Preaching beyond the converted:

Actions required of men to advance gender equity in entomology



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"The single most important thing we can do is get men to change their behavior."

-Dr. Joan Herbers

(2018, at IUSSI Congress)



Student Members	Regular Members
2007: 48%	2007: 19%
2017: 61%	2017: 27%
	Data from: Wiedenmann, R.N. 2017. American Entomologist 64: 176-185

What causes inequity?

- 1. Implicit Bias
- 2. Gender harassment

Why do men have to fix this?

- 1. Men are the main problem
- 2. Men experience fewer professional setbacks when we advocate for gender equity

What do we need to do?

Implicit bias

- 1. Educate ourselves about implicit bias
- 2. Actively work against the consequences of implicit bias

Actions that work for your role			
Instructor	Chair	Technician	
Dean	Boss	Mentor	
PI	Student	Faculty	
Reviewer	Audience Member		

What do we need to do?

Gender harassment

- 1. Educate ourselves about harassment
- 2. Bystander intervention
- 3. Eliminate refuge and silent support for bad actors



Culture change is key to reducing sexual harassment in academia, report says
Increasing diversity and avoiding students' dependence on a single adviser are among the recommendations to improve what's currently a toxic work environment.

Toul Feder

Sexual harassment is pushing researchers out of science and medicine, says a new report by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, and combating the problem requires systemwide changes at colleges and universities.

Two approaches to culture change

- 1. Modify daily actions and relationships
- 2. Create structural changes in organizations

A few key points

- 1. An "ally" identity doesn't help
- 2. Gender * ethnicity
- 3. Your feelings don't create change
- 4. You'll need to try, screw up, listen, and learn.

Please take this message home with you:

Men must stop tolerating unacceptable behavior by other men. We must model appropriate behavior, change our institutions, and increase the social cost to bad actors. This is how culture changes.