



## JOHNSON & JOHNSON CONSUMER COMPANIES, INC. MEDAL

### THE ASME BIOENGINEERING DIVISION'S WOMEN'S NETWORKING GROUP



The Johnson & Johnson Consumer Companies, Inc. Medal recognizes outstanding contributions by an individual, company, government entity, school or other organization toward developing and implementing practices, processes and programs that value and strategically manage diversity and inclusiveness. The award was established by the Board on Diversity and Outreach in 2004 through the generous contributions of individual ASME members and Johnson & Johnson Consumer Companies, Inc.

The ASME Bioengineering Division's Women's Networking Group is recognized for the development and implementation of a program to strategically improve gender diversity and inclusiveness within the division.

The division has supported the annual Summer Bioengineering Conference since 1993. Known as the Summer Biomechanics, Bioengineering and Biotransport Conference (SB<sup>3</sup>C) since 2015, the conference provides a forum for bioengineering researchers and educators to present and discuss current trends; as well as a rich networking platform through features including workshops, poster sessions, a sponsor/exhibitor area, a career fair and paper competitions.

Recognizing the need for women to meet together as a group, former 2005 BED Summer Bioengineering Conference chair Jennifer Wayne and local arrangements chair Rita Patterson decided to host the first informal women's networking event in 2007 with 17 women in attendance. The goals were to enhance connections with one another; to increase the number of women receiving award nominations and earning the distinction of ASME Fellow; and to provide general mentoring. That initial gathering launched what became known as the Women's Networking Group.

Over the past 15 years, with various women playing key roles along the way, the ASME BED's Women's Networking Group has provided a forum for the dissemination of knowledge about award criteria and opportunities as well as an environment in which women at different professional levels can support each other. The number of women receiving ASME honors is increasing as is the visibility of female role models.

