

## Council names innovation finalists

Connecticut Post Staff

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HARTFORD -- The Connecticut Technology Council recently named the finalists in eight categories for its fifth Women of Innovation awards. The council will announce the winners on Jan. 29.

**Academic Innovation and Leadership:** Patricia Compagnone-Post, associate professor of biology, Albertus Magnus College; Amy Howell, professor, University of Connecticut Department of Chemistry; Liisa Kuhn, assistant professor, Department of Reconstructive Sciences, University of Connecticut Health Center; Jani Pallis, associate professor, University of Bridgeport; Sarah Raskin, associate professor, Trinity College; and Kyle Vanderlick, Thomas E. Golden, Jr. Professor and Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science, Yale University.

**Collegian Innovation and Leadership:** Laura Baker of East Haddam, student, Central Connecticut State University; Zoe Cournia, postdoctoral fellow, Yale University; Emily Neumann of Litchfield, student, University of Connecticut; Merry Smith, student, Trinity College; and Subrina Thompson, graduate student, University of Bridgeport.

**Community Innovation and Leadership:** Diane Curtis, academic developer and evangelist, Microsoft, Farmington; Susan Masino, associate professor, Trinity College; and Joy Wolke, founder and creative director, Projects for a New Millennium, Branford.

**Entrepreneurial Innovation and Leadership:** Jennifer

Hanson, CEO, Realsight LLC, Darien; Bala Krishnamurthy, CEO, Aeolean Inc., Ridgefield; Teresa Piliouras, president, Albright Associates Inc., Weston; Rekha Shertukde, president, Diagnostic Devices Inc., Simsbury; Alice Turner Thompson, owner, URISE Inc., Manchester; Leonora Valvo, CEO, The Global Executive, Ridgefield; and Li Zhao, CEO/president, Fabric Trends International LLC, Plainfield.

**Large Business Innovation and Leadership:** Nancy Beckwith, manager of supplier quality, Electric Boat Corp., Groton; Robin Bray, pilot, flight operations, United Technologies Corp., Hartford; Donna Cyr, director of technology licensing, University of Connecticut, Farmington; Diane Drew, manager, thermo/aerodynamics, UTC/Hamilton Sundstrand, Windsor Locks; Julia Hutchinson, manager, engine center cost reduction group, UTC/Pratt & Whitney, Middletown; Patricia Lombardo, engineering specialist, Electric Boat Corp., Groton; Pamela Mackenzie, area vice president, Hartford/Springfield, Comcast Corp., Enfield; Georgia Papatomas, senior vice president and CIO, Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Ridgefield; Theodora Saunders, manager, system engineering process group, UTC/Sikorsky Aircraft, Hamden; Jodi Vecchiarelli, acting director of physical sciences, United Technologies Research Center, East Hartford; Nancy Williams, IT director, GE Capital-CFS, Norwalk; and Yuling Wu, director of computer science and physical science, advanced concepts and technology, Pitney Bowes, Shelton.

**Research Innovation and Leadership:** Jun-Hong Cui, associate professor, computer science and engineering, University of Connecticut; Mingjun Huang, senior director of virology, Achillion Pharmaceuticals, New Haven; Danielle Merrick, senior engineer, Electric Boat Corp., Groton; Lynne Regan, professor, Yale University; Barbara Sahagan, research fellow, Pfizer Inc., Groton; June Watzl,

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scientist, MRI human brain research, Yale School of Medicine; and Susanne Yelin, associate professor of physics, University of Connecticut.

Small Business Innovation and Leadership: Sally Cohn, executive vice president, client services, RecoveryPlanner.com Inc., Shelton; Betsy Didan, assistant vice president, document processing, COCC, Avon; Heidi Douglas, president and CEO, MysticMD, Groton; Margaret O'Hara, group vice president, products, IVANS Inc., Stamford; Deborah Santy, program director, The Connecticut Small Business Innovation Research office, East Hartford; and Jean Stimolo, executive director, Rideworks, Connecticut Department of Transportation, New Haven.

Youth Innovation and Leadership: Brenda Lisitano, student, Greater Hartford Academy of Math and Science; Oluwadamilola Oni-Orisan, student, Greater Hartford Academy of Math and Science; Sanjay Patel, student, Greater Hartford Academy of Math and Science; Priya Ranade, student, East Lyme High School; Fiona Wood, student, North Haven High School; and Chelsea Yalen, student, Greater Hartford Academy of Math and Science.

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