

WISDOM Breakfasts overview

Part of IWL's WIN (Women's Innovation Network) programming is WIN's WISDOM initiative. WISDOM provides opportunities for **W**omen and allies **I**n **S**TEM & SBE related **D**epartments **O**f **M**arquette to gather, network, and grow in their fields of interest.

WISDOM

Women In STEM & SBE Departments Of Marquette
PART OF WOMEN'S INNOVATION NETWORK

The *WISDOM Breakfast* series is an ongoing rotation of gatherings that focus on different disciplines and areas of interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) and related Social, Behavioral, and Economic (SBE) sciences fields. Currently all *WISDOM Breakfasts* are held remotely due to COVID-19 gather restrictions.

SCHEDULE:

- **09:00 – Event opens with Welcome from WIN and initial panelist introductions**
- **09:15 – Small Group Breakout session**
 - To start, each panelist should open with a quick reminder of their current position related to the field and then open the floor for dialogue/Q & A/etc.
 - ***Possible topics to cover in the small group breakout session:***
 - How can you maximize your time and opportunities in graduate school to build a strong skill set?
 - What does it look like to have a network and what is the role of a professional network? How does "network," and how is that different from job hunting?
 - What unique challenges are faced by women in your STEM/SBE field?

- What are important skills that STEM students can acquire during their graduate studies (at and beyond the lab bench) and how can graduate students best market those skills in their job search?
- What skill trends do you foresee in the future?
- What can students do to be more marketable in your STEM field?
- Looking back on time spent in graduate school, are there examples of learning opportunities/experiences (that you may not have deemed important at the time) that have since proven valuable for your career?
- What advice would you give to students who have doubt about entering a career your STEM/SBE field?
- Lots of people think that sexism is not a big issue anymore/like it "used to be." Were you ever road blocked/restrained in your career because of your gender? How did you overcome or work around this?
- How has someone been able to be an ally for you?
- Did you have any mentors along the way? What have mentorships looked like for you?
- Were your families supportive of your career choice? How did you navigate this?
- Choose an attendee to share a couple of highlights from your small group
- **10:00 – Large Group Regroup and Sharing**
 - Suggestions for Sharing:
 - Something learned about the speaker/field
 - Something learned about being a women in that particular STEM/SBE field/industry
 - Something that motivated/encouraged them
 - A tip for allies/being coconspirators in allyship for diverse, equitable, and inclusive workplaces
 - If time remains, full-panel Q&As will be fielded.
- **10:25 – Closing Remarks**
- **10:30 – WISDOM Breakfast closes**

WOMEN IN BIOLOGY & CHEMISTRY PANEL:



Dr. Megan Mayerle graduated Marquette with majors in Biology and English literature in 2004. She then earned a PhD in Biology from Johns Hopkins University and completed a postdoc at UCSF. In addition to research, during her graduate and postdoc years, she participated in student government, community outreach, and developed and taught courses. Megan then took a position as a Grant Writer at Stanford, writing and administering both research and training grants for the Stanford Cardiovascular Institute, as well as planning departmental events and teaching. In 2019 she joined the Baxter laboratory for Stem Cell Biology at Stanford as the Associate Director of Finance, Administration, and Research Development. As ADFA, Megan works with a team to support 3 biomedical research labs. She also writes grants and manuscripts with PI Helen Blau and members of the Blau lab and participates in the Research Development community at Stanford.



Dr. Michelle Hastings is Professor and Director of the Center for Genetic Diseases at the Chicago Medical School, Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science. Dr. Hastings received her PhD from Marquette University in 1998 under the mentorship of Dr. Stephen Munroe and subsequently trained as a fellow in Dr. Adrian Krainer's lab at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. Dr. Hastings joined the faculty at the Chicago Medical School in 2007. Her research focuses on understanding the genetic basis of disease and testing new therapeutic approaches to modulate gene expression for disease intervention. Her work has resulted in the discovery of effective means of targeting splicing with antisense molecules for the potential treatment of a number of diseases including Usher syndrome, cystic fibrosis, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and Batten disease. Dr. Hastings holds a number of patents for her work and is supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health and numerous private foundations. She was recognized as a 2019 Researcher to Know by the Illinois Science and Technology Consortium.



Dr. Rupa Udani received her undergraduate degree in Microbiology from Bombay University. She received her PhD in molecular biology and genetics from the biology department at Marquette University and completed a fellowship in Laboratory genetics and genomics from University of Wisconsin, Madison. Dr. Udani is the director of inherited diseases at the Precision Medicine Laboratory at the Genomic Sciences and Precision Medicine Center at Medical College of Wisconsin. Prior to joining MCW, Dr. Udani was the director of the molecular diagnostic laboratory at BloodCenter of Wisconsin (Versiti). She has over 20 years' experience in the field of molecular biology and genetics spanning from infectious diseases research, product development and clinical genetic testing. Her day-to-day responsibilities include reporting clinical genetic test results to the ordering physicians and genetic counselors. Additionally, also provides scientific support to the development, validation and implementation of new clinical tests.



Jennifer Dienes graduated from Marquette University in 2005 with a major in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. She has been an Investigative Attorney at the US International Trade Commission (ITC) in Washington, DC for over 2 years. Investigative attorneys advocate on behalf of the public interest in intellectual property investigations initiated under 19 U.S.C. 1337, commonly referred to as Section 337 litigations. Jennifer joined the ITC after spending about 10 years as an intellectual property attorney in private practice.



Dr. Teresa Van Nuland is a molecular geneticist with over 25 years of experience in the development of drugs, medical devices, and combination products. Specialty areas include oncology, endocrinology, infectious disease, immunology, neurology, cardiovascular, rare disease, therapeutic drugs & drugs of abuse. Knowledgeable in global regulatory submissions, Site Contracts/Budgets, Essential Documents' Collection/Trial Master Filing, and Quality and CAPA. Active Membership with SOCRA, SOHO, ADA



Dr. Caryn Peterson is Research Assistant Professor and Global Health Faculty at the University of Illinois at Chicago, School of Public Health, Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics. She is also Co-Director of the NCI-funded Cancer Education and Career Development Program and a member of the Cancer Prevention and Control Program at the UI Cancer Center. Dr. Peterson's work focuses on cervical cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment in low-resource settings in the US and Senegal. Her research has identified interpersonal, organizational, and community/societal factors associated with cervical cancer health disparities and explores clinical and community-based solutions to improve HPV vaccination and cervical cancer screening rates. Her teaching interests include the effects of social-structural factors on health and analytic methods in social epidemiology.



Dr. Luisa Whittaker-Brooks is an Associate Professor of Chemistry at the University of Utah. Her research centers on the design of well-defined hybrid materials with controlled morphology and interfaces that serve as conduits for deterministic and coherent energy and charge transfer for applications in *energy conversion, storage, and electronics*. She received her B.S. degree in Analytical Chemistry from the University of Panama. Under a Fulbright Fellowship, she received her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Materials Chemistry from the State University of New York at Buffalo. She was a postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering at Princeton University. She was the recipient of the 2013 L'Oréal Fellowship for Women in Science Award and the 2015 Marion Milligan Mason Award for Women in the Chemical Sciences administered by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Recently, she was named a Scialog and Cottrell Fellow by the Research Corporation for Science Advancement (RCSA), a Talented 12 by C&En news, and a GERA Ovshinsky Energy Fellow by the American Physical Society (APS). She is also the recipient of a Department of Energy Early Career Award, Sloan Fellowship in Chemistry, and a Dreyfus Scholar Award.



Dr. Glorimar Vicente was born and raised in Guayama, Puerto Rico. She has a bachelor's degree in Chemistry from Universidad de Puerto Rico, Cayey Campus and a Ph.D in Analytical Chemistry from University at Buffalo. Glorimar worked as a Sr. Scientist in AbbVie (North Chicago, IL) from 2008 to 2015, where she supported Analytical Research and Development. During her tenure, she worked developing and validating analytical methods for clinical products in development. Glorimar moved back to Puerto Rico in 2015 to be closer to her family. She has been working at Amgen since 2016, where she is currently the Sr. Manager Quality Control for the team that provides technical support to the commercial laboratory operation including new product introductions. Glorimar is also a wife to her husband Jose and mother of two (2) kids, Javier (10 years old) and Milena (6 years old).