

# CSWP GAZETTE

A Newsletter of the Committee on the Status of Women  
in Physics of the American Physical Society

November-December 1984

Volume 4, Issue 4

## FOREWORD TO OUR READERS

As was announced in the September issue of the *Gazette* (capably edited by Prof. Julia Thompson of the University of Pittsburgh), future issues will be edited on a rotating basis by members of an Editorial Board which is currently in the process of being formed. I am serving as copy editor for this issue and shall *continue* to serve as managing editor for a while. The first issue of the *Gazette* in 1985 will be edited by Dr. Luisa Hansen of Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory. Comments, volunteers, and suggestions are always welcome. Any items sent directly to me will be speedily forwarded to the appropriate editor. Thank you all for your forbearance.

Sincerely,  
Irene M. Engle, Editor  
Physics Department  
U.S. Naval Academy  
Annapolis, MD 21402

telephone: (301)267-3486

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## RESPONSE TO LOS ALAMOS PHYSICIST

(continued)

Dear Editor,

This letter is in response to the anonymous letter in the May issue of the *CSWP Gazette*. I am violently opposed to this woman's viewpoint and I do not understand why she thinks that "career development" is antifamily for women. For me career development has more often suffered from the crime of being unendingly *bor-ing*, but I've never, ever thought of it as degrading to the woman raising a family.

I am appalled that this woman seems to feel that other women who choose a career instead of a family are personally attacking her choice of lifestyle. I am also offended by what I read as an implication that it is wrong for a woman to choose not to raise a family and that single women are out to exterminate all motherhood and family life.

To this letter my response is equally bitter. For hundreds, thousands of years most women, half the thinking population, have been wasted, WASTED, because it was thought that they could do nothing but breed the next generation. "Career Development for Women" is a way for women to become better people and better mothers. Everyone, even "our nation," and especially those growing, young, "small people," stand to gain from it.

Now that I've finished with that tirade I would like to say that I do appreciate your newsletter and the work that must go into it. Luck go with you in the future.

Sincerely,  
Anne R. Davenport  
Portland, Oregon

Dear Dr. Engle:

You must have heard typewriters rattling from Annapolis to Anaheim, Azusa, and Cucamonga (it being a not-very-well-kept secret that female physicists generally type their own letters!)

(which is not to say that we necessarily do it very well!) after printing the letter from "Anonymous, Los Alamos" in your newsletter last spring. Now that the noise has died down a bit, I thought I would add my two cents worth.

First, about children: in a statistical sort of way, for every two women who, like ALA, choose to have three, one of us must choose to have none. Quite a large fraction of women scientists have made this choice for one reason or another.

Second, about "career development": The great British poet, Stephen Spender, was quoted on the occasion of his 75th birthday a few months ago in *The New Yorker* as saying "I have been very lucky. I am still earning my keep, making a living by writing. Touch wood." For all of us, the work we do is the rent we pay for occupying space on earth. It takes many different kinds of work to keep the world running. Raising the next generation is one kind of such necessary work (and one which society does not currently reward in any sensible or organized way), but it is not the only kind! On the very short term, collecting garbage, keeping the power plants running, and raising crops are more important. And even scientific research and higher education (and poetry!) have, in the long run, a place in the scheme of things. At least some of us feel some vague compulsion to do the best possible job at whatever work we find ourselves tackling. We thus naturally feel in turn some resentment when ancient societal customs get in the way. Some of us (including the editor, but not the present writer!) even have the courage to try to change those customs, so that we can do the best work of which we are capable and thereby earn our keep.

It is not good sense for women employed primarily in some other sort of work to snipe at scientists or for us to snipe at them!

Yours sincerely,  
Virginia Trimble  
Visiting Professor of Astronomy

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## CHILD CARE AT APS MEETINGS

CSWP,

Even if I do not take part in the services that you offer I certainly appreciate knowing that they are available and knowing that other women physicists share the same problems.

Sincerely,  
Debra M. Gookin

**Ed. Note:** We received a small but enthusiastic response to our interest in child care at APS meetings. In this case we acted as go-between for the local organizing committee and interested parties. In the future, we hope that this service will be provided entirely by the local organizing committee.

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## NEW NSF ROW PROGRAM

The National Science Foundation has announced its Research Opportunities for Women (ROW) for 1985. This program is designed to support women scientists and engineers who have not previously been principal investigators or who are reentering the research com-

munity. A woman is eligible to submit a proposal if:

1) she has received her doctorate at least three years prior to submitting her proposal to NSF and has not previously served as a principal investigator on a Federal award for scientific or engineering research; or

2) she has a doctorate, but has had her research career interrupted for at least two of the past five years and, since reentering her career, she has not served as a principal investigator on a Federal award for scientific or engineering research.

The deadline date for proposals is 15 January 1985.

General inquiries may be made to:

ROW Program Coordinator  
Room 1144  
Division of Initiation and Improvement  
NSF  
Washington, DC 20550

Telephone: (202)357-7734 or (202)357-7492

Edith Rees, Reporter

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#### 1984-85 VPW's

The National Science Foundation (NSF) announced awards totaling \$2.09 million to 29 awardees under its 1984 Visiting Professorships for Women (VPW) program. A sad bit of news is that there were no physicists among the awardees. One bit of good news is that Dr. Rosaling B. Mendell, an astronomer from New York University, NY is visiting the City University of New York, Lehman College, under the program. Another awardee of particular interest is Dr. Evelyn Fox Keller of Northeastern University in Boston who will visit M.I.T. Dr. Keller is a noted historian of science who has published work on studies of the history of women in science.

Applications for the 1985-86 VPW program are already past due when you receive this newsletter, but it is not too early to begin contemplating details for a proposal for the 1986-87 awards. Applications for the 1986-87 awards will probably be due in November of 1985.

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#### APS AND AAPT IN TORONTO

The American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT) Committee on Women in Physics will sponsor a Coffee/Open House the evening of Sunday, 20 January at the Joint meeting of the APS and AAPT in Toronto. The event will begin at 5:00 p.m. in the Manitoba Room of the Royal York Hotel.

A mini-symposium featuring Prof. Helen Sawyer Hogg, noted Professor Emerita of the University of Toronto, will be jointly sponsored by the AAPT Committee on Women in Physics and the APS Committee on the Status of Women in Physics. Professor Hogg will speak of some of her experiences, beginning as a young graduate student in astronomy. The symposium will begin at 2:40 p.m. on Wednesday, 23 January and will be held in the Ballroom of the Royal York Hotel. A reception and coffee will follow in the same location.

CSWP of APS will not be meeting in Toronto, although some of the members will be individually in attendance.

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#### NEW APS FELLOWS

There were 168 physicists elected to fellowship in the APS in April 1984. The four women among them include Dr. Patricia Cladis of Bell Labs, Dr. Carol Jo Crannell of NASA/GSFC, Dr. Helen Edwards of Fermilab, and Dr. Mary Shoaf of the Princeton Plasma Physics Lab.

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#### WE HEAR THAT . . .

Dr. Jacqueline Krim has accepted a one-year NATO postdoctoral fellowship to work at the Faculté des Sciences de Lumin. . . in Marseille, France. Dr. Krim of the University of Washington at Seattle was the recipient of a doctoral dissertation fellowship from Achievement Rewards for College Scientists Foundation and received the Joseph and Evelyn Henderson Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Research for her influential work on wetting phenomena in adsorbed films. She is interested in receiving notifications of positions in the United States for the 1985-86 academic years.

Professor Mary Beth Stearns of the Physics Department at Arizona State University has received the Alexander von Humboldt-Stifting Award presented to a senior United States scientist in recognition of accomplishments in research and teaching. The award was presented at a meeting of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in June 1984 and will allow a 10-month stay at the University of Saarbrücken where Prof. Stearns will collaborate with Prof. D. Urich Genser and his group.

Dr. Ruth M. Williams of Girton College, Cambridge University, England and her husband, mathematician Dr. Jan Saxl, with their small daughter, made a joint sabbatical trip in 1983-84. At the University of Western Australia, Perth, Dr. Williams taught a course in elementary particle physics while her husband collaborated with Dr. Cheryl Praeger. After visiting Australia, New Zealand, Tahiti, and California, the family continued to Princeton, where Dr. Williams spent a semester at the Institute for Advanced Study.

Summer of 1984 was spent driving cross-country via the Physics Center in Aspen, CO to a six-week visit at UC, Santa Barbara before returning to Cambridge, England in late September.

Dr. Pat Cladis of Bell Labs has been named to the American Institute of Physics Committee on the History of Physics.

Dr. Kathryn A. McCarthy is currently Director-at-Large of the Optical Society of America and is on the Corporation Visiting Committee to Applied Sciences at Harvard University.

Dr. Deirdre Ann Hunter, presently at Kitt Peak Observatory, received the Robert J. Trumpler Prize, given for an outstanding Ph.D. thesis in Astronomy. Dr. Hunter did her Ph.D. work at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Dr. Deborah Byrd of the University of Texas, Austin and the radio program "Star Date," which she writes, received the Klumpke-Roberts Award for outstanding contributions to the public understanding and appreciation of astronomy.

Dr. Claire E. Max was named, effective March 1984, Head of the Livermore branch of the Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics and Associate Director of the University of California

IGPP. Dr. Max is a plasma physicist with research interests in laser plasma interactions and astrophysical plasmas. She has been associated with the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory since 1974.

Dr. Barbara L. Welther of the Center for Astrophysics, Cambridge, MA presented a talk "Cecelia Payne's Private Views of Some Astronomical Meetings in 1924 and 1925," at the meeting of the Historical Astronomy Division of the NAS held at NASM, Washington, D.C., 9 June 1984. At the same meeting woman historian M. A. James of Rutgers Univ. spoke on "The Perturbations of Personality: The Dudley Observatory and Its First Director."

Dr. Enid Sichel, 1984 CSWP Chair, spent several enjoyable weeks in Great Britain in November. While there, she presented Colloquia at Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge and at St. Andrews Univ., Scotland. The topic of her talks was "Quantum Hole Effects."

Dr. Jean M. Bennett of the Naval Weapons Center at China Lake, CA and Prof. Ann E. Wright of the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston have been named to the Board of Governors of the American Institute of Physics.

Dr. Bennett traveled to Scandinavia in August 1984 to attend the International Conference on Thin Films VI held in Stockholm, Sweden, 13-17 August. While there, she presented an invited paper, "Optical Scattering and Absorption Losses at Interfaces in Thin Films" and a second paper, coauthored with D. E. Gourley and Helen E. Gourley, entitled, "Evaluation of the Microroughness of Large Flat or Curved Optics by Replication." Following the conference, Dr. Bennett toured Norway and Sweden in the company of Lars and Gunnell Mattsson of the Inst. Tech. at U. Uppsala, Sweden.

Dr. Mary Wintersgill of the U.S. Naval Academy, visited the C.S.I.R.O. (Australian equivalent of the U.S. National Bureau of Standards) in May and June of 1984. During the visit, Dr. Wintersgill gave the Sydney Solid State Physics Colloquium at the University of New South Wales. She, with her husband and small son, also visited New Zealand, where she gave a talk at Victoria University, Wellington.

Dr. Mary K. Hudson of the Space Sciences Lab of Univ. Cal.—Berkeley, received a 1984 James B. Macelwane Award for her theoretical research on the microphysics of magnetospheric plasmas. The Award is made under the auspices of the American Geophysical Union to recognize outstanding young investigators in the fields of geophysics.

Dr. Beverly Taylor, Chair of the AAPT Committee on Women in Physics, is now a member of the physics department of Miami University in Ohio.

Professor Mary K. Gaillard of Univ. Cal.—Berkeley (and a CSWP member) traveled in mainland China as a guest of the Chinese National Science Academy in September 1984. While there, she visited and spoke at the Institutes for High Energy Physics and Theoretical Physics at the University of Beijing, the physics departments at the Universities in Xian and Hang-show, and Fudan University in Shanghai. While at Fudan University, Dr. Gaillard met with its President, Madam Xie Xide, a physics professor who received her University training at Smith College and M.I.T. before returning to China. Topics of Prof. Gaillard's talks included (1) Electro-weak Symmetry Breaking at the Super Collider and (2) Inflation and Supersymmetry.

Professor Gaillard is spending Fall semester 1984 as a visitor at the Center for Theoretical Physics at the University of Santa Barbara.

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#### RECEPTION FOR SALLY RIDE

The Federation of Organizations for Professional Women (FOPW) has organized a reception for Dr. Sally Ride, America's first female

astronaut (and physicist with Ph.D. from Stanford Univ.). The reception was scheduled for 5:50-8:00 p.m. Tuesday, 11 December in Room 345 of the Cannon House Office Building at New Jersey and Independence Avenues, SW in Washington, DC. Women Congressional members and staffs, as well as professional women engineers and scientists in the Washington area were among those invited to attend.

To learn more about this reception or other activities of FOPW, call (202)328-1415.

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#### DEATH OF DR. JOCELYN GILL, NASA CHIEF

NASA astronomer, Dr. Jocelyn R. Gill, chief of in-flight sciences for manned space programs at NASA from 1961 to her retirement in 1973, died of multiple sclerosis in April 1984, at the age of 67. In 1966 Dr. Gill received a Federal Woman's Award from President Johnson and was also proclaimed "Multiple Sclerosis Woman of the Year" by Vice-President Humphrey. Dr. Gill designed experiments for the Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo space flight programs and flew aboard a jet fighter on an 8-mile-high trip to observe a solar eclipse. Dr. Gill received her undergraduate degree from Wellesley, her master's from the Yerkes Observatory at the University of Chicago, and her Ph.D. from Yale University.

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#### CAREERS IN METEOROLOGY

The American Meteorological Society's Board on Women and Minorities maintains a network of volunteers to advise people considering careers in the atmospheric sciences. The volunteers also serve as a resource for colleagues contemplating career changes. Volunteers represent many types of employment connected with the atmospheric sciences, but we are all concerned with encouraging the participation of others in our field. Advice or guidance is offered in career-related areas such as education, career advancement, and two-career families. If you want a volunteer to contact you, or you can serve as a volunteer, write to Kerry H. Cook, P.O. Box 117, Oak Ridge, TN 37831.

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#### LUISE MEYER-SCHUTZMEISTER MEMORIAL AWARD

The Luise Meyer-Schutzmeister Memorial Award has been established in memory of nuclear physicist Luise Meyer-Schutzmeister, Senior Physicist at Argonne National Laboratory. The \$500 award is presented annually to an outstanding graduate student in physics.

Application forms may be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to:

Dr. Suzanne Gronemeyer  
Siemens Medical Systems  
186 Wood Avenue South  
Iselin, NJ 08830

Application, transcripts, and recommendations must be received by Dr. Gronemeyer by 15 January 1985 for the 1985 award.

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#### SCHOLARSHIP IN ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES

The 1985-86 June Bacon-Bercey Scholarship in Atmospheric Sciences for Women (intending to make a career in the atmospheric sciences) has an application deadline of 1 May 1985. For further information, please see p. 3 of the CSWP Gazette Volume 4, Issue 1 and/or communicate directly with the American Geophysical

Union, 2000 Florida Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20009 or call  
(202)462-6903.

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**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR WOMEN  
SCIENCE STUDENTS**

The Association for Women in Science (AWIS) has a list  
"Resources for Women in Science" of sources of financial assistance. To receive this list, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

AWIS  
1346 Connecticut Avenue, NW  
Suite 1122  
Washington, DC 20036

**CARNEGIE-MELLON UNIVERSITY**

The Physics Department at Carnegie-Mellon University seeks a well-qualified person in condensed-matter theory for a position as assistant professor. Applicants should have at least one or two years of postdoctoral experience and should be prepared to develop an independent research program, as well as supervise graduate students and participate in the departmental educational activities.

To obtain further information, please write to:

Prof. R. B. Griffiths  
Department of Physics  
Carnegie-Mellon University  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
USA

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