Greetings from your Co-Chairs!

Hope you all had a wonderful summer.

WFC had a productive spring 2013. As announced in June, Ann Salerno was elected as our new clinical co-chair, and Sybil Crawford is returning as the non-clinical co-chair.

At our Awards Luncheon in May, we recognized six outstanding UMMS faculty: Mariann Manno, Outstanding Community Service; Trudy Manchester and Elizabeth Murphy, Sarah Stone Excellence in Education; Kristina Deligiannidis, Early Career Achievement in Science & Health; Patricia Franklin, Women in Science & Health; Kathryn Edmiston, Excellence in Clinical Services; and Julia Andrieni, Outstanding Mentoring.

Also, the Women’s Health Event in June hosted a panel of four UMass speakers on the topic of skin cancer in women, from bench to bedside – April Deng (Anatomic Pathology), Laura Lambert (General Surgery), Corrie Painter (Molecular Medicine), and Mary Maloney (Dermatology). The event was well attended and generated many questions from the audience.

Finally, we began discussions on how to modify our committee bylaws to be consistent with the new UMass-wide governance document, which recently received final approval. Work on this topic will be restarting, along with all our other subcommittee activities.

We look forward to another great year!

Best,

Ann Salerno and Sybil Crawford
UMass student AMWA branch has had an exciting start to the year! We began the year with an introductory dinner that over 20 women attended and we held a workshop about how to be an effective mentee. We also hosted the first Women in Medicine Mentoring Reception in conjunction with the Women's Faculty Committee and the Worcester District Medical Society Women's Caucus.

The mentoring reception was held in the "Cube" on the third floor of the new Albert Sherman Center and was attended by over 70 female students and physicians. We started the night with a cocktail hour that facilitated students and physicians getting to know each other on an informal basis. This was followed by a formal program of specialty speed dating, where students were able to circulate between different tables and get advice on specific areas in medicine.

We are so thankful for all of the physician support in making this event such a success. Many students have reported that the event was extremely beneficial and helped them in starting to think about their future career paths. If you're interested in being involved with AMWA more please contact Molly Cook, 2016.

(Safiyah Hosein and Molly Cook)

Jeanne Lawrence, PhD, professor and interim chair of Cell & Developmental Biology, and her team recently demonstrated that the extra chromosome linked to Down’s Syndrome (also known as trisomy 21) can potentially be “switched off.” Using induced pluripotent stem cells derived from a person with Down’s syndrome, they inserted a gene called XIST into the extra chromosome 21. The gene, which normally turns off one X chromosome in females, rendered the extra chromosome and most of its gene products inactive. This technique offers a proof of principle that the researchers plan to test in a mouse model of Down’s syndrome and will be used to further explore the biology of this and other genetic disorders. http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/vaop/ncurrent/full/nature12394.html
Recipe: Miso Soup

You can use anything for this Japanese soup such as vegetables, mushrooms, seaweed, fish or meat. Basically, cook ingredients until tender and add miso paste. Miso paste is soybeans fermented with salt and rice. Japanese people eat this soup with rice every day, but it’s also very tasty with bread according to my American husband. Miso can be purchased at any Asian grocery store, Whole Foods Market, or on-line (http://www.southrivermiso.com/). Also, it’s not difficult to make miso at home if you can wait for 6 months.

Ingredients:
- 1 medium onion, sliced in half moons
- 1 carrot cut into thin slices
- 1 package of tofu cut into bite size pieces
- 1 quart water
- 4 tablespoons miso paste (red or white)
- Chopped scallion for garnish

Directions:
Place water, carrots and onion in a saucepan and cook with lid on until tender. Reduce flame to low, add tofu and miso, and simmer briefly. Garnish with scallions and serve.
Promotions:
- Patricia Ruze, MD, FMCH, Assistant Professor
- Tracy Kedian, MD, FMCH, Associate Professor
- Shirin Sioshansi, MD, Radiation Oncology, Assistant Professor
- Mai-Lan Rogoff, MD, Psychiatry, Professor
- Judy Jones, DNP, FNP-BC, GSN, Assistant Professor

Tenure:
- Kate Lapane, PhD, QHS, Professor

Awards:
- Luanne Thorndyke, MD, Top leader award from AAMC
- Marianne E. Felice, MD, Woman Physician Leadership Award from the Massachusetts Medical Society
- Lucy Candib, MD, Five Star Doctor Award from World Organization of Family Doctors’ (WONCA).
- Cynthia Fuhrmann, PhD, AAMC Award for Innovative Institutional Partnership in Research and Research-Focused Training
- Linda Sagor, MD, MPH, Henry Ingersoll Bowditch Award for Excellence in Public Health from the Massachusetts Medical Society
- Judith K. Ockene, PhD, MEd, MA, Chancellor’s Medal for Distinguished Service

Leadership:
- Mary M. Lee, MD, Chair of Department of Pediatrics

Named professorships:
- Catarina I. Kiefe, MD, PhD, Melvin S. and Sandra L. Cutler Chair in Biomedical Research
- Ellen M. Gravallese, MD, Myles J. McDonough Chair in Rheumatology
- Silvia Corvera, MD, Endowed Chair in Diabetes Research.

Mother’s rooms at UMASS

There are now three mothers’ rooms (S2-100b, S6-100a and S6-100b) available in the Main School Building. All rooms are secured with card swipe access and equipped with a hospital-grade Medela pump (mothers must bring their own supplies and accessories), a comfortable chair, small table, and an electrical outlet. Mothers’ Rooms are also available on the South Street, MassBiologics, and Schraffs Building campuses.

Woman Physician Leadership Award—Marianne E. Felice

Mary Lee

Dr. Marianne E. Felice, Professor of Pediatrics and Obstetrics/Gynecology, was awarded the 2013 Woman Physician Leadership Award by the Committee on Women in Medicine at the Massachusetts Medical Society Women’s Leadership Forum on Thursday Sept 26th. This award honors a woman physician for outstanding leadership and contributions to patients and the medical profession. Dr. Felice was recognized for her "substantial and enduring contributions to UMass Medical School, pediatrician training, and care of infants and children." and as a "a fierce advocate for children and women throughout the Commonwealth."

The Women’s Leadership Forum started off with two dynamic talks on lessons on effective leadership by Drs. Lynda Young and Alice Tolbert, past presidents of the Massachusetts Medical Society. Each speaker gave personal examples of how they developed and refined their leadership skills and shared personal anecdotes on challenges and opportunities for women leaders in medicine. The session concluded with a collaborative, interactive presentation by Drs. Cynthia Sacco, medical director of MassPro and Najmosama Nikui, chief of gynecology at Boston Va Health Care system on team leadership.
Women’s Health News
Shirin Haddady

Ovarian cancer awareness month (September)
Each year in the US, New cases: 20,000; Deaths: 14,000,

Beast cancer awareness month (October)
In the US in 2013, New cases: 232,340 (female); 2,240 (male), Deaths: 39,620 (female); 410 (male)

Domestic violence awareness month (October)

Violence against women
WHO released a new report in partnership with the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and the South African Medical Research Council. The report, Global and regional estimates of violence against women: Prevalence and health effects of intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence, represents the first systematic study of global data on the prevalence of violence against women – both by partners and non-partners. Some 35% of all women will experience either intimate partner or non-partner violence. The study finds that intimate partner violence is the most common type of violence against women, affecting 30% of women worldwide. http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2013/violence_against_women_20130620/en/

First drug approved for use in preoperative breast cancer
The U.S. Food and Drug Administration granted accelerated approval to Perjeta (pertuzumab) on 09/30/2013 as part of a complete treatment regimen for patients with early stage breast cancer before surgery (neoadjuvant setting). Perjeta is the first FDA-approved drug for the neoadjuvant treatment of breast cancer. It was approved in 2012 for the treatment of patients with advanced or late-stage (metastatic) HER2-positive breast cancer. HER2-positive breast cancers have increased amounts of the HER2 protein that contributes to cancer cell growth and survival. Perjeta’s new use is intended for patients with HER2-positive, locally advanced, inflammatory or early stage breast cancer (tumor greater than 2 cm in diameter or with positive lymph nodes) who are at high risk of having their cancer return or spread (metastasize) or of dying from the disease. http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm370393.htm

CDC seeks former smokers for National Ad Campaign
The ads will feature real people from all population groups, including women, who suffered severe health conditions caused directly by smoking or who have lost a family member from smoking-related condition before age 55. The program is also recruiting women who smoked during pregnancy, resulting in specific problems during pregnancy, labor or delivery. Applications are accepted by 10/21/2013. http://www.cdc.gov/women/

HPV vaccine helping lower HPV infection rates in teen girls
A new study looking at the prevalence of human papillomavirus (HPV) infections in girls and women before and after the introduction of the HPV vaccine shows a significant reduction in vaccine-type HPV in U.S. teens. The study, published in the June issue of The Journal of Infectious Diseases reveals that since the vaccine was introduced in 2006, vaccine-type HPV prevalence decreased 56 percent among female teenagers 14-19 years of age. http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2013/p0619-hpv-vaccinations.html

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