

WE WOMEN IN ENDOCRINOLOGY

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

Winter Newsletter

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WE Executive Committee

The executive committee of WE is eager to receive your comments and suggestions. Our Committee Chairs are:

Communications Committee: GERALYN LAMBERT MESSERLIAN, Ph.D., Dept. of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Women and Infants Hospital, Brown University, Providence RI 02903, gmesserl@wihri.org

Awards Committee: JUDITH TURGEON, Ph.D., Division of Endocrinology, UC-Davis, Davis, CA 95616, jlturgeon@ucdavis.edu

Development Committee: TAMI WOLDEN-HANSON, Ph.D., Univ. of Washington VA Medical Center, Seattle, WA 98108, tw@u.washington.edu

Mentoring Committee: GAYATHRI DEVI, Ph.D., Duke Comprehensive Cancer Ctr., Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC 27710, gayathri.devi@duke.edu

Nominating Committee: CAROL LANGE, Ph.D., Univ. of Minnesota Cancer Research Ctr., Minneapolis, MN 55455, lange047@umn.edu

Program Committee: MARY RUPPE, M.D., Univ. of TX Health Science Center at Houston, Houston, TX 77030, mary.ruppe@uth.tmc.edu

Important Notice

Due to the high cost of paper and stamps, this will be the last issue of the Women in Endocrinology newsletter to be sent by standard mail. Moving forward, the Women in Endocrinology newsletter will be sent via e-mail. You can join our mailing list simply by providing your e-mail address.

IF YOU WISH TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE INFORMATION REGARDING WOMEN IN ENDOCRINOLOGY, PLEASE BECOME A MEMBER AND PROVIDE US WITH YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS. IT'S SIMPLE AND INEXPENSIVE!

Dues for 2009

Pay by credit card or check by February 28, 2009

Full members, academic and industry	\$50.00
In training, post graduate (postdoctoral or clinical fellows):	\$15.00
Students (predoctoral or medical students):	no dues
Fill out enrollment form, only	

As a 501(c)3 organization, all membership dues and donations to WE may be tax deductible. Tax ID number 52-2137017

Thanks to our contributors for 2008

Mentor Award:	Pfizer
Gold Level (\$5,000):	Wyeth-Ayerst Amgen Novartis
Silver Level (\$2,500):	Genentech
Donations from members, patients, and others!	

Communications Committee

The WE website provides information about the annual meeting and other WE activities including past and future awards. Membership can be renewed easily through this site using a credit card or a check can be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer. **Note: This website is secure.**

The Communications Committee is seeking information about upcoming meetings that may be of interest to our members. If you know of a meeting of interest, please send detailed information to Sabrina Gill at SGill@providencehealth.bc.ca. Please check the WE website regularly to find upcoming meetings that may interest you!

Membership

Dues for the 2009 year (Jan 1-Dec 31) are due Feb 28, 2009. Please be sure to renew for 2009. In the current financial climate, fundraising is very difficult. ***Annual dues are the financial mainstay of WE and allow us to continue our activities.***

The newly remodeled WE website features an easy way to pay your dues and make donations through a secure website. Please also consider volunteering for WE and TES activities. It's easy. Just fill out the volunteer form on our new website and email or mail a copy to Lisa Halvorson.

Development

WE thanks the Fat Disorders Research Support Group for their generous donation of \$575 this past spring. This patient group learned about the work of Women in Endocrinology through their online contact with Karen Herbst, MD, PhD, and has indicated a desire to continue to support research in the biology of adipose tissue.

The Development Committee is anticipating a challenging year for fundraising, due to the ongoing financial crisis, and encourages you to consider making a charitable contribution to WE as the end of the tax year approaches. Corporate donations, membership dues and donations from you, our members, support the work of WE. Our new website features an easy way to pay your dues and make donations through a secure website. Please think about making a donation above and beyond your regular dues. As a 501(c)(3) organization, all donations are tax-deductible (tax ID 52-2137017). If you work for a company that matches charitable donations, the WE Secretary-Treasurer can work with you to secure the employer's matching funds. Donations can be directed to trainee development, to a targeted grant, or to unrestricted use in the areas of networking, development of informational programs, maintenance of the website and other critical functions.

WE Supports Trainee Development

WE was pleased to be able to co-sponsor the 2nd Annual Endocrine Trainee Day which was held at the last ENDO meeting and will carry on this tradition by supporting trainees for the next Trainee Day to be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2009. Look for more information on the WE website and in the Spring newsletter.

Annual Meeting

The WE Annual Dinner meeting was held on June 15th at the Metropolitan Ballroom of the Westin San Francisco Market Street. The keynote speaker was Deborah Kolb, the Deloitte Ellen Gabriel Professor for Women and Leadership at Simmons College, School of Management. The title of her talk was "Everyday Negotiations: Use the Seven 'Ps' (Strategic Moves) to Get What You Need to Succeed". She highlighted the seven Ps of negotiation: Positioning, Power, Problem-Solving, Perspective Taking, Positive Positioning and Push Back. The meeting kicked off with time to greet old friends and meet new ones and an introduction by Janet Hall, Past-President of Women in Endocrinology. Awards were presented to sixteen WE Young Investigators as well as seven winners of awards from the Australasian Branch of Women in Endocrinology. In addition, the three individuals who participated in the Endocrine Society Training Day through support from WE were recognized. Mary Dallmann received the 2008 WE Mentor Award. She was introduced by Hershel Raff. This was followed by greetings from the President and President-Elect of the Endocrine Society, Margaret Shupnik and Robert Carey.

The 2009 WE Annual Dinner will be held on June 10th at the Renaissance Washington, DC Hotel in the Renaissance Ballroom. We are extremely pleased to announce that Dr. Vivian Pinn will be the keynote speaker. Dr. Pinn has a long track record of distinguished service in areas of vital interest to WE members. As the architect of the BIRCWH and WRHR grants, she has extensive experience with programs designed to mentor junior women, foster interdisciplinary research, and innovate in women's health research. As a top NIH official, she has an insider's view of the future of NIH-funded research, and other key issues at the nexus of biomedical research and government priorities. We look forward to her timely comments on women in healthcare, research and leadership positions.

Advanced registration for the WE dinner will be available during registration for ENDO 2009. ***Mark your calendars!*** For further information, please contact Mary Ruppe, Chair of the Program Committee, at mary.ruppe@uth.tmc.edu.

2009 Mentor Award

Mentor Award nominations: due March 1, 2009!

The primary mission of WE is to promote the scientific advancement and recognition of female endocrinologists. With this goal, WE presents an annual Mentor Award at the WE dinner, which will occur in conjunction with ENDO '09. This award recognizes outstanding individuals who have encouraged and promoted female endocrinologists and who have been instrumental in changing institutional policy toward professional women. The WE Mentor Award is sponsored by a generous grant from Pfizer. Past recipients of the WE Mentor Award include Drs. Neena B. Schwartz, Peng Loh, Anita Payne, William F. Crowley, Jack Gorski, Anne Klibanski, Phyllis Wise, William Chin, Jo Anne Brasel, E. Chester ("Chip") Ridgway, Anna Steinberger, JoAnne Richards, and Mary Dallman.

WE encourages all of you to consider nominating your own previous mentors (female or male) who have impacted your careers and have had a positive impact on the careers of female endocrinologists. *For more information about the nomination process, please see the WE website.*

Applications must be received by March 1, 2009. The Mentor Award will be presented at the WE dinner at ENDO '09.

Nominations for the 2009 WE Mentor Award, and any questions about application preparation, should be directed to the Chair of the WE Awards Committee:

Judith Turgeon, Ph.D.

Dept. of Internal Medicine
University California, Davis
Phone: 530-752-1313
Fax: 530-754-5115
Email: jlurgeon@ucdavis.edu

2009 Young Investigator Awards

Applications: due March 31, 2009!

WE has been pleased to provide awards each year to as many as 20 trainees whose abstracts have been selected for the Endocrine Society annual meeting. These awards are presented at the WE Annual Dinner. Previously called Abstract Awards, these awards have been renamed the *WE Young Investigator Awards* to better represent their intent. In addition, two named awards are available. *For information about the application process, please see the WE website.* Applications must be received by March 31, 2009.

Women in Endocrinology Awardees 2008

Andrea Daniel - *The Janet W. McArthur Award for Excellence in Clinical Research*

Lisa-Marie Atkin - *The Neena Schwartz Award for Excellence in Basic Science*

Katherine Aird	Anna Barron
Sumbul Beg	Suzy Bianco
Rhonda Bentley-Lewis	Amy Chang
Marieke Dekker	John Gill
Anita Iyer	Emily Lam
Alina Montalbano	Kristy Nicks
Christine Rigsby	Joanna Spencer
Almudena Veiga-Lopez	Zhaoyu Sun

ATTENTION: Past WE Awardees

WE is interested in obtaining feedback on the potential impact of the WE awards (previously called the WE Travel or WE Abstract Awards) on the careers and scientific development of our awardees. We have received 52 responses thus far and are thankful for their help. If you are a past Awardee and haven't responded to our request, please consider sending your current contact information to WE Mentoring Committee member, JingJing Kipp, j-kipp@northwestern.edu. *Please add 'WE Awardee' in the subject line of your email.* WE is proud of your accomplishments; please share them with us!



Anne R Cappola, MD, ScM— Dr. Cappola received the WE travel award when she was a third-year Endocrine fellow at Johns Hopkins Hospital. She is now an assistant professor

of Medicine and Epidemiology, and serves as Director of Research Programs for FOCUS on Health and Leadership for Women at University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. Dr. Cappola's research focuses on the hormonal alterations that occur with aging and the clinical impact of these changes. Her research studies range from mechanistic protocols conducted in the Clinical and Translational Research Center to analyses of data from large cohort studies. She has been funded by the American Federation for Aging Research, the John A. Hartford Foundation, and the National Institutes of Health, from which she currently has R01 funding. She has served on review panels for the National Institute on Aging and is on the National Scientific Advisory Council for the American Federation for Aging Research. She commented that, "The WE award is very helpful to my career development. It was an emotional boost to have a travel award and to be noticed at the WE dinner."



Dolores Mruk, Ph.D. – Dr. Mruk was a second – year graduate student when she received the Women in Endocrinology Beginning Investigator Travel Award in 1998 while working with C. Yan Cheng at the Center for Biomedical Research at The Population Council

in New York. She is now a Staff Scientist (equivalent to Assistant Professor) in the same institute. Dr. Mruk said, “The WE award was very helpful to me and still is because I continue to list it on my NIH Biosketch. To this very day, I am still thankful to WE for awarding me this travel award. At the time, I felt as if my research was being recognized by a national society and that was very important to me. I still remember being absolutely ecstatic.” Dr. Mruk’s current research investigates adhesive interactions between Sertoli and germ cells in the testis and how these interactions contribute to the maintenance of spermatogenesis and fertility in the male.

WE President’s Corner

Welcome to WE! I am truly honored to be serving as President of this important organization. As I begin my first year as President, I would like to acknowledge the important contributions made by Janet Hall during her tenure as President. Under her stewardship, WE has continued to gain stature as an independent society that promotes leadership opportunities for women in Endocrinology and provides mentorship and networking opportunities for women trainees and junior faculty. In addition to continuing the WE Young Investigator Award and WE Mentor Award programs, several new initiatives were instituted under Janet’s guidance. These include the remodeling of the WE website together with Geralyn Lambert-Messerlian and other members of the Communications Committee, profiling the successes of some of our past award winners together with Gay Devi, Jingjing Kipp and other members of the Mentoring Committee, providing sponsorship of trainees to attend and participate in the ENDO Trainee Day, and obtaining CME accreditation for our Annual Dinner meeting together with Mary Ruppe and members of the Program Committee.

I would also like to extend my appreciation to the leadership of WE for helping to smooth the transition of the WE Presidency: Lisa Halvorson (Secretary-Treasurer), Geralyn Lambert-Messerlian (Communications), Tami Wolden-Hanson (Development), Gay Devi (Mentoring), and Mary Ruppe (Program). I would like to recognize Carole Mendelson for an outstanding stint as Chair of the Nominating Committee and welcome Carole Lange to this

position, as well as thank Pamela Mellon for her dedication as Chair of the Awards Committee and welcome Judy Turgeon to this role. In addition to these new committee chairs, I have appointed several new members to WE committees, and am pleased to welcome several women who have not previously been involved in WE committee activities. We always welcome fresh faces and new ideas, so please contact me or sign up online when you renew your WE membership to indicate your interest in working on WE committees.

I would like to take this opportunity to bring your attention to several important issues.

First, please join us at the 2009 WE Annual Dinner on Wednesday, June 10th at the Renaissance Washington, DC Hotel in the Renaissance Ballroom. We are very excited to have Dr. Vivian Pinn, Director of the NIH Office of Research on Women’s Health, delivering our keynote address. We look forward to hearing her perspectives on the next ORWH agenda and NIH efforts to address careers for women, as well as learning about her own experiences and pathways to success as a leader.

Second, please submit your dues payment at your earliest convenience. Details are provided earlier in this newsletter, and our new and secure website makes it easier than ever to pay your dues and also provides an easy way to make donations above and beyond your regular dues. Garnering sufficient support for our programs and activities will be more challenging this year given the current economic environment, so your dues payments and donations are all the more critical for our ongoing success.

Third, I encourage you to nominate a deserving individual for the WE 2009 Mentor Award. This year, WE had the pleasure of granting this award to Mary Dallmann. Details of how to submit nominations for this award were provided earlier in this newsletter.

Fourth, I would like to acknowledge and thank our contributors this year who supported our programs and activities: Pfizer, Wyeth-Ayerst, Amgen, Novartis, Genentech, as well as donations from our members, patients and others. Thank you all!

Finally, I encourage all of you to write, call, or email me if you would like to become more involved in WE committees, and with suggestions of additional ways WE can support you, your career, your activities, and your trainees.

Ursula Kaiser, MD
President, Women in Endocrinology
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