



Report to the Executive Committee
of the
Virginia Section of the American Chemical Society
January 12, 2021

Women Chemists Committee

The vision of the WCC is “Empowering Women throughout the Chemical Enterprise” with a mission to attract, retain, develop, promote, and advocate for women to positively impact diversity, equity, and inclusion in the society and the chemical profession.

The WCC held one bimonthly meeting in 2020. Lunch meeting was held at noon on January 31st at Fat Dragon prior to COVID. Unfortunately, no virtual networking meetings were planned, but will be in 2021. The WCC and YCC hosted a social networking event to foster network and enhance local collaboration to kick off the new year on February 4th, 2020 at the Jasper. About 12 people attended the network social. The 13th annual Girl Scout Science Day at VCU’s MCV Campus for a full day of hands-on scientific learning with 100+ middle school Girl Scouts, Troop Leaders and parents scheduled for April 18th was cancelled; WCC was scheduled to be represented at the event.

WCC held a two-part co-planned virtual Women’s Leadership workshop event with the YCC on September 26th and October 24th. Approximately 50 participants attended each workshop. Susan Stanitski from Norfolk VA Department of Forensic Science and Chante Summers from Pfizer in St. Louis were the designated keynote speakers for the events respectively. Several breakout sessions were led by incredible female leaders including the following:

1. Leadership Discussion led by Linda Berardi, Stephanie Mabry, and Denise Walters.
2. Career Discussion led by Heather Lourenco, Megan Hollis, Stacey Sank, and LaChelle Waller.
3. Equality in the Workplace led by Christina Haase and Kim Peerman.
4. Work/Life Balance led by Liz Garrett and Sarah Golding.
5. Networking and Personal Branding led by Susan Morris and Kathleen Spangler.

Special thank you for all of those who helped in planning and executing the event. Your time and passion are appreciated.

The WCC was unable to plan the annual WCC Chemistry Career Discussion Panel due to COVID. Event for 2021 is tentative at this time.

The WCC members impacted the scientific community by participating at events including but not limited to the Up and Atom Women’s Leadership breakfast (March 4th) and the Women’s Leadership Workshop (Sept/Oct).

Plans for 2021

Networking meetings will increase in 2021. The first meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 5th virtually. Topic is open for discussion. The remaining virtual luncheons will be held on 19Mar21, 10Sept21, and 05Nov21, subject to change if time/date conflict arises.

Open to suggestions for the annual chemistry career discussion panel for October 2021. Speaker or theme suggestions from members are welcomed.

Budget

The WCC respectfully requests that a total of \$750 be allocated in the 2021 budget.

Respectfully,

Stacey Sank, Chair