



Association for Women Geoscientists

1400 West 122nd Ave. Suite 250 • Westminster, CO 80234 • office@awg.org

10, January 2010

Dear Future AWG Member,

This letter is to serve as an invitation to become an Institutional Member with the Association for Women Geoscientists (AWG). This organization exists to promote the professional development of its members, to provide geoscience outreach to girls, and to encourage women to become geoscientists. [Membership is open to anyone who supports AWG's goals.](#)

We would appreciate your support of our wide range of programs that benefit students and women in the geosciences. AWG promotes the success of girls and women at crucial stages in their development, thus contributing to the size and skills of the postgraduate workforce. Below is a partial list of the benefits of membership and our programs that would be supporting:

□ The AWG web site, www.awg.org, provides an overview of many of our activities. Since the site went online, inquiries have increased from people all over the world. The web site also includes classified ads, many from our Institutional Members.

□ Advertisements in our bimonthly newsletter Gaea and E-mail news reach an audience of over 1000 members. Advertising job openings with AWG fulfills any Equal Opportunity Employment (EOE) obligations your institution may have, while generating revenue for AWG programs and activities. Institutional members are eligible for reduced advertising rates.

□ AWG provides scholarships for graduate and undergraduate students at both the association and chapter levels. Our Chrysalis Scholarship provides degree-completion funding for women geoscience graduate students whose education has been interrupted for at least one year. The awards are intended to cover thesis/dissertation costs such as typing or drafting expenses, child-care, or anything necessary to assist a degree candidate during those critical, final days. Our Minority Scholarship program provides both financial and personal support through mentoring with AWG members for minority women. Thanks to your generous contributions we have been able to add the Field Camp Scholarship and the Suzanne Takken "Encourage" fund to our list of endowed scholarships. Our goal is to increase each of these endowments so that more of these scholarships can be awarded to deserving and promising geoscientists. There are many other scholarships offered by local chapters that are described on our web site.

□ AWG is a strong supporter of “Geoscientists in the Park” internships through the National Park Service. In 2009, 3 female geoscientists were placed in National Park positions throughout the United States. Projects are selected to provide significant research and public contact opportunities for advanced students and professionals.

□ The AWG Distinguished Lecturer Program continues to provide a list of expert female speakers on a wide range of topics to geoscience departments and professional organizations.

□ AWG recognizes excellence in geoscience teaching and public outreach through several awards. The best known of our awards is the Outstanding Educator Award, which will be presented at the AWG breakfast at the GSA annual meeting in Portland, Oregon this October.

On-going programs such as the Chrysalis Scholarship and Geoscientists in the Parks continue to support women in early career stages with financial assistance, career *enhancement* and professional development. Our awards at the International Science and Engineering Fairs across the country *encourage* high school students interested in geosciences, and various chapter-sponsored scholarships help undergraduate students. AWG’s Outstanding Educators never fail to amaze and inspire other women in the geosciences. Our members enjoy the *exchange* of information from various sources like the *Gaea* newsletter, e-news, our website (www.AWG.org), as well as networking on Facebook and LinkedIn. I truly believe that you can feel proud of AWG and your future support of this amazing organization. As Institutional Members, you will have contributed greatly to our current success and will be recognized as supporters of a vital organization.

While we realize that many institutions are facing financial pressures, we believe very strongly that AWG merits your support in this and future years. Please fill in the enclosed form and return it to our office soon. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at president@awg.org. Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,



Charlene Sundermann

AWG President, 2009–2010

Please return your Intuitional Membership form with payment or join online. If you have any questions about the benefits of continued membership, or are interested in sponsoring specific programs, contact us at office@awg.org.

