



### Christian Women in Science: Board of Directors, 2014



**Ms. Billman** grew up in Chicago, and earned a BS in Chemistry and a Phi Beta Kappa key from University of California Berkeley in 1975. After several years at Chevron as an analytical chemist and operations analyst, she began a 26-year-career at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Colorado, where she served as a senior energy analyst, institutional planner, science writer, and manager, for many different energy-related projects, until her retirement in Sept 2013. Her husband of 34 years passed away in late 2012, but she has four grown children, who have three spouses, and three grandchildren in the Denver area. She became involved in ASA in 2003, and was

blessed with being elected to the ASA National Council to serve 2013-2017. Lynn is excited to be able to help encourage more women to become involved in ASA, and to help other women scientists realize that Christians aren't the enemy. Lynn was elected an ASA Fellow in 2009. Contact Lynn at [lynn.l.billman@gmail.com](mailto:lynn.l.billman@gmail.com) .



**Dr. Gayle Ermer** serves as a professor of engineering at Calvin College, where she has taught mechanical engineering courses since 1994. Her educational experience includes degrees from Calvin College (B.S. Engineering – Mechanical Concentration), the University of Wisconsin – Madison (M.S. Manufacturing Systems Engineering) and Michigan State University (Ph.D in Mechanical Engineering). Her technical specialties include machine/system dynamics and manufacturing system quality. She has also written papers on engineering ethics, women in engineering, and Christian perspectives on technology, many of which have been contributions to the Christian Engineering Education Conference (CEEC) and to ASA, where she was recently

elected a fellow. She is an active member of Jamestown Christian Reformed Church in Hudsonville, MI, where she regularly leads worship and sings on a praise team. Gayle was elected an ASA Fellow in 2013. Contact Gayle at [germer@calvin.edu](mailto:germer@calvin.edu) .



**Dr. Patricia (Pat) Fitzgerald-Bocarsly** is a tenured professor of immunology at the New Jersey Medical School at Rutgers University. Pat runs a laboratory and staff at Rutgers researching the human immune response, studying genes applicable to many diseases. Pat gave a fascinating talk on her work and its implications for AIDS research, and chaired three different sessions, at the July 2014 ASA conference. Pat and husband Andrew Bocarsly, also a scientist, have raised two daughters and a son, and have recently become grandparents. Of their children, one daughter is a post-doc in neuroscience, another daughter is a social worker, and her son is an undergrad studying chemistry. Pat has long been a supporter of women who want to go into science. You can read her thoughts on her faith and her science on the Christian Women in Science "Lifting Up Series" webpage.

Contact Pat at [bocarsly@njms.rutgers.edu](mailto:bocarsly@njms.rutgers.edu) .



**Dr. Beth Kroa** is a native of northwest Ohio. Beth majored in chemistry at Bowling Green State University for her bachelor's degree and studied at The University of Toledo for a doctorate in organic and biochemistry. In the fall of 1983, her freshman year of college, she became a follower of Christ after reading the book of Romans in a New Testament she received from the Gideons. She worked in the chemistry field as a high school chemistry teacher, a research scientist, and university faculty member. She and her husband David have been married since

1986 and have one son, James, who has lived in his room in heaven since 2010. Beth is currently an assistant professor of chemistry at Bethel College in Mishawaka, IN, and she and David reside on a small farm in nearby Niles, MI with two dogs, a cat, and several chickens. She is involved in mentoring, discipleship groups, and music ministry at her college and home church and is often found at Gideon conventions and banquets as a testimony speaker. Contact Beth at [beth.kroa@bethelcollege.edu](mailto:beth.kroa@bethelcollege.edu) .



**Dr. Kristen Tolson** is a postdoctoral research fellow at UC San Diego, studying the regulation of pubertal development and the interface of reproduction and metabolism. She earned her Bachelor's degrees in Biological Sciences (BS) and World Cultures and Religions (BA) from California Lutheran University in 2004, and her Ph.D. in Integrative Biology from University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in 2009. Kristen is dedicated to both research and education, using her research experience to inform her teaching and bring relevance to abstract concepts. She works to remain active in the larger community through volunteer opportunities, especially in programs designed to increase scientific interest in

disadvantaged and minority populations, and also recently began teaching Microbiology of Infectious Diseases at Point Loma Nazarene University. Contact Kristen at [kristen.tolson@gmail.com](mailto:kristen.tolson@gmail.com) .



**Ms. Faith Tucker** is the youngest member of the board and an educator by training. She brings her passion for students and early career scientists to the CWIS board. Her interest in the intersection between faith and science was sparked while double majoring in Astronomy and Religion at Whitman College in Walla Walla, WA. Since graduating, she has spent time working in astronomy education at NASA, teaching high school astronomy and physics, and managing communications for the Dialogue on Science, Ethics and Religion at the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She is currently pursuing a Master's degree in science education from Stanford University. Contact Faith at [ftucker@stanford.edu](mailto:ftucker@stanford.edu) .