

AAS Committee on the Status of Women

Issue of March 29, 2019

eds: Nicolle Zellner, Heather Flewelling, Cristina Thomas, Maria Patterson, and JoEllen McBride

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1. Repost: Facing the Future: The CSWA seeks your input on our community needs in the 2020s!

From: Cristina Thomas via womeninastronomy.blogspot.com

Blog Editor's Note: We are reposting this announcement as we get closer to the April 23 survey deadline. The CSWA is interested to hear from our community what activities should be prioritized as we move into the 2020s. Please respond and remember to share the survey with your colleagues.

The survey can be found here: <https://goo.gl/forms/YEgYoTP4fKVtrSkx1>

Read more about the survey at

<http://womeninastronomy.blogspot.com/2019/03/repost-facing-future-cswa-seeks-your.html>

2. NASA Cancels First All-Female Spacewalk Over Spacesuit Sizes

From: JoEllen McBride [joellen.mcbride_at_gmail.com], Stella Offner [soffner_at_astro.as.utexas.edu], and Nicolle Zellner [nzellner_at_albion.edu]

"It hadn't been planned as a historic mission, yet it would have represented a moment of sorts: the first all-female spacewalk.

"But that moment will have to wait, NASA said Monday, because of a somewhat basic issue - spacesuit sizes."

Read more at

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/25/science/female-spacewalk-canceled.html>

and

<https://www.nbcnews.com/mach/science/last-minute-nasa-decision-cancel-all-female-spacewalk-spotlights-spacesuit-ncna987576>

Read an article about diversity in the world's space programs, including graphics at

<https://womensenews.org/2019/03/a-small-step-for-women-a-gigantic-step-for-womankind/>

3. Antonia Maury: A Female Astronomer's Fight For Recognition

From: JoEllen McBride [joellen.mcbride_at_gmail.com]

By Kiona Smith

"Astronomer Antonia Maury was born with the stars in her blood on March 21, 1866. Her grandfather, John William Draper, had been the first astronomer to photograph the Moon, and [her uncle Henry Draper](#) was one of the most famous astronomers of his day; Maury and her siblings grew up in his orbit."

Read more at

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/kionasmith/2019/03/22/antonia-maury-a-female-astronomers-fight-for-recognition/#5af7f3454625>

4. Katie Couric: How We Can Eliminate Bias Against Women in Science

From: Nicolle Zellner [nzellner_at_albion.edu]

Journalist Katie Couric describes ways in which we should be able to eliminate bias against women in science and offers examples from her own life. She notes "...even well-intentioned efforts to address our biases are, well, biased. Did you happen to catch the recent *60 Minutes* segment about [tech's gender gap](#)? If so, you might have noticed something missing: There was no mention of women-led organizations working to solve the problem."

Read more at

<http://fortune.com/2019/03/25/katie-couric-women-stem/>

5. First scientist in human history- En Hedu'anna

From: Sethanne Howard [sethanneh_at_msn.com]

Appropriate for March and women's history month. It is highly likely that the first scientist in human history was a woman: En Hedu'anna. She lived in 2300 BCE.

Read "En Hedu'anna, first woman in science" on Research Gate at

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/322209033_En_Hedu%27anna_first_woman_in_science

Originally published in the *Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences*, 2017 vol. 103, issue 2, page 21

6. What is gender equality in science? Common solutions may not be solving the problem

From: JoEllen McBride [joellen.mcbride_at_gmail.com] and Alessandra Aloisi [aloisi_at_stsci.edu]

By Cell Press

"Despite the scientific community taking action on gender inequality, the problem persists. In a review published March 27 in the journal *Trends in Ecology & Evolution*, researchers say that achieving equality for women in STEM requires us to ask, 'What is equality?' To create authentic equality, and not only regarding gender, the authors promote a simple first step: define the problem before finding the solution."

Read more at

<https://phys.org/news/2019-03-gender-equality-science-common-solutions.html>

7. Announcing the first Communicating Science Conference (ComSciCon) with AAS!
From Stephanie Hamilton [aas_at_comscicon.org]

The ComSciCon (Communicating Science Conference) workshop series is partnering with AAS to bring a science communication training workshop to the 234th AAS meeting in St. Louis! We invite interested graduate students to apply for ComSciCon-AAS, a free 1.5-day workshop intended to amplify the reach of the highly successful ComSciCon flagship workshop. Our goal is to empower future leaders in technical communication to share the results from research in their field to broad and diverse audiences. Senior undergraduate students, post-baccalaureate researchers, and postdoctoral researchers are also welcome to apply, though preference will be given to graduate students. Applications are open NOW and will close at 11:59pm on April 2nd, 2019.

For more information, please visit

<https://comscicon.com/comscicon-aas-2019>.

Questions may be directed to aas_at_comscicon.org.

8. Why we still struggle with work-home conflict in women and men
From: Alessandra Aloisis [aloisi_at_stsci.edu]

"Still in 2019 women and men grapple with how best to balance work and other responsibilities in and out of the home.

"Women bear the brunt of household labor, take career hits if they become mothers, and are poorly represented in the upper levels of professional careers. But the careers of men also suffer if they take time out from paid work."

Read more at

<http://theconversation.com/why-we-still-struggle-with-work-home-conflict-in-women-and-men-112698>

9. High school girls challenge toxic masculinity
From Joan Centrella [centrella.joan_at_gmail.com]

"Teen boys rated their female classmates based on looks. The girls fought back."

Dozens of senior girls at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School have confronted their administrators and male peers, demanding a school-wide reckoning over toxic masculinity.

Read more at

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/2019/03/26/teen-boys-rated-their-female-classmates-based-looks-girls-fought-back/>

10. Job Opportunities

- Lecturer in Planetary Science, The Open University, UK
<http://www.open.ac.uk/about/employment/vacancies/lecturer-planetary-science-15811>

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>

11. 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.

12. 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](https://accounts.google.com/newaccount?hl=en)

Google Groups Subscribe Help:

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

13. Access to Past Issues

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

Each annual summary includes an index of topics covered.