

# UNIVERSITY OF OREGON WOMEN IN GRADUATE SCIENCE

Inspiring | Supporting | Mentoring

## Our Mission

The Women in Graduate Science (UOWGS) organization at the University of Oregon focuses on the professional development of women in all disciplines of science to enable them to become successful contributors to their fields.

## 2016-2017 Officers

President:

*Kimberly Jones*

Treasurer:

*Annie Greenaway*

Social Chair:

*Kate Walsh*

Seminar Chair:

*Andrea Steiger*

Outreach Co-Chair:

*Lisa Eytel*

Outreach Co-Chair:

*Loni Kringle*

Public & Alumni Relations Chair:

*Lisa Enman*

Grad School Advisory Board Chair:

*Madison Myers*

Webmaster:

*Amanda Steinhebel*

Recorder Chair:

*Michelle Sconce*

Funding Chair:

*Kathryn Chamberlain*



From left: (Back) Lisa Enman, Madison Meyers, Michelle Sconce, Kimmy Jones, Amanda Steinhebel  
(Front) Lisa Eytel, Loni Kringle, Kate Walsh, Andrea Steiger, Annie Greenaway

## Message from our President:

Dear UOWGS Alumni, Members, Donors, and Friends,

Over the past few years, UOWGS has grown at an amazing pace! This year one of our goals was to also focus on expanding our reach across the scientific disciplines here at the University of Oregon. UOWGS was originally founded in the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry and has traditionally drawn its membership almost exclusively from Chemistry/Biochemistry, Biology, and some Physics. This year thanks to the efforts of our officers in reaching out to other departments, we now have a membership that also represents Psychology, Earth Science, Environmental Science, Geography, Anthropology, and Human Physiology. We look forward to working with all of you in the future to ensure that our programs are able to represent and encourage everyone in the sciences.

This year we are also pleased to announce new partnerships through Outreach. UOWGS has partnered with StemBox to create an upcoming optics theme box, designed by our officers and members. Additionally we are very excited about our new partnership with Ophelia's Place to offer a science workshop series coming this Spring.

I would like to also take this opportunity to thank all of you who have attended our events, helped with planning and outreach, donated, or have just encouraged UOWGS over the years. We would not be able to do any of this without all of your support.

Thank you!  
Kimmy



Kimberly Jones  
UOWGS President

## Outreach Events

Science outreach is one of the core aspects of WGS. We use science demonstrations and hands-on exploratory workshops to encourage thoughtful and creative minds in our community to engage in the sciences. The outreach chairs are particularly focused on science outreach for youths, targeting female students, who are otherwise forgotten in the STEM curricula. Our programs cover groups ranging in ages from elementary to undergraduates.

Our first program of the year was our 4th Annual Undergraduate Career and Research Forum: a panel discussion for undergraduate students interested in pursuing careers in the sciences. We had a panel of graduate students from a variety of disciplines to answer questions about the graduate school process, and we had career scientists present to network with the students.



Graduate student Q&A panel at the 2016 Undergraduate Research Forum  
*Panel from left:* Madison Meyers, Devin McBain, Fehmi Yasin, Em Jackson, Derrick Marshall



WGS volunteers interact with kids at Meet a Scientist Day at the Science Factory in Eugene.

Girls ages 8-12 are the most vulnerable to leaving STEM fields due to lack of focused mentorship and female role models in the fields. WGS outreach programs aim to change that through partnerships with The Science Factory and Ophelia's Place. Girls' Science Adventure Days run in conjunction with the Science Factory will be hosted every Saturday from February 11 through March 18, covering subjects in math, astronomy, genetics, optics, physics, and neuroscience. From April 3 - May 8, we will take our show on the road to Ophelia's Place to host WGS' first ever G-TEC Workshop Series on Science for girls ages 10-14. Every Monday, girls will spend an hour with science mentors exploring candy chemistry, engineering, forensic science, electrochemistry, optics, and polymer science.

Currently underway is a collaboration stemming from WGS' Fall Speaker, StemBox CEO Kina McAllister. WGS is writing the curriculum and putting together the StemBox for the month of April to be sent to over 700 subscribers. Our box will feature experiments to focus on optical science, and the steminists will build their own hologram projectors, make thin-film iridescent bookmarks, and explore how light moves



Outreach Co-Chairs Lisa Eytel and Loni Kringle

### Interested in Volunteering?

Contact us at: [uowgs@uoregon.edu](mailto:uowgs@uoregon.edu)

## UOWGS Seminar & Workshop Series

An important aspect of WGS's mission is to host seminars and workshops that promote women in science and give insights on a variety of science careers. Our seminar series aims to provide information on routes to different careers as well as highlight the success of female professionals, promote women in STEM, and bring light to issues that women may face while advancing in their careers. Our workshops provide tools to teach professionalism and provide networking opportunities to graduate students as they look ahead to their future career aspirations.



Kina McAllister

### Fall Seminar: October 23rd, 2016

**Kina McAllister**, founder and CEO of StemBox, a subscription service that provides monthly science kits for young girls. Kina spoke about the struggles that women face on the path to science careers and how her first hand experience helped lead her to start StemBox, which has become wildly successful and continues to grow and inspire many young girls.

### Upcoming Seminars & Workshops

#### Winter Luncheon: Feb. 9th, 2016

**Dr. Carolyn Bertozzi**, Professor of Chemistry (Stanford University) and editor-in-chief of ACS Central Science. Visiting the UO Chemistry Department as the 2017 Boekelheide Lecturer, Dr. Bertozzi led an informal Q & A with WGS members over lunch to discuss the challenges facing women and LGBTQ individuals in science.



Dr. Carolyn Bertozzi

#### Winter Workshop: March 6th, 2016

**Dr. Stacey York**, Dr. Stacey York, Director of Strategic Partnerships for the UO Masters Internship Program. As part of the WGS Workshop Series, Dr. York led a StrengthsFinder workshop this March. The StrengthsFinder assessment can help students to identify their core talents, and Dr. York's workshop will focus on how to use this information on your resume and in your career.



Dr. Stacey York

#### Spring Workshop: April 10th, 2017

**Mental Health Workshop** WGS is partnering with the University Counseling Center this spring to host this workshop. It will contain tips and resources for graduate students struggling with stress, anxiety, depression, or any other mental health issues, and also focus on normalizing the need for mental health awareness within graduate programs. Open to both graduate students and faculty in the departments, WGS is hoping to start a conversation to address mental health within the departments at UO.

**Spring Seminar  
speaker TBD... stay  
tuned for more  
info!**

UOWGS donor support makes these seminars possible! Please contact us if you'd like to help fund our seminar series *or* if you have suggestions for future seminar speakers or topics.

## JUMP! Mentorship program

JUMP!, the Joint Undergraduate-Graduate Mentorship program, is blossoming in its second year here at the University of Oregon, through continued support from ASUO. Established in 2015 to better provide individual mentorship and guidance to undergraduates in STEM fields, JUMP! has grown from its debut year by 60% and now consists of 8 graduate mentors and 32 undergraduates.



*Above:* Group photo of this year's JUMP! team of mentors and mentees.

*Below:* Team-based tower building activity at the JUMP! Fall Kickoff



JUMP! aims to create an environment where undergraduates interested in science careers have a direct relationship with a graduate mentor who has recently navigated those challenging waters. Four undergraduate students are paired with one graduate mentor to participate in goal-oriented mentorship through individual and small group meetings. Each of the eight graduate mentors lead year-long structured opportunities for academic, research and professional development, including activities such as: joining a lab group, honing interview skills, finding a summer research internship, writing an effective email, etc.

JUMP! participants represent an even broader spectrum of the science in the second year, including biology, chemistry, biochemistry, geology, psychology, physiology, math and physics. Undergraduates ranging from freshman to seniors are enrolled, allowing for mentorship to take on a tiered system, and for students to continue their mentorship over the course of their undergraduate careers; over 50% of the original 20 undergraduates continued their involvement in JUMP! by participating for a second year.



*Above:* Physics PhD student and JUMP! mentor Mayra Amezcua leads resume discussion at the winter JUMP! Workshop

Another new addition this year is quarterly workshops. Mentors and the JUMP! board work together on creating a workshop around a student-chosen topic, such as writing a resume. These workshops are available to all JUMP! undergraduates, allowing for students to network outside of their individual mentorship groups.

### Thanks to Our JUMP! Board Members:

**Madison Meyers** (WGS GSAB Chair), **Melissa Randel**, **Andrea Steiger** (WGS Seminar Chair), and **Annie Greenaway** (WGS Treasurer)

## 2016-2017 Social Events

### Fall

#### Annual Membership Drive

*We kicked off the new school year with sweets, treats, and coffee while we informed new students of WGS's mission and recruited new members.*

**Happy Hour @ Oakshire Brewing**  
*New and returning WGS members socialized in a relaxing atmosphere.*

**Members' Meeting and Lunch**  
*We held an open meeting over lunch @ Falling Sky Pizzeria to discuss upcoming events and ways to get members involved.*

### Winter

**Happy Hour @ Falling Sky Pizzeria!**

## Upcoming Social Events

### Spring

**End of Year Members Meeting** *See the year in review and bring new ideas for the future!*

2nd Science Slam!

9th Annual Generations Luncheon

### Summer

2016-2017 Members Celebration

## 2015-2016 Members Celebration

Last year's Annual Members Celebration was held at Sweet Cheeks Winery here in Eugene for the third year in a row. It was the largest members event of the year.



*Left: Group photo at the 2015-2016 Members Celebration! Great turnout on a sunny July evening.*

*Below: 2015-2016 UOWGS Executive Board at the Members Celebration.*

The beautiful scenery and delicious wine provided a great atmosphere for networking with members, alumni, friends and family. The outgoing executive board recapped some of the amazing events put on throughout the last year, including our first Science Slam and the Pacific Northwest Women in Science Retreat. Also, since we adjusted our bylaws to move up the elections to June, the new Executive Board was introduced to the members.



*Above: back from left Blake Tresca, Brandon Schabes, Sarah Casper, Andrea Steiger front from left Kate Walsh, Kara Nell, Kimmy Jones, Lisa Eytel, Annie Greenaway*

## Upcoming: 3rd Annual Winter Benefit

This year's Winter Benefit will be held on Saturday March 11th at Eugene's Downtown Athletic Club, who is delighted to help us host this event. As in previous years, the benefit will help us fundraise to support our community outreach programs and scholarships. With both new and returning sponsors for our silent auction, this event is sure to be exciting. Benefit dinner or take-away tickets can be purchased at [uowgs.com](http://uowgs.com).

**Connect with us online!** Email: [uowgs@uoregon.edu](mailto:uowgs@uoregon.edu)

Website: [uowgs.com](http://uowgs.com)

 **LinkedIn Group: UOWGS**

 **Twitter: @uowgs**

 **Facebook: [facebook.com/uowgs](https://facebook.com/uowgs)**

### Special Thanks to Our Generous Support:

University of Oregon Graduate School, John & Carol Burns, Dr. Stacey York, Nancy Wilcox-Trent, Brandy Teel, Matt Hutter, Kate Karfilis, Nancy Karfilis, Bob Davis, Dr. Darren Johnson, & the UO Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry