

WE WOMEN IN ENDOCRINOLOGY

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

Spring 2006

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Action Items

- ✓ **Election ballot: vote by May 26, 2006**
- ✓ Update your WE database information
- ✓ Announcement of WE Mentorship and Abstract Award Winners
- ✓ **WE Dinner, June 24, 2006 at 6:30 PM in the Cityview Ballroom, Seaport World Trade Center: Note change of venue!**

WE Dinner

The Annual Dinner Meeting of Women in Endocrinology will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 24, 2006 in the Cityview Ballroom at the Seaport World Trade Center (SWTC). The evening will start with a wine reception from 6:30 until 7:00 pm, followed by the dinner meeting from 7:00 until 10:00 pm. The SWTC is a 5 minute walk from the Convention Center via footbridge and is directly across the street from the Seaport Hotel. At the conclusion of the dinner meeting, dedicated shuttle buses will transport attendees to the Convention Center, where additional buses will be available to conference hotels.

The keynote speaker for this year's WE dinner meeting is Dr. Carol Nadelson, Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard

Medical School. Dr. Nadelson was elected the first woman president of the American Psychiatric Association and is the founder of Harvard's Joint Committee on the Status of Women. Since 1998, she has been the Director of the Partners Office for Women's Careers at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School. Her talk is entitled "Women in Academic Medicine: Obstacles and Opportunities."

All ENDO 2006 participants or attendees are invited to attend this event. For additional information or for special dietary requests, please contact the Chair of the Program Committee, Dr. Anne Cappola, at 215-573-5359 or acappola@cceb.med.upenn.edu. Sign up for this event when you register to attend ENDO 2006

<http://www.endo-society.org/endo06/Registration/how-to-register.php>. Advance registration and fee required.

WE Executive Committee

The executive committee of WE is eager to receive your comments and suggestions. Along with our President (Synthia Mellon) and Secretary-Treasurer (Andrea Gore), our current roster is:

Awards Committee: Pamela Mellon, Ph.D., pmellon@ucsd.edu

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

Development Committee: Rachel Wagman, M.D., rwagman@amgen.com

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

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

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

Thanks to our contributors!

WE could not continue to exist without support from members and corporations. We acknowledge the generous support from:

Guild Level: Amgen Pfizer (mentor endowment)

Gold Level: Serono Procter & Gamble (mentor prog)

Gold Level: Wyeth

You, our dues-paying members!

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 – New Officer Elections

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

- ❖ Program Committee (Anne Cappola)
- ❖ Nominating Committee (Maggie Wierman)
- ❖ **Any other retiring chairs?**

We are opening elections for Secretary-Treasurer elect, and for the Nominating Committee. 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 May 26, 2006.***

Secretary-Treasurer-elect:

Lisa Halvorson, M.D. is Associate Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the Director of the Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, TX. She has a long-standing commitment to both the Women in Endocrinology and the Endocrine Society. She was a member of the WE Program Committee from 2000 to 2005 and Chair of this committee from 2002 through 2004. She has been a member of the ES Student Affairs Committee since 2003. Dr. Halvorson is particularly interested in development of a mentoring program. She was part of the core group that initiated the WE mentoring program and is now on the Student Affairs Subcommittee that is expanding this program to the full ES membership.

Nominating Committee – Basic Scientist:

Suzanne Moenter, Ph.D. is Associate Professor of Medicine and Cell Biology, University of Virginia. Dr. Moenter's work focuses on neuroendocrine regulation of fertility, using electrophysiological approaches in mouse

models. She has published over 50 peer-reviewed articles. Dr. Moenter has served on NIH study sections, the editorial board of *Endocrinology* and as an Associate Editor of *Biology of Reproduction*. At the University of Virginia she has mentored several graduate students and fellows and serves as Associate Director of the Neuroscience Graduate Program. She has served on the Program and Communications Committees of WE and on the Student Affairs Committee of the Endocrine Society.

Nominating Committee – Clinical Scientist:

WE 2006 Awardees Announced!

At the 2006 WE dinner on June 24, we will present our Mentor and Abstract Award winners. We had a very competitive pool for both awards and are pleased to announce the winners here.

WE Mentor Award 2006: Dr. Anna Steinberger

Dr. Anna Steinberger is Professor Emerita in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences at the University of Texas Medical School in Houston. She pioneered *in vitro* approaches for the study of the progression of spermatogenesis in organ culture and developed methods for the isolation and culture of specific testicular and pituitary cells. She and her colleagues defined hormone targets and signaling pathways in these cells. She authored over 250 scientific publications and received a number of prestigious awards, including the Distinguished Andrologist Award of the American Society of Andrology, the first honorary member of the Polish Andrology Society, the Medal from the Jagellonian University, and the Outstanding Women in Science - Women of Excellence Award by the Federation of Houston Professional Women. She served as President of the American Society of Andrology. She trained and influenced a number of scientists who have gone on to important careers in many parts of the world. After retirement, Dr. Steinberger accepted the position of Assistant Dean for Faculty Affairs at UT Houston. In that capacity, she promoted career development opportunities for faculty women, including a number of highly successful career development programs, and was awarded the Women in Science Silver Professional Achievement Award for contributing substantially to the development of women in academic medicine. She continues to mentor women at various stages of their career. She is now working at her third career—as docent and on the Board of Directors for the Holocaust Museum in Houston. Dr. Steinberger is recognized for her contributions as pioneering scientist, role model and advocate for women scientists and young scientists in general. ***The WE Mentor Award is sponsored by a generous endowment established by Pfizer.***

WE Abstract Awards 2006

Congratulations to the 2006 WE Abstract Award winners! The following list of recipients begins with the two named award winners.

Neena Schwartz Award for Excellence in Basic Science Research: Weiling Yin, M.D., Univ. Texas at Austin

Janet W. McArthur Award for Excellence in Clinical Research: Bindu Chamarthi, M.B.B.S., Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard

Recipient of WE Abstract Awards

Smita Baid, M.D., NICHD, NIH

Joanna Burdette, Ph.D., Northwestern University
Djurdjica Coss, Ph.D., University of California, San Diego
Andrea Daniel, B.A., University of Minnesota
Krista Erkkila, M.D, Ph.D., UCLA at Harbor
Wende Kozlow, M.D., Univ. Virginia, Charlottesville
Dora Liu, M.D., Northwestern University
Allison McElvaine, B.S., Northwestern University
Orla O'Mahony, Ph.D., Univ. Michigan Medical School
Djura Piersma, M.D., Erasmus MC, the Netherlands
Ravid Sasson, Ph.D., University of California, San Diego
Aurora Shehu, B.S., Univ. Illinois at Chicago
Li Wang, Ph.D., Univ. Kansas Medical Center

Dues & Membership Renewal for 2006 (Jan 1-Dec 31)

It is not too late to join WE for 2006, or to renew your membership. WE keeps its dues as low as possible to facilitate membership, and students may join for FREE. 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 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, serving on committees, 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 2006:

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

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).

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://women-in-endo.org>). **Those who haven't paid their dues for 2006 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 -

***Ballot for WE Elections* (due May 26, 2006)**

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 May 26, 2006.*

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

Secretary-treasurer-elect: Please vote for 1.

Lisa Halvorson: _____

Write-in: _____

Nominating Committee: Please vote for 1 in each category:

Clinician-Scientist:

xx.: _____

xx.: _____

Write-in: _____

Basic Scientist:

Carol Lange: _____

Suzanne Moenter: _____

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) _____