

## Correspondence to Nature

### **Sexism: conferences should seek a balance**

Conference committees and symposia chairs should follow *Nature*'s lead and be more open and proactive about gender balance (Nature **491**, 495; 2012).

Publishing an online declaration of gender-balance policy would help. Data from each of the past, say, three meetings could also be posted online to indicate the percentage of women who were registrants; invited plenary and keynote speakers; session speakers; programme committee members and session chairs. If there is a significant gap between the percentage of women attending the conference and the overall percentage of women speakers or committee members, then a policy overhaul may be called for.

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