

WISE WORDS

Wisdom shared by attendees at the 2024 Women in Science and Engineering gathering.

- Don't take criticism from those who aren't in the arena.
- Don't sweat the small stuff.
- Don't put everyone else above yourself.
- Learn to say no to service jobs which have no obvious benefit to yourself.
- Learn to say no and actually mean it!
- It's not a bad thing to put your nose to the grindstone and get lots of work done, but make sure to look up once in a while to make sure you're going in the right direction.
- Take a breath.
- If you are deciding whether to join a committee ask yourself 1) Will I make a difference in the outcome if I get involved? 2) Will I meet interesting people? Will I learn something new?
- What would you do if you weren't afraid?
- Don't get too upset when things don't change fast enough. Keep at it!
- Never ever give up.
- Treat everyone as you would like to be treated, and walk away from those who treat you ill.
- When you are asked to do something, before saying yes ask yourself 2 questions 1) Do I bring some unique skill to the task? 2) Do I care if the task is done well. Accept only if the answer to both questions is YES!
- People matter. Collaborate with good people. You are too busy to collaborate with others.
- Be willing to let it be easy. You might be surprised.
- You don't have to follow how others do research, teaching etc. You can follow your own path.
- Wanting to achieve something is different from being able to do it, and these are both different from actually doing it.
- We all drop balls, you just need to figure out which balls are glass, and which are rubber.
- Start with a mini result.
- To say no to students: "No, this wouldn't be fair to other students".
- Nominate yourself for awards. Ask people to nominate you for awards.
- Go for coffee/lunch with every member of your department.