

*MEDIA ADVISORY FOR*  
Thursday, January 15  
10:00 a.m.

Contact: Dane Vandenberg  
(202) 466-9633  
[dane@turnerstrategies.com](mailto:dane@turnerstrategies.com)

## **Women & Minorities Rare on Science and Engineering Research University Faculties Despite Increasing PhD Recipients**

### **First National Analysis of Top School Faculty Finds Severe Problems**

Scientific and advocacy organizations will host the release of the most comprehensive national analysis to date of women and minorities in top math, science, and engineering departments at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at the National Press Club.

The report finds far fewer women than men on these faculties, even in disciplines where females outnumber male Ph.D. recipients. As a result, a woman can get a Bachelor of Science without being taught by a female professor in her discipline or might earn a Ph.D. without having access to a woman faculty member in her field. Only three to fifteen percent of full professors in the top engineering and science departments are women, although the percentage of Ph.D.s awarded to women is much higher. There is no Native American female full professor and only one such African American female in the physical sciences and engineering departments surveyed. Thirty years after the passage of Title IX, the bill that promises equal opportunity for women in all aspects of federally funded education programs, women are still severely underrepresented on science, technology, engineering and mathematics faculties and exist primarily at the lowest professorial ranking.

These findings come only one year after Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) called on the U.S. Department of Education to account for the low number of women in faculty positions in response to a petition signed by hundreds of scientists, mathematicians, engineers, educators, and clinicians nationwide. Sen. Wyden will host a Capitol Hill briefing on this research at 2 pm the same day.

The final report, co-written by Dr. Donna J. Nelson and Diana C. Rogers of the University of Oklahoma, will be released at the press event. Dissemination of the research results was supported by the Ford Foundation through the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and by the Guggenheim Foundation.

**When:** 10:00 a.m. Thursday, January 15

**Where:** National Press Club, 14<sup>th</sup> & F Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C.

**Who:** Moderator: Catherine Didion, Executive Director, Association for Women in Science

Dr. Donna Nelson, Researcher and Report Author,  
Associate Professor of Chemistry, University of Oklahoma

Dr. Mae C. Jemison, NASA Astronaut 1987-93; Professor-At-Large, Cornell University;  
Founder, The Earth We Share, an international science camp; President, BioSentient  
Corporation, a medical devices company

Kim Gandy, President, National Organization for Women

Marcia D. Greenberger, Co-President, National Women's Law Center

Jacqueline E. Woods, Executive Director, American Association of  
University Women

*Undergraduate students from the University of California at Berkeley, the University of Oklahoma, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology will be available for interview.*