

## **IANAS Women for Science Program Focal Points Meeting** *Virtual Meeting of October 24, 2022*

### **Attendees**

- Frances Henry, Co-chair.
- Ana Denicola, Co-chair.
- Carolina Alduvin, Honduran focal point.
- Neela Badrie, Caribbean focal point.
- Cecilia Bouzat, Argentinian focal point.
- Patricia Bozza, representative of the Brazilian focal point.
- Marcos Cortesao, Brazilian Academy of Sciences.
- Agostina Buteler, IANAS Secretary.
- Angela Camacho Beltran, Colombian focal point.
- Melba Castillo, Nicaraguan focal point.
- Gloria Dubner, Argentinian focal point.
- Cecilia Hidalgo, Chilean focal point.
- Liliana López, Venezuelan focal point.
- Ana Rada, Bolivian focal point.
- Henriette Raventós, Costa Rican focal point.
- Lucía Rothman, US focal point.
- Jenny Ruales, Ecuadorian focal point.
- María Carmen Samayoa, Guatemalan focal point.
- Ruth Martha Shady Solis, Peruvian focal point.

The Women for Science annual meeting started with welcoming remarks from Frances Henry and Ana Denicola. Frances thanked Beatriz Caputto and the IANAS Secretariat for their work. Agostina Buteler then introduced herself and briefly went through the secretariat activities since July. This was followed by the introduction of every focal point present.

Continuing with the agenda of the meeting, Ana Denicola presented the status of the program's projects. Firstly she talked about the contests that were held that year, the Young Scientist Research Award and the video contest "Descubramos a las Científicas Latinoamericanas". Denicola gave an overview of each of them, explaining how the calling for the awards went and the process of selecting winners.

Frances Henry then talked about the Prominent Women Report by quickly going through the content of the text and explaining the work behind it. However, the report



still needs to be revised and corrected before publishing it, so it was decided that the secretariat would talk to Beatriz and see how this could get done.

Afterwards the Co-chairs outlined the project started by the Australian Academy of Science in which the Women for Science program was invited to participate. The project consists of the creation of an Internet platform that connects all women in science from around the world. The program helped by providing the necessary information regarding the Americas. Frances has already sent a copy of the form to each focal point for them to connect on this platform. They are also asked to send it to all Academy members eligible, including social scientists as well as to all science organizations that they know about or are connected to.

The meeting continued with the reports from the focal points in regards to their WfS related activities throughout the year. Unfortunately, due to lack of time not everyone could make their presentation. The academies that were able to do so were the following: National Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences of Argentina, Brazilian Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Sciences of Costa Rica, Colombian Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences, National Academy of Sciences of Bolivia, Chilean Academy of Science, National Academy of Sciences of Ecuador, U.S National Academy of Sciences and the Academy of Physical, Mathematical and Natural Sciences of Venezuela. It was agreed that every focal point will send their report to the WfS Co-chairs and Secretariat in order for them to upload them on the IANAS website.

The session came to a closure with a discussion regarding the leadership of the Women for Science program, the last point of the agenda. Ana Denicola announced that she will step down from her position as Co-chair, although she will still participate as a focal point of Uruguay. Henriette Raventós has agreed to take her place. It was decided that, despite her long trajectory as Co-chair, Frances Henry will keep her position for one more year to guide Henriette in her new role. The meeting concluded with congratulatory remarks to Henriette Raventós and expressions of gratitude to Ana Denicola for her work as Co-chair from everyone present.