

**The Portland Section
of the American Chemical Society**

and

Reed College

present

**American Chemical Society Women in Science
Elaine Nam Memorial Symposium**

Sunday September 28, 2025



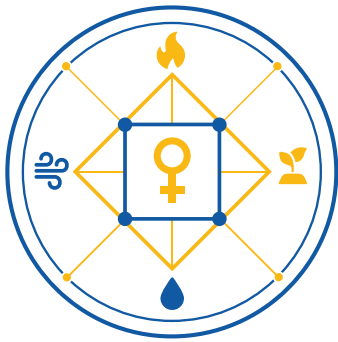
ACS Local Section
Portland

AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY



Vernier®

REED COLLEGE



WOMEN IN SCIENCE

ELAINE NAM MEMORIAL SYMPOSIUM

Reed College Kaul Auditorium
3203 Southeast Woodstock Boulevard
Portland, Oregon 97202-8199

Morning Program, Kaul Auditorium

Speaker Session I, 9:30-10:40 am

Chair: Tracey Scherban, Retired, Intel, PCC and PSU

9:30-9:40 am	Welcome and Symposium Overview, Tracey Scherban
9:40 - 10:10 am	Guest Speaker: Margaret Scharle, Professor of Philosophy & Humanities, Reed College
10:10-10:40 am	Guest Speaker: Melissa Hill, Director of Chemistry, Vernier Science Education
10:40-11:00 am	Coffee Break
11:00-11:45 am	Panel: Navigating a Career in Science. Moderators: Hope Fyfield, Paxson Yoga; Tracey Scherban Invited Panelists: Maria Giorgi, Senior Process Engineer, Intel Corp.; Divya Singh, Retired, Orthopedic Surgeon, Alameda Health; Amy Tubay, Primary Care Physician, OHSU; Andrea Goforth, Professor of Chemistry, PSU; Cathryn Poff, Climate & Sustainability Communications, Athena Communications; Susanne Menezes, Retired, Senior Process Engineer, Intel Corp.
11:45 am -12:30 pm	Buffet lunch.

12:30-12:45 pm Symposium photo outdoors in front of Kaul Auditorium immediately following lunch.

We value your feedback on this symposium. First 20 students to turn in feedback form receive a free gift!

Afternoon Program, Kaul Auditorium

Speaker Session II, 12:45-1:45 pm

Chair: Jim Tung, Marketing & Business Development, Lacamas Laboratories

12:45-1:05 pm	Invited Speaker: Megan Othus, Affiliate Professor of Biostatistics, University of Washington
1:05-1:25 pm	Invited Speaker: Heidi Rahn, Oregon Zoo Director
1:25-1:45 pm	Invited speaker: Vanessa Reid, Principal Engineer, Intel Corp.
1:45- 2:05 pm	Coffee Break
2:05-2:50 pm	Panel: Finding Your Path Moderators: Kathleen Carrigan, Retired, Chemistry Professor, PCC; Tracey Scherban Invited Panelists: Safaa El-Mansy, Visiting Professor of Chemistry, Reed College; Kira Klingenberg, Senior Instructor of Computer Science, Portland State University; Jane Ni, Senior Chemist, Veladini Technologies and Chemistry Lab Coordinator, Reed College; Angelica Osorno, Associate Professor of Mathematics, Reed College; Hannah Boxberger, Method Development Chemist, Church & Dwight; Sherry Alves, Professor of Jazz Voice, PSU
2:50-3:30 pm	Feedback/Resources/Closing Remarks
2:50-3:05 pm	Tracey Scherban, Closing Remarks
3:05-3:20 pm	Student Essay Winners: Why Science Fascinates Me
3:20-3:30 pm	Songs for Elaine performed by Sherry Alves (vocalist) and Kerry Politzer (pianist), performing "Fly Away Birdie" composed by S. Gazarek & J. Nelson and <i>Tristeza</i> (Goodbye Sadness) composed by H. Lobo & Niltoninho.

Elaine Nam

September 6, 1976 – September 12, 2023

Elaine Nam was an ACS Portland Section member for over 15 years. She served as the chair of the Portland ACS Women Chemists Committee, Science Coach and Portland Section Secretary. She co-organized the first Portland ACS Women in Science Summit at Reed College in January 2018, which attracted nearly 100 college students from Portland area institutions. She was a Scientific Director at Vernier Science Education for over 13 years. Elaine received a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Pomona College. Her doctoral research at the University of Washington was in Bioinorganic Chemistry. She will be remembered for her enthusiasm for science, her passion for her work teaching teachers at Vernier, her volunteer work for the environment and social services, her interest in promoting women in science and her warmth and charm.

Acknowledgements

The following Lunch Table Mentors are recognized:

Pauline Alokolaro, Seattle Prep
Stephanie Bryan, PCC
Bernie Carlsen, Retired Science Educator
Nusret Hism, Vernier Science Education
Angela Hoffman, University of Portland
Colleen McDaniel, Vernier Science Education
Dina Nam, UCLA
Fran Poodry, Vernier Science Education
Jeremy Thomas, Vernier Science Education
Elizabeth Thompson, FDA
Elani Cabrera Vega, PSU

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The organizing committee would like to thank Reed College for hosting this event and all speakers, panelists, moderators, lunch table mentors and student participants for making this event possible.

Organizing Committee

Tracey Scherban, retired, PCC, PSU, Intel Corp.
Martha Dibblee, state of Oregon
Jim Tung, Lacamas Laboratories
Safaa El-Mansy, Reed College

"Compromising doesn't mean a person's ideas are not important. Compromising is taking the best ideas from everyone to have a successful final product."—Elaine Nam