Whether you’re trying to get out of graduate school, struggle to decide if your current career path is the correct one, or somewhere in between, it all hinges on building bridges — creating those critical connections and the support network essential to successfully navigating, mastering, and maximizing the many facets and phases of life. Join us for a day of common ground, conversation, and inspiration among professional friends in a series of interactive workshops featuring speakers who offer diverse examples of innovation in action and who will share their experiences and insights gained along the journey from diploma to career!

REgister online today! http://outreach.science.tamu.edu/wise.php

The $50 registration fee ($35 for students) includes a pre-conference reception, registration packet, and lunch.
Keynote Speaker: Frances Colón, Ph.D.  
Former Deputy Science & Technology Advisor to US Secretary of State

Science Citizenship: My Path From the Lab to Washington, D.C., to Going Local

Immediately after completing her Ph.D. at Brandeis University, Dr. Frances Colón headed down to Washington, D.C., for a career in Federal science policy-making. For the past decade, she has represented the United States all over the world on topics ranging from climate change, to the advancement of women scientists, to the re-engagement of Cuba through science cooperation. In January 2017, she resigned from her career position at the U.S. State Department to influence knowledge-based decision-making where we need it most — at the city and state levels. We will discuss the role of women scientists as active citizens at a time of unprecedented change in our country. Dr. Colón is the former Deputy Science and Technology Advisor to the Secretary of State (2012-2017). She is a graduate of the National Hispanic Leadership Institute, fellow of the U.S.-Japan Leadership Program and delegate to the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations Young Leaders Forum. She is the recipient of the 2015 Hispanic Heritage Foundation’s Inspira Award and a Google Science Fair judge. In 2016, Dr. Colón was named one of the 20 most influential Latinos in technology. She earned her Ph.D. in neuroscience in 2004 from Brandeis University and her B.S. in biology in 1997 from the University of Puerto Rico.

Friday Reception Welcome Mixer
This activity will not only break the ice, it also will highlight issues women have in building networks and making inroads across disciplines and sectors.

Session I

Cecilia Tamborindeguy
Life in Transit: The Importance of Finding Peer Support

Life in academia is filled with opportunities. While transitioning from one institution to another is an invitation to discovery (new people, new research topics, and even new continents!), it is certainly a stressful experience. As with any organism under selection, fast adaptation to the new environment is critical to the professional success of women in science. Dr. Cecilia Tamborindeguy will talk about her journey of discovery across continents, institutions, and biological fields that brought her to the Texas A&M Department of Entomology. She will share the importance of building bridges for success and well-being and the difficulties in doing so.

Ilya Marotta
The Essentials for Competing in Science and Engineering

Women are measured by a higher standards in science and engineering. And let’s face it—firing in a male-dominated field can be challenging — especially if there are no female peers to provide you support. It will require dedication and maximum effort. Ilya Marotta will share her experiences in how to achieve your goals when competing on an unlevel field. Marotta is the Executive Vice President for Engineering and Program Management for the Panama Canal Commission, where she is responsible for all engineering aspects for the Panama Canal. She received her marine engineering degree at Texas A&M University at Galveston and her master’s at Universidad Santa Maria La Antigua in Panama.

Session II

Johnita Davis Jones
Four Keys to Successful Bridge Building: Credibility, Attitude, Teamwork, Science (CATS)

Whether you are transitioning from academia to industry, job to job, or from community activities, or even without children to being a parent, your ability to effectively manage transitions is paramount to ensuring success in all aspects of your life. Mrs. Johnita Davis Jones will share a few key qualities crucial to making these transitions in her own life while building bridges both at work and in the community. Johnita is America’s Engineer Manager at ExxonMobil Pipeline Company, where she oversees all the midstream engineers in the United States and Canada. She was the Board President of the Texas Conference for Women from 2005 through 2017, an annual conference that promotes professional development opportunities for women from diverse career fields. Johnita graduated from Texas A&M University in 1983 with a B.S. in chemical engineering and spent several years with Exxon in various engineering roles prior to management.

Tatyanha Khamatnurova
From College to Corporate: Ten Proven Keys to Navigate a Successful Career

There are basic principles that don’t cost a penny but can ease a transition, significantly impact your professional life, and help fast-track your way up the ladder. Dr. Tatyanha Khamatnurova will share tips gleaned as an R&D Chemist in Sand Consolidation and Sulfuric Technology in Haldor Topsoe’s Petroleum Engineering Department. Tatyanha holds a B.S. in chemistry from the University of Texas at Tyler and a Ph.D. in polymer chemistry and catalysis from Texas A&M University. Her research activities include developing solutions for sand consolidation applications, creating new resin formulations for remedial well treatments and flowback control, and creating new stimulation chemicals for enhanced oil recovery. As active member of the American Chemical Society and the Society of Professional Engineers, she has contributed to more than 20 patents, patent applications, and technical publications.

Session III

Dinorah Leyva
From Ph.D. to Industry and Everything In Between

Dr. Dinorah Leyva is a Senior Field Applications Specialist for NanoTemper Technologies in Houston who works with scientists in academia, biotech, and pharma to develop, implement, and troubleshoot experimental protocols in the molecular interaction space. Dinorah believes in establishing collaborative relationships with her clients to help move their research forward efficiently. Dinorah holds a PhD in medical sciences from the Texas A&M Health Science Center and a B.S. in chemical engineering. Dinorah obtained an MBA in medical research from the National Autonomous University of Mexico.

Karthika Perumal
Assembling a Board of Directors for You, Inc.

A Board of Directors is critical for companies of all sizes, from fledging businesses to Fortune 50 corporations. And, you, Inc. needs such a Board. This team can serve you tremendously as you move forward in executing the business plan for You, Inc. Your Board can help you make informed choices and develop strategies to survive the peaks and valleys ofYou, Inc.’s stock value. In this session, Karthika Perumal will discuss how to put together a Board for our professional and personal lives, and how to use such a Board to thrive in our careers. Karthika is a technology attorney with Bracewell, LLP and has her Ph.D. in pharmacology from the Baylor College of Medicine and her J.D. from the University of Houston Law Center. She assists clients in developing intellectual property portfolios. She counsels clients on protection and monetization of intellectual property to meet their business objectives. Join the conversation to discuss how you can build your Board to navigate change.

http://outreach.science.tamu.edu/wise.php

REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!

In Memoriam
Susan M. Arseven, Ph.D. ’75

Susan M. Arseven, Ph.D. ’75, was one of the leading strategists in information technology,” said Marcia Ostfeld, a longtime friend and Director of Information Technology Services for Armstrong World Industries. “Susan was a wise and generous mentor to so many people and a dynamic force in positioning women for leading roles in business.”

Susan M. Arseven of Nyack, New York, died of breast cancer at the age of 59. Her husband, Dr. Ersen Arseven ’74, has established an endowment in her name to support, in perpetuity, the Susan M. Arseven ’75 Conference for Women In Science & Engineering.