

AAS Committee on the Status of Women

Issue of January 25, 2019

eds: Nicolle Zellner, Heather Flewelling, Maria Patterson, JoEllen McBride, and
Alessandra Aloisi (guest ed.)

Today's guest editor is Alessandra Aloisi. Alessandra studies stars and gas in nearby star-forming galaxies with UV/optical/NIR imaging and UV/optical spectroscopy to infer their chemical and evolutionary state. She received her PhD from Bologna University (Italy) in 1999. She then landed in the US and launched her career as postdoc at the Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI), and as associate research scientist at Johns Hopkins University. Alessandra joined the research staff at STScI in 2003, working first for the European Space Agency (ESA) and transferring to a position with the Association of the Universities for Research in Astronomy (AURA) in 2009. At STScI, Alessandra started as instrument scientist for the Space Telescope Imaging Spectrograph and the Cosmic Origins Spectrograph on the Hubble Space Telescope, and became the lead for the team responsible for the calibration, operations, and user support of these spectrographs just before the Hubble Servicing Mission 4. She then moved to be the Deputy Division Head of the Operations & Engineering Division, and is now the Head of the Science Mission Office where she oversees the science career and infrastructure of STScI as well as HST and JWST science policies.

This week's issues:

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1. Cross-post: Women in Planetary Science, Summary of DPS 2018 Planetary Allyship Meeting

From: Cristina Thomas via womeninastronomy.blogspot.com

The Women in Planetary Science blog this week featured a summary of last fall's Planetary Allyship Meeting at the Division for Planetary Sciences (DPS) conference. The group held their fourth annual DPS event where they discussed "how people from non-marginalized groups can support equity in the scientific community". In the blog entry, the event organizers summarized the discussion and provided action items for those interested in working toward change.

Read more at:

<https://womeninplanetaryscience.wordpress.com/2019/01/20/summary-of-dps-2018-planetary-allyship-meeting/>

2. CORRECTION: Making Waves: 6 Women in Hawaii with Careers in STEM Share Their Stories [AAS Committee on the Status of Women -- Issue of January 11, 2019]

From: Kelly Lockhart [k.e.lockhart@gmail.com]

"Hawaiian" is used to denote someone of Native Hawaiian descent; "Hawaii resident" or "women in Hawaii" would be more appropriate to describe the women in this article.

3. Nancy Roman, the American space agency NASA's first Chief Astronomer
From: Kimberly Arcand [kkowal_at_cfa.harvard.edu]

By Matthew Bannister

Roman was known as the mother of the Hubble Telescope.

See podcast at

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0001y9m>

4. Typical physics Ph.D. admissions criteria limit access to underrepresented groups but fail to predict doctoral completion
From: John Mather [johncm12_at_gmail.com]

By Casey W. Miller, Benjamin M. Zwickl, Julie R. Posselt, Rachel T. Silvestrini, and Theodore Hodapp

This study aims to understand the effectiveness of typical admissions criteria in identifying students who will complete the Physics Ph.D. Multivariate statistical analysis of roughly one in eight physics Ph.D. students from 2000 to 2010 indicates that the traditional admissions metrics of undergraduate grade point average (GPA) and the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) Quantitative, Verbal, and Physics Subject Tests do not predict completion as effectively admissions committees presume.

Read more at

<http://advances.sciencemag.org/content/5/1/eaat7550>

5. Influenster Now Accepting 2019 Women in STEM Academic Scholarship Applications
From: Nicolle Zellner [nzellner_at_albion.edu]

[Influenster](#), the leading product discovery and ratings and reviews platform, is now accepting applications for scholarships that will be awarded to five undergraduate and graduate women pursuing a degree in STEM (science, technology, engineering, math).

Read more at

<http://www.digitaljournal.com/pr/4113299#ixzz5czYGZxcJ>

6. Women in space: Roscosmos sets sights on creating female crew of cosmonauts, says source
From: Nicolle Zellner [nzellner_at_albion.edu]

Roscosmos, the Russians space agency, has announced that it will create a female crew of cosmonauts that will perform duties on the International Space Station and also be trained for future missions to the Moon. The Orlan spacesuit will be upgraded for women, who are too small to fit in the current sizes. Meanwhile, spacesuits to fit women under 5'5" are being designed by Dava Newman (MIT). "We make them for females because I'm in charge," Newman said.

Read more on the Russian announcement at

<http://tass.com/science/1040896>

Read about Dava Newman's designs at

<https://www.businessinsider.com/dava-newmans-skintight-spacesuit-could-be-nasas-future-2013-12>

and

<https://www.space.com/42373-spacesuit-designs-dava-newman.html>

7. Mind The Gap: Women Underrepresented In Awarding Of Prestigious Prizes

From: Alessandra Aloisi [aloisi_at_stsci.edu]

By Maya Margit

Female scientists remain significantly underrepresented in the awarding of prestigious prizes, a new study has revealed. This was recently reinforced with the release of a list of all-male winners for Israel's 2019 Wolf Prize. Leading academics contend that the thorny issue of gender parity could be resolved if institutions take a proactive approach to the problem and widen the pool of candidates.

Read more at

<http://www.themedialine.org/news/mind-the-gap-women-underrepresented-in-prestigious-prizes/>

8. When Bankwest's female tech staff are told "girls don't hack", this is what they do...

From: Alessandra Aloisi [aloisi_at_stsci.edu]

By Lou Tovey

Imagine being the only woman in the room and being told by an authority figure that you don't belong. It's the kind of thing we might have expected a good few years ago at a men-only event at a golf club but what if this was the experience of a colleague at a conference who was told by a course leader that "girls don't hack."

Read more at

<https://www.itnews.com.au/news/when-bankwests-female-senior-executives-are-told-girls-dont-hack-this-is-what-they-do-518214>

9. Job Opportunities

- Assistant Professor, Astrobiology, Florida Institute of Technology (Melbourne)
<https://fit.hiretouch.com/home/jobs-board/job-details?jobID=51302&job=assistant-professor-of-astrobiology>

- Instructor, Physics & Astronomy, Texas Christian University
<https://jobregister.aas.org/ad/55045577>

For those interested in increasing excellence and diversity in their organizations, a list of resources and advice is here:

<https://cswa.aas.org/diversity.html#howtoincrease>

10. How to Submit to the *AASWOMEN* newsletter

To submit an item to the *AASWOMEN* newsletter, including replies to topics, send email to aaswomen_at_aas.org.

All material will be posted unless you tell us otherwise, including your email address.

When submitting a job posting for inclusion in the newsletter, please include a one-line description and a link to the full job posting.

Please remember to replace "_at_" in the e-mail address above.

11. How to Subscribe or Unsubscribe to the *AASWOMEN* newsletter

Join AAS Women List by email:

Send email to aaswlist+subscribe_at_aas.org from the address you want to have subscribed. You can leave the subject and message blank if you like.

Be sure to follow the instructions in the confirmation email. (Just reply back to the email list)

To unsubscribe by email:

Send email to aaswlist+unsubscribe_at_aas.org from the address you want to have UNsubscribed. You can leave the subject and message blank if you like.

To join or leave AASWomen via web, or change your membership settings:

<https://groups.google.com/a/aas.org/group/aaswlist>

You will have to create a Google Account if you do not already have one, using <https://accounts.google.com/newaccount?hl=en>

Google Groups Subscribe Help:

<http://support.google.com/groups/bin/answer.py?hl=en&answer=46606>

12. Access to Past Issues

<https://cswa.aas.org/AASWOMEN.html>

Each annual summary includes an index of topics covered.

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