

National Science Foundation



PROGRAM FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

Awardee Meeting

October 5-6, 1998

Arlington, Virginia

1998

National Science Foundation

Directorate for Education
and Human Resources

Division of Human Resource
Development



PROGRAM FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

Awardee Meeting

October 5-6, 1998

Arlington, Virginia

1998



HOT NEWS FROM WASHINGTON

H.R. 3007 Is PASSED

Dr. Roosevelt Calbert, NSF Division Director for Human Resource Development, held a special session during this year's conference to announce the passing of H.R. 3007. Dr. Calbert then explained to attendees the implications of the passage of the bill.

H.R. 3007, the Commission on the Advancement of Women in Science, Engineering, and Technology Development Act, calls for the appointment of a commission comprising seven representatives from U.S. businesses and four individuals from the ranks of U.S. educational or academic institutions in the fields of life science, physical science or engineering. The Commission will be mandated to identify the problems associated with the recruitment, retention and advancement of women, minorities, and persons with disabilities in science and engineering. The Commission will then prepare a report of these findings for submission to the President and Congress, recommending policies to overcome the barriers identified.

H.R. 3007 was introduced by Technology Subcommittee Chairwoman Connie Morella (Rep. - MD). "By addressing the barriers that face women and minority scientists and engineers," she stated, "Congress has taken action to help to ensure that our labor force is ready for the information age, and that our high-tech economy continues to flourish in the 21st century."



For more information on this bill, visit the web site thomas.loc.gov and type "H.R. 3007" in the area labeled "Search by Bill Number".

NSF's PROGRAM FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

To promote gender equity in science, engineering and mathematics, the National Science Foundation's Program for Women and Girls (PWG) has supported more than 100 curricular innovations, professional development efforts, and informal learning opportunities for women and girls.

The National Science Foundation's mandate is to ensure the vitality of the United States in the scientific and technical enterprise. The Division of Human Resource Development, located in the Directorate for Education and Human Resources, supports the Foundation's goal by promoting activities to increase the participation of traditionally underrepresented communities in science, mathematics, engineering, and technology (SMET) education and careers. NSF's Program for Women and Girls (recently renamed the Program for Gender Equity in SMET), located within the Division of Human Resource Development, bolsters the work

of its Division and promotes NSF's vision through its efforts to achieve gender equity in SMET disciplines. The program accomplishes this by:

- Increasing awareness of the interests, needs and capabilities of girls and women.
- Promoting instructional materials and teaching methods for increasing interest, retention and achievement of girls and women.
- Increasing the availability of student enrichment resources, including mentoring.

In short, the Program for Women and Girls (PWG) is dedicated to changing factors that have discouraged early and continuing interest in SMET, and to

developing interest, knowledge and involvement of girls and young women in these fields. PWG realizes its goals by funding a variety of projects, including large collaborative projects and planning grants, small experimental projects, and information dissemination activities.

Each year, PWG holds a meeting for its awardees. The two-day meeting is designed to promote the exchange of ideas and experiences, as invited speakers and conference attendees share project challenges, research results and success stories.