April 6th 2017
Letter from the President
Women In Bio

Dear WIB Members and Supporters,

I can’t believe we are coming to the end of the first quarter of 2017. Everyone has been very busy and I would like to take a moment to reflect on what we have already accomplished.

**Boardroom Ready Program**

January started with a bang as we showcased the Boardroom Ready (BR) graduates at JP Morgan. The BR program, led by Carolyn Brougham and Elese Hanson, has been very well received and we just completed taking applications for the 2017 class. Congratulations to four of our 2016 graduates who have been placed on boards [http://womeninbio.org/executives/boardroom-ready/board-placements](http://womeninbio.org/executives/boardroom-ready/board-placements). The National Executive Leadership Development Committee (ELDC), chaired by Yasmin Chandrasekher and Jessica Swartz, are busy working to create the first BR retreat for our yearly graduates. They are also looking at developing other programs for executive women. Please reach out if you are interested in joining the ELDC team.

**New York Stock Exchange**

Also in January, we were invited back to the New York Stock Exchange to ring the closing bell on January 24, 2017. Many of our leaders were in present from our WIB-New York Metro and WIB-Philadelphia chapters. What an honor to be invited back and a thrill to be part of history!

**Young Women In Bio**

Our Young Women In Bio (YWIB) program is receiving a makeover under the leadership of Lily Wound, Elise Hartley and Stephanie Mixson Byrd. They have created an annual STEM event titled “Spring into STEM” happening in April to encourage girls across the country to learn about STEM and get involved with YWIB. They are working closely with Stacie Byars, National Director of Marketing, on new marketing material and will be rolling out new initiatives and programs in the coming months.

**Programming, Membership, Sponsorship**

The organization has been busy over this past quarter. Year to date we’ve hosted a total of 51 events, have 2,009 members, and raised $72,800 in sponsorships. Thank you to Janice Vatland for leading Programs; Julie Langdon and Becky Watters for leading Membership, Chris Meda and Erin Lawless Miller for leading Fundraising; Winnie Pong and Alice Ku for leading Communications, and the dedication of all the leaders and volunteers that work so hard to make this happen! [Women's History Month](http://womeninbio.org/executives/boardroom-ready/board-placements) has become a flagship annual program for WIB and all 13 chapters hosted a WHM event. That’s fantastic! Congratulations to all!
**Special Events**

Our special events committee has been hard at work organizing all of WIB’s activities for BIO coming up in June in San Diego. Thank you to Vickie Hurless and Valerie Simonsen for taking over chairing the committee as Cassidy Cantin steps into the President-Elect role. We have several events planned for BIO including our annual Plenary Event ([http://www.womeninbio.org/eventdetails.aspx?EventId=31272](http://www.womeninbio.org/eventdetails.aspx?EventId=31272)) which takes place on Monday June 19. This year we are hosting a pitch event and excited to have Carol Gallagher, Pharm.D., Partner at New Enterprise Associates, be our keynote speaker and give an update on the current state of funding as well as join the VC panel. We will also host a BPI panel on June 21 to share insight on how to manage your career if you would like to get into the C suite and/or board someday. Panelists will include 2016 BR graduates. Our full list of events will be populated on our special events page: [http://www.womeninbio.org/events/special-events](http://www.womeninbio.org/events/special-events). If you plan to be at BIO, be sure to stop by our booth (#5411) and say hello!

**Mentors Advisors, Peers (MAP)S**

We have active MAPs in DC/Baltimore, Pittsburg, RTP, SF, Montreal, Seattle and Chicago. SoCal is looking to start a MAPs program. Thank you to Sayhya Ganesan and Angela Furlanetto for taking on the role of national chair and reviewing ways to expand the program and enhance the program with the chapter MAP’s chairs.

**Staff**

Thank you to Jamie Griffin Strachota, WIB Executive Director, and the administration staff: Shannon Lachance, Kelly William, Ted Savides, Kathy Legako, and Sandy Poenitsch for all the work that you do. As I hope you all know, they are the glue that holds the organization together and without their due diligence and support we would not be able to manage all the programs and services that we provide to our members. We all rely on them and I can’t thank them enough for their guidance and support. Jamie, along with her team, are also hard at work reviewing Customer Relationship Management (CRM) programs that will best support the growing needs of WIB. We anticipate a new system to be implemented late in 2017.

**Thank You**

With Q1 under my belt, I am reflecting on the progress of the organization and I am so impressed with your dedication and passion to Women In Bio. It is a pleasure getting to know and work alongside all of you. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to national for any assistance.

Dawn Hocevar
President, Women In Bio