

Get Inspired by Women Scientists!

For the International Day of Women & Girls in Science (February 11), we want to highlight successful women scientists. Stop by and browse biographies of women scientists or educate yourself with books about the gender gap. Get inspired by the impressive lives, fascinating personalities, exciting research, and career insights!



Opening hours

February 12 to March 8, 2024

Monday to Friday 8 am - 8 pm

Chemistry | Biology | Pharmacy Information Center
HCI, G floor, ETH Zurich Hönggerberg

Please enjoy the space but
leave everything as it is.

Thank you!

Research of prize-winning women scientists

These women scientists in Switzerland were recently recognized for their achievements.

D-BIOL: Professor Annette Oxenius (IMB) - Leopoldina Membership



Professor Annette Oxenius was elected to Leopoldina, the German National Academy of Sciences, in 2023 for her outstanding achievements in understanding the interactions between pathogens and the immune systems of their hosts.

D-MATL: Professor Athina Anastasaki - Werner Prize



The Werner Prize is awarded to promising young scientists in Switzerland. Professor Athina Anastasaki will receive the 2024 prize for her research on polymer synthesis, polymer self-assembly, and chemical recycling.

EPFL : Professor Lesya Shchutska - Latsis Award



Professor Lesya Shchutska of EPFL was awarded the Prize Latsis 2023 by the Swiss National Science Foundation for her research into particles that would expand the Standard Model.

But there is still a long way to go ...

The story of Natalie Urwyler



Dr. Natalie Urwyler, an anesthetist and emergency doctor, sought to improve conditions for pregnant women doctors. After becoming pregnant herself, her supervisor forbade her from research and teaching. During her maternity leave, her contract was terminated. In 2014 and 2018, she won court cases that stated that her dismissal was abusive and a revenge action. Despite personal costs over 500k CHF, she succeeded in proving gender discrimination related to her pregnancy. The court forced her to be reinstated to her former position, but her employer has since hindered her from resuming work.

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a detailed summary of her case



Nobel prize after demotion

Katalin Karikó is a pioneer in mRNA therapeutics. In the late 1990s, after a cancer diagnosis, her employer, the University of Pennsylvania, offered her a choice between demotion and abandoning her mRNA research; she chose the demotion, and a pay cut, to continue pursuing the research. Her perseverance led to groundbreaking contributions, notably in the development of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines.

After she was awarded the Nobel Prize in 2023, UPenn took credit on Twitter; Twitter users immediately added the context that she had been poorly treated.



Curious for more information?

Find out here about the many associations and initiatives for women in science, both national and international.

WiNS



For Women in Natural Sciences (D-CHAB, D-BIOL, D-PHYS, D-MATL) at ETH Zurich

500 Women Scientists



For Women Scientists of all ages in academia and industry in Zurich

Swiss Women in Chemistry



For Swiss Women in Chemistry at all career stages

epws



For women scientists in Europe and beyond

We want your feedback!

Please take a post-it, write down your thoughts, and stick it on the poster. The Chemistry | Biology | Pharmacy Information Center is here for you!

What would you like to see offered at ETH Zurich?

How can we increase the number of women in science?

What books on this topic would you like to read?

Do you have any additional tips regarding initiatives, projects, or associations for women in science?

Which woman scientist do you think deserves more recognition?

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