Who Holds Us Back?
A Personal Account of Cultural and Societal Obstacles Facing Women Pursuing Careers in Science

The progress toward gender equality in high-profile careers has been slow—women are still under-represented in the workforce and, in particular, in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields. Moreover, the distribution of women in industry and academe is uneven: there are fewer women in top positions. Even when holding the same position, women are not equally compensated and their achievements often do not receive the recognition they deserve. Different aspects of gender inequality in science will be discussed; the issues will be illustrated with quantitative examples. Issues such as gender schemas, stereotypes, and biases continue to pose obstacles for advancement of women in science. The societal pressures that still exist even in developed countries contribute to the problem of leaky pipeline. Better understanding of the problem is the first step toward a solution.

Anna Krylov is a professor of chemistry at the University of Southern California, working in the area of theoretical and computational quantum chemistry. The main focus of her research is in electronic structure theory and ab initio methodology. She is one of the leading experts in quantum chemical description of open-shell and electronically excited species. Krylov has co-authored more than 150 publications, has delivered more than 170 invited lectures, and received numerous honors for her research and contributions to the science community, including being elected a Fellow of American Physical Society in 2011 and of the American Association of Advancement of Science in 2012.

This seminar will also be available online through UMConnect.
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Department of Chemistry
Host: Professor Christopher Cramer
Refreshments will be served prior to the seminar.