Greetings from your Co-Chairs!

We are thrilled to start the new academic year and work together on so many exciting projects and events. At our first two meetings, we had some great discussions and updates on the work of our subcommittees and how to continually improve and enhance the impact of our work on campus. All the subcommittees have already been hard at work to plan events and projects for 2015.

Our revised bylaws now require that we have at least one student from each of the three schools (UMMS, GSN, GSBS) represented on the Women’s Faculty Committee. We were so thrilled when our call for student participation was met with great enthusiasm! We now have many new student members from all three schools. We really look forward to collaborating with them and hearing their voice in our discussions.

We are grateful to many of you who attended the 2nd Annual Women in medicine Mentoring Reception in October. It was a fantastic event with over 35 faculty and 45 students in attendance. Students were very grateful for our participation.

We look forward to the Women’s History Event in March, Women’s Faculty Awards Luncheon in April and Women’s Heath Event in May. The subcommittees have some great ideas about how to make these important events even more successful this year. The Women’s Career Development subcommittee is planning a session on improving our negotiation skills this winter.

We look forward to a great year working together to advance the WFC mission!

Best,

Ann Salerno and Molly Waring
Women’s Faculty Spotlight
“Molly Waring, PhD”

We would like to spotlight Molly Waring, our newly appointed non-Clinical Co-Chair of the Women’s Faculty Committee.

Molly Waring, PhD, is an epidemiologist and Assistant Professor in the Department of Quantitative Health Sciences. She earned a BS in psychology and biology from Harvey Mudd College and PhD in epidemiology from Brown University. Dr. Waring’s program of research centers around obesity and weight change, with a focus on leveraging technology and online social networks for weight management surrounding childbearing — gestational weight gain, post-partum weight loss, and pre-conception weight management.

She is currently the PI of 3 funded grants examining weight management among childbearing women, including 2 to develop and pilot test interventions delivering evidence-based weight loss strategies via online social networks. Dr. Waring’s program of research also includes lifestyle change and weight management among adults with heart disease and women’s cardiometabolic health across the lifecourse. Dr. Waring teaches and mentors medical students and graduate students in the Clinical and Population Health Research (CPHR) doctoral program and Masters of Science in Clinical Investigation (MSCI) program. Dr. Waring serves on the Senior Scholars Committee and on the admissions committees for the CPHR and MSCI programs.

Dr. Waring has served on the Women’s Faculty Committee since 2010 and as the Co-Chair of the Work-Life Balance Subcommittee since January 2014. She feels passionately about fostering an institutional environment that supports all faculty to thrive in both their professional and personal roles. She is excited to have the opportunity to serve as the Non-Clinical Co-Chair and help lead the committee in continuing its mission of address the needs of women faculty and promote the status of women in UMMS and UMMHC.

Tech Talk Constance Nichols

Lots of people know about apps for clinicians but I was curious about what apps existed for those involved in basic science.

Here is a link to a great little article on “science” apps. http://berkeleysciencereview.com/top-10-free-apps-for-scientists/

One I wanted to highlight was PLoS. Yes Public Library of Science on your phone.

Now when you are in a line or at a less than stimulating meeting you can catch up on the literature!

There is also a PUB Med App.

Speaking of PubMed, NIH has their own app website! http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mobile/

So check these out and let me know any great Basic Science apps you use and what you think about Science apps!!
NIH adds $10M to encourage gender balance in clinical trials.
This supplemental funding was provided to 82 projects in different fields to encourage researchers to consider gender in their preclinical and clinical studies. Preclinical studies are currently more focused on men.

Regular exercise may decrease the risk of atrial fibrillation in older women.
This study that was published in the Journal of American Heart Association followed 81,000 women between the ages of 50 to 79 for an average 11 and half years. Women with regular exercise had a 10% lower chance of atrial fibrillation.

All cause mortality did not differ between women who never used oral contraceptives and the users.
The association between oral contraceptive use and mortality after 36 years of follow-up in Nurses’ Health Study has been published in British Medical Journal October issue. Oral contraceptive use was associated with higher rate of death from breast cancer and lower rate of death from ovarian cancer.
www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25361731

CDC’s 2013 map details the prevalence of obesity in different area of the US.
No state had a prevalence of obesity less than 20%. Massachusetts and 6 other states had a rate of between 20 to 25%.
www.cdc.gov/obesity/data/prevalence-maps.htm

What’s behind the gender gap in earnings?

Conventional wisdom has it that the gender gap in pay is due in large part to women’s choices of lower-paying occupations such as teaching. A recent study by Harvard economist Claudia Goldin, however, has found that most of the gap occurs within occupations, rather than between occupations. That is, even in the same occupation, and even after accounting for key factors such as age and education, on average men tend to earn more than women. The gender gap is wider in higher-paid areas such as medicine, finance, and law. For example, among financial specialists, on average women’s wages are 66% of men’s wages. In these occupations, employers pay employees a premium for long hours; someone working 80 hours a week earns more than double the salary of someone working 40 hours a week. In contrast, occupations such as pharmacists and human resources workers – and, perhaps surprisingly, obstetricians – do not see a “long hours premium” and have a much smaller gender gap in pay. Dr. Goldin attributes the difference not to better anti-discrimination policies in the latter occupations, but to greater workplace flexibility regarding hours and location, such that workers can easily substitute for each other. In short, increasing workplace flexibility may lead to greater gender equity in pay.

Citation: http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/24/upshot/the-pay-gap-is-because-of-gender-not-jobs.html?emc=edit_ml_20140424&nl=style&nlid=55218869
Rebecca Davis Lee Crumpler
(1831-1895), Physician
Rebecca Davis Lee was born in Delaware in 1831 and was raised in Pennsylvania by an aunt who took care of sick neighbors and relatives. Rebecca was heavily influenced by her aunt and when she moved to Massachusetts in 1952, she practiced as a nurse for 8 years. She was given letters of recommendation by the physicians she worked for and was admitted to medical school at the New England Female Medical College in 1860 (which later merged with Boston University in 1873). She was the first African American to be granted an MD degree in the U.S. in 1864. She specialized in the care of women and children. She married Arthur Crumpler soon after she graduated. In 1865 she moved to Virginia as she felt it was the proper place for missionary work after the end of the American Civil War. As most black physicians did, she experienced intense racism when she practiced in the South but she was able to take care of many freed slaves who would have had no access to medical care otherwise. She returned to Boston in 1869 where she continued to practice medicine actively until about 1880. She published a “Book of Medical Disclosures” (the last link takes you to the book in entirety) in 1883 largely based on the notes she kept during her medical practice. She passed away in 1895 in Fairview, MA. In 1989, the Rebecca Lee Society was founded by Dr. Saundra Maas-Robinson and Dr. Patricia Whitley which supports and promotes black women physicians.

http://wstem.pbworks.com/w/page/78683759/Rebecca%20Lee%20Crumpler
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rebecca_Lee_Crumpler

http://pds.lib.harvard.edu/pds/view/2573819?n=1&s=4&printThumbnails=no

Promotions:
Jennifer Carey, MD, Emergency Medicine, Assistant Professor
Michelle Dalal, MD, FAAP, Pediatrics, Clinical Associate Professor
Beverly Hay, MD, Pediatrics, Associate Professor
Lisa Lewis, PhD, Infectious Disease, Research Associate Professor
Elisabeth Salisbury, PhD, Neurology, Research Associate Professor
April Deng, MD, PhD, Pathology, Professor

Tenure:
Hong Yu, PhD, QHS

Awards:
Kristina Deligiannidis, MD, Psychiatry, American College of Neuropsychopharmacology Travel Award.
Sonia Chimienti, MD, Medicine, AAMC Mid Career Women Faculty Professional Development Seminar.
Jennifer Bram, MD, Pediatrics, AAMC Early Career Women Faculty Professional Development Seminar.

Grants:
Mary Munson, PhD, BMP, R01 from NIGMS for 4 years, “Structure and Function of the Exocyst Complex”.

Kristina Deligiannidis, MD, Psychiatry, NIH Early Career Reviewer for the Center for Scientific Review.

Join our Facebook Group!
Please join the Women's Faculty Committee's Group on Facebook! https://www.facebook.com/groups/469190009868083/
Take advantage of this opportunity to interact with committee members and other interested community members - a great way to share news and articles, build a sense of community and foster discussion.
The UMass AMWA chapter has had a busy Fall season! Our kick-off dinner introduced over 20 first year medical students to the AMWA mission to promote women’s health and advance women in medicine. Our first women’s health event on September 29th is World Heart Day, and this year the theme was creating heart-healthy environments. AMWA helped spread awareness about cardiovascular disease risk factors at UMass by providing a display in the Lamar Soutter Library that included pamphlets on women’s cardiac health and healthy environments, heart stickers to be worn in support, and tasty treats.

AMWA also hosted two events with the goal of advancing women in medicine. The first was a workshop led by one of the AMWA faculty advisors, Dr. Luanne Thorndyke on ‘Graceful Self-Promotion’. Dr. Thorndyke is an expert in the area of career development and has given variations of this workshop to physicians around the United States. After working with the AMWA leaders, Dr. Thorndyke created an intimate and interactive experience where students were able to practice networking skills with their peers. By the end of the evening, students were more comfortable with introducing themselves, discussing their accomplishments and ‘gracefully self-promoting’ in high-stakes interactions.

The 2nd Annual Women in Medicine Mentoring Reception, hosted in collaboration with the Office of Faculty Affairs and the Women’s Faculty Committee, was also a great success. Forty-five students and 35 faculty members gathered in the Albert Sherman Center Cube to facilitate productive connections between female students and faculty. Feedback after the event was extremely positive from faculty and students alike. AMWA looks forward to assisting the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences host a mentoring event for women in science.

Looking ahead, AMWA plans to continue to enhance communication between students and faculty by offering students the opportunity to attend an intimate dinner hosted by female faculty members. By sharing in conversation in a relaxed atmosphere, we hope to bridge gaps between those who have learned and those who are learning. In order to enhance the diversity of faculty and students involved in these evenings, AMWA will collaborate with the Latino Medical Student Association. The first of the “Dinners with Doctors” series is scheduled for October 29th and dinners will be held throughout the fall semester.

Website: http://www.umassmed.edu/Content.aspx?id=54436&linkidentifier=id&itemid=54436
Newsletter Archives: http://www.umassmed.edu/Content.aspx?id=62180&linkidentifier=id&itemid=62180
Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/pages/Womens-Faculty-Committee-of-UMASS-Medical-School/722709504425444
Facebook Group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/469190009868083/

Newsletter Team and Contributors: Bonnie Bray (Diversity & Equal Opportunity), Sybil Crawford (Medicine), Sarah Cutrona (Medicine), Geneva DeGregorio (Medical Student), Rachel Gerstein (MAPS), Shirin Haddady (Endocrinology), Gennie Ludovico (Faculty Affairs), Anuja Mathew (Infectious Disease), Constance Nichols (Emergency Medicine), Ann Salerno (Pediatrics), Luanne Thorndyke (Faculty Affairs), Yumi Uetake (Cell and Developmental Biology), Molly E. Waring (QHS)

Comments: Yumi.Uetake@umassmed.edu