

AWIS Convenor's Report, 30 July 2016

Emma Timewell, National Convenor



AWIS had 97 members and 3 corporate members at the end of the 2015/16 year, broken down into regions:

- Auckland 30
- Christchurch 16
- Dunedin 9
- Manawatu 3
- Nelson 7
- Rotorua 3
- Waikato 5
- Wellington 23

The 2015/16 year has been quite quiet for AWIS compared to previous years, thanks to new babies, new houses, new jobs and new countries!

Five of our regions have been active with events this year – Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin and Palmerston North. From International Women's Day gatherings to PhD information evenings and after work networking drinks, we've provided a number of opportunities for women in science to get together and share their experiences.

As our first full year as a Constituent Organisation of the Royal Society of New Zealand, we've also been involved in a number of discussions about the science system, most notably on gender diversity in New Zealand science organisations.

In October, we awarded our second Miriam Dell Award for Excellence in Science Mentoring to Dr Roslyn Kemp from Otago University, and celebrated the award with her and her friends and colleagues. A special mention also went to Dr Alec Mackay from AgResearch in Palmerston North.

Thanks to all the Executive for their help and support, and particular thanks to Natalie Harfoot and Ngaire Phillips for their time on the Executive as they step down from our group. I am very grateful for all the Executive's commitment to AWIS, particularly over the past year when I have been otherwise engaged with baby-related activities!

The ninth triennial conference will be taking place on 13 and 14 July 2017 in Auckland, so keep an eye out for more information coming soon. If you'd like to join the organising committee, please let me know.