

WE WOMEN IN ENDOCRINOLOGY

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

Fall 2005

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Action Items

Membership for 2006: due Jan. 31, 2006

Mentor Award nominations: due Jan 31, 2006

The History of WE: New WE initiative (see page 3)

WE Executive Committee

The executive committee of WE is eager to receive your comments and suggestions. Along with our President and Secretary-Treasurer, above, 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.,
rbwagman@lilly.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

President-Elect: Janet Hall, M.D., jehall@partners.org

Dues for 2006 (Jan 1-Dec 31)

Pay by credit card or check by January 31, 2006

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

Membership Renewal

Thanks to those of you who paid your 2005 dues that were so crucial in sustaining our ongoing activities. It is now time to pay for the 2006 year (Jan 1-Dec 31). Even if you recently paid for 2005, please be sure to renew for 2006. In the current financial climate fundraising is more difficult, and WE is more dependent than ever on membership 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 providing opportunities to chair sessions, hold office, and review papers for society journals. 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: New memberships and renewals for the Jan 1-Dec 31, 2006 period are due by Jan. 31, 2006. Membership has its benefits! WE members have more networking opportunities, are nominated for ES positions, can apply for WE travel awards (given preferentially to WE members and their trainees), and participate in the WE web-based mentorship program.

Fill out a membership form online: <http://www.women-in-endo.org/Pages/membership.shtml> or download 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 is 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 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

Program Committee

The WE Annual Dinner meeting was held on Saturday, June 4, 2005 at the Marriott Hotel and Marina in San Diego, California. The meeting kicked off with a candlelit wine reception, followed by greetings from Dr. Tony Means, President of the Endocrine Society, and Dr. Andrea Dunaif, President-Elect of the Endocrine Society. Awards were presented to 21 WE Abstract Award winners and 6 Australasian Women in Endocrinology travel award winners. E. Chester Ridgway, M.D. was presented with the 2005 WE Mentor Award. The keynote speaker was Nancy Hopkins, Ph.D., Professor of Biology and co-chair of the Council on Faculty Diversity at MIT. Her talk, entitled "Faculty Equity & Diversity: Lessons Learned at MIT," was an engaging and inspiring presentation of how she came to spearhead an effort to combat discrimination against women scientists at MIT.

Next year's WE annual dinner will be held on Saturday, June 24, 2006 at the Seaport Hotel starting at 6:30 pm. We are delighted to have Carol Nadelson, M.D., Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, as our speaker for this event. 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. Advanced registration will be available during registration for ENDO 2006.

For further information, please contact Anne Cappola, Chair of the Program Committee, at acappola@cceb.med.upenn.edu.

2006 Mentor Award

Mentor Award nominations: due Jan 31, 2006!

The primary mission of Women in Endocrinology (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 at the Endocrine Society annual meeting to recognize 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. The awardee receives an honorarium of \$1000 and travel expenses to the Annual WE Meeting, held in conjunction with the Endocrine Society Meetings. 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, and E. Chester ("Chip") Ridgway.

WE encourages all of you to consider nominating your 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:

http://www.women-in-endo.org/Pages/mentor_award_nom.html

Nominations for the 2006 WE Mentor Award, and any questions about application preparation, should be directed to the Chair of the WE Awards Committee:

Pamela Mellon, Ph.D.

Dept of Reproductive Medicine and Neuroscience
UCSD, Leichtag Biomedical Research Bldg, 3A14
9500 Gilman Dr 0674
La Jolla, CA 92093-0674
Phone: 858-534-1312
Fax: 858-534-1438
Email: pmellon@ucsd.edu

Applications must be received by January 31, 2006. The Award will be presented at the WE dinner at the Endocrine Society Meeting in June 2006.

The History of WE

WE is interested in launching a new project on the history of Women in Endocrinology. We are looking for volunteers who may have an historical perspective or who may want to delve into the past. Although this is a work in progress, we hope to include an historical “tidbit” in future WE newsletters. Please contact Gayathri Devi (gayathri.devi@duke.edu) to get more information or to volunteer.

Web-based Mentorship Program

Women in Endocrinology (WE) has launched the first web-based mentorship program for a scientific or medical community, thanks to generous support from Paul LaVoie at Procter and Gamble. Our goal is to provide a mechanism for endocrinologists at all stages of their careers to benefit from the knowledge and experience of their colleagues. Participants can tailor their own involvement and time commitment when enrolling on the website. A mentor-mentee relationship can be as simple as a single contact, or as complex as a year-long commitment. Mentors can opt for single or multiple mentees. Sign-up is simple, and the web-based system matches members with common interests. The program is designed for endocrinologists at all stages of their careers, in academia, industry, clinical practice and other disciplines.

In order for this unique and important project to be a success, your participation is critical. By spending a few minutes of your time, you will be part of an important initiative to advance the careers of women in endocrinology.

WE mentorship website:

<https://www.3creekmentoring.com/WE/>

Mentee Group Code is **335177** (Note: mentees must be or become a member of WE)

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 (kkmiller@partners.org)

WE President's Corner

One of the main goals of Women in Endocrinology is to promote the scientific, clinical and academic achievements of women in The Endocrine Society. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Willa Hsueh who was awarded the 2005 Edwin B Astwood Award from The Endocrine Society!

This past year has been a challenge for all of us working on behalf of Women in Endocrinology. In this era of budget tightening all around, it has been difficult to launch

costly new initiatives. However, a major focus of WE's activity has been our WE Mentoring Program that was initiated two years ago. This program continues to grow and thrive, but it can only be successful if there is active participation by both mentors and women who wish to be mentored. We encourage your support of this valuable program by registering at the website: <https://www.3creekmentoring.com/WE/>

The feedback from those who have sought mentoring through this program has been overwhelmingly positive. This program helps women from smaller institutions where appropriate mentors may not be available. It also helps women from larger institutions that may not have senior colleagues with similar interests. Most importantly, this mentoring program is helpful to women at any stage of their career to discuss problems encountered in all aspects of academic/clinical life. Karen Miller is Chair of the Mentoring Program Committee.

WE would like to hear about the positive impact that being a member of WE has been for you. If you have been a recipient of one of WE's travel awards, a mentor of one of the award winners, or a recipient of one of our past achievement awards, please let us know how these awards have helped you in your career. Sponsors of these awards are eager to continue their support and like to hear how they have made a difference in your career. Please forward any testimonials to me: mellon@cgl.ucsf.edu. I will love hearing from you.

I want to call your attention to several other important issues that are highlighted elsewhere in this newsletter.

First, I wish to request that you submit your dues payment and personal information at your earliest convenience. At the suggestion of many of our members, we have instituted the ability to pay by credit card (see page 1 for details). Dues are very low to minimize the financial burden on our members, but they are crucial to the continued existence of WE. Details regarding this can be found earlier in this newsletter.

Second, I encourage you to submit an online volunteer form for WE and for Endocrine Society activities. To continue to be effective in promoting women for roles in WE and in The Endocrine Society, WE needs to bring new fresh faces to the forefront. The only way this can happen is for you to volunteer!

Third, I encourage you to nominate a deserving individual for the WE 2006 Mentor Award. This past year, WE had the pleasure of granting this award to Dr. E. Chester Ridgway of the University of Colorado. The deadline for nominations is January 31, 2006; submit your suggestions to Dr. Pamela Mellon (see above for more information).

Finally, I encourage you to write, call, or email me with any suggestions you have of additional ways WE can promote you, your students, and your career. I look forward to seeing you in Boston in June!

- Synthia H. Mellon, President -

Membership Application Form

Return with payment (if appropriate) **by Jan 31, 2006** 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" (tax ID number 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! _____

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) _____