

BWIS Meeting Wednesday October 21, 2009

Lynne Ecker could not make the meeting, since her son was ill, but she laid out the agenda. Kathy Walker ran the meeting with three guest speakers.

Ken White of the Office of Educational Programs spoke first about an alliance with BWIS to apply for grants for Not for Profit organizations to promote women and offered to have his staff assist in writing the proposals. BWIS would need to identify available grants to sponsor and provide the Principal Investigator.

Since BSA is no longer funding our scholarship, this could end up being an expanded program where we could help even more girls and women in the scientific field. Ken presented a possible \$10,000. grant for two years to use for our career days, this could definitely expand our current program. Ken says the current targets are Middle School and High School girls programs. We could also do Research and Undergraduate internships.

The success rate is about 15 to 50%, so we may need to apply to double the programs we expect to support. This will take people and time for the research. Ken's volunteer for support may also be funded in some grants. Vinita has suggested we talk to the Lab Lawyer and make sure there are no legal problems associated with the proposal. Vinita also suggests we hire an accountant to manage the program.

We have January 15th deadline to submit for the grant. We are looking for comment/suggestions and any one interested in volunteering to work on this project. Please contact Lynne or myself.

Christine Aidala of the AGS and RHIC User group - asked for our support in expanding options for child care, especially for short term visitors/employee's and networking for affiliated child care for sick children. She is also looking for areas of the site to be designated for breast feeding/pumping to make it a little more "Family Friendly". She has spoken to Christine Carter who gave suggestion of other contacts.

BWIS discussed the fact that a Standing Committee was supposed to be formed from the Family Friendly Practices Committee and we have not heard any follow up. Shirley Kendall said she has talked to Sr. Management and they are working on it. It was proposed we should send a letter (proposal) to Tony Bowman, Doon Gibbs, Creighton Wirick, and Sue Foster/Denise DiMeglio expressing our concern and concurrence to this situation.

Shirley Kendall of the Diversity Office spoke on the APS Site Visit. They are requesting a date in June to initiate the survey. This project is organized by the Diversity Office and they expect BWIS to take a continuing roll in the process. APS has requested 2 – 3 Senior Scientist (not necessarily all women) and that the Senior Management implements the recommendations jointly as they will meet with male and female scientists.

APS has given guidelines to prepare the lab for the visit including books and team discussions to educate and be an engaged partner. APS will expect the lab to prepare a follow on report after 6 months and another in 1 year to explain the changes implemented based on their recommendations.

We ran out of time before getting to the agenda Lynne laid out! Again, if any one has more to add or wants to discuss any of the topics, or volunteer for any of these projects, please feel free to respond.

Thanks for your time,