

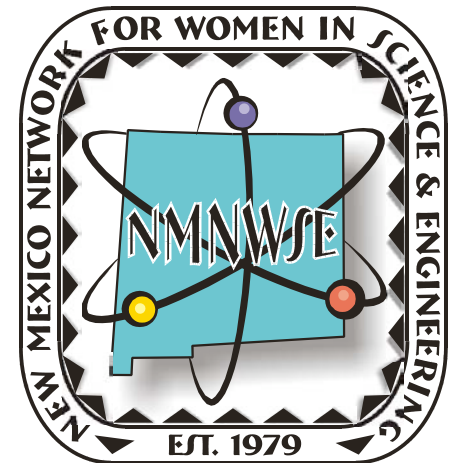
For Women in Science & Engineering

2007 TECHNICAL SYMPOSIUM & ANNUAL MEETING

It's time to put NMNWSE's Annual Meeting on your calendar for **October 26-28!** We'll begin with a Friday evening reception, and finish our symposium and annual meeting on Saturday, then have a Saturday evening dinner and local program. We will be at meeting at **Clayton** which is near the Texas border in northeastern NM, in the vicinity of Mt. Capulin, Clayton Lake State Park (with dinosaur tracks), and the Kiowa National Grasslands, in addition to still-visible Santa Fe Trail tracks. It's an interesting area to explore, if you have some extra time at that time of year.

While the exact schedule and cost of this weekend event is still under construction, you can go ahead (and it would be helpful for our planning if you would) and make your hotel reservations at the historic Eklund Hotel in Clayton, NM, whose url is theeklund.com and phone number is (505) 374-2551. We have asked for all of their 23 rooms, most of which have one queen bed, though two provide a king bed plus a sofa bed.

The final cost and schedule will be completed later, as well as the registration form. While we already have someone taking care of the physical arrangements, we do have a need for someone to be the technical chair. If you could help in this way, contact Cheri Burch, (505) 286-9674, ctburch@unm.edu.



MEET AND GREET AT NMSU, APRIL 28th

There will be a Meet and Greet at NMSU in Las Cruces to help establish the new Southern Chapter of NMNWSE on Saturday, **April 28th** from 10 am to noon in the Otero room of Corbett Center. Funding has been provided by the National Science Foundation-funded ADVANCE Institutional Transformation Program at NMSU. For more information, see the [event flyer](#) at <http://nmnwse.org/southern/>.

PERSONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Dana Roberson had a paper presented at the Software Engineering Process Group conference in Austin Texas March 29. The title of the paper was: "Beginning a Process Improvement Effort from the Bottom-Up in a Software Engineering Organization - Challenges and Strategies".

Charlotte Rowe was recently recognized for authoring one of the "Top-50 most cited articles" as published in Journal of Volcanology and Geothermal Research 2003-2007: C.A. Rowe, C.H. Thurber, R.A. White, "Dome growth behavior at Soufriere Hills Volcano, Montserrat, revealed by relocation of volcanic event swarms, 1995-1996" Volume 134, Issue 3 (2004).

Barbara Torres is retiring from Northrop Grumman after 29 years of service. Her last day is April 30, 2007. She hopes to have more time for NMNWSE with no business travel.

Tinka Gammel was nominated for the New Mexico Heritage Preservation Alliance Dark Sky Award. The nomination was for her work on the NMNWSE Dark Sky resolution and for the work she did to draft, and get Los Alamos County to pass, an ordinance defining community lighting goals - allowing for less than continuous lighting when it was not needed for safety reasons and reducing the number of streetlights installed as part of the Burned Area Reconstruction by 1/2.



Diane Albert, student in the University of New Mexico School of Law and former LANL scientist and County Councilor, will be honored as a pioneer of The Ohio State University College of Engineering.

Albert will be recognized during Ohio State's first Honoring Women in STEMS event on Friday, May 11. The event is meant to acknowledge and honor the many women within the university who have obtained a Ph.D. in science, technology, engineering or math. Ohio State will honor three women as pioneers - one each from the College of Engineering, College of Math & Physical Sciences and the College of Biological Sciences.

Each college was asked to select an alumna who has noteworthy accomplishments and serves as a model for university women including students, faculty and staff.

"Certainly Dr. Albert meets these criteria with her exceptional work not only within her technical field, but also far beyond with her work in engineering outreach and community issues," said Glenda P. La Rue, Women in Engineering program director, in a letter. "I am certain our event audience, which will be comprised of undergraduate and graduate women students, staff and faculty within the STEM fields will be quite impressed and inspired by Dr. Albert's path so far, most definitely including the J.D. degree to be conferred upon her on May 12."

Deborah Potter has been approved by the Board of County Commissioners to fill a seat on the Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Air Quality Control Board. She will serve a full term that expires in 2010. The board approves legislation and hears appeals for the Albuquerque Air Quality Division, which is part of the city's Environmental Health Department.

Potter, nominated by Bernalillo County Commissioner Alan Armijo, has extensive experience in air quality.

"I recently retired from the federal government where I was the air quality program manager for the Forest Service in New Mexico, Arizona, Texas and Oklahoma," Potter told a group of Air Quality Division staffers at an orientation Thursday. "I've had an interest in doing this for some time."

Potter said she had been asked to join the board while she was still with the federal government, but conflicts of interest and ethics regulations prohibited her from serving.

"I have a lot of expertise in the effects of air quality on ecosystems," Potter said. "So I'm concerned not just with the levels of pollution in the atmosphere and the impacts of that on visibility but also the effects of that on plants, animals, soil and water."

Potter said some of her concerns are on the effects of combined pollutants and the effect of air pollution in rural areas.

NMNWE SCIENCE FAIR AWARDS 2007

NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR

Lindsay Steward ★★

Grove High School, Grade 11

"Do Biotech Crops Measure Up? Comparison of Germination and Growth in Genetically Modified Seeds vs. Non-Modified Seeds"

Valerie Ross ★★

Fond du Lac Ojibwe School, Grade 9

"Chemical Properties of *Ledum groenlandicum* (mushkiigebug)"**Chelsi Tsosie** ★★

Tse Ho Tso Intermediate Learning Center, Grade 5

"Up on the Rooftop"

Francine Cummings ★★

Purnell Swett High School, Grade 9

"The Human Arm at Work"

Waheson Lazore ★★

Akwesahsne Mohawk Science Fair Committee, Grade 6

"Power of the Wind"

Alexis Jones ★★

Pembroke Elementary, Grade 5

"Articulated Tracheated Hexapoda – Insect Respect Native Style"

Rachel Goodbird ★

Circle of Nations, Grade 7

"Naturally Native – Homemade Lip Gloss"

Philean Yazzie ★

Thoreau High School, Grade 11

"Traditional Soap"

Aphia Grisham ★

Shonto Preparatory High School, Grade 11

"Something's in the Air"

★★ NMNWE special award (\$25 and tote bag with career materials)

★ NMNWE special award (tote bad with career materials)

NEW MEXICO STATE SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR

Camille Rivera ★★

Taos Middle School, Jr. Botany

"Chinese Elm... Who's the Next Victim?"

Ruquaya Quraishi ★★

Salam Academy, Jr. Chemistry

"The Exploration for Saturation and Unsaturation"

Majdolene Khweis ★★

Taos Middle School, Jr. Earth and Space Sci.

"Don't Let It Slide..."

Candida Martinez ★★

McCurdy Mission School, Sr. Beh. and Social Sci.

"Systemizing Language Learning Techniques in Autistic Children"

Melissa Hatch ★★

Rio Rancho High School, Sr. Chemistry

"Porphyrin-Nanostructure-Based Water-Splitting Systems"

Erika DeBenedictis ★★

St. Pius X High School, Sr. Computer Sci.

"Ping Me! Optimizing Code for Cluster Computing"

Shandiin Copeland ★★

Kirtland Central High School, Sr. Earth and Space Sci.

"Stream Channel Dynamics in Largo Canyon, 1882-2005"

Brittini Romero ★★

Socorro High School, Sr. Environmental Sci.

Maureen Kessler ★★

Los Lunas High School, Sr. Physics

Susannah Clary ★★

Los Lunas High School, Sr. Zoology

Taylor Roach ★

Our Lady of Annunciation, Jr. Beh. and Social Sci.

Hannah Samuelson ★

St. Mary Middle School, Jr. Engineering

Rebecca Alexander ★

Grants High School, Sr. Microbiology

Kristina Dahm ★

Rio Rancho High School, Sr. Microbiology

"Finding a Beneficial Use for Produced Water"

"The Effect of Sugar Concentration on Angle of Refraction"

"The Determination of Gender in Pacific and Atlantic Salmon for Improved Management"

"Pardon the Interruption: The Effect of Interruptions on Productivity and Performance"

"Concrete's Strength"

"Investigation of New Mexico Lichens: Metabolic Products for Antibiotics"

"Geomicrobiology of New Mexico Travertine Springs"

★★ NMNWSE special award (\$50 and tote bag with career materials)

★ NMNWSE special award (tote bag with career materials)

NAISEF judges were Melissa Burk, Tinka Gammel, Elizabeth Kallman, Dana Roberson, and Vera Vigil. NM State Fair judges were Charlene Bausinger, Yolanda King, Tinka Gammel, Melissa Burk, Karen Agogino, Gayle Dye, Tacy Van Cleave, and Victoria Dery, as well as Claudia Barreto and Cheri Burch, who gave input for the categories in which they were doing regular judging. A student exhibitor was spotted in the room with the Junior Division exhibits at the State Fair carrying an NMNWSE tote bag - presumably a proud previous winner of one of our awards given by the state or a local chapter, or a student who was inspired by EYH!

YOUNG WOMEN IN COMPUTING PROGRAM AT NMSU

NMSU Computer Science Summer Programs provide an introduction to computer science. During NMSU's Summer Session II, female high school students enrolled in the Young Women in Computing Summer Program are invited to explore programming, basic bioinformatics, programming, web design, animation and robotics. In addition, students conduct research which includes learning more about DNA, genetics and microarrays. Upon completion of the program, students produce a conference-caliber poster to be presented to their peers and the university community.

Female high school students currently enrolled in **local** public or private schools are eligible to apply. The Young Women in Computing Summer Program takes place July 9 to August 3, 2007, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily, Monday thru Friday.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS: Females must currently be a sophomore or junior in good standing with their high school (We have made exceptions in this case), Signed application and essay stating interest, 3.2 GPA minimum, Transcript with coursework reflecting background in sciences, Two letters of recommendation from teachers

PROGRAM BENEFITS: Enhanced knowledge in computer science, Class credit, Free materials, Free meals, \$200 weekly stipend for four weeks

Deadline to apply is April 27, 2007 cs.nmsu.edu/CREST

SUPERCOMPUTING CHALLENGE WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The winners of the NMNWSE award at the Supercomputing Challenge are:

Team 95, Sandia Preparatory High School

Team members: Kaitlyn Hughes, Alessandra Anderson, Vivek Prinja

Mentor: Don Keenan

Teacher: Neil McBeth

All received NMNWSE tote bags, careers book and/or CD, a few miscellaneous goodies left over from various EYHs, and the three team members each received \$50. The award was judged by Challenge staff including NMNWSE member Betsy Fredericks. The award was presented by 1990 NMNWSE president and 2006 Governor Award nominee Eleanor Walther.

NM BREASTFEEDING LAW ENACTED

[House Bill 613: Use of a Breast Pump in the Workplace](#) states:

A. In order to foster the ability of a nursing mother who is an employee to use a breast pump in the workplace, an employer, including the state and its political subdivisions, shall provide:

(1) a space for using the breast pump that is:

- (a) clean and private;
- (b) near the employee's workspace; and
- (c) not a bathroom; and

(2) flexible break times.

B. An employer shall not be liable for:

- (1) storage or refrigeration of breast milk;
- (2) payment for a nursing mother's break time in addition to established employee breaks; or
- (3) payment of overtime while a nursing mother is using a breast pump.

The law will go into effect 90 days after the close of this legislative session.

See also the NMNWSE online publications at <http://nmnwse.org/lawis/publications.php>:

[LA-UR-02-0087](#), Pregnancy, Maternity Leave, and Child Care Experiences at Los Alamos National Laboratory, By Katherine Prestridge, 2002 LAWIS President

[LA-UR-05-6719](#), The Need for Lactation Support and Health Privacy Rooms at LANL, by LAWIS members J. Tinka Gammel, Lisa Colletti, and Wendee Brunish

NMNWSE CONTACTS:

NMNWSE webpage: nmnwse.org

NMNWSE mailing address: P.O. Box 1360 Los Alamos, NM 87544

2007 NMNWSE Officers:

President: Charlene Bausinger, Central Chapter

VP/President Elect: Elizabeth Kallman, Central Chapter

Treasurer: Yolanda King, Central Chapter

Secretary: Jeanne Banks, Central Chapter

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NMNWSE listserver: nmnwse-l@list.unm.edu

Instructions to subscribe to the listserver: nmnwse.org/Listserver.php

Problems or questions about website or listserver to webmaster@nmnwse.org

News items for next newsletter: NMNWSE_Board-l@list.unm.edu