

WE WOMEN IN ENDOCRINOLOGY

<http://www.women-in-endo.org/Pages/index.shtml>

Summer 2005

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Action Items

- ✓ Election ballot: *due July 8, 2005*
- ✓ Update your WE database information
- ✓ Announcement of WE Mentorship and Abstract Award Winners!

IMPORTANT – update your WE membership on the database

Many of you are familiar with the WE database that is used for updating your membership and professional information. This database also facilitates important communications from WE, including some newsletters that are sent only by email to our members. **Please confirm that you are listed in the database** by logging onto the WE website at <http://www.women-in-endo.org/Pages/index.shtml>.

Current WE members: Please update your membership information, particularly your email address. Send an email to Andrea Gore if you require your user name and/or password.

New WE members: If you do not have an entry, you can create one by following the directions on the website. For more information please contact Andrea Gore (andrea.gore@mail.utexas.edu).

WE Dinner

The 2005 WE annual dinner was held on Saturday June 4 at the San Diego Marriott Hotel and Marina. Our dinner speaker was Dr. Nancy Hopkins of MIT. Dr. Hopkins is a champion of gender equity in academia who spearheaded an effort to combat discrimination against women scientists at MIT. She gave an extremely engaging talk

describing her experience in achieving equity for women at MIT, and her more recent response to the Harvard president's comments on why women are under-represented at the highest ranks in science.

Next year's WE dinner will take place on June 24, 2006 in Boston, MA. Mark your calendars! For more information on WE dinners, please contact Anne Cappola (acappola@cceb.med.upenn.edu).

WE Officers 2005-2006

WE is always interested in your comments and feedback. To follow is a list of our current officers. You may send your comments to them, or to our President (Synthia Mellon) or Secretary-Treasurer (Andrea Gore) whose contact information is listed to the left.

Awards Committee: To be named.

Communications Committee: Carolyn Smith, Ph.D., carolyns@bcm.tmc.edu

Development Committee: Rachel Wagman, M.D., rbwagman@lilly.com

Mentoring Committee: Karen Klahr Miller, M.D., KKMiller@Partners.org

Nominating Committee: Maggie Wierman, M.D., margaret.wierman@uchsc.edu

Program Committee: Anne Cappola, M.D., Sc.M., acappola@cceb.med.upenn.edu.

WE – New Officer Elections

The terms of several of our positions on the WE board will be ending this summer. We would like to acknowledge the hard work and excellent jobs of our retiring chairs:

- ❖ Awards Committee (Ursula Kaiser)
- ❖ Nominating Committee (Sally Radovick)

We are opening elections for President-Elect, and for the Nominating Committee (basic scientist, and clinician-scientist). The following women have agreed to stand for election to office or to serve on the Nominating Committee of WE (listed alphabetically by category). The ballot is attached at the end of the newsletter. **PLEASE VOTE** by sending your ballot (see page 5 of this newsletter) to Andrea Gore (Secretary-Treasurer) by mail, by FAX, or by email to andrea.gore@mail.utexas.edu. *Votes must be received by July 8, 2005.*

President-elect:

Janet Hall, M.D.: Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School, Assistant in Medicine at the Massachusetts General Hospital, and Associate Chief of the Reproductive Endocrine Unit. Dr. Hall is a clinical investigator whose research focuses on the neuroendocrine interactions underlying normal human reproduction and the changes that occur both with aging and in clinical disorders of ovulation. Her work is supported by R01 grants from the NIH and as well as a Midcareer Award in Patient-Oriented Research from the NIH. Dr. Hall has been active in Women in Endocrinology since 1986 and has served our society as a member and Chair of both the Nominating and Awards Committees. She is Vice-President, Clinical Scientist of the Endocrine Society and has recently completed terms as Associate Editor of the *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism* and as a member of the Board of Directors of FASEB. She has provided service to NIH study sections. A recipient of the A. Clifford Barger Excellence in Mentoring Award from Harvard Medical School, Dr. Hall is actively involved in training students, fellows and young investigators. In addition, she has an active clinical practice with a particular interest in menstrual cycle abnormalities (such as polycystic ovarian syndrome, premature menopause, hypothalamic amenorrhea), as well as infertility and menopause.

Nominating Committee – Basic Scientist:

Pamela Mellon, Ph.D.: Professor of Reproductive Medicine and Neurosciences, and Director, Center for Reproductive Science and Medicine, Univ. of California, San Diego. Dr. Mellon's research interests include the regulation of gonadotropin and GnRH gene expression and development. She has extensive service at the NIH on study sections (including chair), steering committees, and task forces. She has published over 125 peer-reviewed papers and book chapters. Dr. Mellon has served on the editorial boards of *Molecular Endocrinology*, *Endocrinology*, and *Neuron*. At UCSD, Dr. Mellon serves as a mentor for junior women faculty and has trained numerous students and fellows, with a high percentage of women. She has been a member of the Endocrine Society since 1986, serving on the Annual Meeting Steering Committee and as a Council member, and has been a member of WE since 1988. Her scientific achievements have been recognized by the Endocrine Society through the Richard Weitzman Memorial Award and the Ernst Oppenheimer Memorial Award and by the NIH through MENTOR and MERIT awards.

Carole Mendelson, Ph.D.: Professor of Biochemistry and Obstetrics & Gynecology, Univ. of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. Dr. Mendelson's research focuses on: 1) identification of molecular mechanisms involved in cell-specific, developmental and hormonal regulation of gene expression of the human aromatase gene and the gene encoding the major protein in pulmonary surfactant, SP-A, and 2) the initiation of

parturition. At UT Southwestern, her activities include the Women in Science and Medicine Advisory Committee, Committee for the Advancement of Women, Medical Scientist Training Program Steering Committee and Student Assistance Committee. Dr. Mendelson's service in the Endocrine Society (ES) and WE is extensive. In the ES, she has served (often as chair) on the Education Committee, Nominating Committee, Publications Committee, Program Organizing Committee, Annual Meeting Steering Committee, and Council. She was President of WE from 2002-2004. Dr. Mendelson received the Society's Roy O. Greep Lecture Award from the ES in 2001.

Nominating Committee – Clinician-Scientist:

Mary Samuels, M.D.: Professor of Medicine, Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Clinical Nutrition, Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU). Dr. Samuels' research and clinical interests are in the fields of thyroid disease and pituitary disorders. Her research activities have focused on patient-oriented research in the dynamics of TSH secretion in the human, effects of stress and activation of the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis on TSH secretion, the diagnosis of Cushing's Syndrome and growth hormone deficiency, and neurocognitive effects of altered thyroid status. Dr. Samuels is Associate Program Director of the OHSU General Clinical Research Center. She has served on the editorial boards of *The Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism*, *Clinical Endocrinology*, and *Thyroid*. She has also served on the NIH General Clinical Research Center advisory committee.

Nanette Santoro, M.D.: Professor and Director of the Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Women's Health at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, New York. Dr. Santoro's major research interests include the reproductive endocrinology of premature, peri-, and postmenopause, infertility, and the physiology of GnRH secretion. Dr. Santoro is a director of the American Board of OB-Gyn. She is author on 100+ peer-reviewed articles, books, book chapters, and abstracts, and is a co-editor of the *Textbook of Perimenopausal Gynecology*. A 20-year member of the Endocrine Society, Dr. Santoro is a Past President of WE, served on the Annual Meeting Steering Committee, and was Program Chair for ENDO 2002. She is currently a member of the Government Relations Committee and the Task Force on Androgens In Women.

Dues & Membership Renewal for 2005 (Jan 1-Dec 31)

New for 2005: Pay by credit card or check!

It is not too late to join WE for 2005, or to renew your membership. WE keep its dues as low as possible to facilitate membership, and we do not charge for student memberships. WE will not be able to continue without

your annual participation and payment! To follow is our dues scale, and brief instructions on paying dues.

Full members, academic and industry	\$40.00
In training, post graduate (postdoctoral or clinical fellows):	\$10.00
Students: predoctoral or medical students-enrollment only	no dues

Women in Endocrinology (WE) is devoted to promoting and facilitating the professional development and advancement of women in the field of Endocrinology. WE encourages and supports the admission of more women into the Endocrine Society (ES). Through nominations to the ES, WE facilitates member participation in ES activities by chairing sessions, reviewing papers for the society journals, and holding offices. WE also provides networking and mentorship opportunities for our members. **Annual dues are the financial mainstay of WE.** Please follow these three steps to become a member or renew your membership, and to get involved:

1. Pay your membership dues for 2005:

Fill out a membership form online: <http://www.women-in-endo.org/Pages/membership.shtml> or see page 6 for the form.

To pay by credit card: send an email to kconner@mail.utexas.edu indicating the level of membership (see above for categories) and you will be emailed an invoice that can be paid via Paypal.

To pay by check: Write a check in the appropriate amount to Women in Endocrinology (tax ID number 52-2137017) and mail it to Andrea Gore (see address in masthead). Be sure to include your name and contact information along with the check. You can also include the application form if you choose to download it.

If you are renewing your membership and have forgotten your password, email Andrea Gore at andrea.gore@mail.utexas.edu and she will send you a password.

Although membership in the ES is not mandatory for WE membership, we encourage you to join the ES (<http://www.endo-society.org/>). Please pass this information on to students, trainees, fellows, and faculty who may be interested in WE.

2. Fill out and submit the on-line volunteer form. Please volunteer for WE and ES activities. By filling out this form, you guarantee that your interests and qualifications will be brought to the attention of the appropriate WE officers, ES officers and editors. Information can be found at: <http://www.women-in-endo.org/Pages/volunteering.html>

3. Sign up for the WE web-based mentorship program.

Members are invited and encouraged to participate in the new mentorship program, as mentors, mentees or both. Details are found on page 3 of this newsletter. Participation is free to all WE members. For more

information go to: http://www.women-in-endo.org/Pages/mentoring_program.shtml

WE 2005 Awardees Announced!

At the 2005 WE dinner, we presented our award winners for the Mentorship Award, and for our Abstract Awards. We had a very competitive pool for both awards, and are pleased to announce the winners here.

WE Mentor Award 2005: Dr. E. Chester ("Chip") Ridgway

Dr. E. Chester Ridgway has been Head of the Division of Endocrinology at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center for nearly 20 years, following 5 years as Chief of the Thyroid Unit at Massachusetts General Hospital. He is a recognized leader in the field of clinical thyroidology and has made very significant contributions to the understanding of the molecular mechanisms underlying the cell-specific expression and regulation of the TSH alpha- and beta-subunit genes. He is also a devoted teacher, who has trained and mentored a large number of fellows both in Boston and in Colorado. Over 70% of the 40 fellows whom he trained in Colorado are women, three quarters of whom have chosen an academic career, inspired by his enthusiasm and encouragement.

WE Abstract Awards 2005

Congratulations to this year's WE Abstract Award winners! We had a very competitive pool of applicants. To follow is a list of recipients, beginning with the two named award winners, and followed by an alphabetical list of WE abstract awardees.

1. Shauna McGillivray, BA - The Neena Schwartz Award for Excellence in Basic Science - UCSD, La Jolla, CA
2. Carolyn Allan, MD - The Janet W. McArthur Award for Excellence in Clinical Research - Prince Henry's Institute of Medical Research, Australia
3. Irina Agoulnik, PhD - Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX
4. Megan Albertelli, DVM - Univ. Michigan Medical School, MI
5. Kathleen Bethin, MD, PhD - Indiana University School of Medicine, IN
6. Melissa Brayman, BA - Univ. Delaware, DE
7. Olga Calof, MD - Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science, CA
8. Marissa Caudill, PhD - Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA
9. Christin Down, BSc - Western Australian Institute for Medical Research, Australia
10. Francesca Gordon, BA - Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX
11. Kristen Govoni, PhD - JLP Memorial VA Medical Center, Loma Linda, CA
12. Shannon Heitritter, MD - Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA
13. Agnes Kovacic, BSc - Prince Henry's Institute for Medical Research, Australia

14. Wendy Kuohung, MD - Boston University School of Medicine, Boston, MA
15. Rebecca Leboeuf, MD – Univ. Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada
16. Kathleen Mattingly, MSc – Univ. Louisville, KY
17. Anthonia Ogbera, FMCP (MD) - Lagos State University Teaching Hospital, Nigeria
18. Shrita Patel, M.D. – Univ. Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA
19. Frederique Ruf, MS - Mount Sinai School of Medicine, NY
20. Yuhong Wei, MSc - Montreal Children's Hospital Research Institute, Quebec, Canada
21. Weiming Zheng, PhD - UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX

WE President's Corner

It was wonderful seeing all of you at the WE dinner that took place on Saturday June 4, 2005 at The Endocrine Society meeting in San Diego. Nancy Hopkins, Ph.D., Professor of Biology at MIT, was our guest speaker, and she provided us with an interesting perspective of women in academia. WE also had the pleasure of presenting the Mentor Award to a very deserving member of The Endocrine Society, Dr. E. Chester (Chip) Ridgway, who has not only had a distinguished scientific career and has contributed tirelessly to The Endocrine Society, but has trained a large number of clinical and basic science fellows, the majority of whom have been women and who have gone on to independent academic careers. A generous donation from Pfizer provides permanent support for this important award.

This again has been a successful year for WE. Women in Endocrinology continues to nominate leading women scientists and/or clinicians to elected positions and for prestigious awards within the Endocrine Society. With highly qualified applicants and committed volunteers, members of WE continue to be well represented within the leadership and committees of The Endocrine Society.

Through continued corporate support, WE was again able to provide Abstract Awards to trainees and junior faculty presenting abstracts at the Endocrine Society meeting. This year, WE received generous donations from Wyeth-Ayerst and Serono for these awards. WE would also like to thank Procter and Gamble for continued support of the WE Online Mentorship Program. Those who have used this new method of mentoring have responded enthusiastically. Please continue to sign up as a mentor and a mentee at http://www.women-in-endo.org/Pages/mentoring_program.shtml.

Finally, please be sure to update your membership information in the WE database (<http://www.women-in-endo.org>). **Those who haven't paid their dues for 2005 should send their payments (\$40 for faculty and \$10 for fellows) to Andrea Gore at the address on the first page.** Your dues provide support for WE to continue its

advocacy activities, website and newsletter. *WE NEEDS YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!!!!*

- Synthia H. Mellon, President -

Web-based Mentorship Program

We are very grateful to Paul Lavoie and Procter & Gamble, for their continued generous support of our online mentoring program. WE members are invited and encouraged to participate in the web-based program, as mentors, mentees or both. Participation is free to all WE members. For more information go to: http://www.women-in-endo.org/Pages/mentoring_program.shtml.

The Mentee Group Code is 335177 (Note: mentees must be or become a member of WE. The Mentor Group Code is 151963 (Note: mentors must be members of the Endocrine Society).

For more information, questions, or comments, please contact the Chair of the Mentorship Committee, Karen Miller, M.D. (kkmiller@partners.org).

Ballot for WE Elections (due July 8, 2005)

The following women have agreed to stand for election to serve as officers or as members of the Nominating Committee of WE (listed alphabetically by category). **PLEASE VOTE by sending your ballot to Andrea Gore (Secretary-Treasurer) by email to andrea.gore@mail.utexas.edu, by mail at the address on the first page, or by FAX to 512-471-5002. Votes must be received by July 8, 2005.**

The results of the election will be posted on the WE website (<http://women-in-endo.org>).

President-elect: Please vote for 1.

Janet Hall, M.D.: _____

Write-in: _____

Nominating Committee: Please vote for 1 in each category:

Clinician-Scientist:

Mary Samuels, M.D.: _____

Nanette Santoro, M.D.: _____

Write-in: _____

Basic Scientist:

Pamela Mellon, Ph.D.: _____

Carole Mendelson, Ph.D.: _____

Write-in: _____

Membership Application Form

Return with payment (if appropriate) to:

Dr. Andrea Gore, Secretary/Treasurer WE, University of Texas-Austin, Pharm/Tox A1915, Austin, TX 78712

Checks should be written to "Women in Endocrinology." The Tax ID number is 52-2137017.

Or, submit membership information online at: <http://www.women-in-endo.org/cgi-bin/Database/wdb.cgi> and pay by credit card (see newsletters for instructions).

Name: Last _____ First _____ Middle I. ____ Suffix ____

Education (highest degree obtained. Check at least one and all that apply)

Degree(s) : Ph.D. _____ M.D. _____ Other (please specify) _____

Professional Position (Most important)

Present Position _____

Department _____ Institution _____

Complete Professional Mailing Address

Line 1 _____

Line 2 _____

City _____ State _____

Zip/Mail Code _____ Country _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____

Membership

Member of the Endocrine Society? Yes _____ No _____

Wish to receive additional informational email from WE? Yes _____ No _____

If you wish to be nominated for professional activities, fill out forms on line at

<http://www.women-in-endo.org/Pages/membership.html>

Type of Membership/dues

Full (Faculty, Medical, Industry)-\$40.00 _____ In Training (Postdoctoral or Fellow) \$10.00 _____

Student (Undergrad, Grad, Medical)- FREE! _____

Additional donation \$ _____ in honor of _____

Trainees: Please have your mentor, division head, or chairman sign the following:

I Certify that _____ is a student, postdoctoral trainee (please circle) Date _____

Signature _____ Name (please print) _____