FEMALE CLIMATE SCIENTISTS

By Lisa Zandi

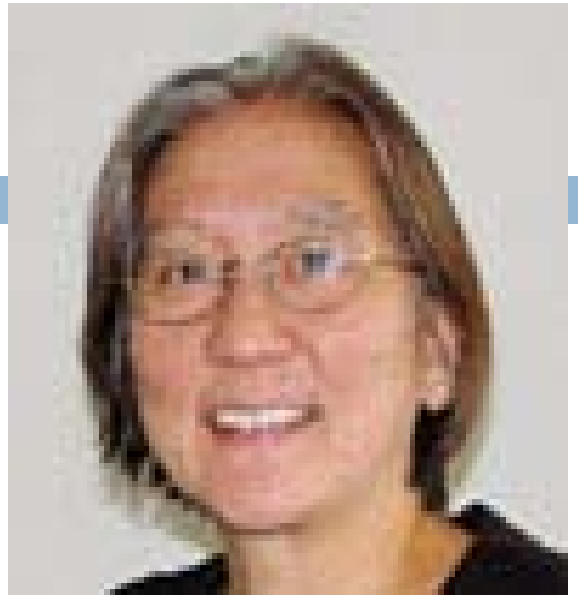
Why is it important to recognize female climate scientists?

- Nearly all sciences, including atmospheric science, have been stereotyped as male dominated.
- This stereotype exists for a reason: most sciences are male dominated.
- Because of male domination in sciences I think it is important to look at women who have bucked this trend and found success in the sciences.
- Why do you think that sciences are male dominated?

- First I want to apologize for the super basic PowerPoint. Believe it or not this is my first PowerPoint ever!

- I want everyone to know that finding female climate scientists was not as easy as I thought it would be. I thought I could possibly Google 'famous female climate scientists' and a long list would pop up. This is not so. My struggle to find female climate scientists is what brought me to create this first slide. I think it is crucial to point out why this PowerPoint topic is important to me and to engage the audience with the question of why do you think climate scientists are much more rare than male climate scientists?
- There is no real right or wrong answer to the question I pose on the first slide. I don't have an answer to the question myself. I just wanted an interactive element to my presentation that gets the audience thinking.

Inez Fung



Inez is a professor of Atmospheric Science at UC Berkeley and the Co-Director of Berkeley Institute of the Environment.

She was born April 11th, 1949 in Hong Kong.

In 1979 Inez became the second woman to graduate from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) with a doctorate in meteorology.

Contributor to the 2007 Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC).

- Inez Fung grew up on Hong Kong Island in the South China Sea.
- As a teenager, Inez thought about becoming a pianist or a doctor. But math and science drew her interest, too. And she was good at both subjects.
- After high school, Inez traveled halfway around the world to go to college in the United States. She attended Utica College in New York, then transferred to MIT—the Massachusetts Institute of Technology—to study math.
- After earning her bachelor's degree, Inez decided to pursue a graduate degree in meteorology, the study of weather. Inez's childhood memories of the hurricanes that blew through Hong Kong had inspired her choice. She wanted to learn how these massive storms form and why they're shaped like huge spirals.
- As well as being a contributor to the 2007 IPCC that we know and love she has also written and been a contributor to a number of reports. You can view a good list of them on her UC Berkeley page at http://www.atmos.berkeley.edu/~inez/. This is the site where I got the picture on the top right hand corner as well as the information on what she does at UC Berkeley.
- The rest of the information is from a website called I Was Wondering which has a lot of great information on various female scientists. The website is for children so it is adorable. http://www.iwaswondering.org/inez_homepage.html.

Brenda Ekwurzel

Brenda Ekwurzel is a climate scientist whose expertise is global warming science and impacts.

Dr. Ekwurzel completed her doctorate work at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University and post-doctoral research at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California.

Brenda Ekwurzel works on the national climate program at the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS). She is leading UCS's climate science education work aimed at strengthening support for strong federal climate legislation and sound U.S. climate policies.

Prior to joining UCS, Dr. Ekwurzel was on the faculty of the University of Arizona Department of Hydrology and Water Resources with a joint appointment in the Geosciences Department.

- Her specialty is isotope geochemistry, a tool she has used to study climate variability in places as disparate as the Arctic Ocean and the desert Southwest.
- She has published on topics that include climate variability and fire, isotopic dating of groundwater, Arctic Ocean tracer oceanography, paleohydrology, and coastal sediment erosion.
- She has also worked as a hydrologist with the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, working with communities to protect groundwater sources.
- In October 2007 she was on an episode of the O'Reilly factor fighting will Bill O'Reilly about climate change. If I knew more about PowerPoint I would put the video on my slide. You can find the clip on youtube.com.
- All text and photo courtesy of http://www.ucsusa.org/news/experts/brenda-ekwurzel.html