement with our members, and to continue to support more deserving students with scholarships.



*Andrea Steiger
UOWGS President*

Thank you to all of our members, our generous donors, our alumni, and all who have attended our events. We hope to continue to see you over the next year. We would not be here today without all of your support!

Thanks!
Andrea

2017 UOWGS Winter Benefit



Above: UOWGS Executive Council and Benefit Committee members

WGS held its 3rd annual Winter Benefit in March at the Downtown Athletic Club in Eugene. This yearly fundraiser helps support our programming, including workshops, outreach, and social networking events. The benefit also provides with a chance to network and share our goals and successes with the larger community.

This year we hosted a cocktail hour followed by dinner, dessert, and, with generous support from donors, a silent auction with lots of amazing items. Our JUMP! Coordinator, Madison, spoke about our expanding mentorship program and Outreach Co-chairs Lisa and Loni discussed the new partnerships and programs they developed this year. Special thanks to UOWGS Members Kira Egelhofer, Dani Hamann, and Brandon Schabes for helping plan the event along with members of the Executive Council.

Right and below: Benefit attendees peruse and bid on our silent auction items



Right: Professors Chris Doe and Elizabeth Bohls, auction winners of the Penner-Ash wine cellars VIP tour & tasting, with UOWGS Social Chair Kate Walsh.



Special Thanks to Our Local Sponsors

Ambrosia, Cornbread Cafe, Ballet Fantastique, The Big O, About Touch, Bijou Art Cinemas, The Duck Store, UO Alumni Association, Sanipac, Gervais, Passion Flower Design, Whirled Pies, Fiddler's Green, Penner-Ash Wine Cellars, Cheba Hut, Falling Sky Brewing, Sweet Life, Excelsior Inn, Red Wagon Creamery, Sizzle Pie, Bagel Sphere, Oregon Bach Festival, Dutch Bros, Sundance Natural Foods, The Pearl, Glory Bee, The Bier Stein, Laughing Planet, Funagain Games, The Healthy Pet, Hard Core Yoga, Eugene Ballet Company, Friendly St. Market, Lane Cross Fit, Wags! Dog Emporium, Eugene Symphony, Oakshire Brewing, The Barn Light, Footwise, Bepe & Gianni's, Euphoria Chocolate Company, and Reister Morris Photography

Outreach Events



Our annual collaboration with The Science Factory through their Girls' Science Adventure Days had a new set-up this year. Instead of meeting once a month for six months, we met once a week for six weeks. That change increased attendance by allowing more girls to regularly participate! These workshops covered a large range of scientific topics, thanks to help from Women in Physics, Women in Mathematics, and other WGS members willing to share their knowledge. The girls had a great time as they made circuits out of play-doh, constructed optical lenses out of jello, and formed geodesic shapes with bubbles. They extracted strawberry DNA, touched sheep brains, and watched as the fMRI scanned the brain of one of the group leaders (pictured left).

WGS formed a new partnership this year with Ophelia's Place (founded by UO's own woman in science Rosaria Haugland!) We led a series of six after-school workshops for girls age 10 to 14. We expanded our programming to STEAM-based education by including more art in our workshops. The students were able to build light-up sculptures using play-doh squishy circuits, and an art master's student joined us during our polymer bouncy ball workshop to show how she uses polymers to construct her sculptures. We look forward to continuing to promote STEAM education with Ophelia's Place and The Science Factory this next year!



We wrapped up with SAIL Camp (Summer Academy to Inspire Learning), where we explored a new theme: forensic science! Student's solved a mystery: A rogue grad student turned supervillain killed a budding super-hero grad student with a poisonous serum. The students collected evidence from the crime scene and then tested each piece of evidence using scientific experiments to determine which suspect was the supervillain. At the end of the week, the students were able to present their evidence to convince a jury of the villain's identity, which, of course, was followed by celebratory ice cream for solving the crime.



Outreach Co-Chairs Loni Kringle and Lisa Eytel

Did you see our StemBox Optics Box from March?

<https://mystembox.com/Optics>

You can purchase your own Optics box or subscribe to StemBox here: <https://mystembox.com/shop/all/>

Thank you to all of our volunteers and supporters who made this year's outreach events such a success! Our new partnerships with StemBox and Ophelia's Place, and our continued partnerships with SAIL and The Science Factory, allowed us to reach a broader range of future steminists this year than ever before!

While Loni bids the WGS Outreach position good-bye, her legacy will live-on with her commitment to optics and physics-based outreach programming. Lisa is continuing in her role as the "past, present, and future" outreach co-chair and is eager to work with Dana, a geologist, to develop even more new outreach programs!

Interested in Volunteering?

Contact us at: uowgs@uoregon.edu

9th Annual Generations Luncheon

In June, UOWGS held our 9th Annual Generations Luncheon in Gerlinger Lounge on UO's Campus. Current and aspiring women scientists of all ages gathered to exchange stories and experiences. Associate Dean of the UO Graduate School, Psychology Professor, and WGS Member Sara Hodges gave a keynote speech on her experiences and career path as a researcher, professor, and administrator, and shared some advice for future generations!



Pictured above and left: Photos from the generations luncheon, where attendees included faculty, post docs, grad students, undergrads, and high school students.

JUMP! Mentorship program

In the Spring we had a workshop on writing an effective resume, which involved having students bring their current resume and having graduate mentors help them with their structure. Physics PhD candidate and JUMP! Mentor Mayra Azmuca gave a great presentation, and we even brought in an employee from Glory Bee Honey to give an industry perspective. For our Spring group meeting, we had practice interviews, where each mentor represented a different job, and students had to practice being interviewed for that position. We then discussed different strategies and experiences with interviews, from both the PhD and Masters graduate levels, as well as undergraduate students that had recently experienced an interview.

The 2016-2017 school year was great for JUMP!; we expanded the program by 60% to include 8 graduate mentors and 32 undergraduate students. Thanks to all the graduate mentors and undergraduate mentors who participated and good luck in your future endeavors! The 2017-2018 graduate mentor selection process has already begun and applications for undergraduate mentees to participate in the program will be open soon, stay tuned!



Pictured above: Graduate student panel held for JUMP! undergrads

Thanks to Our JUMP! Board Members:

Madison Meyers (WGS GSAB Chair), **Melissa Randel**, **Andrea Steiger** (WGS Seminar Chair), and **Annie Greenaway** (WGS Treasurer)

UOWGS Seminar & Workshop Series

An important aspect of WGS's mission is to host seminars and workshops that promote women in science and give insights on a variety of science careers. Our seminar series aims to provide information on routes to different careers as well as highlight the success of female professionals, promote women in STEM, and bring light to issues that women may face while advancing in their careers. Our workshops provide tools to teach professionalism and provide networking opportunities to graduate students as they look ahead to their future career aspirations. UOWGS thanks all 2016-2017 seminar and workshop speakers!



Kina McAllister

Fall Seminar: October 23rd, 2016

Kina McAllister, founder and CEO of StemBox, a subscription service that provides monthly science kits for young girls. Kina spoke about the struggles that women face on the path to science careers and how her first hand experience helped lead her to start StemBox, which has become wildly successful and continues to grow and inspire many young girls.



Dr. Carolyn Bertozzi

Winter Luncheon: Feb. 9th, 2016

Dr. Carolyn Bertozzi, Professor of Chemistry (Stanford University) and editor-in-chief of ACS Central Science. Visiting the UO Chemistry Department as the 2017 Boekelheide Lecturer, Dr. Bertozzi led an informal Q & A with WGS members over lunch to discuss the challenges facing women and LGBTQ individuals in science. This was a great discussion with participation from graduate students and UO professors too!



Dr. Stacey York

Winter Workshop: March 6th, 2016

Dr. Stacey York, Dr. Stacey York, Director of Strategic Partnerships for the UO Masters Internship Program. As part of the WGS Workshop Series, Dr. York led a StrengthsFinder workshop this March. The StrengthsFinder assessment can help students to identify their core talents, and Dr. York's workshop focused on how to use this information on your resume and in your career.



Anjali Chitkara-Barry

Spring Workshop: April 10th, 2017

Mental Health Workshop WGS partnered with the University Counseling Center this spring to host this workshop, led by Doctoral Intern Anjali Chitkara-Barry, MS. She gave tips and resources for graduate students struggling with stress, anxiety, depression, or any other mental health issues. It focused on normalizing the need for mental health awareness within graduate programs. WGS hopes to start a conversation about addressing mental health within the graduate departments at UO.

UOWGS donor support makes these seminars possible! Please contact us if you'd like to help fund our seminar series *or* if you have suggestions for future seminar speakers or topics.

