Hello members!

As we move through October, we are all starting to look towards completing our goals for this year and planning for next year. At National, one of our main activities this quarter is to scout and interview our next President-Elect. The President-Elect will work alongside Dawn Hocevar for one year, who will move into the role of President next year, taking on their own projects as well as helping with the management of a growing non-profit organization. The elect year is followed by one year as President of Women In Bio.

You are eligible for the role of President-Elect if you have been a WIB member for at least one year and have served in a leadership role as chapter chair or as a committee chair either for your chapter or for National. We hope to see many of you apply! If you are interested please send a one-page Word or PDF document by October 28, 2016 to Jamie Strachota, WIB Executive Director, (jstrachota@womeninbio.org) containing the following:

- Names of two WIB members in good standing who will nominate your candidacy
- A description of your history with WIB, including achievements, initiatives, and the impact they have had.
- A description of what your vision would be for WIB, and why you are interested in the role.
- Your resume.

Q3 has been very busy as our 13 chapters continued to hold outstanding events, resulting in an increase in membership in almost every region! Highlights included Pittsburgh’s POWER event, which is always a huge draw, several successful start-up pitch challenges, and networking events such as golf outings across the country. Our first cohort for the newly launched Boardroom Ready class convened for the first time in Q3 and will complete the program later this month (latest press release here). The participants expressed positive feedback regarding course content and the instructors. Our newest chapter, WIB-Philadelphia, is hosting their launch event on November 2, 2016, bringing our WIB footprint in North America up to 13 chapters! And finally, I’m looking forward to hearing about all of the holiday parties that will be planned in the coming months as we close out a stellar year for WIB.

As always, a special thanks to the organization’s staff members: Executive Director Jamie Strachota, Database and Events Coordinator Shannon Lachance, Communication Coordinator Ted Savides, WIB Treasurer Debra Chamra, and Relationship Coordinator Kelly Williams. They exemplify teamwork as they support the numerous requests of our chapters on a day-to-day basis.

I want to thank all of you again for your support of me and the organization as we finalize the year and plan for the future. I’d love to hear from you with your ideas, thoughts, and questions, for now or looking forward. Let’s continue to grow and enjoy the network we’ve all created within WIB, and end the year with a bang!

Kristi Sarno

WIB President