



Charter: Christian Women in Science

Revised August 12, 2013

Christian Women in Science is a fellowship of women in science and related disciplines who share a common fidelity to the Christian faith and a commitment to integrity in the practice of science. Christian Women in Science was founded in July, 2013.

Mission

The mission of Christian Women in Science¹ is two-fold:

- To encourage Christian women of all ages to pursue, sustain, and grow in a career in science, technology, engineering or math, and
- To encourage women in these endeavors to pursue, sustain, and grow in the Christian faith.

Stakeholder Communities

Our community of stakeholders includes:

- We strive to serve those women involved or interested in science² in high school or college or just starting their careers, those in the middle of their careers, and those who are established leaders in their careers.
- We strive to benefit and support the American Scientific Affiliation (ASA³), of which we are an affiliate.
- We strive to bring special benefits to women who formally join our fellowship.
- We strive to serve the public with information and insight.

Goals

We have many specific goals related to our mission. The highest priority goals at any point in time will depend on the individuals that are available to help pursue those goals.

- Encourage more Christian women to get into science and engineering
- Encourage more women in science to be bolder in sharing their faith or to seek Christ for the first time
- Encourage Christian women in science to remain active in their careers and in their faith
- Help more Christian women move into leadership or management positions in science and engineering
- Grow ASA membership by reaching out to Christian women in science
- Bring more gender diversity to ASA membership and leadership
- Provide connections, encouragement, information, and role models for pre-career and early-career women in science

¹ <http://network.asa3.org/members/group.aspx?id=117829>

² References in this document to science, or to science and engineering, should be assumed to refer to all four areas of science, technology, engineering, and math.

³ www.asa3.org

- Support mid-career women with work/life problems related to being a Christian, a woman, and a scientist
- Provide opportunities for our established leaders to make a difference in the lives and careers of other Christian women in science, to share their wisdom and experience, and to be recognized for their service

Beliefs

As an affiliate of the American Scientific Affiliation (ASA), we support the ASA's statement of faith and policies:⁴

- We accept the divine inspiration, trustworthiness and authority of the Bible in matters of faith and conduct.
- We confess the Triune God affirmed in the Nicene and Apostles' creeds, which we accept as brief, faithful statements of Christian doctrine based upon Scripture.
- We believe that in creating and preserving the universe God has endowed it with contingent order and intelligibility, the basis of scientific investigation.
- We recognize our responsibility, as stewards of God's creation, to use science and technology for the good of humanity and the whole world.

Membership

- The general public will benefit from the work of CWIS through information provided on its public website, and specific activities that the Board makes available to the general public.
- CWIS members will become members by first joining ASA and then joining the CWIS affiliate. The ASA has several categories of membership, including Regular, Associate, Student, Friend, and Fellow.⁵ ASA/CWIS members in any of these categories (except Friend, by definition) will sign the ASA statement of faith as given above under "Beliefs." ASA/CWIS members will receive special incentives, such as being able to access the CWIS affiliate membership directory, participating in special activities open only to CWIS members, or other member-only privileges.
- People interested in CWIS but not interested in ASA membership can become ASA/CWIS Followers. A follower will provide email and other information about himself/herself, and does not need to sign the statement of faith, but will not have access to the CWIS member directory or other member privileges.

Organization and Management

Christian Women in Science will operate under the rules and requirements for affiliates of the ASA listed in the ASA By-Laws.

The affairs of Christian Women in Science will be led and managed by the Board. The duties of the Board are to:

- Set policy and direction of Christian Women in Science.
- Determine the proposed activities for the next year that Christian Women in Science will initiate and sustain to achieve its mission and goals for its stakeholder communities.
- Recruit, select, train, motivate, and guide volunteers to implement these activities as needed.
- Respond to suggestions for new or additional activities as they are offered by the membership or others.

⁴ <http://network.asa3.org/?ASAbeliefs>

⁵ https://asa3.site-ym.com/general/register_member_type.asp?

- As necessary, review official communications (blogs, newsletters, website material, etc) of Christian Women in Science before publication or dissemination.
- Report periodically on activities to the membership and to the ASA leadership.

The Board will consist of at least three and no more than ten CWIS members, who are also officially members of ASA. The perpetuation of the Board will be decided at a later date. Also, any other structure of the Board (such as President, Vice President, Secretary, etc) will be decided at a later date.

The Board will conduct its business through email, teleconferences, and other electronic means as needed, and will meet in person at the ASA national meeting each summer to the extent possible.

Directors receive no compensation for their services. Decisions about CWIS requiring dues of members, or some other type of financial transactions or funding, will be decided at a later date.