

Women Chemists Committee
Oral Report to Council
San Diego, CA
March 16, 2016

Madam President and Members of Council:

In San Diego, the Women Chemists Committee (WCC) is most excited to recognize the ten recipients of the 5th annual WCC Rising Star Award. Following the full-day symposium on Monday, WCC celebrated the accomplishments of these women at our networking event, "Just Cocktails." Also at this meeting, ten women received WCC/Eli Lilly Travel Awards. The committee congratulates Dr. Annie Kersting, the 2016 recipient of the Francis P. Garvan-John M. Olin medal and keynote speaker at the WCC Luncheon. In addition, we are honoring Carol A. Fierke, the recipient of the 2016 ACS Award for Encouraging Women into Careers in the Chemical Sciences.

WCC is committed to encouraging conversations around difficult topics that often affect women. One of these topics is awards and recognition. According to the recent ACS Comment in the February 22 issue of *Chemical & Engineering News*, "From 2012-2016, only 13% of the nominees and only 16% of the recipients for ACS national awards were women." Let me read that again, "From 2012-2016, only 13% of the nominees and only 16% of the recipients for ACS national awards were women." The percentages are even lower for technical awards. Women are approximately 30% of the ACS membership. WCC has created a task force to help increase the number of women recipients of technical ACS national awards. The data indicate too few women are being nominated, and, of course, if you are not nominated you cannot win. Therefore, WCC urges each of you consider nominating an extraordinary woman chemist this November.

Madam President and Members of Council, this concludes my report.

Amber Charlebois, WCC Chair