

A new era for WISC:

Since its launch in late 2019, WISC has achieved much towards its aims of creating a sense of community and kinship to support the progression and retention of women and other marginalised groups in supramolecular chemistry. This includes a successful mentorship programme, funded research projects, publications (journal articles, book chapters, comment pieces, and a book), community clusters, and of course our events and webinars, often in collaboration with vMASC.

WISC's stated ethos is to be **area-specific** and **community-led** to ensure that everything is relevant to and meaningful for the supramolecular chemistry community. Members of the WISC board have taken their passion and commitment to EDI work into wider arenas – for example tackling the culture within science and chemistry, addressing accessibility within the chemistry laboratory, ableism in academia and the barriers faced by disabled scientists, the visibility of Black women in chemistry and African women in science, and the challenges associated with parenting such as planning a family, pregnancy, and fathers. Much of this work has initiated new collaborations and partnerships.

In order to stay **true to its original mission**, **be current** to the challenges of the supramolecular community, and **grow**, WISC has to make sure it is in a position to embrace change. WISC's new Terms of Reference enshrine this by stating that every three years a new individual should take over the position of Chair.

Jennifer Hiscock has been Chair of WISC since its launch in November 2019. We are very grateful for everything that she has enabled and for her leadership of this organisation over the last three years. As of January 2023, Jennifer will move into a position on the WISC Advisory Board to support the incoming Chair of WISC, Anna McConnell.

Anna was also a founding member of WISC, acting as Vice Chair of Organisation. Her passion to support EDI issues and the retention and progression of women and other minority groups within the field of supramolecular chemistry makes her the perfect candidate to ensure that **WISC continues in its core mission to support women and other marginalised groups within supramolecular chemistry**.

Please keep in touch to get involved in any WISC activities –

- sign up to be a mentor or mentee
- find out about our events (keep your eyes peeled for a webinar on careers coming soon)
- join one of our community clusters to find a safer space to share experiences of and talk about parenting, disability/chronic illness/neurodivergence, or being 1st Gen
- help publicise and raise awareness of our Open Access book Women in Supramolecular Chemistry: Collectively crafting the rhythms of our work and lives in STEM
- hear about our ongoing projects and publications
- hear about other EDI related work and resources with a wider remit from the scientific community, Board and Advisory Board members that may be of interest