



Action Potential #5

Databases of Underrepresented Scientists

Women are inadequately represented not only in higher academic positions in STEM, but also as expert voices in the media¹ and as speakers on scientific panels and in colloquia². To address this imbalance, initiatives have created databases of women scientists. Similarly, Black neuroscientists and LGBTQ+ researchers have created databases to raise visibility and diversify science.

Databases can facilitate the search for qualified female and other underrepresented researchers as:

- candidates for professorships and other open positions (active recruitment)
- speakers for seminar series or scientific events
- experts for advisory panels, editorial boards, commissions, committees
- interview partners for the media
- mentors... and more

Selected databases of female and other underrepresented scientists:

Neuroscience

[ALBA Network](#)
[Anneslist](#)

[Black In Neuro](#)

[NEURONEXXT](#)

[Women in Neuroscience](#)

All academic or STEM fields

[AcademiaNet](#)

[Gage \(formerly Request a Woman Scientist\)](#)

[500 Queer Scientists](#)

Recommended reading:

1. McCullagh EA, Nowak K, Pogoriler A, Metcalf JL, Zaringhalam M, Zelikova TJ. Request a woman scientist: A database for diversifying the public face of science. PLoS Biol. 17(4): e3000212 (2019)
2. Nittrouer CL, Hebl MR, Ashburn-Nardo L, Trump-Steele RCE, Lane DM, Valian V. Gender disparities in colloquium speakers at top universities. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 115(1):104-108 (2018)

Contact: kimberly.mason@charite.de