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Paper title:

Women in science: advanced juggling techniques

Abstract:

Women, despite many barriers, have participated in unraveling the secrets of nature since the dawn of civilization all over the world. The women scientists span several centuries and several nationalities. They struggled in common with their male counterparts against fascism, racism, and discrimination based on class and ethnicity. Some achieved such pinnacles as the Nobel Prize, while others have been nearly lost to history. Naomi Oreskes described this situation very well, "The question is not why there haven't been more women in science; the question is rather why we have not heard more about them." The same situation is depicted today as well by the fact that in European countries for example, there are proportionally more female than male graduates, but women remain under-represented in science and in decision-making bodies concerned with scientific issues. I believe the reasons behind are complex and multiple.

Here I will review my professional experience as a scientist dealing with stem cells and brain diseases in the context of a competitive and challenging transnational environment.