ReSET Teams Up with the Association for Women in Science

Earlier this year, ReSET formed a partnership with the DC chapter of the Association for Women in Science (AWIS), a professional membership organization that advocates for the interests of women in science and technology. AWIS members represent a diversity of professions in industry, government and academia. Melissa McCartney, who takes over as DC chapter president in 2013, explains how her organization became involved with ReSET: “We had been trying to initiate and support a volunteer program at AWIS for some time, so we were pleased when we received ReSET’s request to partner with them. We were excited to work with ReSET because they had a well-established, formalized program that was already up and running.”

Once the partnership was in place, Melissa reached out to the DC chapter’s 150 members primarily through announcements on AWIS’s various listserves. Seven members have expressed interest so far, and three have already committed to the fall term. We were excited to work with ReSET because they had a well-established, formalized program that was already up and running.”

Once the partnership was in place, Melissa reached out to the DC chapter’s 150 members primarily through announcements on AWIS’s various listserves. Seven members have expressed interest so far, and three have already committed to the fall term. Melissa is optimistic that more will join the program once members start having positive experiences as volunteers. “This program is in the pilot stage, so it is still a bit abstract for people, but that will change. I want to see AWIS DC get more involved in the community. Collectively, our membership contains a wealth of talent and we need to find ways to better leverage it.”

As is the case with other agencies and associations with whom ReSET partners, AWIS volunteers will go to an elementary school as a team and teach a variety of subjects based on teacher preferences. ReSET Executive Director, John Meagher, has conferred with AWIS members and is helping them prepare for the classroom. The new volunteers were given a volunteer handbook and training video, and will have opportunities this summer to network with veteran volunteers.

Meagher spoke enthusiastically of the AWIS partnership: “One of the reasons we are eager to work with AWIS,” says Meagher, “is because it offers additional opportunities for the girls in our classes to identify with women who are scientists and can serve as career role models for them.”

McCartney, who has been working as an editorial fellow at Science magazine, published by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), thinks that the diversity of professions that AWIS represents can give

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Science Quiz Answer:
(The Rose Family)

The rose is a rose,
And was always a rose.
But the theory now goes
That the apple’s a rose,
And the pear is, and so’s
The plum, I suppose.
The dear only knows
What will next prove a rose.
You, of course, are a rose—
But were always a rose.
—Robert Frost

Vijay Kowtha (left), Rich Replier (right front) and John Meagher at a June 6th luncheon hosted by DC’s Patterson Elementary School for its volunteers from ReSET and the Naval Research Lab. David McInnis, who has posted his classroom observations at Patterson on the ReSET blog, was unable to attend.
The Catalogue for Philanthropy: Greater Washington has selected ReSET for inclusion in its 2012–13 Catalogue. Now in its 10th year, the Catalogue has a mission to connect caring citizens with worthy community causes, and provides charities with a stamp of approval that tells donors they can invest with confidence because the Catalogue vets its family of nonprofits with great care.

A panel of more than 100 expert reviewers from area foundations chose ReSET from a competitive field of nearly 220 candidates; RESET is one of 74 selected for inclusion.

“Charities were selected for excellence, cost-effectiveness, and impact” Harman said. “These are certainly among the best community-based nonprofits in the Washington region.”

Would you pass your faunal exam . . .

Apples, pears, plums, and almonds are in what plant family?

. . . See inside for the answer

(“AWIS” continued from front)

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