



Cambridge AWiSE 2007-2008.

Objective 1: Strengthen and Expand Cambridge AWiSE

- Cambridge AWiSE supports women in SET through networking, information and mentoring.
- We have over 80 members who come from all different SET disciplines and career stages.
 - 48% in academia, 16% in industry, 14% in enterprise and 19% returners.
 - 43% in Biosciences, 13% in IT + Technology, 13% in Physical Sciences, 8% in Engineering.
- We actively participate in public events such as International Women's Day, National Science and Engineering Week and Cambridge Science Festival. These events allow us to:
 - Raise the profile of Cambridge AWiSE.
 - Raise the profile of women in SET generally.
 - Reach out to women in SET and women on career breaks.
 - Act as role models to women and children and answer questions about SET careers.

Objective 2. Reach out to Women on Career Breaks

- 19% of our members are returners.
- Our website - www.camawise.org.uk - contains resources specifically for these women.
- Cambridge AWiSE actively supports the **UKRC's Return Campaign** by publicising the UKRC, the OU T161 Course and the Daphne Jackson Fellowship Scheme at public events.
- This year we have held a specific networking meeting for Women Returners – **Back on Track: Ways back into SET after a career break** with talks from representatives of the UKRC, the Daphne Jackson Trust and SETPoint Cambridgeshire.
- One member has successfully applied for a Wellcome Trust Foundation Grant and returned to research, another has undertaken back-to-IT training and is working as a Software tester, one is now an OU Student and two are undertaking voluntary work as Science and Engineering Ambassadors.

Objective 3: Provide a Programme of Networking Events

- Cambridge AWiSE held 14 networking and social events in 2007-2008. Our average meeting attendance is 32 and over 300 different women (and men) have attended our events this year.
- The year's highlight was our joint meeting with Lucy Cavendish College to celebrate International Women's Day and National Science and Engineering Week. The meeting, **Creativity and Innovation: Personal Strengths and the Shaping of Careers in Science** was held in memory of Dr. Anne McLaren FRS, DBE and past President of AWiSE. The meeting was sponsored by **The Greater Cambridge Partnership** and **PiR Interims**. 80 women and men attended.
- We held our first joint meeting with **The Medical Research Council Women in Science Group - What Next? Successful Careers After Academia**. Very good feedback from ~60 participants.
- We have also held joint events with Cambridge Business Women's Network, The University of Cambridge Women in Science, Engineering and Technology Initiative (WiSETI) and Women@CL. These meetings publicise Cambridge AWiSE and give members access to wider networks.

Objective 4: Offer Mentoring Support to our Members.

- We are proud to be part of MentorSET and actively publicise the scheme at our networking meetings, at public events and at specific workplaces around Cambridge.

Objective 5: Maintain an Active Website and Produce Regular Newsletters.

- We provide an up-to-date source of information relevant to women in SET through our website – www.camawise.org.uk and produce 4-5 newsletters a year.
- Thanks to sponsorship from **Cambridge Science Festival**, we have produced our own Photodisplay of Women in SET. This shows women at all stages of their careers and paints a very positive picture of a career in SET. We hope this helps break down some of the stereotypes surrounding scientists, engineers and technologists.