

# NSF Grants Aid Women in Science

## The American University Receives Second-largest Grant

The American University in Washington, DC, has been awarded a \$106,699 grant by the National Science Foundation (NSF) to develop and test education programs to attract and retain women in scientific careers.

The AU Science Career Facilitation Project for Women will be directed by Nina M. Roscher, director of academic administration at the university and also a member of the chemistry department faculty. The tuition-free program will be directed at women who received bachelor's or master's degrees in the chemistry field between 2 and 15 years ago who are not presently employed in the fields for which they were trained.

"The program will enable women in science to update their information in their career field or prepare them to go on to graduate school or directly into employment," Roscher said.

AU's grant, the second largest awarded, is one of 11 nationwide and one of 2 given for the chemistry discipline. Concurrent projects at other institutions will center on engineering, mathematics, computer science, and interdisciplinary science fields. NSF created the project because fewer than 10% of the American scientific work force are women.

The funding permits each participating school to develop its own methods for running the project. "At AU, we'll concentrate on organic, physical, and analytical chemistry and biochemistry," Roscher said.

"Our program will not be divided into normal, credit courses. Instead, we'll present topics in the four major areas. Part of the project will deal with theory updating, but we'll also emphasize practical lab work." The program will draw upon the AU chemistry and related faculties and will be developed in two phases.

Phase I, starting Oct. 5, will last 28 weeks, with 4-hour sessions Monday through Friday. The lecture-and-lab format will run from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., a time slot expected to facilitate participation in the project by women with school-age children at home.

Phase II will occur next summer as a concentrated 14-week, all-day Monday through Friday program. The two different sessions are being designed to reach different audiences of women. The two phases are expected to enroll

a total of 40 women.

Application forms for this fall's program and more details are available from Dr. Nina Roscher, Department of Chemistry, The American University, Washington, DC 20016 (tele: 202-686-2398).

## Fifty Women Will Study Polymer Science at Polytechnic Institute of New York

Among the other awards made was a \$60,132 grant to Polytechnic Institute of New York to provide 50 women with the opportunity to study polymer science and engineering.

According to Bernard J. Bulkin, dean of arts and sciences, polymer science was chosen by Polytechnic because it is a field in which there are few women employed and also an area in which there is currently good potential for employment.

Of the approximately 350 women nationwide who will participate in the NSF career projects, the largest number is to be selected by Polytechnic for the polymer program.

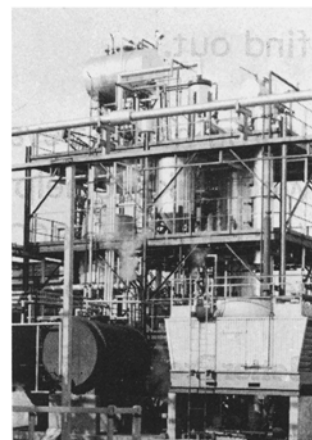
The women will follow an individualized program of study involving short courses and seminars in preparation for entry into one of three programs: Polytechnic Certificate in Polymeric Materials; M.S. in Polymeric Materials, or Ph.D. in Polymer Science and Engineering.

The NSF grant funds the special individualized course sequence but does not cover tuition in degree programs.

The program begins in February and continues for either one or two semesters, contingent on the participant's level of proficiency. Women interested in applying for admission should contact Dean Bulkin, Polytechnic Institute of New York, 333 Jay Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201 (tele: 212-643-5000).

For complete  
**FATTY  
AMINE**  
Plants

designed and  
built to your  
requirements.



Jowett registered design.

CONSULT:

**Peter Jowett & Co. Ltd.**  
CHEMICAL ENGINEERS

Tame Street  
Stalybridge,  
Tameside, England SK15 1QW.  
Phone 061 339 2511 Telex: 669760

ALSO for Hydrogenation and Fatty  
Acid Processing Plants.