

Here are the minutes from today's action-packed WISC meeting:

1. New officers
2. Dept. reps
3. Girls' Science Day
4. Game of Life Discussion Series
5. Visits to Urban Assembly for Math and Science
6. Help with high school science fair projects
7. Breakfast with the speaker
8. Saturday Science Starters
9. More upcoming events
10. Next meeting Oct. 15th 6:15pm

1. Our meeting began with a welcome from this year's new officers: Co-chairs Victoria Landry (vkl2103) and Jackie Catalano (jic2104), Treasurer Marlin Halim (mh2336), and me, Secretary Mary Blair (meb2127).

2. There are 11 fabulous departments involved with WISC, and we have representatives from (almost) all of them: Mindy Levine from Chemistry, Kari Schmidt from E3B, Melinda Han from Applied Physics and Applied Math, Lucy Robinson from Statistics, Elizabeth Piere from DEES, and Liz Oswald from Biomedical Engineering. If you are a new representative, don't forget to send a picture to our webmistress Heidi Perry (hap2102). We are still missing representatives from Biology, Math, Physics, Astronomy, and Psychology. Department representatives are responsible for spreading the word about WISC in their respective departments, organizing recruitment and mentoring events, and inviting women speakers from department seminars to breakfast with WISC members. If you are interested in becoming a representative, please let us know! 3. We have many exciting activities planned for this year. First, coming up soon is Girls' Science Day on Saturday Nov. 17th from 9:00 am – 4:00 PM. The first planning meeting will be on Tues. Sept. 25th at 7:15 PM in Havemeyer 328. We need volunteers to run experiments, if you are interested please contact Miriam Inbar (mi2131).

We also have some activities that will be going on all year:

4. Game of Life Discussions – Successful women are invited to share with us their experiences and give us advice in all aspects of life. Contact Heidi Perry (hap2102) or Mary Froemming (mf2103) if you have ideas of women scientists you might like to invite.

5. We need volunteers to give presentations on their experiences as scientists at the Urban Assembly for Math and Science in the Bronx – The presentations are one-time only so there is only a small time commitment for this activity. If you are interested, please contact Mari LoVerde (marilena@phys.columbia.edu).

6. We also need volunteers to Help with High School Science Fair Projects. This activity will be for a couple of hours every other week throughout the school year at two different high schools on the Upper West Side and in Brooklyn. If you are interested, please contact Melinda Han (myh2102).

7. We will be holding our notorious WISC-sponsored Breakfast with the Speaker events this year – if your departmental seminar series is inviting a woman scientist and you would like to take her to breakfast along with some other WISC members, please let the co-chairs know.

8. Finally, we need a coordinator and volunteers to run experiments for Saturday Science Starters (S3), a science program run by WISC and NSEC for middle school students from the Double Discovery center. The program is six Saturdays a semester and different volunteers run experiments each Saturday. If you are interested, please contact Pam Peralta-Yahya (ppp2102).

9. Here are a few more upcoming events:

WISC Sponsored Speaker – Tuesday, Sept. 18th (tomorrow) at 4:30 PM
209 Havemeyer Melanie Sanford, University of Michigan - “Synthetic and Mechanistic Investigations of Palladium-Catalyzed C-H bond Functionalization” Breakfast with this speaker is already full, but if you would like to meet with the speaker, she will be available from 1:30-2pm tomorrow in Havemeyer 328.

Science Consortium Talk – Thursday, September 27th Dr. Shelia Jasanoff giving a talk on “The Dynamic Interactions between Science, Technology, & Society.” More information to follow upon Liz’s return.

10. If you have any other ideas for future events, please let us know, perhaps at the next meeting on Monday, Oct. 15th at 6:15 PM in Havemeyer 328 – and I’m bringing the snacks, so get psyched!

-Mary B