

Albuquerque, NM (May 20, 2015, revised June 14, 2015) - The New Mexico Network for Women in Science and Engineering (NMNWSE) seeks nominations for the 9th Annual NMNWSE IMPACT! Award.

The award, initiated in 2007 in partnership with the NM Commission on the Status of Women, will recognize a New Mexico woman for her achievements and contributions, and especially for her extraordinary efforts to reach out to help others enter into and succeed in science, engineering, and allied professions.

"There are fantastic women throughout New Mexico that deserve recognition for their dedication and commitment to furthering the rise of women in STEM fields," states Phyllis Baca, 2015 IMPACT! Award co-chair. "We hope you will consider nominating an outstanding woman from your organization".

Nominations forms plus instructions can be downloaded from <http://nmnwse.org/ImpactAward/>. The deadline for nominations for the 9th Annual IMPACT! Award is Monday, September 14, 2015. Post-deadline nominations will be considered for the 2016 Award.

Nominees do not need to be members of NMNWSE and, for the purposes of the award, science and engineering includes mathematics and all engineering fields as well as physical, biological, behavioral, medical and social sciences, and related technical and non-traditional fields.

The IMPACT! Award will be presented at the Networks' Annual Meeting and Technical Symposium to be held 23-25 October 2015 in Truth or Consequences, NM.

For more information, please contact the Network at NMNWSE_Board-L@list.unm.edu.

NMNWSE began in 1975 with a core group of faculty and staff from UNM wanting to reach out to women in science as a group. Incorporated in 1979, NMNWSE works to encourage and help women enter and succeed in Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) and allied careers and promote networking and communication among members by providing regularly scheduled meetings, talks and other local activities. In 1980 NMNWSE began hosting annual technical career workshops for young women, licensed from the National Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) Network. Each year about 1000 New Mexico teens and their teachers attend these free or low-cost NMNWSE EYH conferences. NMNWSE's Annual Meeting and Technical Symposium provides members an opportunity to present technical papers in a supportive environment as well as professional development and networking opportunities.

The NM Commission on the Status of Women was created by state statute to increase the knowledge of rights, responsibilities and interests of women and girls in New Mexico and to preserve women's history and contributions to our state. This program that empowered lower and middle class women was terminated in 2011 by Governor Susana Martinez.

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