



Dear WIB Members and Supporters,

This is an exciting time for Women In Bio as we see the organization reach a new phase in its growth and in its scope.

Several years ago the leaders of WIB laid out a new strategic plan, with a vision of transforming it from a local group centered in the Baltimore-Washington corridor, to one with a national footprint that would impact the careers of women in all sectors of the life sciences industry.

That vision has now become a reality, as we count a membership of over 1000, led by more than 100 volunteers in 10 chapters throughout North America. Perhaps the truest mark of this new phase, however, is that we are seeing the chapters mature and implement their own succession plans, reflecting the stability, longevity and most of all success of WIB.



Simone Fishburn

So it is a huge honor for me to take on the role of President, and I am -- together with all of WIB -- immensely grateful to the outgoing President, Phyl Dillinger, who has been one of the key drivers that have brought WIB to where it is today. We thank her for her tireless contributions and enormous dedication to the organization, and wish her some joyful rest and relaxation in her post-presidency life.

I took on the role of President-Elect at the start of the year, having previously served as founding chair of the San Francisco chapter, and have truly enjoyed working alongside and learning from Phyl and all my other colleagues at WIB. The experience of driving a non-profit, volunteer-based organization continues to teach me lessons of how much can be accomplished when there's a common goal, and when the primary reward is the achievement

I look forward to working with our Board and with all of our leaders to continue developing our strategy and growing the organization. The vision has not changed since the early days, and we remain focused on empowering more women to reach higher, and on increasing the representation of women in leadership positions throughout the industry.

I am also absolutely delighted to introduce you to our new President-Elect, Dimitra Georganopolou, who has led the Chicago chapter for the last year and a half, and was one of the chapter's founders. Dimitra is VP R&D at Ohmx Corporation where she uses her expertise in sensors, biosensors and electrochemical sensors to develop novel clinical diagnostics (see her bio [here](#)). Most of all, Dimitra is a wonderful leader who combines warmth, creativity and an innate understanding of people's strengths to grow other leaders and to drive successful initiatives.

### **WIB Benefitting members**

WIB is working on several new projects to deliver greater value for our existing members, and to enable an easy and friendly integration for new members:

**NEW WEBSITE:** WIB will be launching a new website that will reflect our expanding organization and will provide information about who we are, what is going on where, and how to get involved. The address will be the same ([www.womeninbio.org](http://www.womeninbio.org)) but the look will be different – so keep an eye out for notice of the launch.

**PURCHASING PROGRAM:** WIB has recently founded a new and highly popular purchasing program as an exclusive benefit to WIB members, that provides discounts on apparel (Macy's), computer electronics (Lenovo), office goods (Office Max), teleconferencing (Global conferencing) and car rental (Enterprise, National). These are available now, for details click [here](#), and stay tuned as we continue to expand this program.

**NEW CRM:** WIB is working with a non-profit oriented CRM provider to update our system and enable us to capitalize on new technology that will streamline our interactions. We will be providing a range of member-accessible content, including online videos of our speaker events, to enable members in all regions to benefit from programs held at chapters in different locations.

All of these events and initiatives take place as the result of the tremendous effort made by our volunteers, and thanks to the generous support of our sponsors. We hope you will continue to help us in our mission to advance women's careers in life sciences by sending us your ideas, coming to our events and volunteering in our chapters.

So I wish you all a wonderful end of Summer and start of Fall, and hope to see or hear from you as we continue to build the organization and impact women's lives.

*Warm regards,*  
Simone

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