

SIGMA XI Member Newsletter



May 2014

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Call for Nominations of Society Leadership

Executive Director Jerry Baker is asking Sigma Xi members to send in nomination packages by May 23, 2014, for elections that will take place later this year. Positions open for election will include directors, associate directors, and members of the Committee on Nominations. [Read more about the request for nominations.](#)



Additionally, members not affiliated with chapters are asked to submit nominations for an associate director of the membership-at-large constituency. This will be a new position. The nomination deadline is May 16. [Read more about the nomination request for the new associate director position.](#)

Annual Meeting: November 6-9, Glendale, Arizona

After two years of virtual gatherings, Sigma Xi's 2014 Annual Meeting will be an in-person event in Glendale, Arizona. The [Annual Meeting](#) includes the Assembly of Delegates and will be held November 6-9. The [International Research Conference](#) will run concurrently with the meeting November 7-8.



New session announced:

Getting the Science Right in Television & Film

Sigma Xi's Annual Meeting will feature member Donna Nelson, professor of organic chemistry at the University of Oklahoma, who served as science advisor to AMC's popular show, *Breaking Bad*. Dr. Nelson was selected as an advisor for the program after reading an article in *Chemical and Engineering News* about how the show's producer was seeking ongoing chemistry advice involving the program's main character, Walt (an organic chemistry high



Dates to Remember

November 6-9, 2014:
[Sigma Xi's 2014 Annual Meeting](#)

November 7-8, 2014:
[Sigma Xi's 2014 International Research Conference](#)



Contact Us

We welcome any comments or concerns you may have as a member. For staff assistance, or to share your ideas, please e-mail us at memberinfo@sigmaxi.org.

We look forward to hearing from you!

school teacher).

She will speak about her experiences of working with media programmers and why it is so important to get the science correct in TV and film. Dr. Nelson specializes in the application and characterization of the single-walled carbon nanotube.

New Sigma Xi Website and Communities Are Coming

Sigma Xi will provide more opportunities for members to connect with new professional collaboration platforms, launching later this year with Sigma Xi's redesigned website.

These online communities will be virtual spaces for members to discuss topics of common interest, share resources, and provide updates.

Help Start the Conversation:

If you could ask other Sigma Xi members a question, what would it be? Maybe you have a question about career advice, best practices, or how to find funding opportunities. Send your questions to memberinfo@sigmaxi.org. We may use it to launch our new professional collaboration platforms.

Send in Your Science Selfie

We want photos of members in action, whether you're in the lab, field, classroom, or anywhere else your day takes you. Send your science selfies to Sigma Xi's communications manager, Heather Thorstensen, at hthorstensen@sigmaxi.org, so we can share them with other members.



Photo: Member [Ali Baghchehsara](#) is researching an engine chamber in this science selfie.

Look For Your Annual Dues Renewal Notice

If you missed or forgot to mail in your dues, don't despair! You will receive another opportunity with a dues renewal notice that will be mailed to you. Sigma Xi's dues schedule is run on a fiscal year that begins each July 1. Our programming is dependent on our members' support.

If you prefer to take this task off your to-do list today, you may [make your dues payment online](#).

You will need your member ID number to complete payment and update your contact information. If you would like to request your member ID number, e-mail memberinfo@sigmaxi.org or call (800) 243-6534.



Member Benefit: Legal Plans from ARAG

With UltimateDefender from ARAG, a global provider of legal solutions, you and other Sigma Xi members can get the legal help you need—and avoid paying high-cost attorney fees. UltimateDefender costs just pennies a day and provides you valuable protection and priceless peace of mind. Whether you hired a contractor who did a lousy job, you received a traffic ticket you don't deserve, or you decided to update your will, ARAG can help. [Visit the ARAG website to learn more.](#)



Phone/Promo: 1-800-535-1182. Access code: 17992sig

Best of Social Media

Below are the most popular Twitter and Facebook updates from Sigma Xi and *American Scientist* posted in April.



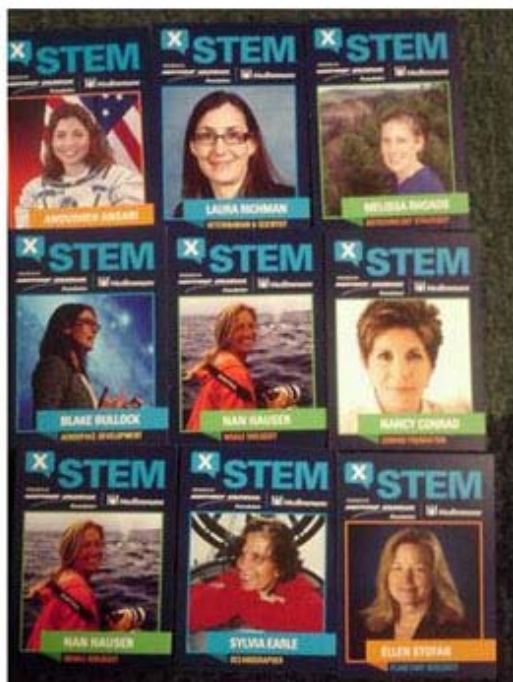
Most popular Sigma Xi tweet:



SigmaXiSociety @SigmaXiSociety - Apr 24
Check out these Women in Science trading cards from #scifest to encourage students to choose a career in STEM pic.twitter.com/WKYGuJz4c1


Hide photo

Reply Retweet Favorite More



Most popular *American Scientist* tweet:

 PINNED TWEET

 **American Scientist** @AmSciMag · Apr 30

So how can we tell if a string of numbers is really random? And why do we care?

ow.ly/w8aBB



Most popular Sigma Xi Facebook post:



Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society

Posted by Heather Thorstensen [?] · April 24

University of North Texas Health Science Center recently held an awards ceremony and inducted new Sigma Xi members!



Most popular *American Scientist* Facebook post:



American Scientist shared a link.
April 30

Strings of random numbers are at the heart of computer encryption, gambling, lotteries, audits and polls. But how can we be sure they're really random? Our latest Technologue column explores the math, and quantum physics, involved in these ideas: <http://ow.ly/w8aZK>



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