



Association for IS Women's Network

October 2020

The *AIS Women's Network* is a college of the Association for Information Systems (AIS). The purpose of the College is to promote a network for supporting women scholars in information systems and to enable mentorship relationships that are crucial to speed the success of women in the information systems field.

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From the Desk of the Co-Chairs

Welcome to this edition of the AIS Women's Network College newsletter. Inside you will read about the various activities that have occurred over the past five months, as well those that are in the works for the next half-year. One of our main initiatives was the creation of a COVID-19 task force to reflect on the impacts of the pandemic on our membership and what the College can do to support you. In the newsletter, you will find our feature article written by Wietske Van Osch and Cynthia Beath on how COVID-19 has affected publications in AIS journals. The results may surprise you – take a read! Through the pandemic, the College has been able to maintain its key activities related to the mentoring program and creating opportunities for networking. Following the success of AMCIS, we held a virtual networking event on October 21. In addition, we have two exciting events for ICIS 2020 in December – the women's networking event (of course!) and the 1st International Research Workshop on Women and Grand Challenges in IS. We hope to 'see' you all there! We are always happy to hear from you, please email us at womensnetwork@aisnet.org. Take good care.



Jacqueline Corbett
Université Laval



Vanessa Cooper
RMIT University

Connect with us!



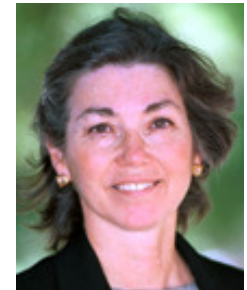


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COVID's Impact on Women in IS

Wietske Van Osche, HEC Montreal
Cynthia Beath, U. of Texas at Austin



In late April, 2020, Wietske emailed Cathy Urquhart (because Cathy "had been a driving force and a voice of reason in the AIS community") to express her concern about how COVID was affecting the research productivity of primarily junior female faculty with householding burdens. She cited an article¹ that said, in part, "Women academics seem to be submitting fewer papers during coronavirus [while] men were submitting up to 50 percent more." Wietske ended the email with, "These women need our help and I want to see what we can do!" Soon afterwards, an article in *Nature*² shared analyses by two researchers of 9 pre-print servers that showed a decrease in the proportion of submissions from women in March and April of 2020 compared to March and April of 2019, especially when they looked at submissions from first authors.

Cathy included the current leaders of AISWN and Cynthia in her response to Wietske's email and suggested that we first ask editors to analyze their submissions to see if this disproportionate productivity impact was true in the IS field also. Cynthia pointed out that women are proxies (albeit good ones) for caregivers of all sorts. Following this exchange, Wietske and Cynthia embarked on a journey to try to determine the facts for IS research with the goal of writing a position paper that summarized their findings.

The journey has been challenging.

In early July, we emailed the EICs of all the AIS Senior Scholar's Basket of Eight journals asking them to do the same analysis and share the results or engage us to do the analysis for them. Three declined to do so and two did not reply. However, we have recently completed an analysis for Dorothy Leidner, EIC at *JAIS*, that she will discuss in an upcoming editorial. In a nutshell, it shows that COVID has had a big impact on submissions from women who are first authors, but only a small impact on women who are one of many authors.



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Because of the timing of the ICIS submission date (May 1, 2019, and May 3, 2020), we thought a comparison of the gender distributions among submissions to ICIS might be revelatory. Gal Oestreicher-Singer and the rest of the ICIS program chairs delivered. Analysis of their data showed that the proportion of women first authors in 2020 was nearly identical to that in 2019, however, the proportion of women among all authors was down considerably. There were far fewer female authors among all authors in 2020 than there were in 2019, while there were more male authors in 2020

Bottom line: the results are mixed. We do see a decrease in the proportion of submissions from female first authors in the COVID period in 2020 compared to the same months in 2019 in some places (CAIS, JAIS) and from female authors in any position in others (ICIS). We also see increases in the proportion of submissions from females at some journals (ISJ and JIT). We plan to summarize our findings, and more importantly, offer suggestions for authors and decision-makers on how to deal with the possible disproportionate productivity impact due to the pandemic in a submission to CAIS in the near future. Stay tuned!

1. [The article Wietske cited is here.](#) [A similar report appeared in the Guardian shortly thereafter.](#)
2. [Giuliana Viglione.](#)

News Bytes

Michelle Suzanne Carter would like to report she published prodigiously from her dissertation, to-wit: two MIS Quarterly, one JAIS, an ICIS, and two book chapters. Way to go Michelle!

Thank You to Advisory Board Members! Dawn and Jacqueline would like to thank members of the Advisory Board who were able to attend the meeting in Munich. We had a fruitful discussion on a range of topics. Thank you for your support of the AISWN College! The next meeting will take place in May.



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Zoom-Zoom! Highlights from AMCIS Meeting 2020 Virtual | Salt Lake City, Utah



For the first time ever, our AMCIS meeting was conducted over Zoom. It was a learning experience but great to see everyone again. We enjoyed sinking our teeth into the challenging questions posed to our breakout rooms. I think we missed the food as much as we missed the company. Here's a picture of everyone together.

See how many faces you can name!



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AIS Distinguished Members July 2020

In July 2020, AIS added to the list of Distinguished Members.

AIS Distinguished Member program recognizes members who have made a significant impact on the association. Qualifications for the designation include a minimum of five years of continuous AIS membership, service in a significant role in AIS or AIS-related activity, and at least one publication in an AIS or AIS-affiliated journal. The Distinguished Member - Cum Laude designation is for those who exceed the requirement by holding continuous AIS membership for at least 10 years, service in a leadership role in AIS or AIS-related activity and have been published in at least four publications in an AIS or AIS-affiliated journal.



Elizabeth White Baker
Virginia Commonwealth University
(Member Cum Laude)

Congratulations Elizabeth!

<https://aisnet.org/general/custom.asp?page=distinguishedmember>

Call for Mentors/Mentees!

We had many people sign up as Mentor and Mentees the last time we sent a callout. We are back again with the opportunity to sign up. If you are interested in becoming a Mentor or a Mentee please use this link -

<https://forms.gle/R7ex9YhBHgwb6an7>

Deadline – November 7, 2020

NOTE: This is for new Mentors and Mentees. However, if you are already signed up in one of the capacities and would like to take up more responsibilities, please sign up again. We are always looking for mentors.



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AISWN Mentoring Award

Each year at our meeting at ICIS, the AISWN College recognizes one of our outstanding mentors. Nominations are now open for 2020. Details about the Mentoring Award are below. Please email your letter of nomination to womensnetwork@aisnet.org by **November 30, 2020**. All nominations will be reviewed by the AISWN mentoring award committee.

Eligibility Criteria

- Both the mentor and the mentee must be members of the AISWN.
- The mentor and mentee must be in the mentoring relationship for a minimum of 6 months.
- The mentor must be someone outside of the mentee's dissertation committee.
- The mentor must be nominated by the mentee.

The mentoring relationship does not have to be part of the AISWN sponsored mentoring program; it can be a relationship that was established through the AISWN or individual personal network.

Information Required for Nomination

- Your name and contact information.
- Your mentor's name and contact information.

The following questions are not used as part of the evaluation criteria but will help us better understand the mentoring relationship:

- How long have you been in the mentoring relationship?
- Is your mentor in the same region as you?
- Was your mentoring relationship set up through AISWN or was it a relationship you formed yourself?
- How often do you meet with your mentor?

The following questions will be used as part of the evaluation criteria:

- Briefly describe the nature of your mentoring relationship.
- Give an example of how your mentor listened to you and provided useful feedback.
- How has the mentoring relationship helped you in your career?
- How has the mentoring relationship helped you in your personal life?
- To what extent has your mentoring relationship met your objectives with regard to the mentoring relationship?

You are welcome to provide additional information as to why your mentor is deserving of the award.



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Nominations for Officer Positions

It is that time again for the AISWN College to transition officers. As Past Co-Chair, one of my responsibilities is to chair the Nominating and Election committee. We have three positions that will be available next year, June 2021 – Co-Chair, Communications Chair and PhD Representative. We will administer the election in early 2021, so start thinking about your nominations. Serving in one of the positions is a great way to network with others and enhance your leadership skills. For me personally, I have met so many amazing individuals through my role and I have been a part of some incredible initiatives, one of those chairing our first AISWN Research Workshop.

We hope you will consider joining us. Please send nominations (including self-nominations) to Dawn Owens (Dawn.Owens@utdallas.edu). Please let us know the position and the nominee name and contact information. The following officer positions are open for nominations:

Co-Chair

The Current Co-Chairs shall serve as co-chief-executive-officers of the College. The Current Co-Chairs shall perform all duties that pertain to their office and that may be assigned by the Executive Committee. The Co-Chairs primary duties shall be:

- Preside over all meetings of the members of the College.
- Call and chair all Executive Committee meetings.
- Designate all committees and their chairpersons, with the concurrence of the Executive Committee.
- Supervise all other officers of the College and see that their duties are properly performed.
- Serve as organizers for all College activities.
- Accept and receive donations, gifts, devises, and bequests.
- Coordinate the College's activities and conduct any necessary business with external organizations.
- Ensure that all orders and resolutions of the Executive Committee are put into effect.
- Submit at the annual general meeting an annual activity report of the operations of the College for the preceding year.
- Initiate and manage on-going communications with individuals as they become eligible for members, insure that they are added to email and other lists and are apprised of opportunities presented by membership
- Submit the annual activity report to the AIS VP for SIGS, Chapters, and Colleges.
- Assure the timely submission of all requested forms, documents, and communications to and from AIS.



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Nominations for Officer Positions (cont'd)

Communications Chair

The Communications Chair shall be responsible for communicating with the members about activities and other information related to the AISWN. The Communications Chair's duties shall be to

- Send calls for papers, proposals, and participation to members.
- Notify members and members of the Executive Board of all meetings and reports.
- Coordinate the semi-annual newsletter for AISWN members.
- Update social media.

PhD Representative

The PhD Representative shall serve as a liaison officer to promote and facilitate participation of women PhD students in information systems in all College activities.

Let's Get Social!

AIS Women's Network has multiple channels to get in touch with your colleagues. These channels are open for you to post, comment, and engage. We are on Facebook and LinkedIn as well as on the web. Here's our digits. Check us out!

Website: <https://www.aiswn.org/>

Facebook Group: [IS Womens Network](#)

LinkedIn Group: [AIS Women's Network](#)



Association for IS Women's Network

Upcoming Events



**DEC
13**

Join us for the 1st International Workshop on Women, IS and the Grand Challenges. The workshop will be held virtually. Please register when you sign up for ICIS 2020.

**DEC
16**

Join us at ICIS 2020 for a virtual networking lunch and our Annual General Meeting (AGM). You can find the time of the event in your region in the ICIS schedule and register when you sign up for ICIS 2020.



Due to the coronavirus and the cancellation of HICSS 2021, there will not be a women's networking event. Watch for details for a networking event in January 2022!

Call for Papers



Deadline for submission:

15 March 2021

Guest Editors:

Arlene Bailey
Michelle Carter
Jason Thatcher
Cathy Urquhart
Jaime Windeler

Technology and Social Inclusion: Building a dialectic on the role of technology in inclusion and exclusion from societies, organizations, economies, and academe

Social inclusion—the ability to participate fully in one's social world—presents tremendous challenges in our increasingly digital world and for the IS field. This special issue represents a rallying cry to the IS community; we call for research that theorizes about social inclusion and the critical role of information systems in enabling or preventing individuals and social groups from participating in the societies in which they are embedded.

More information and full CFP available at: <https://aisel.aisnet.org/jais/SocialInclusionSI.pdf>



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Jacqueline Corbett
Co-Chair
Université Laval



Vanessa Cooper
Co-Chair
RMIT University

Former Co-Chairs



Gony Leroy
University of
Arizona



Eleanor Loiacono
Founding Co-Chair
Worcester
Polytechnic
Institute



Cathy Urquhart
Founding Co-Chair
Manchester
Metropolitan
University



Deb Armstrong
The University of
Texas at Austin



Annemieke Craig
The University of
Texas at Austin

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