



Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to include another issue of RFS Briefings with some timely and encouraging updates on women in science.

Of note in particular:

High-Risk, High-Reward Research Program, commonfund.nih.gov, July 2017

The NIH Common Fund announced new funding opportunities for the High-Risk, High-Reward Research program for scientists pursuing highly innovative approaches to address major challenges in biomedical or behavioral research. Any research topic relevant to the broad mission of NIH is welcome and women and members of underrepresented groups in NIH-funded research are encouraged to apply. Deadlines are in September 2017. [Read more.](#)

Trump Retains Collins as NIH Director, sciencemag.com, June 6, 2017

President Donald Trump announced that Francis Collins will stay on as director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). [Read more.](#)

See below for more news about women in science

Please continue to share important news and opportunities with us so that we may share it with you, and others who are committed to supporting the careers of exceptional women in science.

With regards,

Karla Shepard Rubinger

Executive Director

Rosalind Franklin Society

RFS Briefings

August 8, 2017

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A male engineer explains why so many men in Silicon Valley behave so badly toward women, finance.yahoo.com, July 5, 2017

A male engineer discusses why he thinks so many men in Silicon Valley disrespect women in the workplace, saying that the “big money Silicon Valley often throws at young engineers who are right out of college stimulates this ‘frat house’ mentality.” Recent college graduates are receiving six-figure signing bonuses, which inflate their egos and breeds a sense of entitlement in these young men. [Read more.](#)

How Can We Close the Gender Gap Within STEM?, womensnews.org, July 5, 2017

Female and male students show no significant differences in their math and science abilities between kindergarten and senior year of high school. But, according to 2016 figures from the National Science Board, women make up half of the total U.S. college-educated workforce, and only 29 percent of the science and engineering workforce. [Read more.](#)

Women in Tech Speak Frankly on Culture of Harassment, nytimes.com, June 30, 2017

More than two dozen women in the tech start-up industry spoke to The New York Times about being sexually harassed by investors and mentors. “There is such a massive imbalance of power that women in the industry often end up in distressing situations,” said Susan Wu, an entrepreneur and investor. [Read more.](#)

JLABS @ NYC Launched QuickFire Challenge, jlabs.jnjinnovation.com, June 2017

In honor of the Grand Opening of JLABS @ NYC, Johnson & Johnson Innovation has launched a QuickFire Challenge to award up to four new game-changing early-stage innovation companies with the use of a bench, workstation and access to the JLABS @ NYC community for one year. [Read more.](#)

Hatching a new hypothesis about egg shape diversity, princeton.edu, June 22, 2017

Mary Caswell Stoddard, an assistant professor in Princeton’s Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, proposes a far-ranging hypothesis regarding how and why bird eggs acquire their shapes. [Read more.](#)

Susan Kaech Named Director of the Nomis Center for Immunology and Microbial Pathogenesis, salk.edu, June 22, 2017

Susan Kaech will join the Salk Institute as director of the Nomis Center for Immunobiology and Microbial Pathogenesis. Elizabeth Blackburn, president of the Salk Institute and Rosalind Franklin Society Board Member, shared the news with constituents. [Read more.](#)

Elizabeth Smith Named Dean of Arts and Sciences Faculty at Dartmouth,

graduate.dartmouth.edu, June 21, 2017

Elizabeth Smith, the Paul M. Dauten Jr. Professor of Biological Sciences at Dartmouth College, was named dean of the faculty at the Ivy League institution. She has served as associate dean of the faculty for the past two years. She joined the faculty at Dartmouth College in 1998 and was promoted to full professor in 2010. [Read more.](#)

Judith Salerno, MD, MS, named President of The New York Academy of Medicine,

nyam.org, June 14, 2017

The Board of Trustees of The New York Academy of Medicine announced Judith Salerno, MD, MS, as its next President, effective September 5, 2017. Dr. Salerno is a Rosalind Franklin Society CAI member and Advisory Board Member. [Read more.](#)

Drew Faust Will Step Down as Pioneering President of Harvard, chronicle.com, June 14, 2017

Catherine G. Drew Faust, Harvard University's first female president, will step down next June. Ms. Faust took the helm at Harvard in 2007 and, on her role as a female president, has said "I am not the woman president of Harvard. I'm the president of Harvard." [Read more.](#)

2017 Rosalind Franklin Award for Leadership in Industrial Biotechnology, bio.org, June 14, 2017

Vonnie Estes will receive the 2017 Rosalind Franklin Award for Leadership in Industrial Biotechnology, sponsored by the Rosalind Franklin Society, for her outstanding work in the biotech industry. The award will be presented on July 25 during a lunch plenary session of the 2017 BIO World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology. [Read more.](#)

Why Women Don't See Themselves as Entrepreneurs, nytimes.com, June 9, 2017

Research shows that women are less likely to consider entrepreneurship as a career path because they don't see other women entrepreneurs as role models. When women run companies, there are more opportunities for the gender pay gap to shrink, for more women to be promoted, and for young girls to be inspired to pursue entrepreneurship careers. [Read more.](#)

How the Brain Recognizes What The Eye Sees, salk.edu, June 8, 2017

The lab of Tatyana Sharpee used a statistical method to analyze how neurons in a critical part of the brain, called V2, respond to scenes from nature. This work provides a better understanding of vision processing, which could be used to help advance computer-simulated vision. [Read more.](#)

The Sartorius & Science Prize for Regenerative Medicine & Cell Therapy,

assionforscience.com, July, 8 2017

The Sartorius & Science Prize for Regenerative Medicine & Cell Therapy is an annual prize for researchers focused on basic or translational research that advances regenerative medicine and cell therapy. The application deadline is October 1, 2017. [Read more.](#)

Fruit Flies and Mice to Get New Home on Space Station, at Least Temporarily,

nytimes.com, June 2, 2017

The next SpaceX mission will carry insects and rodents to help scientists understand the effects of long-term life in space. Two women are conducting the experiment: Dr. Chia Soo, a medical

researcher at the University of California, is the principal investigator, and Dr. Karen Ocorr, a professor at the Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute in La Jolla, is a co-investigator on the experiment. [Read more.](#)

A Proven Way to Win in Business: Have a Daughter, Hire Women, nytimes.com, June 1, 2017

According to a new study by Harvard University researchers, venture capitalists who invest in Silicon Valley tech start-ups are more likely to hire a female investing partner if the hiring partners have daughters. Having daughters seems to make men more aware of sexism and gender inequality in the workplace. [Read more.](#)

How to Raise a Feminist Son, nytimes.com, June 1, 2017

It is ironic that girls are told they can be anything they want to be – a scientist, an astronaut, a mother, a painter, a business woman – yet boys are discouraged from having interests that are perceived to be feminine. Giving both girls and boys the choices to be who or what they want to be is the first step in creating an equitable society. [Read more.](#)

Bugs, Drugs, & Beyond: Translational Approaches to the Microbiome,

jlabs.jnjinnovation.com, May 31, 2017

Johnson & Johnson Innovation, JLABS and the Janssen Human Microbiome Institute (JHMI) have launched the second Bugs, Drugs, & Beyond QuickFire Challenge, which will take place in both San Francisco and Cambridge. The Challenge will award selected winners with a customized package of support from the JHMI and JLABS, including coaching and \$75,000 in funding or entrance to the South San Francisco or Boston JLABS sites, to help advance microbiome-based human health solutions. [Read more.](#)

Can telehealth solve America's genetic counselor shortage?, medcitynews.com, May 25, 2017

An insufficient number of trained genetic counselors posed a problem that Lisa Alderson wanted to solve. With the help of fellow Invitae alumnus, Lisa Alderson founded Genome Medical in an effort to increase access, timeline and ease of diagnosing genetic disorders. And, while Genome Medical can't solve the chronic counselor shortage, patients have more opportunities to schedule calls with an in-house genetic counselor within the next day. [Read more.](#)