



**NORTH CAROLINA  
BIOSCIENCES  
ORGANIZATION**

## **Presentation to the House Select Committee on Advancing Women in STEM**

**Laura Gunter, president**

*August 24, 2022*

# STEMgirls RISeUP Overview

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## Mission:

STEMgirls RISEUP (Rejecting Identity Stereotypes in Underrepresented Populations) seeks to increase the number of historically underrepresented girls choosing careers in STEM fields.

## Overview:



Expand the reach of iBIO's successful 5-day STEMgirls summer camps to up to 10 states throughout the nation. Over four years, the partnership will provide 30 camps that serve 3,750 girls and up to 30 teachers. Sustainable funding will be sought from local industry, government and community partners.

The project also provides hands-on activities for STEMgirls campers to share with their families after camp. Total kits provided 11,700 (3 kits per camper and facilitator per year).

# Details: 5-day Camp

**Focus:** Girls grades 3-8

**History:** Since 2016, iBIO has provided 7 years of camps for low-income, minority urban and rural girls funded by local life sciences industry and community partners. (2 camps were co-ed and virtual due to COVID-19).

**Locations:** NC, CA (2), OR, GA, WI, IL (2), MI, OH

## Format:

- 5-day summer camp
- Hands-on STEM/STEAM activities with professional facilitation
- Field Trip with hands-on experience
- Activities are engineering-focused but cover wide variety of STEM areas
- Engagement from local STEM community volunteers
- Family Day celebration and STEM career fair on day 5



**stem girls** camp



# Details: STEM Kits

- Each camper receives 3 STEM Kits per summer
- Activities are built on iBIO's research-based curricular assets to create fun, safe and age-appropriate activities for at home STEM exploration.
- Each Kit includes:
  - Materials needed
  - Printed activity instructions in English and Spanish
  - Link to instructional video
  - Features a local STEM professional on the STEM Hero card and video



**STEM Hero**  
Gordon Tommy

**STEM KIT**

Sr. Manager, Quality Material Control, Molecular Diagnostics, Abbott

iBIO STEM kits are brought to Des Plaines schools through the generous support of:

**Abbott**

*"STEM is life! Everything in the world relates back to STEM and STEM fields. You don't think about it all the time, but STEM is everything."*



**BEST ADVICE**  
Everything is linked to STEM. It creates so many opportunities.

**STEM INSPIRATION**  
My middle school science teacher and my high school Chemistry teacher

**FAVORITE SUBJECT**  
Math & Chemistry

**BIGGEST CHALLENGE**  
Making sure you master one step before moving on to the next one.

**MY FREE TIME**  
COACHING YOUTH BASKETBALL

**HANGING OUT WITH MY KIDS**

**EDUCATION AND DEGREES**  
Davison High School, Flint, MI  
BS Chemistry, Olivet Nazarene University, Kankakee, IL  
MS Chemistry, Governor's State University, Richton Park, IL

**BUT...WHAT DO YOU DO?**  
I am responsible for releasing all the materials before they go out. In order to be sure a product is ready to ship, my group inspects the finished product to make sure it follows all customer specifications and works as intended. The main products we make at our location are coronavirus test kits – the test kits used to determine if someone is positive or negative for the COVID-19 virus. It's really been a busy year!

**WHAT I LOVE MOST...**  
*What I love most is that I know I am producing something that is badly needed by the public. My work has a direct impact on my family, my friends, the community and the world. It's great to know that something you are doing every day means something and really has impact. Knowing that we are helping people and having a positive impact makes it very easy to come to work everyday.*

Want to learn more?  
Check out my video interview!





# Precedent

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- iBIO has already proven program scalability through the \$2.77M US Dept of Defense grant awarded in 2020 in partnership with Goshen Education Consulting to scale STEMgirls for military connected kids across the country.
- In the first two years, 2695 students have completed STEMKAMP summer camps. KAMPs are located in Wayne County, NC, RI, NJ, IL, TX, KS, WA, ND, WI, and AK.
- In a survey completed after Year 1 STEMKAMPs, 73% of parents said that STEMKAMP prompted their child to think about a career in STEM.



**WIB**

Women In Bio

**NC House Select Committee:  
Women in STEM**

**24 August 2022**

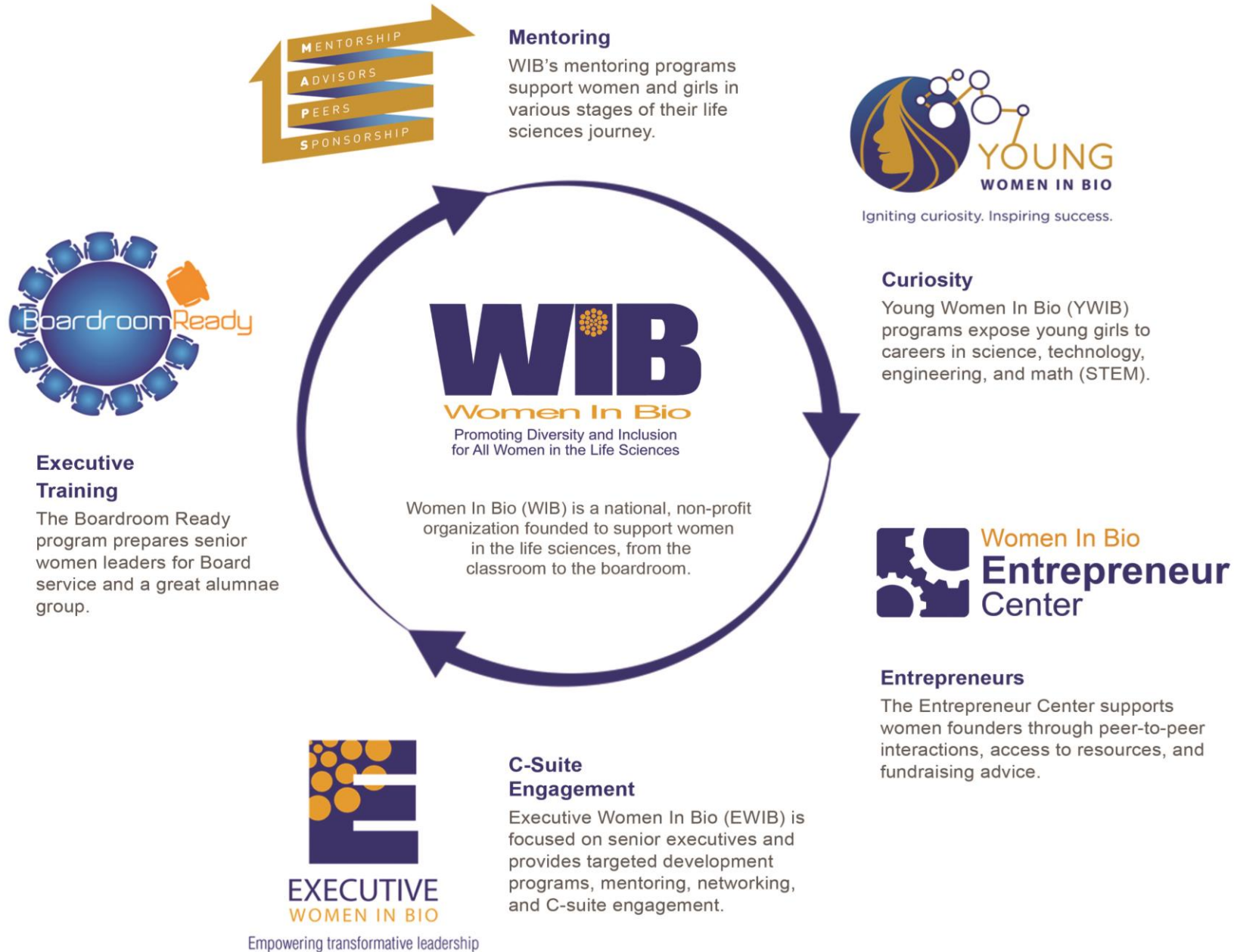
**Shirley L. Paddock, RPh, MBA  
WIB-RTP Chair**

**Women In Bio (WIB) is an organization of professionals committed to promoting careers, leadership and entrepreneurship for all women in the life sciences**

**WIB Continuity of Support**

- FROM CLASSROOM TO BOARDROOM**
- FROM ACADEMIA TO INDUSTRY**
- FROM FIRST JOB TO LAST**
- FROM IDEA TO ENTREPRENEUR**

**Women In Bio's Continuity of Support**





# WIB Success Metrics



**230+**

WIB events  
hosted annually

**8,202**

annual event  
attendees

More than 14,000 active supporters

500+ Mentor matches with  
5 mentor/mentee initiatives

Executive Mentoring  
Mentoring Circles/Micro Communities  
Peer Forums  
MAPS University  
Virtual Mentoring



30+ STEM events for girls  
with over 793 attendees

50 YWIB Ambassadors  
named in 2 years

350+ Women  
Entrepreneurs



Founders Forums  
National Showcases  
Local Chapter Pitch events

4000+ executive level participants

18 events with 778 attendees

108 board appointments  
with Boardroom Ready  
graduates in 5 years

**1,000+**



hours of on demand  
professional  
development video  
programming



Igniting curiosity. Inspiring success.

## **YWIB Mission:**

Young Women In Bio (YWIB) empowers today's girls to become tomorrow's leaders, helping them effect positive change through science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).



## **Who We Are:**

YWIB gives girls today the inspiration and support they need to become tomorrow's leaders in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). We strive to provide education and hands-on experience in STEM, as well as share our passion for all scientific fields. Through 14 chapters across the United States and Canada, YWIB partners with leading companies, universities, hospitals, and other organizations to host highly engaging, educational, and motivational programs for young girls interested in STEM.

# YWIB Outreach Programs



## YWIB ONLINE

An online platform that provides free access to educational and leadership programs and other STEM opportunities for girls from elementary school through sophomore year of college.

YWIB Online is intended as an outreach opportunity in addition to the events and longer-term programs hosted by our 14 chapters.



## YWIB SHOWCASE

YWIB Showcase Series are brief videos featuring interviews with female leaders across a variety of STEM disciplines and careers. The series also offers videos focused on STEM topics and themes.

The series is available on our [YWIB YouTube Channel](#).



## YWIB AMBASSADOR

A leadership initiative for high school girls who are interested in championing and supporting YWIB's efforts to create educational and leadership opportunities in STEM for girls, both locally and nationally.



## YWIB CLUB

A toolkit for local middle/high schools to create school clubs promoting STEM to girls. The toolkit provides guidance and support for developing STEM educational opportunities on a local level anywhere in North America.

YWIB Clubs will also be given access to all their local chapter events and programs.



An initiative to assist teachers in engaging girls in STEM and to promote STEM access and opportunities for teachers, including hosting events specifically for teachers by our chapters.

The centerpiece is a free online platform hosted by our partner, Winward Academy, that provides STEM video content and companion materials for usage by teachers in the classroom for all students.

## YWIB- RTP

- Hands on lab visits
- Coffee chat with Scientists
- Techno Quest with Girl Scouts
- YWIB high school ambassadors

## 2022 YWIB- RTP Ambassadors



Amrita Acharya  
WIB-RTP



Ria Trivedi  
WIB-RTP

Co Founded by Women In Bio (WIB) and Horizon Therapeutics in March 2020, on International Women's Day, March 8<sup>th</sup> with the mission to **increase startup board leadership roles for women in life sciences and health tech innovation ecosystem**

## WIB-RTP 3.8 Initiative Goal:

Increase *startup* board leadership roles for women in RTP's life sciences and health tech innovation ecosystem through this 10-month program



### WIB-Chicago 3.8 Initiative

- Supported by Horizon Therapeutics
- Completed two cohorts since 2020
- 22 graduates with 7 placements to date

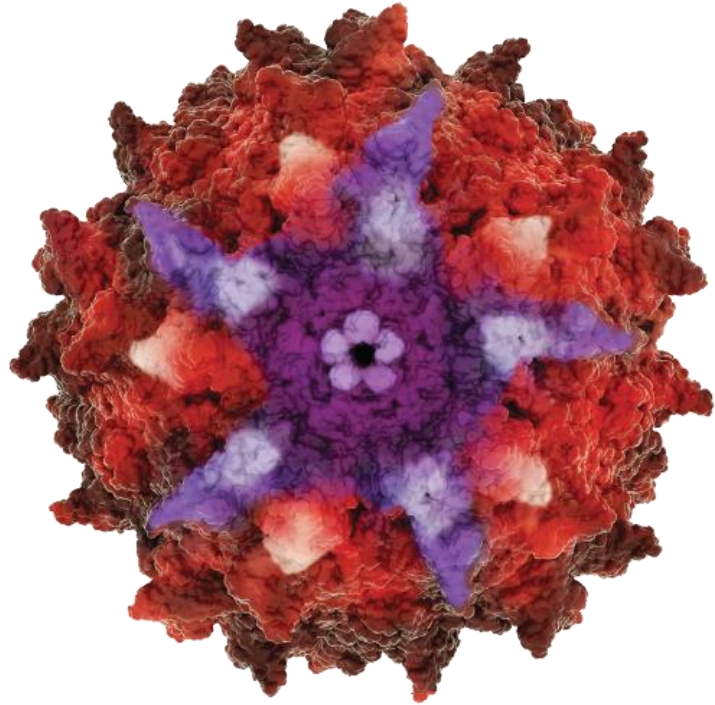
### WIB-RTP 3.8 Initiative

- SBA funding from growth accelerator award to offset operating costs and part time support
- Inaugural class of 13 life science leaders



## University Outreach & Mentoring – Currently being developed by National WIB

- Supporting the next generation of women in science
- Linking graduate students and post-docs with local WIB mentors
- Career related topics etc.



# Presentation to the House Select Committee on Advancing Women in STEM

Sheila A. Mikhail, CEO

August 24, 2022

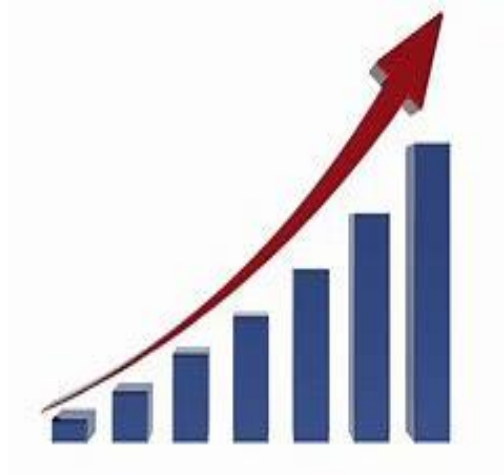
# AskBio™

# Finding Skilled STEM Employees is Like Hunting for Treasure!



Source: XBI Insight Talent Assessment Company

# AskBio Found Its Treasure in **Women STEM Professionals!**

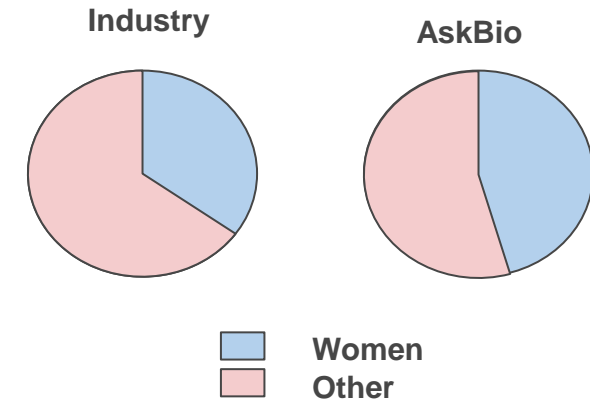


**AskBio grew to almost 800 employees over the past five years**



**Women STEM hires made up most of that growth**

- 64% of our global workforce is women
- 50% of our US workforce is women, while 70% of our international workforce is women

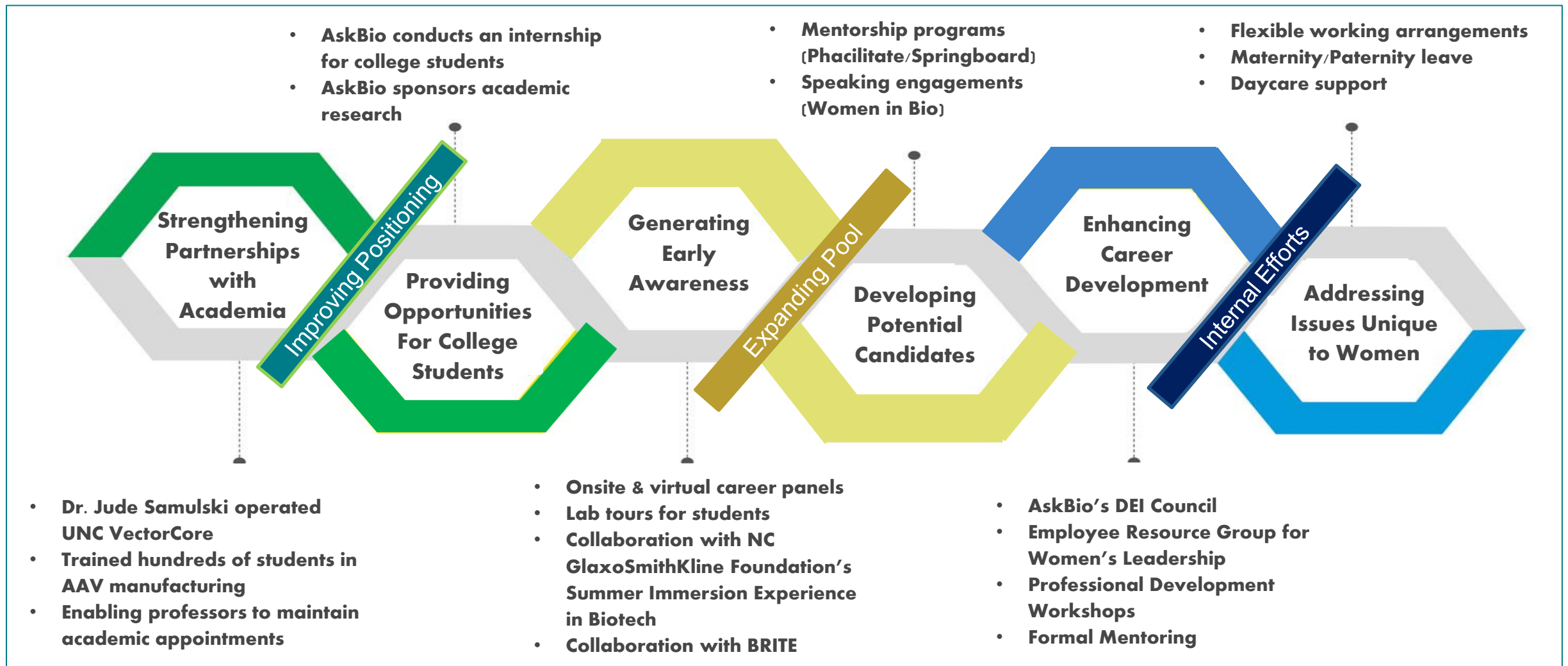


**AskBio exceeds industry benchmarks for executive level positions held by women**

- On average, 34% of executive positions are held by women in the biotech industry
- At AskBio, 46% of executive positions are held by women
- Only 20% of biotech CEOs are women; AskBio's CEO is a woman



# AskBio's Approach to Attracting and Retaining **Women** in STEM



Thank You!