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# 2010 Pinnacle Scholarship Recipients

Each year during the Athena Pinnacle Awards, Athena awards scholarships and laptop computers to outstanding female high school students pursuing a career in science, engineering or mathematics. Past winners have attended competitive institutions of higher learning, including Harvard College, Stanford University, Massachusetts Institution of Technology, Columbia University and schools in the University of California system. The following profiles include this year's scholarship winners and a glimpse of how each of them is igniting their potential.

## Sheta Chatterjee

Sheta Chatterjee is a senior at San Dieguito High School Academy, where she has a GPA of 4.68.



She has already written and filed a patent with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for her invention entitled "Energy Conservation System and Methods." Her patent was filed and expedited as one of the first 3,000 green technologies in the nation. Chatterjee was inspired to invent a method of energy conservation for use in the home after visiting her grandfather in India, where energy is scarce.

She dreams of being a technology entrepreneur and engineer after pursuing an education in engineering and computer science at MIT or UC Berkeley, as both have strong computer science and electrical engineering departments. She desires to bring her energy conservation invention to these universities because of their strong energy technology research programs.

"Sheta is a true entrepreneur who is able to take an idea and turn it into a marketable, socially responsible product or set of instructions that can help improve the lives of others," said one of her teachers. "She is capable of truly affecting our future and will inevitably be a force of good in the world."

Chatterjee will be the first female engineer in her family. In addition to already having a patentable product, Chatterjee loves running, writing, mathematics and graphic design. She likes to engage in all engineering and entrepreneurial pursuits and works to fulfill her goal of one day making her energy technology of value to people in the world.

## Alessandra McDowell

Alessandra McDowell is a senior at San Marcos High School. She states that Alzheimer's, autism and alcohol addiction, first-hand family challenges, have given her clear direction and purpose to find cures for afflictions of the brain.



The summer following her freshman year, she participated in the study of the "molecular biology revolution" at the collegiate level in UCSD's COSMOS program. While hunched over a microscope studying gel electrophoresis, polymerase chain reactions and genetic cloning, she realized a career in medical research was her calling.

During her sophomore year, she was a founding member and is now chair of the Girls' Empowerment Council. Through information programs and mentoring, the council helps girls lead positive, healthy and balanced lives.

At the monthlong Education Program for Gifted Youth program at Stanford, she addressed many of the ethical issues surrounding genetic medicine and human gene manipulation.

McDowell has already been admitted to Emory University, UCSD, Southern Methodist University and UC Davis, and also has applied to Vanderbilt University. McDowell's counselor said, "Alessandra is intrinsically motivated to succeed and has a creative intelligence, which allows her to think outside the box."

In addition to being a leader and mentor to others, in her spare time McDowell enjoys French language and culture, recreational reading, guitar lessons, clarinet, musical theater, Disneyland, country music and going to the beach.

## Anna Kornfeld Simpson

Anna Simpson is graduating from Patrick Henry High School with the goal of becoming a computer scientist. To her, time stands still when she is working out the intricacies of a new computer program. She is excited and captivated by figuring out how to make a machine perform certain tasks, sometimes so much that she forgets to eat.



Simpson seeks out new opportunities in math, science and computer science and has an unquenchable thirst for knowledge that has often exceeded the challenges provided by her high school. She has taken every AP science class offered at her school. After she exhausted her school's advanced math classes, she enrolled in community college calculus classes during her junior and senior years. She is known as a "math person" on her varsity academic league team, is president of the Math Team, and spends lunches tutoring freshmen in math and physics.

Since the summer after ninth grade, Simpson has worked as the only high school student in a lab at UCSD developing a chemical detecting robot. She presented her robot at the Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair where she won a Senior Sweepstakes Award, a trip to the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, and awards from several local professional societies. Her robot also received the 2009 Project of the Year Award at the California State Science Fair, the highest science fair award in the state.

Last summer, she attended the Research Science Institute, where she conducted research to improve large editing software in MIT's Computer Science Laboratory. Simpson has received early admission to MIT and the California Institute of Technology. She has also applied to Harvey Mudd College and Princeton University. In addition to her studies, Simpson is interested in computer programming, playing flute and piano, solving math problems, reading and discussing history, art, literature and science with her mother.

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### Silver Scholarship Members

Andrea Lane  
Kimberley Robidoux

See **Scholarships** on 5

## Scholarships

*Continued from Page 4*

### Jordan Thayer

Jordan Thayer is graduating from Francis Parker School. Her dad refers to her as “Home Depot girl” because ever since she can remember, she has enjoyed exploring Home Depot and the exciting tools and gadgets. She even hoped that those her father purchased would break so she could get the chance to fix them.



Her fascination with physics and math has led her to study engineering. She has applied physics to her home repair projects, in which she has fixed the pool’s filtration system, created better surround sound for her stereo, and performed calculations to build a block wall and iron gate. She says this work taught her an invaluable lesson: Physics often calculates theoretical data that must be altered in real-world situations.

After obtaining an undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering, Thayer intends on pursuing a graduate degree and hopes to minor in either economics or statistics, because she believes there is a logical intersection between engineering and economics. She has already been admitted to MIT and USC, and believes she will also be admitted to the University of Pennsylvania and California Institute of Technology.

When describing Jordan, her college counselor states that “the ‘what’ questions are natural for a child and Jordan’s parents were prepared for most what’s. They just did not anticipate their daughter would graduate to the ‘how’ and ‘why’ questions so early in life.”

One of Jordan’s favorite pastimes was to observe passing objects during road trips and ask questions such as, “How is a bridge built?” or “Why does that car move slower than ours?” When she’s not finding ways to build something bigger and better, Thayer enjoys spending time with her family, playing competi-

tive basketball and volleyball, Greek folk dancing, gourmet cooking, synchronized swimming, golf, poetry, hiking, weightlifting, bowling and watching classic movies of every genre.

### Caroline Yu

Caroline Yu, a senior at Torrey Pines High School, spent her summer growing hermaphrodite worms as an intern at the UCSD Jin/Chisholm Lab, where she studied axon regeneration in these worms. She and the researchers were hoping to find novel signaling pathways that play a major role in axon regeneration through a large-scale genetic screen.



She is fascinated by the mind, and believes studying both psychology and neurobiology will provide possible answers to the complex questions of how the mind works. The Athena Pinnacle Scholarship will permit her to learn about bioengineering chemistry, genetics and neurology. Because her mother suffers from lupus, Yu will also focus on immunology to learn more about her condition so she can help the millions who suffer from autoimmune disorders. She hopes to participate in Doctors without Borders and Duke Engage.

Yu believes education and health care are two of the most powerful tools to fight poverty, and wants to use her spare time tutoring, volunteering at hospitals and clinics, and finding ways to donate basic vaccines and antibiotics to impoverished communities.

She has been the recipient of numerous awards including the Asian Heritage Youth Leadership Award, ACCEF Leadership Award, Rotary Youth Leadership Award and received third place in the Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair. Yu has been involved with advanced research at the Salk Institute researching the function of the SMRT gene and has won numerous awards in math.

Her dream schools are Harvard University, Brown University and Princeton. In addition to her many school and community activities, Yu also enjoys tennis, running, listening to or playing music, photography, and is fascinated by the elegance of life, especially the mechanics of the mind and consciousness.

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# Athena Pinnacle Awards 2010 Nominees

*Congratulations to our 2010 nominees. Athena would like to thank everyone who nominated and contributed the following excerpts for these exceptional candidates.*

## Educator

**Margarita M. Baggett**  
Chief Nursing Officer  
University of California, San Diego  
Medical Center

Americans placed nurses in the No. 1 position as the most trusted profession. Margarita Baggett of University of California, San Diego Medical Center (UCSDMC) safeguards this trust by innovatively leading 1,500 nurses in a patient-focused, family-centered pursuit of excellence.



**Baggett**

Baggett's deep belief in transformational leadership provides the foundation for resources, education and implementation, enhancing the staff's performance, driving the growth of academic nursing and maximizing clinical effectiveness. As an adaptive leader, she advances the profession by leading the two-hospital system to Magnet status.

Promotion of nursing knowledge is clearly realized through the dynamic initiatives known as the Frontline Leadership Academy and the Nurse Residency Program, offering staff an educational opportunity to develop leadership skills intertwined with advancing the clinical knowledge required of the bedside nurse. Additional venues take advantage of nurses' expertise by offering scholarships to become nationally certified as experts in medical/surgical, orthopedic, oncology, women's services and critical care nursing.

Largely due to Baggett's encouragement and direct support, UCSDMC exceeds the national benchmark in this area, as well as the number of staff pursuing advanced degrees in science, research and health care education. She provides guidance in building self-directed interdisciplinary teams represented by each hospital unit. Each team identifies and implements solutions to improve their respective area. Successful quality improvement

projects are then spread from one location to another.

Under Baggett's vision, UCSDMC is one of only 10 hospitals in California to be listed in the Top 100 Hospitals to Work For.

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**Michael Brunker**  
Executive Director  
Jackie Robinson YMCA

As the executive director of the Jackie Robinson YMCA, San Diego's "inner-city" YMCA, Michael Brunker leads the operation of a 25,000-square-foot facility in the city's most vulnerable community. Since 1997, he increased the branch staff from eight to 108, the board of managers from 12 to 60, and the budget from \$450,000 to \$2.3 million.



**Brunker**

Staff members at the Jackie Robinson YMCA are predominantly women with children who are continuing their education. The Jackie Robinson YMCA serves families surviving violent loss with mothers or grandmothers as the head of households. Brunker measures his success one child at a time. Case in point: He mentored a young woman whose mother is a crack addict and brothers are incarcerated. This young woman beat the odds by graduating at the top of her class at Lincoln High School, then went on to earn a bachelor's degree in human biology from Stanford and a master's from Western University of Health Sciences. She is now a physician's assistant in radiation oncology at the Sequoia Regional Cancer Center.

Brunker's coaching career includes the University of Detroit, San Diego State University and the Detroit Pistons. Many of his student-athletes were women who have received NCAA Division I scholarships and some have even gone on to the WNBA, such as Vanessa Nygaard.

• • •

**Lisa Curtin**  
Executive Director of Military and Government Education  
San Diego Community College  
District

Lisa Curtin's passion for empowering, inspiring and mentoring women has been demonstrated throughout

her career. As a former Navy Commander, she encouraged and promoted hundreds of women who entered the military, working to develop their leadership potential. As dean of students at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif., she was able to mentor Navy women throughout her tenure.

Curtin is currently the executive director of military and government education for the San Diego Community College District and has been responsible for recruiting top leadership talent, including several women who now successfully fill senior leadership roles. In addition, she has made it a practice to identify high school and college-age women, who would benefit from leadership and mentoring opportunities. She works with them one-on-one to create personal development plans, establish career goals and practice interview techniques.

Her passion for guiding women is demonstrated by her membership in the Association of Federal Executive Women, the Women's Maritime Association and by serving on the board of directors of the California Space Education Workforce Institute, as well as her past service as a member of the Defense Advisory Council on Women in the Services.

• • •

**Charlene Dackerman**  
Senior Vice President, Human Resources  
Bridgepoint Education Inc.

Charlene Dackerman has been in the education industry for many years and has inspired many people of all ages. She is an extremely dedicated, caring and committed woman who has what it takes to go above and beyond in all that she does.

In her role as senior vice president of human resources, she leads a team that is in charge of training and development and human resources. Through her tutelage, the company has grown to a place unimaginable just a few years ago.

In addition to her full-time job as

senior VP of HR, Dackerman is also dedicated to the community in which she serves. She is on the board of directors for United Way, a member of Executive Women International and the San Diego Regional Economic Development Corp., which is focused on work force development improvements through math and science education.

Through Bridgepoint Education, Dackerman has been a part of numerous community sponsorships including San Diego Symphony, San Diego Padres and the San Diego County Teacher of the Year Awards — and she does it all with a smile on her face.

• • •

**Robin Darmon**  
Director, MBA Career Connections  
Nominee  
University of California, San Diego -  
Rady School of Management

Robin Darmon has been a great mentor and promoter for more than 580 students and alumni. In a world where an MBA degree is a key to advancement into management positions, Darmon's MBA class consists of 30 percent women.

Darmon opens doors to internship and job opportunities for the students by connecting them with corporate partners. She has dedicated endless hours to working directly with students, matching their backgrounds and skill sets to achieve superior career preparation.

While her works to mentor students hold true for all students, Darmon has made a focused effort to help and encourage women to take an active role in networking with professional associations. She helps her students get involved with Athena, she hosts the Healthcare Business Women's Association meeting and is an active member of the Association for Women in Science.

Most importantly, Darmon loves what she does. She has taken her students' career development to heart. What drives her most is assisting in the student development of life-long career building skills. Successful entrance into the work force is one of the toughest transitions for students. Darmon has demonstrated excellence



**Darmon**



**Curtin**



**Dackerman**

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## Nominees

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and dedication in bringing women to the MBA program and helping them enter the management work force.

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**Terry Gaasterland**  
Professor  
University of California, San Diego

The gap between men and women in status, promotion, pay and growth opportunities is still manifest in uni-



Gaasterland

versities, particularly in training high-level graduate students in traditionally "male" disciplines.

At UCSD, Professor Terry Gaasterland, internationally recognized in the field of bioinformatics, provides a welcoming, supportive lab environment for female graduate students who have found the male-dominated academic culture unwilling to effectively nurture and train women. All six of her female Ph.D. students moved into her lab in their second, third or fourth years, each having a personal story of feeling abused, ignored, underappreciated or underutilized in their previous lab.

Gaasterland gave each a Ph.D.-level project to develop independently, and provided training, encouragement and support to complete their degrees. Each one, within six months of entering her lab, had an NSF fellowship or journal publication tied to their new project. All obtained their Ph.D. degrees, and three are now tenure-track professors at major universities, one is a Stanford-trained attorney and two continue to conduct independent research.

Completion of a Ph.D. is arduous and challenges one's self-esteem and commitment throughout one's education. Feeling unwelcome and unappreciated in the lab adds an immense burden to an already difficult endeavor and often results in women choosing other, more "accepting" careers. Gaasterland's dedication to nurturing women scientists has had a profound impact on the lives of many, providing a role model for future generations of women scientists.

• • •

**Eloisa Haudenschild**  
Founder/Director  
Haudenschild Garage  
Eloisa Haudenschild is a dedicated

art collector and an important patron of the arts and education. She is the president of InSITE, a triennial, binational exhibition of commissioned, site-specific projects by artists from throughout the Americas, administered by institutions in San Diego and Mexico City and presented in both San Diego and Tijuana.

She is also a member of the board of directors of the San Diego Museum of Art, and a former member of the board of directors of the Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego. Haudenschild's commitment to multiculturalism is evidenced by her involvement with UCSD's Institute of the Americas, as well as many other regional projects.

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**Roberta Imbimbo**  
Teacher  
Francis Parker School

Roberta Imbimbo has been a passionate science educator at Francis Parker School for 17 years, primarily working with students in grades junior-kindergarten through third grade. She integrates technology, her wealth of collected materials and a hands-on approach to teaching in achieving her primary goal of inspiring young scientists.



Imbimbo

Imbimbo has teamed this year and last with one of her former students, now a Parker senior, to encourage girls to be more involved with science and to think more seriously about science careers. The two created an after-school program designed to attract fourth- and fifth-grade girls. This high-interest program introduces and completes science investigations in the space of one 60-minute session, giving the girls in attendance great feelings of accomplishment and success.

Imbimbo has encouraged not just her current students, but also an aspiring high school scientist through her generosity of time, willingness to be involved and desire to see more girls involved in scientific pursuits.

She also participates in local science organizations, science programs sponsored by Point Loma Nazarene University and the University of San Diego, as well as local and national science conferences and workshops.

In short, Imbimbo is doing a wonderful job of promoting science litera-

cy for all of her students, but particularly for girls.

• • •

**Christine Kane**  
Teacher Leader  
Nubia Academy

Christine Kane exemplifies the notion of leadership in every aspect of her life. In a few years, she has mentored hundreds of teachers through the San Diego Area Writing Project (UCSD) and has just been named co-director. She's taught advanced reading and multiple literacy classes to current and future teachers at USD and SDSU, is the lead teacher at the Nubia charter school, and is on the leadership team of a charter application, the San Diego Global Vision Academy. Kane also serves on the National Writing Project English Language Learner Network National Committee.

In her fourth-grade classroom, she coaches parents how to support their children through science fair, has developed an eight-week structure to teach kids how to think like scientists and develop and test a hypothesis and buys the science fair display materials herself for her low-income students.

Girls may not always be the explicit focus of her amazing energy, but they resonate to her articulate and positive can-do, next steps leadership style. She works with public schools at all grade levels, leading workshops on teaching writing and critical literacy.



Kane

While working off campus recently, Kane's substitute called because a group of girls wanted to stay inside during lunch and work on their science experiment. It is this passion to be and become a lifelong learner that Kane inspires in teachers and students. She commands attention, guides inquiry, fosters leadership and cultivates social responsibility in every cross-section of her busy life.

• • •

**Joanne Pastula**  
CEO  
Junior Achievement

All of Junior Achievement's internal

See **Nominees** on 8

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## Nominees

*Continued from Page 7*

employees are women, who are out in the community as models and mentors to the young people in JA programs.

Joanne Pastula has built the only “Disneyland of Financial Literacy” in the state of California, right here in San Diego. It’s Junior Achievement’s JA BizTown, a real city run by San Diego fifth graders. Complete with real businesses like Cox



**Pastula**

Communications, NBC 7/39, Sun Diego, Best Buy, Kaiser Permanente as well as an airport and city hall, JA BizTown gives kids a chance to be working adults for the day.

JA is Pastula’s job “in retirement”: Since leaving her position as executive vice president of Burnham & Co. over 10 years ago, she has dramatically increased JA’s reach, growing from a fledging operation with a budget of just over \$300,000 to a \$2 million annual income operation that now owns its own building. Programs like JA BizTown ensure that Pastula’s motto, “JA: Where business gets down to kids,” is a reality.

Every year, Pastula inspires 1,500 business volunteers to teach those JA programs in classrooms throughout San Diego County. This year, more than 40,000 students will have the invaluable JA experience.

The JA program doesn’t specifically target math, science or engineering, but at BizTown it’s common to see young girls taking on the role of mayor of San Diego, CEO for SDG&E or one of 21 CEO positions for the companies represented, promoting the idea that attitude and education — rather than gender — can help achieve the career you want to pursue. JA also collaborates with *USS Midway* to expose young girls to math and science.

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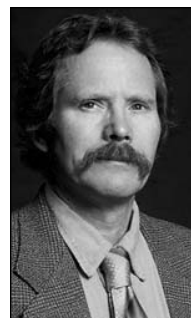
### **Jim Rohr**

**Director, Corporate Communications and Public Affairs  
SPAWAR - SSC Pacific Navy Lab**

Jim Rohr, of SPAWAR’s SSC Pacific Navy Lab, tirelessly and with great inspiration (but almost no budget) conceived and leads a novel K-12 outreach program for middle-school girls. Under his leadership, SSC PAC has participated in more than 50 community events this year, from class-

room lectures to the San Diego Science Festival, reaching out to thousands of girls in our community.

The center, under Rohr’s guidance and inspiration, encourages middle- and high-school girls to consider science and engineering careers. Rohr conceived of, designed and implemented successfully an event called Girls’ Day Out, which invites middle-school girls to local universities for a half day on campus; Summer Boot



**Rohr**

Camp, which provides a week on campus for high-school girls to work with scientists and engineers; and a unique summer internship for high-school girls from Los Angeles whereby they reside here and work with our researchers for a month at a time.

During the summer you are just as likely to find Rohr running around the numerous Point Loma labs checking in on the many interns for whom he has found opportunities, as well as bringing in speakers and organizing a career-development internship program for the college high-school students. He inspires and is tireless in his motivation of well over 100 STEM professionals at SSC Pacific to join the Navy lab’s K-12 outreach efforts. Moreover, since 2007 he has been instrumental in securing more than \$1 million for the SPAWAR enterprise for K-12 community outreach.

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### **Barbara Sawrey**

**Associate Vice-Chancellor  
UCSD Academic Affairs/Undergrad Education**

During 26 years as a faculty member in the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry at UCSD, Barbara Sawrey has proven to be a role model for young people and women in science. She has mentored hundreds of undergraduate and graduate students, many of whom have gone on to teaching careers. Her former students and mentees teach at nearly every two-year and four-year school in San Diego County, and dozens of other California colleges.

In 2002, the American Chemical Society (ACS) gave Sawrey the ACS National Award for Encouraging Women in the Chemical Sciences. She has won numerous teaching awards over the years, notably the UCSD Alumni Award for Teaching

Excellence, and the Distinguished Teaching Award from the UCSD Academic Senate. She has been involved in the U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad since 1985, and served as coach of the high school team in international competition 1985-87. Since then she has been on the selection committee for U.S. coaches, and was the chair of the Scientific Board for the International Chemistry Olympiad when it was held in the United States in 1992.

She was a founding faculty member of the joint Ph.D. program between UCSD and SDSU in mathematics and science education, and helped launch the California Teach program at UCSD to respond to the critical need for K-12 mathematics and science teachers in California schools. Currently she serves on the board of governors for The San Diego Foundation and is chair of the Foundation’s Science & Technology Working Group.

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### **Ericka Senegar-Mitchell**

**Teacher/Educator  
Junipero Serra High School**

Ericka Senegar-Mitchell, founder and director of Science in the City, a high-school outreach program that mentors young women through exposure to careers in biotechnology, was honored in May 2009 as one of three top biotechnology educators and awarded the Genzyme/Life Technologies National Biotechnology Educator of the Year Award.

Senegar-Mitchell coordinates job shadows and internships with San Diego’s local biotechnology companies and research institutions, and promotes the increase of young women in biotechnology careers with the Ladies of Science in the City, a group of 20 high school girls who bond as “sisters in science” as they explore careers in science.

Inspired to teach by the youth she mentored through industry education programs, as a science fair judge and a



**Sawrey**

job shadow coordinator, Senegar-Mitchell related most with at-risk, minority, girls whose struggles were reminiscent of those she encountered. She recognized that these girls would only escape the violence and poverty of the inner city with help from dedicated mentors, exposure to career options and advantages made possible through a quality science education. Devoted teachers who enabled her to take ownership of her learning served as a catalyst for leaving a lucrative career in biotechnology to prepare future scientists as a biotechnology teacher at Serra High School and facilitator of the UCSD/BEWiSE Young Women in Cancer Research Oncofertility Summer Academy, a program that introduces high school girls to biomedical research in the field of oncofertility.

• • •

### **Matt Singley** **Teacher**

**Solana Pacific Elementary**

Matt Singley has been an extraordinary fifth-grade teacher. He inspires each student to embrace learning, and excites his students about math. He is an example of a teacher whose passion is learning. Role models like Singley inspire our children to be passionate about reading, math, technology and learning in general.

Singley stands out above and beyond as a teacher. He transformed his classroom with a mini-library, demonstrates the importance of technology and makes learning fun, which creates excitement for the students.

• • •

**Jackie Trischman**  
**Professor/Chair**  
**California State University San Marcos**

Jaqueline “Jackie” Trischman inspires all those around her to great things and believes that reaching out to girls and women at all stages of their education and careers is important to foster future women leaders in the sciences. She believes that serving as a role model is not enough to truly move the dial and ensure that more women have successful careers and



**Senegar-Mitchell**



**Trischman**

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## Nominees

*Continued from Page 8*

leadership roles in the sciences.

Trishman not only serves as a Girl Scout Troop Leader in her spare time, but also leads and orchestrates a science ChemExpo through the Girl Scouts each year, which reaches more than 200 girls throughout San Diego and Imperial counties.

Trishman joined the CSUSM Chemistry/Biochemistry faculty in 1993. She has carried forward her desire to see more women succeed in her field, and believes in finding opportunities to engage women in science in creative ways. For example, on a trip to Catalina Island, she helped five students earn SCUBA certification for scientific diving. She has formally mentored several students to be co-advisors of the ACS Student Club. She also has hired past women students to teach courses for nursing and kinesiology majors, and those women have gone on to mentor their own group of students.

Trishman has chaired the CSUSM's Chemistry/Biochemistry Department for four years. In this role, she successfully mentored female faculty in the mathematics and science division through tenure and promotions, helping them with publication and grant writing efforts.

She has been active as a leader in the professional community through her work with the San Diego section of the ACS as chair, vice-chair and secretary. As chair, she ensured that one-third of the nine presentations throughout the year were delivered by female scientists, including the vice president of a local drug discovery company and the only female full professor of nanoengineering at UCSD.

• • •

**Sally Ann Zoll**  
**Chief Executive**  
**United Through Reading**

Sally Ann Zoll, Ed.D., is the chief executive of United Through Reading, a nonprofit that keeps separated families, including deployed service members, connected by reading books to children on DVD.



Zoll

Respected as a collegial leader, Zoll builds relationships of trust with her all-female staff, the board and the organization's donors.

Zoll mentors staff with a motivational approach that encourages input on critical initiatives

and hiring from within. During Zoll's tenure, the United Through Reading Transitions Program, which helps parents who are separated from their children while incarcerated, has burgeoned. In some cases, the Transitions Program is the only contact children with incarcerated mothers get. The program is not only at two local detention facilities, but serves teenage girls in Juvenile Hall as well. The program has grown more than 300 percent since Zoll's arrival in 2007.

Zoll has also served on a number of nonprofit boards of directors including the United States Academic Decathlon, the Coronado Schools Foundation, the Coronado Public Library and the American Heart Association of San Diego. She has participated in the Intel Hurricane Education Leadership Program, providing leadership to schools in Louisiana and Mississippi affected by the hurricanes of 2005. In February 2007, she chaired the American Heart Association's "Go Red for Women" conference, hosting 800 women in Southern California for an educational event about heart health.

### Technology

**Nancy Aitkenhead**  
**Vice President/Deputy Operations Manager**  
**SAIC**

Nancy Aitkenhead successfully worked her way up the corporate ladder during a period when women were a rarity in the defense industry to her current role as deputy operations center manager with SAIC. This makes her one of the more senior women within the corporation, and her leadership and caring over her 25 years with SAIC helped pave the way



Aitkenhead

for the advancement of other women in the company.

As an active member in Women in Defense and SAIC Women's Network, Aitkenhead continually looks for ways to support and mentor women and other minorities to advance in the work place. She is regularly recognized for her outstanding leadership and professional development activities, most recently as the recipient of the prestigious Tribute to Women in

Industry award. She actively pursues opportunities to assist in the advancement of women within SAIC, such as taking part in SAIC's Invest in Our Employees Future Campaign, which selects highly talented young women and minorities to benefit from corporate-sponsored higher education programs to further their careers.

Aitkenhead is extremely supportive of those who work with her, frequently taking extra steps to personally mentor and guide individuals, ensuring their success. She is currently spearheading the implementation of a formal Mentor-Protégé Program within her operation center to foster the professional development and advancement of junior women to achieve high levels of leadership in their careers.

• • •

**Dawn M. Andrews**  
**Managing Attorney, Labor and Employment**  
**Sempra Energy**

Dawn Andrews has been active in promoting diversity in the legal profession during the past several years.

She has been heavily involved with San Diego Gas & Electric and

Southern California Gas Co.'s diverse business enterprise (DBE) program. In 2009, under her direction, those utilities spent almost \$3 million with DBE minority-owned legal vendors. This amount was more than 10 percent of the legal expenses incurred by those utilities during that year.

In mid-2008, Andrews formed the Sempra Energy legal department's Diversity Committee. She has been committee chairwoman since that time.

As chairwoman, she successfully urged Sempra to become one of the few corporate participants in the pilot program for the San Diego County Bar Association's Diversity Fellowship Program. She directly participated by interviewing applicants and providing input as to how the San Diego Bar Association should organize its new program.


Andrews has also promoted flexible




Andrews

See **Nominees** on 10


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## Nominees

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work arrangements for women. At Sempra, she drafted and advocated a flex-time policy for all attorneys, but primarily aimed at working mothers. She also helped craft the maternity leave policy.

This year, Sempra acknowledged Andrews' value as a legal counselor and promoted her to managing attorney of labor and employment. The promotion itself, in a company dominated by male officers and directors, is an inspiration to other female employees that they can succeed while trying to effect changes at the company.

• • •

**Kuan Collins**  
**Program Manager/Lead Systems Engineer**  
**SAIC**

Kuan Collins is a program manager and lead systems engineer for SAIC, supporting the Army Communications on the Move (COTM) program. Collins' success stems from extensive experience in systems engineering and integration, and government acquisition, as well as a proven record of demonstrated success in programmatic and leadership positions achieving high levels of productivity and efficiency.



**Collins**

Collins is an outstanding leader and manager possessing exceptional communication, organizational, administrative, technical and people skills. Her demonstrated ability to motivate and form high-performance teams of both genders to solve significant problems is part of why she is respected within the DoD MILSATCOM community. As a model for continued excellence in the workplace, Collins is clearly an inspiration to women who seek leadership positions in high-level engineering forums within the DoD community.

She is the military satellite communications terminal lead for a joint level analysis of alternatives (AoA) effort as well as a CAIV modeling effort all in support of PM WIN-T. She developed and presented GRA principles at the Airborne Networking conference in Las Vegas in March 2009, Department of Defense Enterprise Architecture in St. Louis in June 2009, Software Defined Radio Forum in Detroit in June 2009, and MILCOM 2009 in Boston in October. As the

chair for the GRA Systems Working Group, she presented the GRA to the Army G6/G8, TRADOC, DoD CIO, OSD NII and OSD ATL staff.

• • •

**Jaye Connolly**  
**President**  
**A-Life Medical Inc.**

Jaye Connolly has been a strong proponent of women in the workplace, especially in management. Growing up in the oil business, she was used to being the only woman at meetings. Since those Texas days, she has actively led the effort to bring women into leadership positions at the companies with which she has been affiliated.



**Connolly**

At A-Life, she has helped advance the career of the most qualified individuals into management roles, regardless of their gender. When Connolly started at A-Life, there were no women on the management team. After five years, the most qualified candidates have been promoted into management, resulting in women making up 50 percent of the management team. As the only woman executive and a single mom, Connolly has continued to encourage women to continue to push their careers beyond their expectations.

In 2009, she was named CFO of the Year in the private company category by the *San Diego Business Journal*, and was promoted to the additional post of chief operating officer reporting directly to the board of directors. This year Connolly received notification she was selected as an Innovations in Healthcare ABBY Award Finalist in the Innovative Information and Telecommunications Technology category.

Connolly possesses extensive finance and acquisition experience, having served in key roles at six publicly traded corporations as well as at startup entities. Throughout this time she garnered significant IPO experience and also has led 18 accretive acquisitions adding more than \$1 billion to revenue. For more than 25 years, she has demonstrated leadership across a variety of roles spanning the health care sector including those in diagnostic imaging, clinical laboratory, physician practice management and hospital services.

• • •

**Karen Conti**  
**Vice President**  
**Lockheed Martin MS2**

Karen Conti is widely recognized as a pioneer for women within the male-dominated defense industry. As president of Women In Defense (WID), Conti matched women at all intervals of career progression with U.S. Navy admirals Ann Rondeau, Gretchen Herbert, Sandy Daniels, Marine Corps General Angela Salinas and Wall Street coach Cynthia Burnham to share personal insights in career and personal development.



**Conti**

Conti most recently created, organized and led a diverse team of San Diego defense industry professionals from large and small companies in winning the Consolidated Afloat Networks and Enterprise Services (CANES) development contract worth \$1 billion. Her team includes Vektrel, a San Diego-based 8(a) certified woman-owned, minority-owned, disadvantaged small business.

Conti is the professional mentor for many female Lockheed employees, including Kate Naber, a young business development professional. Conti placed Kate in a leading capture management position for a \$500 million opportunity, and guided her to success.

Engaged with NDIA and AFCEA, Conti sponsored small-business panels and networking socials. Her lead sponsorship of the NDIA Gold Coast Small Business Conference led to more than 60 San Diego-based small businesses engaging with the Technology Collaboration Center - West, providing many women-owned small businesses pursuing government contracts with invaluable opportunities to connect with large integrators and government program offices.

• • •

**Ed Cotter**  
**Executive Vice President, Human Resources/Facilities/Transformation**  
**Sony Electronics**

Ed Cotter has created a culture at Sony Electronics where women can develop and grow into senior management roles. During his 10 years at Sony, he has helped grow the number

of women in management and senior level roles to more than 43 percent. He has personally promoted and hired four of the six women senior VPs at Sony Electronics including corporate planning, HR, finance and retail. His overall organization is now comprised of 70 percent females.



**Cotter**

Cotter actively supports Sony network groups, including the WAVE (Women of Action, Vision and Empowerment) group, which is 210 members strong. During his more than 30 years of HR leadership, Cotter was one of the pioneers in implementing flextime, giving women and men flexibility in their work schedules. He also has served as a mentor for hundreds of women and men in various organizations. At Sony, he mentors six women at varying levels within the organization.

Cotter seeks to empower by sharing professional and personal experiences to drive decisions, while ensuring equal opportunities for visibility, opportunity and inclusion. He serves on the Sony Diversity Council board, is a regular lecturer at UCSD Rady School and a supporter of the San Diego YMCA. He endorses Women Unlimited, a national development-training program where Sony sends a select number of high-potential women to further their development.

Most importantly, Cotter is an approachable and open-minded leader. His willingness to implement employee ideas, creatively solve problems and provide women with opportunities for growth are exemplary forms of leadership and empowerment at Sony and the San Diego community.

• • •

**John C. Deal**  
**Vice President, C4ISR-ISP Solutions**  
**BAE Systems**

John C. Deal, vice president of C4ISR-ISP Solutions at BAE Systems in San Diego, has given his leadership and guidance to women on the Consolidated Afloat Networks and Enterprise Services (CANES) proposal for a \$15 million Navy contract.

Deal has been working with and guiding Thena Fantasia, capture manager of multiple opportunities; Robyn

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## Nominees

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Decker, CANES prototype lead; Becca Minshew, CANES program controls; and Maggie Gallandt, executive administration of C4ISR Solutions, to lend his experience, domain knowledge and guidance to women across the organization. He has specifically



**Deal**

empowered and promoted women in the workplace by providing the opportunity for them to excel in leadership positions. He continues to identify key individuals and allows them to take on risky challenges while providing the guidance necessary

for them to grow and learn under any outcome.

Deal participates in numerous San Diego events including NTC Promenade events, Navy social and industry events, and industry organization events such as AFCEA and SDMAC. He seeks to include women at varying levels within BAE Systems at these events, to increase their visibility and understanding of the customer and industry community. He has also demonstrated his mentoring skills by guiding a high school student interested in engineering and a military career. He has gone above the norm by including his mentee in industry events and technical discussions.

• • •

**Kim T. Folsom**  
Founder/President/CEO  
ShowUhow Inc.

Kim Folsom is a highly accomplished entrepreneur who leads by example to mentor, train and promote women as well as educate girls to become capable adults.



**Folsom**

She is founder and CEO of VC-funded ShowUhow, which provides a video platform used by Costco and BestBuy to show consumers how to set up and assemble products easily. Folsom actively advances the careers of all 15 employees, half of

them women, including all four executives. Folsom inspires a high performing team by setting clear objec-

tives, providing hands-on management and a can-do attitude.

In addition, she actively mentors women entrepreneurs in the San Diego community and is on the faculty at University of Phoenix, where she teaches business strategy and finance.

Not only has Folsom built many businesses across San Diego and mentored, recruited and promoted the women on her teams, she also is committed to educating young girls about financial independence. Six years ago, she launched a foundation called LIFT that teaches high school senior girls about responsible credit management. Folsom named its annual essay/scholarship program "Having It All" to reflect her beliefs that women must have faith, family, fun, a fabulous career and financial independence.

When she is not at work founding companies and giving back to women in the community, she's a devoted mother, wife of 25 years and aspires to own a professional football team — but settles for working as a Holiday Bowl committee member for now.

• • •

**Delia Haust**  
Planning & Operations Director  
General Atomics Aeronautical  
Systems Inc.

Many people have heard of General Atomics Aeronautical Systems' "Predator," the spectacular unmanned aircraft deployed in war zones and disaster areas. General Atomics Aeronautical Systems Inc. (GA-ASI) is



**Haust**

one of the most well-known defense companies in San Diego. While

defense organizations are typically male dominated, there is an organization that stands out with a department where women comprise more than 50 percent of the staff.

That department is under the leadership of Delia Haust.

Haust joined General Atomics in 2001 as technical editor at a time when the Lynx radar group had only 30 employees. Now she is in charge of planning and operations of GA-ASI's Reconnaissance Systems Group and directly manages internal support functions such as administrative services, program finance, publications and coordinates corporate GA-ASI support functions at RSG such as purchasing, contracts, accounting and IT.

A successful company needs a great support team that works to help coordinate efforts. Haust has recruited, trained, promoted and helped women function effectively.

She has combined her supervisory skill in both scientific and administrative settings to deliver exceptional results. Her attention to detail and logical thinking help her achieve effective results and has won her the respect from this male-dominated environment. Importantly, while she has achieved a successful career, she has actively opened doors for many women.

• • •

**Deborah Lawrence**  
Vice President, Customer Care  
Cox Communications San Diego

Throughout her career, Deborah Lawrence has visibly balanced her passion for her profession alongside a devotion to motherhood, family and community. As vice president of customer care for Cox Communications San Diego, Lawrence's unique family-focused values and approach to her work has helped to inspire and empower women around her.

Lawrence is dedicated to helping

women achieve success, and is candid about the need for women to be well-rounded and to take on today's challenges and opportunities. For the past three years, she has been a senior leader mentor to three women in leadership roles at Cox.



**Lawrence**

Since the mid-1990s, Lawrence has hired and developed women to help manage customer service activity and technical support functions needed to support Cox's growing customer and product base. Today, 60 percent of her leadership team is comprised of women who hold roles as supervisors, managers and directors.

An example of her passion for the advancement of women is the progression of Ann Grausam's career at Cox. Grausam was hired by Lawrence to lead the vital information technology department at the call center, typically a male-dominated role. Lawrence ensured that Grausam

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## Discover life

Life Technologies products enable scientific exploration, supporting researchers who work to improve the human condition one discovery at a time.

We're passionate about our mission, and about our employees. To help make life even better for Life Technologies employees, we created IWIN, an organization that provides development opportunities for leadership, networking, and mentoring.

On behalf of our 9,000 employees, including 100 IWIN volunteers around the world, we are pleased to support Athena and its commitment to women who aspire to be exceptional leaders in the high-tech, biosciences, healthcare, defense, and services industries.

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**iwin**  
life

Sponsored by women, Life Technologies International Women's Influential Network (IWIN) is an organization designed to support, mentor, and inspire Life Technologies employees through personal and professional development opportunities.  
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## Nominees

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gained the right technical and operational experiences that helped her achieve the position as director of business innovation and standardization.

Lawrence is an advocate for work/life programs that help recruit and retain talented women, including offering sick-rooms for working parents, lactation rooms and on-site wellness programs. She is viewed as a dynamic leader within Cox and has been co-chair of Cox San Diego's Diversity Council for the past two years.

• • •

**Deanna Lund**  
Executive Vice President/Chief Financial Officer  
Kratos Defense & Security Solutions Inc.

Deanna Lund is Kratos Defense & Security Solutions executive vice president and chief financial officer. She has been an inspirational and dedicated mentor of women. During the course of her 20-year career, she has been an instrumental player in the success of several significant, industry-leading San Diego-based public companies, including the Titan Corp., Wireless Facilities Inc. and now Kratos.



Lund

At Titan, Lund was part of the core team that drove the company's growth from a domestic to global enterprise that had \$120 million

in revenue and an equity value of \$45 million in 1996, and \$2.3 billion in revenue and \$3 billion in market capitalization nine years later when Titan was sold to L-3.

In an industry where management is predominantly male, she achieved promotion to executive management. Lund's success and mentorship directly influenced other women to achieve promotion to senior and executive management positions across several industries in San Diego.

Recently, Lund has been a successful leader in the complete transformation of WFI — a company that supported commercial wireless networks — into Kratos, a large national and homeland security government contractor. She was directly responsible for divesting approximately \$300 million in businesses in an industry experiencing consolidation and commodi-

tization with resulting gross profit reductions from approximately 45 percent to 12 percent. Concurrently, Lund had primary responsibility in securing more than \$100 million in new credit facilities during one of the most challenging financial lending environments in our country's history, and completing four acquisitions. This created what Kratos is today: a \$350 million national defense and security solutions provider.

• • •

**Gioia Messinger**  
CEO/Founder  
Avaak Inc.

At the helm of Avaak, Gioia Messinger pioneered the use of an advanced wireless technology and transformed it for the consumer electronics market. As a leader in a male-dominated industry, she had the vision



Messinger

to migrate this technology from previous applications in the defense industry to the home and family. The emphasis of her work included adapting the hardware to a consumer-friendly design, engineering mass production and capital funding to bring the Vue personal video network to retail.

Messinger inspires through her entrepreneurial spirit, business management expertise and community involvement. She also founded and led SUMMIT Design Technologies and MedSmart Inc., two other technology companies that thrived under her leadership.

Outside of the office, Messinger has been involved in the community. She served as a speaker at San Diego's High Tech High charter school, discussing women in the technology field. Additionally, she has been a lecturer at the Rady School of Management at UCSD, where she led a seminar discussing women-owned businesses and how to creatively fund a new startup. Messinger champions women in the technology space as a mentor for other women looking to follow the same successful path she has forged.

• • •

**Barbara Noerenberg**  
Vice President, Program Management  
Qualcomm Inc.

Barbara Noerenberg's willingness to

share what she has learned encourages other women along their own career paths in engineering and management.

Noerenberg is intimately acquainted with the notion of being a working woman in a man's world. Throughout her 26-year career, Noerenberg has worked to redefine perceptions and elevate expectations of a woman's place in both the technical industry and executive managerial work force. Her tenure reflects a wide breadth of experience, navigating through small startups, large corporate buyouts, owning her own business and rising from a keypunch operator to Qualcomm's vice president of program management.

She is now responsible for managing all program aspects of the R&D organization with a \$130 million budget and more than 500 employees. She directs key areas of strategic planning, new research opportunities and 30 existing development programs. Noerenberg is passionate about encouraging others to realize their full potential, to adopt a can-do approach to every new task and a willingness to excel through ambiguity when dealing with uncertainty. She credits her success with the desire to learn something new every day, strong organizational skills, active peer-mentorship, as well as partnering with her male counterparts.

Noerenberg actively contributes time to organizations that take a similar approach, and acts as a knowledge-sharing resource for others interested in following a like-minded, proactive career path. Noerenberg was recognized for her advocacy by the YWCA and in 2005 presented with the Tribute to Women and Industry Award. She is vice-chair of Whispering Winds, a 160-acre campgrounds and conference center in Julian, Calif., and also serves on the board of directors of Athena.

• • •

**Linda Routson**  
Technical Account Manager  
Microsoft Corp.

DigiGirlz is a program that focuses on inspiring high-school and middle-school girls of all backgrounds to take science, technology, engineering and mathematics courses, attend college and consider technology-related



Noerenberg

careers. Linda Routson, a technical account manager for Microsoft U.S. Services, is the initiator and program lead of the San Diego DigiGirlz camps.

Although 2009 was the first year for the San Diego DigiGirlz camps, this year's event has tripled in attendance, reaching hundreds of girls from four diverse communities. The event, which was held April 2, included MySQL, small basic and game design sessions, as well as robotics and X-BOX demos and career speakers.

Through her drive and passion to bring more young women into the technology field, Routson has recruited innovative instructors to provide hands-on classes and labs, partnered with National University and QuickStart Intelligence Training Centers and coordinated volunteers from the high-tech industry to make the events come together.

• • •

**Navrina Singh**  
Senior Engineer  
Qualcomm

Navrina Singh is senior engineer at Qualcomm and president of the Qualcomm Women In Science (QWISE) organization, which provides guidance to women at all levels.

The professional development of technical women spurred Singh to form the QWISE organization three years ago. Its mission is "to promote personal and professional growth of women in technology at Qualcomm and the community." The group has grown from a few people to more than 300.

Under Singh's leadership, QWISE has formed a board to further the mission of the organization; established a mentorship program benefitting female interns; worked on science programs with K-12 students in Project Lead the Way; provided leadership development workshops for female employees; created communication tools, a newsletter and a web-



Routson



Singh

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site; and assisted with recruiting employees.

Singh has gained recognition and support for QWISE throughout Qualcomm, engaging Chairman and CEO Paul Jacobs in demonstrated support of its mission and establishing regular meetings with senior leaders of both genders to gain their participation in the group.

Singh leads by example, and motivates others to walk the extra mile and think outside their jobs.

### Biosciences

**Hazel M. Aker**  
Senior Vice President/General Counsel/Secretary  
Cadence Pharmaceuticals

Hazel Aker hired four women who said she shares knowledge, encourages development, ensures all have ownership of projects and is transparent.

Aker has proactively reached out to two junior female VPs. Even with limited time, she shares information and participates in Athena events and educational sessions.



Aker

She has strongly supported flexible work schedules to encourage healthy work-life balance, while increasing productivity and retention.

She sits on the board of the USO Council of San Diego, whose mission is to enhance the quality of life of active-duty U.S. Armed Forces personnel and their families. She's on the Executive and Audit committees, co-chairs the Governance & Board Development Committee, and provides pro bono legal services. She is committed to expanding diversity of the board.

Aker is a volunteer docent-naturalist at Poway's Ecological Reserve, where she leads interpretive nature walks, assists with educational programs and encourages quality recreational use of the reserve. She's a member of the vegetation control team.

She has served as member of the Steering Committee for Athena's On-Board Program.

**Amanda Clardy**  
Chief Marketing Officer  
Life Technologies

Amanda Clardy has made developing professionals a priority, spending countless hours of time mentoring female colleagues.



Clardy

She is a founding member and president of iWIN, a networking organization created to support, mentor and promote professional and personal development of women at Life Technologies. Since iWIN began in Carlsbad, more than 500 employees

internationally have participated as mentors, mentees or both. iWIN leadership now comprises 60 women from across the company, many of them women who have become empowered to participate in such an organization for the first time in their professional careers.

Clardy started The Working Mothers' Group — mothers who provide support to each other as they balance the demands of career and family. The group championed the upgrade of all lactation facilities across the company to make the rooms private, comfortable and pleasant, which earned the 2009 Breastfeeding Friendly Workplace Award from the San Diego Breastfeeding Coalition.

She is a respected member of the company's leadership team, and currently serves as the company's first female chief marketing officer, with a department of more than 150 people. She serves on the Carlsbad Educational Foundation and is a member of NAPW, Athena and the Downtown Women's Club. She has won numerous awards, including being named 2009 Woman of the Year by *San Diego Magazine*.

She is the mother of two beautiful, creative daughters, who are a constant source of inspiration.

**Cathy Cooney**  
Executive Vice President, Human Resources  
CareFusion

As a lifelong human resources practitioner and the mother of two daughters, Cathy Cooney has long been a champion of women and diversity.

Early in her career, Cooney shattered a few glass ceilings of her own, often working as the only woman on a management team with Texas energy workers at Halliburton and later food service operators at Frito Lay and Pepsico Food Systems.



Cooney

Since the 1990s, she has worked for companies that support health care, an industry dominated by female workers. Knowing the most successful service companies align well with their customers, Cooney brings leadership attention and organizational muscle to ensuring women have opportunities to succeed in their professions and their lives.

Today, as the EVP of HR at CareFusion, a San Diego-based health care technologies company with 16,000 employees worldwide, she leads the global HR team and engages employees directly in the bigger mission to recruit, retain and support female colleagues.

Using the power of a good business case, Cooney aligns leaders around diversity initiatives and engages them to actively support mentoring programs, women's organizations and hiring criteria.

While at Cardinal Health, she built the first Diversity and Inclusion program, ushered in a highly successful mentoring program pairing executives with high-potential women and minorities, and launched a supplier diversity program that teamed customers, suppliers and employees.

She also mentors women formally and informally and is an active supporter of future leader programs for high school women.

**Anna Crivici**  
Senior Director, Finance  
Amylin Pharmaceuticals Inc.

Anna Crivici is an inspiring leader and champion of women both professionally and personally. She is active in mentoring women inside and outside of Amylin and is an advocate on promoting women in the workplace. She has hired, mentored and promoted women to leadership roles since joining Amylin in 2003. Crivici networks with the senior women at Amylin to have them engage more in women's development. Her door is open to everyone who wants mentor-

ing. Her style is infused with confidence and makes her mentees feel that they can accomplish anything they set their mind to. She continues to serve as a role model, and her character and spirit have directly affected the success of women at Amylin and beyond.

Crivici received her Ph.D. in biological chemistry from the University of Waterloo (Canada) and her B.Sc. in specialized honor biochemistry from the University of Guelph (Canada).

Crivici is the founder and has served as co-chair of AROW (Amylin Reaching Out to Women), an Employee Resource Group devoted to the advancement and retention of women at Amylin. She continues to be an active member of Athena, recently facilitating a table at the Associates Affinity Group dinner, "Managing Up, Down & Sideways," in October of 2009. She is also a member of the Healthcare Business Women's Association.



Crivici

**Judy E. Davidson**  
Director of Advanced Practice Nursing and Research  
Scripps Health

Dr. Judy Davidson is the director of advanced practice nursing and research for Scripps Mercy Hospital, San Diego and Chula Vista, and associate clinical professor for USD. She incorporates nursing research, evidence-based practice and scholarly activity through literature, presentation and publications throughout the country. She leads the movement of family-centered care in health care and has conducted numerous research studies on family-centered care. She developed a mid-range theory for nursing called Facilitate Sensemaking, which describes how a nurse might assist the family to make sense of their situation and their new role as caregiver.



Davidson

She chairs the Council for Scientific

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Inquiry and Pressure Ulcer Prevention Committee. She is instrumental in providing constructive feedback to the Medical Staff Investigational Review Board and Pharmacy and Therapeutics. As the chair of an American College of Critical Care Medicine Taskforce, the team wrote the first national clinical practice guideline on "Support of the Family in the Patient-Centered Intensive Care Unit (ICU)," which was published in 2007.

This changed the practice of medicine.

She developed a nerve monitoring system that was practiced only in the operating rooms and extended this into the critical care setting. A creative change agent, Davidson inspires nurses to incorporate research into their practice and is a member/educator for the San Diego Consortium Evidence Based Practice Institute.

• • •

**Beth Hoffman**  
**Vice President, Biology**  
**Vertex Pharmaceuticals**

Dr. Beth Hoffman has been a strong leader for women both personally and professionally since the beginning of her career, which has spanned prestigious academic research, government research and drug discovery.



**Hoffman**

Currently VP of biology at Vertex Pharmaceuticals, Hoffman also has brought other women into leadership roles and empowered them to drive decisions and strategy. She has been lauded by those she's worked with as an excellent mentor, both scientifically and in their professional growth. As a female researcher at mostly male institutions including Johns Hopkins University, Massachusetts General Hospital and Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Hoffman has opened doors for women through her own efforts and example.

She went on to establish her own lab as the tenured Head of the Molecular Pharmacology Unit at the National Institute of Mental Health before transitioning to industry. Rising to Eli Lilly's head of neuroscience discovery research, then Amgen's scientific executive director for neuroscience, and now to her present position as vice president,

Hoffman has continued to help other women advance.

Whether by giving "Management and Mentoring Skills" seminars; "Survival Skills" workshops; talks on "Opportunities for Careers in Industry;" through hiring, training or inclusion in strategic discussions; or providing leadership opportunities, Hoffman has helped women develop into people of influence within her company and in every type of research institution.

• • •

**Denise L. Jackson**  
**General Counsel/Senior Vice President/Secretary**  
**AMN Healthcare**

As general counsel, senior VP and corporate secretary, and head of the all-woman legal department at AMN Healthcare, Denise Jackson is dedicated to empowering women professionally. AMN's legal team isn't strictly female by design. Jackson's hiring decisions are based upon selecting the right people for the job, who just happened to be women. In recent years, AMN has seen a significant increase in the number of women promoted and hired to key leadership positions,



**Jackson**

and who contribute to critical areas of AMN including sales, finance, operations and corporate services. Not only is Jackson an example of this increase, she has also contributed to it through her hiring and promotion decisions.

Jackson built AMN's legal, risk management and HR functions and implemented a company-wide training and development program for new and existing hires. She also established a system to support and mentor managers, utilizing training sessions and roundtable meetings that served as forums for learning and sharing of best practices. Jackson led a program to help individual employees take control of their careers at AMN Healthcare, outlining the success factors upon which managers gauge employee performance and career progression. Using these factors, managers and employees can collaborate to identify performance areas needing improvement, as well as areas of excellence and advancement to the next phase of their career.

Jackson has actively involved AMN with a personal cause of her own, Girls

on the Run San Diego, a nonprofit prevention program that encourages preteen girls to develop self-respect and healthy lifestyles through running. A marathon runner herself, Jackson has volunteered with the organization for several years, first as a "running buddy," then as a coach and for three years as board chair.

• • •

**Pamela Jackson**  
**Senior Director, Military & Government Business**  
**SeQual Technologies Inc.**

In 2006, SeQual Technologies introduced The Eclipse, a revolutionary new portable oxygen concentrator to treat individuals with injuries or lung disease. The product was a finalist in the new product category in health care in the 2007 CONNECT innovative product award competition.

Pam Jackson was hired at SeQual in April 2000 to lead the development of this product. She hired a development team of a dozen engineers, coordinated the activity of professional staff members of a foreign partner company, sought out and was primarily responsible for acquiring \$15 million of R&D funding from the Department of Defense, led the development process and conducted focus groups along the way. Once the product was introduced, Jackson assumed the position of marketing director and product manager of Eclipse. She led the training of sales personnel, customers and medical professionals. Once the product was well entrenched in the homecare market, she assumed the role of senior director for government activities and oversaw the development of a next-generation product specifically designed to support the military medical mission.

Throughout her career with SeQual, Jackson has exhibited extraordinary professionalism and has been an outstanding ambassador for the company. Her actions have served as great example of how a woman can lead and be successful.

• • •

**Pamela M. Klein**  
**Chief Medical Officer**  
**Intellikine Inc.**

Throughout her career, Pam Klein

has assumed leadership roles and worked to empower others to do the same. In medical school, she served as chapter president of the American Medical Women's Association. As a student member on the admissions committee, Klein frequently advocated for women who had taken a nontraditional path to medical school.

While at the National Cancer Institute, she developed the first testing program for breast cancer genetic predisposition. Although initially available only through the Department of Defense, this outreach program was broadened to nonmilitary women in the D.C. metropolitan area. It grew into a comprehensive effort to teach women about drug development and encouraged women to participate in treatment studies for cancer.

Klein later joined Genentech, and over several years advanced to vice president of development. She was recognized for her leadership skills and in particular, as a role model for aspiring female leaders. She developed a leadership program for the 1,200-person Development Organization, as well as founded and chaired the Senior Leadership Forum. Over the next several years, five vice presidents came out of this group, including two female VPs. Finally, at Genentech, she also served as an adviser to a companywide organization, NextGEN, which taught leadership and business skills to individuals entering the work force from college.

• • •

**Elizabeth Morgan**  
**Vice President, Clinical Operations**  
**Mpex Pharmaceuticals**

Liz Morgan has been a leader in clinical development and regulatory affairs in San Diego biotech for more than 20 years. She has been involved in filing more than 25 INDs and 2 NDAs for new drug candidates. Her last two positions have been VP-level executive positions, where she has had responsibility for running clinical trial operations (Nereus, Mpex).

At Mpex she has been responsible for building a clinical team from scratch and has hired a team of five exceptional contributors — four of them women. Through her mentoring



**Klein**



**Jackson**

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## Nominees

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efforts, three of these women have been promoted into positions of greater responsibility. From a job performance perspective, Morgan was responsible for all operating aspects of two large clinical trials in the last year, both of which came in on time and under budget despite aggressive expectations. She has earned great respect among the board of directors



**Morgan**

and management team for the way she runs her department, and her team has tremendous loyalty to her.

Morgan is a member of San Diego Women in Bioscience, the Regulatory Affairs Professional Society, the Drug Information Association and other organizations, and is regularly asked to be a speaker on topics relating to clinical trials.

She also has been a leading fund raiser for the Arthritis Foundation and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

• • •

**Nancy G. Pratt**  
Senior Vice President  
Sharp Healthcare, Clinical Effectiveness

Nancy Pratt is one of the most respected executives at Sharp Healthcare, the largest health care provider in San Diego. In 2007, through her leadership and dedication, Pratt championed and led Sharp in the long journey to achieve the prestigious Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award.



**Pratt**

Pratt began her career as a nurse. She has brought health care outcome process into focus. For countless hours, she presented, trained and mentored thousands of staff, physicians and volunteers about clinical quality and patient safety. The Sharp system consists of seven hospitals, three affiliated medical groups, one health plan, four long-term care facilities, one liability insurance company and two foundations. Imagine the skill and effort to move an organization of this size.

There are about 120 people in her division. Eighty-eight percent (15 out

of 17) of leaders in her division are women. Through her work, everyone at Sharp — including more than two-thirds of the work force that are women — has been given opportunities, motivated and promoted to be Top-Notches. They deliver exceptional care and are bestowed the highest honor.

For her own career, Pratt went from serving patients at the bedside to being recognized in the White House. She has demonstrated that women can advance, lead and move organizations to places and achievements that many think aren't possible. She is an honor to herself and an inspiration to women in health care.

• • •

**Rhonda Rhyne**  
CEO  
Association for Innovative Cardiovascular Advancements

Rhonda Rhyne embodies everything Athena. She has consistently and increasingly promoted/mentored women through her 27-year professional career. As CEO of Culture Technology Inc., she equitably recruited, interviewed, hired and promoted women, building a work force composed of more than 75 percent women.



**Rhyne**

While president of CardioDynamics, Rhyne promoted 50 percent of companywide positions and 75 percent of director/senior management positions filled by women. She identified, promoted and mentored women in director/senior management positions, and organized and mentored collaborative leadership opportunities for women at all levels from administrative to senior management. She facilitated corporate organizational structure supporting direct interaction and/or management of women with executive management, including herself as president. Rhyne directly mentored an average of 5 percent of corporate women employees per year, as well as an average of five women per year outside of the company.

Her extensive community involvement includes serving as co-chair for 2009-2010 American Heart Association's Go Red, Circle of Red efforts for women's heart disease. She serves on the Dean's Advisory Council at Washington State University's

College of Pharmacy, for the advancement of women in science/health care.

Rhyne created a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, with an all-women board of directors, focusing on innovative advancements for cardiovascular disease, with a highlight on women. She co-created Athena's mentoring committee in 2006, benefiting more than 250 Athena FEW members with mentoring benefits. She authored a book on the glass ceiling's effects on women's advancement, and created Grace Protection Systems, a technology company to safeguard women and children from sexual predators.

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**Catherine Stiefel**  
Director  
Freedom Meditech

Catherine Stiefel has 20 years of business experience, primarily in finance and accounting. She served from 2006 to 2009 on the board of directors of Stiefel Laboratories Inc., a global dermatological pharmaceutical company and leader in dermatology research. Stiefel was acquired by Glaxo Smith Kline in July 2009 for

\$3.6 billion. Before the Glaxo acquisition, Stiefel Laboratories was the largest private pharmaceutical company in the world with revenues approaching \$1 billion. Stiefel closed a \$500 million private equity investment from Blackstone Group in 2007 and acquired Connetics Corp. in 2008 for \$600 million.

Before retirement in January 2007, Stiefel was vice president and director of acquisition accounting at Science Applications International Corp. (SAIC), a \$6 billion revenue government contracting company, from 2001 to 2006. At SAIC she was responsible for the accounting for investments (including valuation) totaling more than \$100 million, acquisitions and divestitures, including the sale of SAIC's largest subsidiary for \$1.35 billion. Prior to SAIC, Stiefel worked for Deloitte & Touche as an auditor, specializing in real estate and alternate



**Stiefel**

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## Nominees

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energy, beginning in 1992. She left Deloitte as a senior manager in 2001 to join SAIC.

Stiefel is a certified public accountant in the state of California and graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor's degree from San Diego State University.

• • •

**Naishu Wang**  
**President/CEO**  
**Alfa Scientific Designs Inc.**

As a self-taught business leader, Naishu Wang has graduated with honors from the "University of Real Life Business." While having a strong technical background as an M.D. and Ph.D., she has received very little school training on how to run a business. During the past 15 years, she has dedicated herself learning how to successfully grow a company by doing.



Wang

Wang is president of Alfa Scientific Designs Inc., a company she founded at the end of 1996. Alfa focuses on the research and manufacture of rapid medical in-vitro diagnostic devices for the

detection of cardiac and cancer markers, drugs of abuse, fertility hormones, infectious diseases, etc. In 14 years, her facility has expanded from 400 to 39,600 square feet. The company has increased from three to 75 employees, and the number of products has grown from two to more than 50.

To date, 10 of Wang's patents have been granted. In 2002, she was awarded the Minority Owned Small Business of the Year by USA SBA, San Diego and Imperial District. The business continues to grow in this tough economic year.

Her management style is in the form of direction, training and motivation. There are 12 women supervisors and seven women in the manager level or higher, including two in the company's executive committee. Most of them are trained, promoted and grown within the company from an early stage.

Wang recently was recognized and honored by California Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse with the California Champion Against Lawsuit Abuse Award for her dedication to promoting justice over greed. She also is a lifetime member of America's Registry of Outstanding Professionals.

• • •

**Janet White**  
**Director, Business Development**  
**Kyowa Hakko Kirin California Inc.**

Janet White contributes significantly to the development and advancement of women in San Diego through active mentoring, guidance and involvement in several volunteer organizations. She has supported, encouraged and advised peers and junior colleagues at several companies, including SGX Pharmaceuticals and KKC (a U.S. subsidiary of Kyowa Hakko Kirin in Japan), in career



White

development and transitions. She mentors women colleagues on business development, program structure and management, and coaches her peers. White brought senior women into SGX and actively worked to foster the success and promotion of women scientists.

Her significant contribution to the development of women scientists includes her involvement and leadership in AWIS, serving as San Diego chapter president (2004-2005) and now as councilor on the national board. Locally, she implemented a successful corporate sponsorship program that is important to the chapter's long-term success and fundamental to its career development, scholarship and outreach programs. She encourages young women to embrace leadership roles.

Nationally, she chairs the marketing and communications committee, and participates in the strategic planning and endowment campaigns. Through her exemplary contributions, AWIS will be able to support future generations of women scientists. White also contributes to other professional organizations, including the Athena Bioscience Affinity Group Committee, Diamond FEW and the U.S. West Coast section of the Royal Society of Chemistry.

### Services

**Suzanne Biggs**  
**Partner**  
**Duane Morris LLP**

Suzanne Biggs has been an active and positive role model for women in

the biosciences and in law, encouraging their participation and professional growth.

Before law school, Biggs was a graduate student in the Department of Pharmacology at Stanford University's medical school and was one of a few women in the Ph.D. program. After receiving her J.D., Biggs has combined her interests in biochemistry and the life sciences with intellectual property law.

In her early days as an attorney, she was one of a handful of women in this area (where women are still underrepresented). She was the second woman intellectual property attorney at Chevron Corp. In private practice in several law firms, she has taken an active role in a number of initiatives for professional growth and mentorship of women attorneys. She has been active in her law firm's Women's Initiative Programs to encourage professional development of women attorneys and legal professionals.

Biggs is a long-time Athena member and supporter, having served on the Athena board for about five years. She has been an active member of Athena's Biosciences Steering Committee and the Forum for Executive Women. As a board member emeritus, she remains committed to Athena's goals and principles.

Additionally, Biggs has been active in BIO (IP Counsel's Committee), BIOCUM (co-chair for IP Committee) and CONNECT, and has been a speaker for a number of programs.

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**Barbara Borden**  
**Partner**  
**Cooley LLP**

Barbara Borden is a partner at Cooley and the firmwide practice group leader of the firm's Mergers & Acquisitions practice. Throughout her 13-year tenure at the firm, Borden has provided leadership and guidance to other women, shaping the career paths of future leaders. She has actively promoted and recruited women to join the M&A department. Currently, in San Diego, 30 percent of



Biggs



Borden

the firm's M&A attorneys are women, a considerably high percentage in a predominantly male-dominated practice.

Borden also currently mentors several associates at the firm. In her mentoring role, she encourages junior women to be assertive and take responsibility in their roles on various legal teams. She also provides guidance for career development and advice to her mentees on how they can internally and externally grow their practices.

Borden's leadership is an inspiration to women at all levels of the firm. She is an active leader of Cooley's commission for the retention and advancement of women attorneys and staff. She also routinely sponsors events for women attorneys. In the past, she has hosted women-only dinners at her home for associates, partners and incoming summer associates, providing a comfortable setting where women of different levels can share their challenges and successes.

Borden serves on the boards of Insite/Installation Gallery, which coordinates onsite, cross-border art exhibitions, and Kids Included Together, an organization that supports recreational and developmental programs for children with and without disabilities. She also is actively involved in the education of her children at local San Diego schools and works to provide opportunities for women with Down syndrome and autism.

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**Alice Campbell**  
**Principal**  
**Barney & Barney LLC**

Alice Campbell has spent much of her career trying to foster equal opportunities for women in a historically male dominated industry.

Campbell began her career in insurance as an analyst, and after gaining industry expertise, decided to start her own firm in 2006, Campbell Employee Benefits Solutions Insurance Services. She hired a dedicated and hard working team of women who worked with her to build the company to a very successful level. Campbell then joined Barney & Barney in 2008 as a principal (owner) and brought her team of talented women with her.



Campbell

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## Nominees

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Campbell hired one woman as an analyst with no experience. Campbell took a vested interest in her career progression and worked closely to ensure she gained knowledge and abilities. She was recently promoted to a sales executive within Barney & Barney and has written 15-20 new clients. Although she no longer works with Campbell's team due to the promotion, Campbell still takes the time to mentor her in her career and they meet twice a week.

Campbell makes referrals and connections to place women on committees, introduces them to opportunities and challenges them to be more than they believe they can be. She is president of the Compensation & Benefits Association of San Diego, serves on the board for the International Society of Certified Employee Benefits Specialists (ISCEBS) - San Diego Chapter and the Alzheimer Association of San Diego. Campbell is a true role model and upholds the vision and mission of Athena.

• • •

**Elke Chenevey**  
Vice President  
Merrill Lynch Global Wealth  
Management

Elke Chenevey has dedicated a successful career spanning 25 years as a finance professional serving the public sector and Indian tribes. Joining Wall Street at a time when women were still a relatively new force, she started in investment banking at Merrill Lynch and 15 years later moved to the wealth management group after realizing the change would allow her to travel less and be more available for her three children.



Chenevey

A graduate of Dartmouth College and Columbia University, Chenevey has distinguished herself as a role model and mentor for younger women by juggling family and work responsibilities while serving as a spokesperson for both women and minorities.

She leads her firm in providing financial services to tribes by recognizing their unique needs and sovereign governmental status. As an enrolled member of the Omaha Tribe and a former economic development planner for her tribe, Chenevey's unique background of tribal and pri-

vate sector experiences allows for innovative solutions for her clients.

A leader of the Native American Professional Network at Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Chenevey is committed to increasing the number of Native American professionals at the firm and in the industry in general. Her efforts have resulted in both a greater commitment to this sector and a deeper understanding of Indian Country by her colleagues.

Chenevey volunteers teaching financial education workshops to adults and youth, and assists tribes in developing similar programs. Success in helping others is how Chenevey measures her personal and professional success.

• • •

**Cynthia Cwik**  
Partner  
Latham & Watkins

Cindy Cwik is a litigation partner at Latham & Watkins, specializing in health, science and technology. She has been recognized as one of California's "Top Female Litigators" several times. During her career, Cwik has dedicated herself to promoting the advancement of women in the law and in San Diego.



Cwik

addresses the challenges and opportunities unique to women lawyers and clients, and provides programs that focus on mentoring and education. In 2009, Cwik's committee organized two presentations featuring women leaders who discussed how they made their marks, and sponsored a networking reception attended by more than 60 female professionals.

She heads the San Diego office of Latham & Watkins' pro bono program, which has provided assistance to immigrant women and children and victims of domestic violence in San Diego. Cwik also has been active with other organizations that focus on advancing the status of women, including serving as a member of the Resource Board of the National Association of Women Judges. She has received the YWCA's "Tribute to Women in Industry" award.

Through other leadership positions, including as the co-chair of the

Scientific Evidence Committee of the ABA Section of Science and Technology Law and serving as the president of the Executive Committee of the Yale Law School Association, she has sought out opportunities to promote women to leadership positions.

• • •

**Darrah DiGiorgio Johnson**  
CEO  
Planned Parenthood of San Diego &  
Riverside Counties

Darrah DiGiorgio Johnson has been an "organization changing" addition to Planned Parenthood of San Diego & Riverside Counties (PPSDRC). The organization had been led by the same



Johnson

man for more than 20 years and was run in a tight, top-down style. Empowerment was not part of the culture. DiGiorgio Johnson immediately set out to change the culture of the organization and empower the many women who

work for her.

Her communication abilities, and ability to walk the talk aided her in leading and engaging all levels of staff. Through her innovative program, she has enabled Planned Parenthood of San Diego & Riverside Counties to grow and flourish — and become financially sustainable through the commitment and empowerment of the many women and men on her staff.

PPSDRC is one of the largest Planned Parenthood affiliates in the country. Five hundred staff members in 19 health centers serve tens of thousands of women and men.

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**Celeste S. Ferber**  
Senior Associate  
Morrison & Foerster LLP

Celeste Ferber's efforts in mentoring, inspiring, promoting and hiring women are numerous. She is a founding member of Morrison & Foerster's Women's Initiative Committee, established in 2007. As such, she has introduced quarterly presentations by women partners about their experi-

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## Nominees

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ences and path to partnership as women, as well as training sessions for female attorneys about business development, networking and tools for advancement. Her efforts also led to Morrison's adoption of more expansive maternity policies, and a formal reduced hours policy for parental leaves.



**Ferber**

Ferber also served on Morrison's San Diego Office Hiring Committee from 2007 to 2010, focusing on the recruitment, interview and hiring of female summer associates and associates. During her time on the Hiring Committee, the percentage of women summer associates hired increased significantly. As a senior associate, Ferber also informally mentors junior female associates in her corporate practice group and in the office, both on substantive legal issues and the politics of practicing as a woman in a large law firm. As a successful female senior attorney in Morrison's Corporate Group, a group with historically far more male attorneys than female attorneys, Ferber is an inspiration and example to junior female attorneys that they can also succeed in a male-dominated practice group.

Ferber also has demonstrated leadership through active involvement in Athena, serving on the board of directors of Athena, and previously serving as co-chair of the Associates Affinity Group.

• • •

**Pamela Gardner  
President/CEO  
Biotech Vendor Services Inc.**

Throughout her seven years of running her own business, Pamela Gardner has hired and promoted a large number of women into management positions who have contributed to the growth and success of Biotech Vendor Services. BVS has held more than 1,200 events for 400 clients in 25 states. Gardner continually provides her team with unique opportunities to work with business coaches on a regular basis to



**Gardner**

improve their skills in these areas within the business.

Her company contributes to the life science community by providing complimentary educational symposiums called Biotech Days. These symposiums offer the community the opportunity to exchange information, attend local scientific talks and make donations to a local charity. To date, seven successful Biotech Days have been held in La Jolla. Gardner is a wonderful networker with the unique ability to connect the right people together. She meets with women regularly to mentor other entrepreneurs on the success and mistakes to be avoided — stories she has experienced in her own business. She also supports women entrepreneurs in the developing world by providing them with loans through Kiva International. Many of the clients she worked with (many of them being women) have been laid off, and Gardner actively helps them find other jobs through her own connections.

Gardner is active in the San Diego community and is a member or participates in activities related to Athena, AWIS, BIO, BIOCUM, CONNECT, SDBDG, SDBN, WOBS, TiE, TWIST and WGN.

• • •

**Patricia Guerrero  
Partner  
Latham & Watkins LLP**

Trish Guerrero is committed to her profession, her clients, her family and the professional development of her colleagues. She balances all aspects of her life with a quiet grace and competence that inspires and motivates other women. Guerrero not only walks the talk, but forges paths that others want to follow.



**Guerrero**

As an assistant U.S. attorney for the Southern District of California and during her career at Latham & Watkins, Guerrero has had the opportunity to work with and supervise many other women. She excels in creating an environment in which women are free to express ideas, strategize and be part of the process. She is an inclusive leader, bringing new attorneys into the circle and encouraging their independent thought and development.

Throughout her career she has continued to be an advocate and resource

for women in the legal field. Guerrero served on the Associates Committee at Latham, coaching and offering career guidance to other young women attorneys. She also served as global chair of the firm's Training and Career Enhancement Committee, which offers an intense and rigorous program to develop the skills and professionalism of new attorneys.

As a teacher and leader, Guerrero's greatest gift to other women is that she exemplifies grace under pressure, decorum in the face of chaos. Women want to emulate her and she willingly brings them into the fold, empowering them to take responsibility for their work and developing their own expertise. As a mentor, no question is too small, no issue off limits.

• • •

**Sarah Znerold Hardwick  
CEO  
Zenzi Communications**

Sarah Znerold Hardwick is founder/CEO of Zenzi Communications, an award-winning agency that combines traditional marketing and PR with search engine optimization and social media for maximum impact. Hardwick started the company at the age of 25. Seven years later, Zenzi has expanded its presence to San Francisco and Boston, offering coast-to-coast coverage that keeps the agency's clients in front of the media at all times. Zenzi's client portfolio has grown from startups to national brands, including Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream, Fresh Express Salads and Olay, positioning Zenzi as the ninth largest PR firm in San Diego, according to a 2009 *San Diego Business Journal* report.



**Hardwick**

Hardwick actively encourages the team at Zenzi (almost all female) to pursue working on clients they are passionate about, having found that employees who love what they do are much happier. Hardwick offers employees flexible schedules and encourages a healthy work/life balance.

She is a believer in giving back to the community and manages all PR services for the Keep a Breast Foundation, pro-bono, to educate youth about breast cancer prevention. Her drive to motivate and empower women has been evidenced by her

dedication to Keep a Breast. According to Kimmy McAtee with the Keep a Breast Foundation, "Sarah is amazing to work with, always positive and brings fresh exciting ideas to the table. She is the perfect fit for the Keep a Breast Foundation, and I would recommend her highly to anyone looking for an imaginative and insightful PR firm."

• • •

**Vanessa Herbert  
Senior Manager  
PricewaterhouseCoopers**

Vanessa Herbert serves as a role model and mentor to the women of PricewaterhouseCoopers. She consistently and selflessly reaches out to women within PwC, alum and her network, no matter their level of seniority or authority, to offer both personal and professional guidance and mentoring without regard for "what's in it for her." She is a person of great character, extremely thoughtful, with a strong desire to ensure women's success and help remove barriers to their development and pursuit of an opportunity.

Herbert often works behind the scenes to create opportunities for others to succeed, grow and develop. The strength of her impact on others is evidenced by the number of women who consider Herbert a role model, even years after they move on from PwC. In addition to the great impact she has had within PwC, Herbert is also involved in the community serving on four Athena committees, on the Finance Committee of the San Diego Humane Society and within her church.

• • •

**The Hon. Vallera Johnson  
Administrative Law Judge  
State of California, Office of  
Administrative Hearings**

Judge Vallera Johnson is the guiding force behind Women of Color in Law Inc., a local nonprofit organization that helps attract and retain minority women in the legal profession. Johnson leads the organization's semi-annual luncheons that draw more than 200 women lawyers of

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**Herbert**

## Nominees

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color from throughout Southern California for mentoring, networking and fellowship events.

Johnson has an unparalleled passion for mentoring our community's young women and minority attorneys and law students. Most notably, from 2003 to 2009, she conceived of and tirelessly developed what is now the San Diego County Bar Association and Association of Corporate Counsel Diversity Fellowship Program. Created in



**Johnson**

response to the low number of minority attorneys practicing in San Diego County law firms and corporate legal departments, the program allows diverse, first-year law students an opportunity to learn and develop skills necessary to be successful in those environments and exposes law firms and corporate legal departments to qualified individuals who might not otherwise be considered.

Johnson has made a positive impact on young diverse women, and on the San Diego legal community, that few jurists can claim.

• • •

**Helen Lipka**  
**Founder/President**  
**The Marlin Alliance Inc.**

Helen Lipka is a successful business executive who has spent her life helping, promoting and mentoring women to work and achieve career success in the defense industry.

Serving as charter member, vice president and adviser to San Diego Chapter of Women in Defense, Lipka designed a 360-degree mentorship program that offered support for its members. She led outreach efforts to local female vendors for the annual WID Symposium and provided them with exposure.



**Lipka**

When Lipka was a vice president at SAIC, she established the Process Re-Engineering Program, which recruited and trained women to join her team. More than 50 percent of Lipka's team at SAIC were women. It is not typical to see this percentage in businesses within the

defense industry.

At the Department of Army, Lipka has been the champion to get the approval from U.S. Office of Personnel Management for an educational job series for Army Child caregivers. The initiative includes a training program to provide developmental care for children of working mothers.

Being a business executive herself, Lipka understands the obstacles facing working mothers. She has dedicated her life to helping create programs that make life better for them. From fund raising for infant organ transplants, to toy drives for family in need, Lipka represents a wonderful role model in delivering 360-degree mentoring and support for working women.

• • •

**The Hon. Margaret Mann**  
**Judge**  
**U.S. Bankruptcy Court**

Throughout her career, Margaret Mann has been committed to helping women advance in their careers, in both law and in science and technology. She has inspired many young professional women in the firm to achieve their full potential.



**Mann**

In her various management positions — chairing her practice group for almost 20 years with revenues of \$10 million, being the third woman elected to partnership in 1987, being the second woman appointed to the Executive Committee and serving as the National Hiring Chair — she has always advocated for the hiring and promotion of women into leadership roles within the firm. She also has supported women's initiatives outside of the firm and served as a director of the Lawyers Club, California Women Lawyers and Athena.

Mann has also taken on leadership roles in many legal professional organizations and forums, including serving as co-chair for the annual California Bankruptcy Forum conference, a director of the San Diego chapter of the Business Trial Lawyers, president and director of the San Diego Bankruptcy Forum, a member of the Debtor/Creditor Committee of the State Bar of California and chair of the Bankruptcy Law Section of the San Diego County Bar Association.

She is a fellow of the American

College of Bankruptcy and is listed in Best Lawyers in America, Best Lawyers in San Diego and Southern California Super Lawyers. For her legal accomplishments, she was chosen to serve as a Ninth Circuit lawyer representative and co-chair for the Southern District of California to Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference.

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**Olivia Montañó**  
**Director, Clinical Data Management**  
**Synteract Inc.**

Olivia Montañó has more than 15 years of experience in research and clinical data management, and has been with Synteract since 1999. From 1999-2005, she took on positions with increasing responsibilities and in 2005 took over leadership of the Data Management department.

In her current role as director of data management, she heads a department of 72, of which 58 are women. Five of Montañó's seven line managers are women. Four of these individuals started their careers at Synteract in positions several levels lower and have progressively been promoted into their current managerial positions under Montañó's day-to-day mentoring and leadership. Each of the line-managers supervises an average of nine individuals each, and they, too, are providing mentorship to the women under them to help them grow in their careers.

Under Montañó's oversight, her management team has prepared an internal certification curriculum for data management practices and overall clinical trial knowledge.

Her outside interests include membership in four organizations: SCDM, DIA, CDISC and CDASH (Core Team Member). She is a certified clinical data manager, and also has a certificate in clinical trials administration from UCSD. She is a contributing subject matter expert for three chapters of the Good Clinical Data Management Practices for the international education and harmonization of data management practices in the pharmaceutical industry. She was a recent co-presenter for the SCDM and two-part series on database validation and surviving and audit.

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**Pamela J. Naughton**  
**Partner**  
**Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP**

Pamela Naughton has been practicing law for more than 30 years, and throughout that time has been a strong advocate for women.

She graduated from Yale Law School in 1979.

From 1981 to 1987, she was the only female counsel to the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Iran-Contra Affair. Naughton practiced for 10 years at Baker & McKenzie. She was National Trial Counsel for four



**Naughton**

years for a major medical device manufacturer of breast implants. In 2000, she moved to Sheppard Mullin. In 2009, she represented the Audit Committee of Sequenom in a highly publicized investigation that concluded successfully and allowed the company to recover its reputation and share price.

Naughton has taken female attorneys under her wing and enabled them to achieve success in white collar and securities matters — a segment of the profession dominated by men. She was the first female attorney to lead the firm's white collar group, and the white collar group in her office is all women.

Naughton used her leadership roles as president of the San Diego chapter of the Federal Bar Association and lawyer-delegate to the 9th Circuit to enhance opportunities for women.

She is the single mother of twin daughters, age 13. She is a trailblazer and an inspiration to all professional women.

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**Maggie Osburn**  
**Senior Vice President, Business**  
**Development & Marketing**  
**Intercare Insurance Solutions**

Maggie Osburn has long been an advocate and mentor for women in the San Diego business community. She has served as a conduit through which women are able to connect and network with one another, both personally and professionally. During her tenure at Lee Hecht Harrison, and now with Intercare Insurance Solutions, Osburn has been the "go to"

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## Nominees

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resource for women seeking to expand their networks. Without hesitation and with great enthusiasm, Osburn takes the time to ensure the appropriate connections/introductions are made that will enhance both parties. She has personally been responsible for assisting numbers of women obtain key positions at a number of San Diego companies.



Osburn

In her role as senior VP of business development and marketing at Intercare Insurance Solutions, Osburn serves as a role model and mentor to the women in the company, no matter their role, offering personal and professional advice. She gently nudges the rising management women to acquire necessary education and training to succeed in promotional opportunities. She also encourages women to attend networking events to build their "personal brand" in the community and expand their own network. She serves as a sounding board, helping women establish meaningful career paths that result in their ability to excel and rise into management-level positions.

Osburn has also been instrumental in the hiring of several key management-level women at the company. She is on the board of the San Diego Chapter of NHRA and Petco Foundation, is active in SHRM and volunteers at Monarch School and Rancho Coastal Humane Society.

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**Laurin Pause**  
Executive Director  
Community Resource Center

Laurin Pause has always been a champion of women seeking professional and personal growth. In her 20s, she mentored at-risk teen girls. In her 30s, she brought women into the male-dominated telecommunications field and, as co-founder of Torrey Communications, created an environment conducive to working mothers. As the executive director of Community Resource Center, she leads a staff of primarily women and a diverse board



Pause

with more than 50 percent women.

She has brought vision and a business approach to CRC, which has made it a recognized leader in the county, serving more than 7,000 people in crisis annually, with women comprising well over 50 percent of those served. She provides leadership in the county, serving on the boards of other nonprofits and creating critical collaborations to improve the services offered.

Pause has created domestic violence programs that facilitate independence by connecting women survivors to education and work. Because many domestic violence survivors have never worked or had a career, Pause provides opportunities for professional women in the community to be a critical part of the recovery process by teaching life skills classes. What started as a small domestic violence shelter is now a full-fledged program that includes a 24-bed facility, the first shelter-based therapeutic childcare program in the county, and transitioning services that allow women to move into their own homes. Under her leadership, nearly 100 percent of CRC's domestic violence survivors embark on paths to self-sufficiency.

• • •

**Jeni Schrimsher**  
Vice President, Asset Services  
Alexandria Real Estate Equities Inc.

Jeni Schrimsher is currently the vice president of asset services for Alexandria Real Estate Equities Inc. Alexandria is a publicly traded real estate investment trust providing laboratory space to the life science industries.

Schrimsher was originally recruited to the San Diego region in 2005, with an initiative to transform the region's Asset Services team into a best-in-



Schrimsher

class model for the company. She exceeded expectations by developing a team that is not only seen internally as the best-in-class model, but has been the recipient of several industry awards, including the 2009 SANDEE award and achievement of the first LEED Gold multi-tenant lab building.

Schrimsher has engaged in industry and community organizations, for which she has donated countless hours of her personal time. Just some of these organizations include: Athena, BIOCUM, CALBIO, the Sino-American Biomedical &

Pharmaceutical Association and the San Diego Boys and Girls Club.

What really sets Schrimsher apart is her leadership as a woman and the inspiration she has given to her staff, colleagues, the life-sciences industry and the community at large. She empowers her staff in the Alexandria offices with authority to make critical decisions and acknowledges appropriate risk-taking. Her legacy lies in a clearly developed and proven path for which many female professionals are now following. Those she has mentored and supervised will not proclaim her to be one to pave the way, but one who will give you a compass and teach you to use it.

• • •

**Stephanie Seidman**  
Attorney  
K&L Gates

Stephanie Seidman transitioned from scientist to patent law technology specialist, to practicing patent attorney and team leader in a national law firm. She is an example for other women and a catalyst for increasing women's presence and influence in areas where they once were rare.

Seidman provides strategic counsel to emerging biopharmaceutical companies, ensuring their intellectual property protection supports their long-term business strategies. She previously built one of the largest patent prosecution practices in the region.

She hires, promotes and mentors talented women, empowering them in a practice area dominated by men; more than half of her technology specialists are women. She recruits promising women scientists as specialists to her patent law practice, encouraging them to become registered before the U.S. Patent Office and to attend law school. She fosters teamwork, career progression and managerial skills.

Seidman is a board member of the Robertson Center for Science and Public Policy, and has been a member of Athena since its inception. She has been recognized as one of the Outstanding Young Women of America and counted among Who's Who Worldwide. She has addressed attendees at five BIO conventions, and is an author and often-quoted speaker on public policy and health issues. In



Seidman

2006, the *San Diego Business Journal* selected her as the recipient of its Women Who Mean Business Award, and in 2010 she was recognized by Best Lawyers in America for Biotechnology.

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**Rupa G. Singh**  
Staff Attorney  
9th Circuit Court of Appeals

Rupa Singh, a 10-year litigator at two prominent firms and currently a staff attorney at the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, has distinguished herself professionally.

Singh co-founded "Balonomics," an initiative that demonstrates policies on work/life balance enhance the bottom line by preventing attrition in good economic times and layoffs in a downturn. Balonomics grew from Singh's conversations with other prominent women into a national initiative that has garnered growing attention and buy-in. In its aim to make legal practice more livable, especially for women, Balonomics has become an innovative mandate for change.

Singh's leadership of San Diego bar associations — including the South Asian Bar Association, which she co-founded, the Federal Bar Association, over which she presided, and the Lawyers Club, whose symposia she helped organize — has inspired and empowered countless women and minority attorneys. She serves as a role model and a voice to unite "mainstream" and "minority" bars. Thus, as its president, she ensured that the Federal Bar Association helped launch an immigration project and sponsored events with minority bars.

Singh also is a devoted mentor to young women of color and has volunteered on domestic violence cases. At her last firm, she helped to develop tools necessary for junior attorneys to review partners like her on their managerial skills, mentorship and pro bono contributions.

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**Camille Sobrian-Saltman**  
COO  
CONNECT

As chief operating officer of CONNECT, Camille Sobrian-Saltman has



Singh

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## Nominees

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done more for the entrepreneurial community in San Diego than anyone realizes. She never hogs the spotlight or asks for recognition, she just gets things done: designing programs, managing a large group of people and developing companies through support and guidance to enhance the economic viability of our region for decades to come.



**Sobrian-Saltman**

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**Kris Wilkes**  
Partner  
Latham & Watkins LLP

Kris Wilkes has built a reputation as a brilliant writer and wily appellate litigator, and she willingly imparts her career and life lessons to other women.



**Wilkes**

She annually publishes a handbook on "What I Wish I Had Known," which shares these lessons with young lawyers. She works hard to empower women and minorities, to help them find and hone their own unique gifts, and to build their independent reputations

in the firm and the community.

Much sought after as a mentor and coach, Wilkes strives for perfection at all times and sets high goals for herself and her supervisees, who grow and rise in response to the challenge. She serves as an example to many women inside and outside the firm, including as a past member of the board of governors for the Association of Business Trial Lawyers, a lawyer representative to the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference and a member of the bar's Appellate Court Committee.

A consummate legal professional, Wilkes encourages women to aspire to the highest standards of quality as lawyers and people. She challenges them to reach beyond their comfort zone and supports them if the road proves difficult. A collaborative leader, she appreciates the contribution of every team member and engages everyone on the project, regardless of position or role. She promotes other women as the "brains" behind an idea and willingly assigns them all credit. A

competitive athlete herself, Wilkes encourages women to maintain balance by dedication to a healthy, active lifestyle.

• • •

**Teresa Young**  
Partner  
Deloitte

During her more than 20-year tenure at Deloitte, Teresa Young has shown a tireless commitment to mentoring and empowering women in the workplace. As a member of Deloitte's national partner selection committee, Young championed the promotion of women to the level of partner. Today, more than 10 partners and directors count Young as one of their mentors, and many attribute their success to her guidance.



**Young**

As a leader in Deloitte's Women's Initiative, Young helped establish many programs for working mothers, including a lactation support program. A working mother of two, she encourages flexible work arrangements for Deloitte employees, and she serves as a role model for women seeking to balance motherhood and work. She has recruited female executives of local companies to educate and inspire young women through Deloitte's External Role Model program. A well-known specialist in life sciences and health care, Young has used her industry knowledge and relationships to help women secure new career opportunities.

For more than 12 years, Young has provided networking, mentoring and professional support through her involvement in FEW. Additionally, she was an original founding board member of Athena, served two terms as board treasurer and was a founding member of the Athena Biosciences Affinity Group. She has been a selfless advocate for advancing women within Deloitte and in the business community, and exemplifies the leadership and values of a Pinnacle Award winner.

### Company/Organization

**The Academy of Our Lady of Peace**  
Founded in 1882, the Academy of Our Lady of Peace is the oldest high



school in San Diego and the only all-girls school in the county. Fifty-one women and 11 men comprise the faculty. The principal, Sister Dolores Anchondo, and the vice-principal, Sister Joyce Hampel, are notable role models of female leadership focused on providing education tailored to the learning needs and styles of young women. Ten of the 12 major campus departments, including math and science, are chaired by women. Eleven of the 16 members of the board of directors are women.

A three-time winner of the U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, the academy has also been nationally recognized for its character education program. With a diverse student population (47 percent white, 31 percent Hispanic, 12 percent black/multiracial, 10 percent Asian), OLP is a college preparatory school where 100

percent of students go on to college.

OLP students score above state and national averages on the SAT, and the cumulative GPA for all students is 3.24. Students are encouraged to go beyond the minimum requirements in math and science. In the senior class, 75 percent of students complete a fourth year of math, and 49 percent of students complete a third or fourth year in science. All OLP graduates pursue collegiate studies, matriculating to some of the best colleges in the country, including Cornell, Harvard and Stanford, as well as campuses in the UC and CSU systems.

To serve students from all socioeconomic levels, OLP awarded more than \$1.5 million in tuition assistance in the last school year. In the past two years it also has spent more than \$100,000 upgrading science laboratories, including electrophoresis equipment.

Every student receives instruction in study skills, peace education and leadership. Each contributes 75 hours of service to the community before graduation, a gift of more than 14,000 hours in 2009.

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## ALEXANDRIA®

LANDLORD OF CHOICE TO THE LIFE SCIENCE INDUSTRY®

### ALEXANDRIA REAL ESTATE EQUITIES, INC.

is the dominant landlord of life science properties, which owns and operates approximately 1.7 million square feet of leading-edge office/laboratory space in San Diego. We have high-caliber and extremely well located buildings designed to accommodate a wide variety of users from start-up companies requiring as little as 1,600 to 5,000 square feet in efficient suites to emerging-stage companies requiring flexible suites from 5,000 to 50,000 square feet, to well-established entities seeking campuses as large as 200,000 SF. Alexandria client tenants are given WORLD CLASS SERVICE throughout all stages of tenancy from construction and move-in to day-to-day lab services from our team of facilities experts.

The Science Hotel® at Torrey Pines is our newest innovation space where we provide a backbone of lab services to high quality emerging life science companies. Our first-in-class facilities and our commitment to delivering exceptional service.



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jryan@labspace.com

10975 NORTH TORREY PINES ROAD



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"We'll Take Care of It"

## EDCO Waste Disposal

Sandy Burr co-founded EDCO Wastemanagement with her husband Ed Burr in 1967. EDCO got its start in La Mesa and has grown into the largest family owned and operated waste management and recycling firm in California.

In an industry that appears dominated by corporate consolidation, EDCO's active and involved family ownership offers the ability to act quickly, creatively and responsibly, while investing the necessary resources to solve challenging waste and recycling issues. The company has aggressively embraced its unique role as a family owned and locally operated premium service provider that is firmly committed to service innovation and market development.

Sandy Burr represents EDCO's numerous charitable interests and continues to contribute to the vitality of the San Diego region.

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LARRABEE | MEHLMAN | ALBI | COKER LLP  
Attorneys at Law  
Immigration Law for Innovators™

## Larrabee | Mehlman | Albi | Coker LLP

Larrabee | Mehlman | Albi | Coker LLP is a female-owned boutique immigration law firm located in San Diego with a national practice primarily serving the pharmaceutical, biotech and IT industries. Not only are all of the partners/owners women, 100 percent of the associate attorneys are women and 84 percent of the support staff are women.

The firm strives toward work-life balance and supports a flexible work environment to assist its employees in achieving such balance. The attorneys, who believe in mentoring and fostering women within the legal profession, have served and continue to serve as role models for staff to further their education and advance their legal careers. The associate attorneys are encouraged to pursue professional development, as well as involvement in the San Diego community — specifically, to advance and protect immi-

gration rights for individuals and companies.

The partners and associate attorneys are active in the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), serving on national and local committees, including the local chapter's executive committee and the advisory board of the Immigration Justice Project of San Diego. As leaders within their profession, the attorneys present at local and national seminars to educate others and assist with difficult immigration issues. The firm is also involved in AILA's 5th Grade Creative Writing Contest to educate and encourage students to learn about and respect the immigrant culture within the United States.

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## LRAD Corp. (Formerly American Technology Corp.)

LRAD Corp.'s Long Range Acoustic Device directional sound systems are used around the world in diverse applications including fixed and mobile military deployments, maritime security, critical infrastructure and perimeter security, commercial security, border and port security, law enforcement and emergency responder communications, and wildlife preservation and control.

The company was founded in 1980 and currently has more than 320 U.S. and foreign patents and patent filings to date.

The management team at LRAD Corp. brings together a unique blend of technology licensing and manufacturing expertise with acoustic engineering experience. Together, this team has advanced the company's audio technologies and expanded its market applications.

Of the three most senior members of the management team, one is a woman: Katherine H. McDermott serves as chief financial officer.

Of the five members of the board of directors, there is one woman, Laura Clague, vice president and corporate controller of Amylyn. Another woman, Helen C. Adams, has been nominated and will presumably be elected to replace a resigning male director in March.

• • •



## National University

National University is No. 1 in California and among the top 10 colleges and universities nationally awarding master's degrees to women. NU promotes academic success among women by offering a unique accelerated one-course-per-month format, with online and evening classes that facilitate the demanding schedules of working/family women.

NU has consistently "produced" great female leaders in business, government and nonprofits throughout the state. NU alumni include successful female executives such as the mayor of Escondido, San Diego City Council members, the sheriff of Fresno County, the fire chief of Monterey Park and the chair of the California Board of Occupational Therapy.

At NU, women constitute nearly 64 percent of all students. Its core values of diversity, access and affordability have also helped minority women. NU ranks first in California in awarding master's degrees to Hispanics and African Americans, and is third nationally in granting master's degrees to Hispanic women. NU alumni have been named among *Ebony* magazine's "100 Most Promising Black Women in Corporate America."

Education is critical to career success. NU has built an educational system that is innovative and accommodating to modern women's lifestyle, responsibilities and schedules, providing so many with the opportunities to compete and win in what was once exclusively a man's world.

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## PricewaterhouseCoopers

PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) is dedicated to recruiting, developing and retaining employees who are able to contribute diverse perspectives, knowledge and experiences to the company and the clients it serves — and women are key to that effort. To foster women's career development, PwC instituted Women's Networking Circles directed at management-level

women, and Emerging Women's Networking Circles directed at senior associate-level women. Both provide role models, mentors and networks to address professional and personal challenges, leverage networks and enhance communications. PwC has circles in 34 locations, along with many industry-focused circles, and is growing circles in other markets. Both circles empower by creating an open dialogue of issues that affect women in the workplace, with assistance in managing these issues.

Half of PwC's new hires — and half of its total population — are women, and PwC is committed to removing any barriers to their success. A key part of its strategy around the retention and advancement of female staff is bringing women together to discuss issues that affect them specifically. This year, PwC's women partners and diversity leaders hosted events throughout the country focused on women's advancement. The firm held its first Global Women's Conference to share best practices for advancing women across all regions.

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## Qualcomm Inc.

Qualcomm is demonstrably committed to advancing women. Its corporate board is comprised of 18 percent women. Catalyst figures women constitute only 11 percent of Fortune 1000 company board seats, and 25 percent of Fortune 1000 companies have no women on their boards. Qualcomm is proud to have many women leaders and senior executives.

In 2009, 111 were promoted and 20 hired to director roles. Women comprise 19 percent of the management team, 23% of new hires and 24% of all employees. The CEO is extremely supportive of Women in Science & Engineering (QWISE), a dynamic group dedicated to promoting women's careers. The more than 300 members of this group focus on: mentoring, recruiting and outreach.

Qualcomm has proactively created an environment conducive for women to succeed, offering benefits including: tuition reimbursement, 100 percent paid health care and a women's mentorship program. Its innovative environment has earned Qualcomm inclusion on *Fortune* magazine's Best

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## Nominees

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Places to Work list for 12 years, and it is the 6th most diverse company of the Top 100.

Qualcomm is actively engaged with the National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) to incorporate institutional reform and increase women's participation in technology. Qualcomm provides scholarships to women and minorities studying engineering. Last year more than \$120,000 was awarded. Many awardees become employees. Qualcomm has supported organizations like Girl Scouts, GirlStart, San Diego Science Alliance, Society of Women Engineers and Athena.



### Reuben H. Fleet Science Center

SciTech is an after-school program at the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center for 4th- through 6th-grade girls at six low-income schools in San Diego County. It inspires girls to become innovative and creative thinkers by fostering excitement and interest in science, technology and engineering.

Through project-based learning and interactions with local women scientists, the girls make concrete connections to everyday life while developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Recent evaluation of the program indicates that girls who attend the program for one year acquire increased self-confidence and positive attitudes toward science.

In 2009, SciTech expanded to include high-school girls who act as mentors for younger students. The girls develop and implement hands-on activities and maintain a SciTech blog about science careers. To establish an authentic scientific learning community, all the SciTech participants regularly interact with one another via videoconferences, blogs and wikis. The girls also take weekend field trips and compete in national science contests.

By targeting girls in the upper elementary grades, SciTech fills a noticeable gap in science education in San Diego. While there are local programs that encourage middle and high school girls to pursue science careers,

there are few programs available for younger girls. SciTech acts as an important piece of the science pipeline by helping to prepare girls for future involvement in science programs when they reach upper grade levels.

• • •



### The Seany Foundation

A San Diego-based pediatric cancer charity, the Seany Foundation employs bright, motivated women in a variety of leadership positions. These include but are not limited to chief administrative officer, director of development, assistant director of development, marketing director, art director, grants manager, donations coordinator, community relations representative, public relations representative and special events coordinator. CEO Mitchell J. Robins strongly encourages and provides funding for employees to participate in educational conferences, consultations and webinars to help empower them with the self-confidence and skills needed to perform their jobs to the utmost of their abilities.

Additionally, Chief Administrative Officer Amy G. Robins works closely with the CEO to ensure that women are well represented on the board of directors. There are currently three women active on the Seany 2010 board.

Furthermore, the foundation recognizes its responsibility to provide opportunities for today's promising independent, young female leaders, and recently named its first youth ambassadors, two local high school students who will be helping to promote awareness, brainstorming, participating in fundraising activities and contributing feedback.

The Seany Foundation also has committed to funding the salary of a female research fellow from the University of California, San Diego. This young woman will spend her time in the laboratory researching the complexities of solid tumors.

The Seany Foundation exemplifies an organization fueled by the passion and intelligence of women given the opportunity to lead and excel, and to create social and scientific change.

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### SPAWAR SSC PAC

SPAWAR's SSC Pacific Navy Lab (PAC), under Jim Rohr's tireless and inspirational leadership (and with almost no budget), implements a novel K-12 outreach program for

middle-school girls every year. SSC PAC has participated in more than 50 community events in 2009, from classroom lectures to the San Diego Science Festival, reaching out to thousands of girls in our community.

The SSC PAC Center encourages middle- and high-school girls to consider science and engineering careers. Some examples include: an event called Girls' Day Out, which invites middle-school girls to local universities for a half-day on campus; Summer Boot Camp, which provides a

See **Nominees** on 24

## 2010 Auction Donors

### \$1,000-\$3,000

DPR Construction Inc.  
Clark Security  
Obagi

Oceanaire Seafood Restaurant  
Maureen Pechacek -  
PricewaterhouseCoopers

### \$500-\$999

La Costa Resort & Spa  
La Jolla Beach & Tennis Club  
Ritz Carlton Laguna Niguel

Sony Electronics Inc.  
Southwest Airlines  
Rojo Shoes

### \$150-\$499

Brooks Brothers  
June Chocheles  
Del Mar Thoroughbred Club  
Denise Barrow Salon  
Details, An Aveda Salon & Spa  
Estancia La Jolla Resort & Spa  
Heon Design - Tiffany Heon  
Vanessa Herbert  
Higgs, Fletcher & Mack - Dan Herbert  
Hyatt Regency La Jolla  
Deborah Jondall  
Joe Decker Gut Check Fitness  
David Kabakoff  
Kendell Yeagley  
KPMG  
La Jolla Sports Club  
La Jolla Yoga Center

Helen Lipka  
Robin Lipka  
Manchester Grand Hyatt  
Mayte Hatoum Studio  
Neil Mallinson  
Scott Patterman  
PricewaterhouseCoopers  
Salt Creek Golf Club  
San Diego Marriott Del Mar  
San Diego Marriott Gaslamp Quarter  
Sea World Adventure Park San Diego  
Southern California Open  
Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation  
The Mediterranean Room at the La  
Valencia Hotel  
Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians

### \$100-\$149

Arterra Restaurant  
Be Beauty  
Belly Up  
Anita Busquets  
California Center for the Arts, Escondido  
Flemings Prime Steakhouse and Wine Bar  
Steve Hochberg  
La Jolla Music Society  
Meritage Wine Market & Tasting Room  
New Village Arts Theatre, Carlsbad  
Red Tractons Restaurant  
Sally Ride  
Jill Valdez - CAbi

### \$50-\$99

Helen Adams  
Café Chloe  
Nicole DeBerg  
Cheesecake Factory  
Cohn Restaurant Group  
Nancy Conyers  
Costco  
Cottage Restaurant  
Elementary Institute of  
Science  
Lynne Friedman  
Karen Garsson  
Diane Goosetree  
Great News! Discount  
Cookware  
Legoland  
Lisa Martens  
Midway Museum  
Barbara Noerenberg  
PC Photo Encinitas  
Phil's BBQ  
Rhonda Rhyne  
San Diego Natural History  
Museum  
Denise Thompson  
Vigilucci's  
WD-40  
Elaine Weidenhammer, PhD



*Barney & Barney LLC applauds  
Athena for its work in  
promoting professional growth  
for women.*

Congratulations to our colleague,  
**Alice Campbell**, on her Athena  
Pinnacle Awards nomination. This year, Alice  
Campbell along with other Barney & Barney  
associates launched B&B GROW - an internal  
women's initiative aimed at attracting,  
retaining, educating and supporting the women  
of Barney & Barney.

*Here's to the women and men who  
make our community a place where all  
professionals can thrive.*

**Alice Campbell**  
Principal  
Barney & Barney LLC  
Employee Benefits Department

Whether you run a multi-national corporation, need group benefits for your business,  
or want to protect your home, Barney & Barney has the insurance solution for you.

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Executive Risk  
Workers' Compensation Consulting  
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## Nominees —

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week on campus for high-school girls to work with scientists and engineers; and a unique summer internship program for high-school girls from Los Angeles, whereby they reside here and work with our researchers for a month at a time.

On behalf of the SSC PCA, Rohr visits the numerous Point Loma labs, checking in on the many interns for whom he finds opportunities, as well as bringing in speakers and organizing a career-development internship program for the college high-school students. The program also includes well over 100 STEM professionals at SSC PAC to join these K-12 outreach efforts, and since 2007 has secured more than \$1 million for the SPAWAR enterprise for K-12 community outreach.



### **Young Survival Coalition - San Diego**

San Diego's Young Survival Coalition was founded by three young breast cancer survivors in 1998. All under the age of 35 at diagnosis, they were discouraged by the lack of information and resources available to young women, and were concerned about the under-representation of young women in breast cancer studies. Unlike their post-menopausal counterparts, young women diagnosed with breast cancer face higher mortality rates, fertility issues and the possibility and ramifications of early menopause.

YSC seeks to change the face of breast cancer by: advocating to increase the number of studies about young women and breast cancer; educating young women about the importance of breast self-examination and early detection; and being a point of contact for young women with breast cancer. Here in San Diego, YSC supports hundreds of young women by giving lifesaving lectures on prevention and awareness, visiting countless support group meetings and patient homes, and attending numerous medical conferences to gather and analyze the latest information on breast cancer research. Their support helps women prepare for surgery, fertility treatments, chemotherapy, radiation and reconstructive surgery.