



American Medical Women's Association
The Vision and Voice of Women in Medicine since 1915

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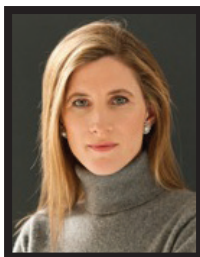
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Spring 2013

President's Message



Dear AMWA Members,

As the 93rd president of AMWA, I am very proud and excited to lead our nation's oldest multispecialty group since 1915 comprised of medical students, residents and physicians in this coming year.

As we all know, this is a very exciting time in medicine. Many changes are occurring which will affect all of us and our patients dramatically. It is very important to stay informed of these changes. The immediate effects of the Affordable Care Act will be implemented this year as well as the implementation of Accountable Care Organizations (ACO) to address rising healthcare costs. Our reimbursements will no longer be volume based, but now outcome and quality based. In addition to these changes, technology is rapidly affecting the way and manner in which we practice medicine and communicate with both our colleagues and patients.

Our upcoming Annual meeting in the Spring of 2014 in our nation's capital Washington D.C., will be an exciting opportunity to hear from our nation's top leaders about these upcoming changes in healthcare, join advocacy on Capital Hill, network with colleagues, address women's health issues and learn how to identify mentors to help you succeed in your career. As women physicians, we all face challenges different from those that affect our male counterparts. Each of us is 'leaning in' to our careers to excel as clinicians, scientists and leaders in medicine. We are so fortunate to have AMWA as a place to learn, voice our concerns, and continue to build for the next generation of female physicians.

Please join me this year in continuing to build AMWA through our individual commitment, enthusiasm and dedication to our mission:

To Advance Women in Medicine and Improve Women's Health.

Eleni Tousimis, MD, FACS
AMWA President, 2013–2014

Dr. Eleni Tousimis is a board certified General Surgeon who specializes in breast cancer surgery. She recently joined Medstar Georgetown University Hospital, Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center as the Chief of the Division of Breast Surgery in Washington D.C. Dr. Tousimis attended Dartmouth and Mount Holyoke College where she graduated cum laude. She then received her medical degree from Albany Medical College. Following her breast surgery fellowship training at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in 2001, she completed additional specialty training in minimally invasive surgery of the breast at the European Institute of Oncology in Milan, Italy. Dr. Tousimis was previously Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery at the Weill Cornell Medical College, New York Presbyterian Hospital for the last 9 years and served as Associate Program Director of Surgical Education. She has been recognized for her pursuit of new initiatives in breast cancer management, including nipple sparing mastectomy, partial breast radiation and new anesthetic techniques for breast surgery. As a well-respected clinician, researcher and teacher, Dr. Tousimis has received numerous awards and holds leadership positions in several professional societies and acts as section editor of the *Aesthetic Plastic Surgery Journal*. She has been recognized as a Castle Connolly's Top Doctors, Top Surgeons and Best Doctors in 2009–2012. She received an Achievement Award from the City of New York for her surgical skill, compassion and service to the people of New York.

AMWA New Member Promotion

In honor of AMWA's 98th Anniversary year, NEW members can join at a promotional rate of only \$98 per year — more than a 50% discount from the regular member rate of \$225. Please invite your colleagues and friends! **Offer ends August 15, 2013.**

AMWA's Newly Elected Officers

Farzanna Haffizulla, MD
President Elect

Roberta Gebhard, DO
Secretary

New Board Members

Beatrice Desper, MD

Elinor Christiansen, MD

Suzanne Harrison, MD, FAAFP
(returning for a second term)

AMWA Residency Division

Letter from AMWA Residency Division President



Kanani Titchen, M.D.

Feminism is paradoxical.

Feminism asks for sexual equality that includes sexual difference.

It posits that women recognize their unity while it stands for diversity among women. It requires gender consciousness for its basis yet calls for the elimination of prescribed gender roles.

— Nancy F. Cott,
The Grounding of Modern Feminism

We who are active in the American Medical Women's Association come together because we believe in **possibility**, in the world of **opportunity** that has been handed to us by women who came before us... and those few who came before them... and those fewer still who came before them, breaking and coaxing down barriers. These women shed their prescribed gender roles by the radical act of becoming physicians.

One AMWA student member wrote me, "**Thanks for reviving AMWA so I had a place to go.**" As residents, we serve as a **bridge** between our inexperienced student selves and our professional and seasoned older selves.

AMWA is our place to go — for guidance, for networking, for mentoring. AMWA provides a venue for us to present our research; a platform for us to champion our causes; a family of sisters with whom to share our goals, challenges, and accomplishments; and an opportunity for us to counsel those who come after us — to equip our students to be better, stronger, happier, and more satisfied.

Join us.

Kanani Titchen, MD
President, AMWA Residency Division 2013–2014

AMWA Student Division

Letter from AMWA Student Division President



Colleagues, Mentors and Friends,

To say that the 98th Anniversary Meeting of AMWA was invigorating is an understatement! Thank you to each and every one of you who joined us as we partook in mentoring activities, elected 21 amazing new student leaders, and celebrated on a beautiful yacht around the NYC harbor.

This meeting marked the culmination of one amazing year of growth for the student division and the beginning of another! The Student Division will continue to expand, reach record numbers of membership, and make a presence throughout not only medical schools but undergraduate institutions and even high schools. We have embarked on yet another set of goals. We plan to build 25 new Branches this year, make personal visits to different institutions, and play integral roles leading AMWA committees as we aim to further our mission and support all aspects of growth.

We have partnered with amazing resources in the community to be able to provide our new and continuing members with increased benefits. We plan to provide our branches with more direction as we join together to represent women in medicine, the health of women in our practice, and the goals of the American Women's Hospital Service.

You, as our members, supporters, leaders and advocates, are crucial to this continued growth and success. Your ideas will be met with high regard, so do not hesitate to reach out with any questions, comments, concerns or suggestions for improvement you may have.

Warm Regards,

Marissa Joelle Orenstein
National Student President
American Medical Women's Association
moresnstein@amwa-student.org

AMWA 2013 – 2014 Board of Directors

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AMWA Updates

AMWA's 98th Annual Meeting a Huge Success



AMWA Leaders with Dr. Michelle Bachelet, former Executive Director of UN Women and Past President of Chile

AMWA's 98th annual meeting in New York City was an unparalleled success! The speaker roster featured America's most accomplished physicians, all leaders within their field. We were sold out at this packed event which featured top-quality CME sessions, mentoring programs and 50 poster presentations. Dr. Michelle Bachelet — pediatrician, mother and past president of Chile, Undersecretary General and Executive Director of UN Women — was our keynote speaker at the Annual Awards Luncheon in the historic Villard Ballroom of the New York Palace. Other highlights included the dinner dance cruise around Manhattan on the Yacht Infinity for AMWA's 98th Anniversary Gala.

Comments from both our speakers and attendees captured the energy and enthusiasm our meeting generated:

"This year's AMWA's meeting surpassed all my expectations. Not only did we hear from women physician leaders in many fields, but what we heard was the most sophisticated, cutting edge medicine advances. No matter what field you practice in, you had to be engaged, excited and enthused as I was!"

"I felt as if I had a whole new sisterhood, and look forward to participating at next year's meeting in Washington."

"Amazing spirit among all these women of power and privilege and a goodness of life... So many of the young women I spoke with are filled with zeal and promise. They will be teaching us very soon enough!"

"I fully intend to be much more involved with AMWA based on what I saw!... Thanks also for the wonderful work AMWA is doing on behalf of women in medicine!"

Relive the excitement by downloading and sharing photographs of these moments from the AMWA website. A special thanks to Mary Ellen Morrow, for donating her superb photography in memory of her mother and past AMWA president, Dr. Laura Morrow.

AMWA is poised for a phenomenal 2014 under the leadership of Dr. Eleni Tousimis. Be there at the **99th Anniversary Meeting in Washington, D.C. in Spring 2014!** It is going to be simply fabulous. And that's a promise!

Welcoming Dr. Farzanna Haffizulla, AMWA President-elect, as new anchor



Earlier this year, Mission Critical Health launched a new editorial service to provide educational healthcare content to hospitals, clinics, physician offices and assisted living communities

nationwide. As a practicing physician and the host of this new series, Dr. Haffizulla will provide valuable insight into the challenges and evidence based solutions within today's healthcare environment.

In addition to being AMWA's President-elect, Dr. Farzanna Haffizulla is also chair of AMWA's Fund-raising Committee and Preventative Task Force. She is an affiliate clinical professor of Biomedical science at the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine at Florida Atlantic University and the author of *Harmony of the Spheres: A Working Mom's Lessons of Love, Strength, and Balance*.

For more information, visit:

www.missioncriticalhealth.com/Haffizulla%20Bio.pdf

The AMWA Awards Committee is accepting applications for AMWA's 2014 Awards

Elizabeth Blackwell Award
Woman in Science Award
Bertha Van Hoosen Award

Camille Mermod Award
Lila A. Wallis Women's Health Award
Anne C. Carter Student Leadership Award

For more information, please visit:

http://www.amwa-doc.org/cms_files/original/AMWA_Awards__2_.pdf

AMWA Updates

AMWA is a Founding Partner of the Sex and Gender Women's Health Collaborative (SGWHC)

AMWA is one of three founding partners of the Sex and Gender Women's Health Collaborative (SGWHC), the first and only digital resource dedicated solely to sex and gender evidence based care to promote health and improve disease outcomes (<http://sgwhc.org>). AMWA provides this resource along with the American College of Women's Health Physicians (ACWHP) and the Society of Women's Health Research (SWHR). Formerly the Advancing Women's Health Initiative, the SGWHC is proud to represent more than 20 medical and health institutions and professional organizations who have joined the founding partners — AMWA, ACWHP, and SWHR — and the federal Offices of Women's Health, to further this effort and benefit from shared resources.

At **SGWHC.org**, medical students, nurse practitioners/nurses, and allied health faculty and providers have open access to the single largest online collection of medical education curricula and teaching tools. This evolving content aims to foster sex and gender sensitivity in delivering optimal care for all. Despite substantial evidence of differences in symptoms, responses and outcomes based on sex and gender, medical research and practice remain largely based on the model of the 70kg white

male. Women are not small men, but more significantly, sex and gender variability go beyond obvious reproductive distinctions. Every cell has a sex. This collaborative supports the recommendations of the 2010 IOM Report on Women's Health Research, which states that while "over half of the U.S. population is female, gaps remain both in research areas and in the application of results to benefit women in general and across multiple population groups."

The collaborative welcomes all institutions and organizations within the medical, nursing, and allied health professions to work together to expand the Sex and Gender resource base, raise awareness, and advance the adoption of sex and gender content into medical curricula and practice.

For nearly a century, AMWA has championed the importance of women's health. This initiative will help ensure that sex and gender based medicine becomes an integral part of every medical school's curriculum.



A Visit to the Van Hoosen Farm, Home of AMWA's Founder, Dr. Bertha Van Hoosen

By Eliza Lo Chin, MD, MPH, AMWA Executive Director

Last September, AMWA Past President Dr. Mary Guinan was the keynote speaker at the Broomfield Center for Leadership at the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm. From her we learned of the 150th birthday celebration of Dr. Bertha Van Hoosen to be held at the farm on March 26, 2013.

Having always wanted to make the pilgrimage to Rochester Hills, MI, I couldn't pass up the opportunity. So after some hasty last minute travel plans, one week later I found myself driving through the quiet countryside of Rochester Hills, Michigan with museum representatives Frank Cardimen and Mary Eberline. Eberline had grown up in one of the Van Hoosen homes and attended the same one-room school as Dr. Bertha. As a young girl, she and her mother once had tea with Dr. Bertha and other fine ladies of the day. The Van Hoosen Farm has been preserved as a historical landmark and museum thanks to the City of Rochester Hills and the dedication of Museum Supervisor, Patrick McKay. Under McKay's guidance and vision over the past 27 years, the museum has continued to grow and flourish.

A gathering of local residents, medical students and girl scouts turned out for the birthday celebration, and historian Maureen Thalmann presented a wonderful synopsis of Dr. Bertha's life,



The Van Hoosen Home

from her childhood in Stony Creek, to her parents' disapproval of her choice to pursue medicine, to her prominent career as an obstetrical surgeon.

Stepping across the threshold of the Van Hoosen home, I was swept back in time

as I imagined her sitting at the wooden desk with her thin-rimmed glasses reading medical books or seeing patients on her small examination table. Her office remains as it did back in the 1940s, complete with medicinal vials, doctor's bag, typewriter, prescription pad and personal papers. Artifacts from her many trips abroad decorate the quaint 1820s farm house, which has retained most of the original furnishings, including an old-fashioned electric stove, her mother's wicker rocking chair, a rope style bed predating our modern spring mattresses, and the famed horse-hair lounge upon which Dr. Bertha made her

AMWA Updates

Visit to the Van Hoosen Farm

decision to pursue medicine. Books adorn most of the rooms, as reading was an important past-time of the Van Hoosens. Relics of a life well-lived fill the house: a souvenir from the AMWA meeting of 1941, photographs of Dr. Bertha as a student and as a surgeon, and a note card with the inscription,

*With Best Wishes,
Bertha Van Hoosen
Eighty-five years, — still at it
Sixty years a surgeon
One year — an author
Forever, your friend*

In this small community of Rochester Hills, the Van Hoosen name is well known. Dr. Sarah Van Hoosen, Dr. Bertha's niece, earned her PhD in animal genetics and became one of the first women in America to become a "Master Farmer." Her innovative farm methods led to the dairy farm's success and the Van Hoosen farm was internationally renowned for its prized breed of dairy cows and fine quality products.

So if you're ever in the Detroit area, drive out to the Van Hoosen Farm Museum. Experience history at its finest and walk in the footsteps of one famous surgeon and founder of AMWA. It's a detour well worth taking, and one that just might change your life.



Dr. Bertha's Office



Dr. Bertha's Bedroom



Medicinal Vials

For more information on the museum, or to watch a short video highlighting the farm, please visit:

<http://www.rochesterhills.org/index.aspx?NID=88>

To view Maureen Thalmann's summary of Dr. Bertha's life, please visit:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=yIKKCGydgz0&feature=youtu.be

AMWA Breast Cancer Task Force

By: Nicole P. Sandhu, MD, PhD

Co-chair, AMWA Breast Cancer Task Force

AMWA was one of the stakeholders invited by Virginia Moyer, MD, MPH, Chair of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, to participate in the USPSTF BRCA Risk Assessment & Counseling/ Testing Webinar regarding the draft evidence report and draft recommendation statement on BRCA mutation screening. The webinar was attended by the newly formed AMWA Breast Cancer Task Force on Tuesday, April 2, 2013, after which the

draft evidence report and draft recommendation statement were reviewed. The AMWA Breast Cancer Task Force has submitted feedback to the USPSTF for consideration before the final report and recommendation statement are published. We look forward to the publication of the final evidence report and recommendation statement from USPSTF.

Awards Summary

Presidential Award

Michelle Bachelet, MD was the first Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women, which was established on July 2, 2010 by the United Nations General Assembly. Under Dr. Bachelet's leadership, UN Women led, supported and coordinated work on gender equality and the empowerment of women at global, regional and country levels. Dr. Bachelet most recently served as President of Chile from 2006 to 2010. A long-time champion of women's rights, she has advocated for gender equality and women's empowerment throughout her career. One of her major successes as President of Chile was her decision to save billions of dollars in revenue to spend on issues such as pension reform, social protection programs for women and children,

and research and development, despite the financial crisis. Other initiatives included tripling the number of free early child-care centers for low-income families and the completion of some 3,500 child-care centers around the country. Dr. Bachelet also held ministerial portfolios in the Chilean Government as Minister of Defense and Minister of Health. As Defense Minister, Dr. Bachelet introduced gender policies intended to improve conditions for women in the military and police forces. As Minister of Health, she implemented health care reform, improving attention to primary care facilities with the aim of ensuring better and faster health care for families.

Elizabeth Blackwell Award

Kim Templeton, MD is Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City. She has been the orthopedic residency program director for the past several years, serves on the Graduate Medical Education executive committee, and is the incoming chair of the University of Kansas School of Medicine Promotion and Tenure Committee. She was named a "Top Doc" by Ingram's magazine and received the Marjorie J. Siddridge leadership award for women in medicine from the University of Kansas in 2012. Dr. Templeton is currently the president of the U.S. Bone and Joint Initiative, a non-profit organization consisting of over 100 organizations engaged in the care of people with musculoskeletal conditions. Dr. Templeton serves on the executive committee of the Sex and Gender Women's Health

Collaborative (a collaborative effort of the ACWHP, AMWA, and SWHR). Dr. Templeton is an invited founding board member of the Academy of Women's Health. Dr. Templeton was the first McCann Professor of Women in Medicine and Science. She organized and currently chairs the Women Physicians' Caucus of the Kansas Medical Society. Dr. Templeton previously served on the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons' Council for Research, Quality Assessment and Technology. She is currently president of the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts. She is past-president of the Kansas Orthopedic Society, the Mid-Central States Orthopedic Society, the Ruth Jackson Orthopedic Society and the Medical Society of Johnson and Wyandotte Counties.

Bertha Van Hoosen Award

Diana J. Galindo MD, FACS, AGSF served as president of the American Medical Women's Association in 2007. She is a practicing internist geriatrician and educator at the Cleveland Clinic in Florida. She is currently a Fellow of both the American College of Physicians and the American Geriatrics Society. She was also an Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Miami's School of Medicine. Dr. Galindo earned her medical degree at the University of the Philippines College of Medicine and received her postgraduate training in internal medicine at St. Mary's Hospital (a major affiliate of Yale University). She earned her geriatrics fellowship at the University of Miami where she held a faculty appointment as Associate Professor of Medicine. The Consumers Research Council of America and The Best Doctors in America have recognized her as one of the top doctors in geriatrics. Cleveland Clinic Florida recognized her as Educator of the Year in 2011. She was also recognized as one of the Top 100 Most Influential Filipino Women in the

US in 2008 (Innovators and Thought Leaders category) by the Filipina Women's Network. Her female peers at the Cleveland Clinic have recognized her for her work at the local and national levels with the "Physician of Achievement Award." Dr. Galindo has been consistently chosen as one of the Top Doctors of South Florida in geriatrics by the Gold Coast Magazine of South Florida. Her passion has always been affordable and good health care for all and empowering all women, especially women in medicine. As president of AMWA in 2007, she set Universal Access to Care and Caring for Older Women as her agenda. AMWA organized a national "Conversation about Health Care" with the leading presidential candidates at that time to determine their views on health care. Dr. Galindo and her partner, Emilio Labrador, live in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. She enjoys reading (she is a member of her community's book club), traveling, gardening and has a brown belt in karate.

Anne C. Carter Leadership Award

Neha A. Deshpande is enrolled in the MD program at Harvard Medical School and has been active in promoting women in medicine and women's health issues since her undergraduate years. As an undergraduate student at Johns Hopkins University, Deshpande founded the Women's Pre-Health Leadership Society to promote the next generation of women in medicine. During her first year of medical school, she served as one of the Co-Presidents of the Harvard AMWA student branch and then as the AMWA National Student Treasurer. Deshpande was also the 2012 recipient of the AMWA Young Woman in Science Award and received first prize for her first-author research on pregnancy outcomes in kidney and liver transplant recipients. Outside of AMWA, Deshpande is active in promoting women's health through both research and volunteerism. She is the Director of Health Education of

Pasand, a young non-profit organization that brings sanitary pads for the cost of a penny and reproductive health education to school-aged girls in Southeast Asia. Deshpande has a strong passion for clinical research and has written extensively about various women's health issues including domestic violence prevention, global sex trafficking, surgical obstetrics, obstetric anesthesia, post-transplantation pregnancy management, medical ethics in obstetrics and humanism in medicine. At Harvard, Deshpande is President of the Ob/Gyn Interest Group and former director of PHACE, a volunteer program that brings sexual health education to high-risk teens in the Boston Title 1 Public Schools. She is also a Harry S. Truman Scholar, USA TODAY College Academic First-Team winner, Intel Science Talent Search Finalist, and a former intern and science writer for the U.S. Surgeon General.

Awards Summary

Camille Mermod Award

Mary Ellen Morrow is the daughter of AMWA Past President Laura E. Morrow, MD (now deceased). Morrow, a member of the organization and a professional photographer, has continued her mother's support of AMWA, capturing the spirit of the organization with her photographs at annual meetings and events, as a tribute to her and in support of the positive work being done. Morrow remains passionate about

the possibilities inherent in this talented and caring group of women in medicine. Her wonderful photographs are available on AMWA's Facebook page and more of her work can be seen at:

www.maryellenmorrow.com

Exceptional Mentor Awards

Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber, MD

Jason L. Dragoo, MD

Nancy Ascher MD, PhD

Raghar Govindarajan, MD

Judith K Amorosa MD, FACR

Andreea Seritan, MD

Young Women in Science Awards – Student Poster Awards

First Place:

Neha Deshpande

Should a Seprafilm® Adhesion Barrier be Used at Cesarean Section?

Second Place:

Alice Chen

B Cell-Specific Sharpin-Deficient Mice Have Defective Lymphoid Architecture and Diminished Antibody Responses.

AMWA Board Call for Nominations

The AMWA Governance Committee is currently accepting nominations for positions of **President Elect**, **Treasurer**, and **Board of Directors at Large** for 2014–2015.

The completed application is due July 15, 2013.

Click here for more information

<http://www.amwa-doc.org/news/T268>

Member Updates

Dr. Eleni Tousimis Featured on the *Katie Couric Show*

AMWA President **Dr. Eleni Tousimis**, Chief of Breast Surgery at Georgetown University Hospital, was featured on the *Katie Couric Show* discussing prophylactic mastectomy in high risk women.

<http://www.amwa-doc.org/news/T502>

Dr. Gayatri Devi Featured on Alzheimer's News Segment

The immediate past president of AMWA, Dr. Gayatri Devi, neurologist at Lenox Hill Hospital, appeared on CBS's "*Up To The Minute*" on March 19, 2013, discussing the early signs of Alzheimer's.

The video can be viewed at: <http://www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=50143189n>

AMWA Extends Partnership with HealthyWomen



In 2013, AMWA is extending its partnership with HealthyWomen, the nation's leading, nonprofit women's health resource. HealthyWomen will have an increased presence on the AMWA website to share timely consumer health-related content, and AMWA will

provide HealthyWomen with medical experts who can review newly created health and wellness content that will be available at **HealthyWomen.org**.

AMWA and HealthyWomen will continue to work together to annually survey AMWA members to determine what type of educational materials are working for providers and how well they are working, what topics need to be covered, and whether there is a need for content in additional languages. This feedback allows HealthyWomen to create materials that meet the patients' and the health providers' ongoing needs. Past surveys prompted the creation of various electronic publications and the successful *Vitamin D and Your Bone Health* tip card.

For health care providers seeking patient education resources, HealthyWomen's new "For Professionals" center (www.healthywomen.org/for-professionals) offers medically vetted resources to which providers can direct their patients, downloadable fact sheets and tip sheets and links to relevant women's health conferences and continuing education webcasts.

"Through these types of strategic partnerships, we're able to keep our fingers on the pulse of what patients are searching for online and what educational resources health care providers need. The result is a win-win for both parties: patients get access to the health information they need and health care providers can trust the resources HealthyWomen provides."

Beth Battaglini, RN

President and CEO of HealthyWomen

Medical Women's International Association (MWIA) Congress



**Join AMWA Leaders at the
29th International Congress of the
Medical Women's International Association (MWIA)
Seoul, Korea July 31–August 3**

Meet and network with women physician leaders from all over the world as they share medical information and insights from their own country.

This Congress is held only once every three years.
For more information, please visit <http://mwia.net>.



Chicago AMWA Chapters Address Advocacy and Mentorship



AMWA continues to be a proud partner of the American Physician Scientists Association (APSA). AMWA Board of Directors Dr. Neelum Aggarwal and AMWA

National Student President-Elect and AMWA Board of Directors Jackie Wong attended APSA's 9th annual meeting to give presentations on the role of women in medicine and research. In March, the journal *Nature* issued a special issue entirely on the status of women in medicine and research, stating that, "science remains institutionally sexist." The need for action against gender inequality was advocated for by both Dr. Aggarwal's presentation from the American Medical Association (AMA) Women Physicians Congress and Wong's presentation from the AMWA Student Division.

Wong and Dr. Aggarwal have also left this conference with a newfound purpose: they have begun a new partnership to bring the AMWA chapters of all Chicago-area medical schools together to create and sustain local promotion of women in medicine. Their collective goals are to create a (1) tight-knit community of women's advocacy and mentorship across Chicago and (2) develop city wide programs that seek to understand the similar and unique challenges young women in medicine from varied ethnic and social backgrounds often encounter, with regards to managing career, community needs and family commitments. They hope to formally begin their first collaboration in the upcoming month. Any questions or comments about this new initiative, as well as any requests to join, can be sent to president-elect@amwa-student.org

National History Day Project on Women in Medicine features AMWA Leaders

Pre-med bound students Taylor Veracka, Juliana Veracka and Melissa Beinlich from Hauppauge High School are commended for their **National History Day** (NHD) project titled *Women in Medicine: Elizabeth Blackwell and Beyond*.

Not only did the project receive high accolades locally, but it advanced to the NHD regional competition. The project features interviews with AMWA leaders, Dr. Luanne Thorndyke, Dr. Sarah Cutrona and Dr. Eliza Chin and can be found at this link <http://41346113.nhd.weebly.com/index.html>

Reflections on Their Experience

"Working on a National History Day project is something that the three of us look forward to every year. As juniors in high school, this was our third project for the competition. However, this year our experience was by far the most exciting and rewarding of them all. We contacted the 2012 recipient of the Elizabeth Blackwell award, Dr. Luanne Thorndyke, hoping that she would provide us with an interview or some information to aid us in our research. None of us could have imagined what came next!

Not only did Dr. Thorndyke grant us an interview, but she also put us in contact with her colleagues Dr. Sarah Cutrona and Dr. Eliza Chin – all of whom were so nice, forthcoming and supportive

throughout our entire project. We kept in frequent contact, and really gathered a deep understanding of what it's like to be a woman in the medical field. What started out as a simple project that we hoped would advance in competition became a dedication to these three fantastic doctors, all of whom we consider as role models. We advanced to the NHD regional competition and though we did not move on to the statewide competition, the experience that we had working with these doctors was more rewarding than any prize would have been. It truly turned out to be one of the greatest learning experiences we've had."

Taylor, Juliana, and Melissa

AMWA featured in Breakthroughs with Martin Sheen



Click here <http://www.breakthroughsptv.com/> under "content experts" to watch video.



American Medical **Women's** Association

The Vision and Voice of Women in Medicine since 1915

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Faces of AMWA

An on-line exhibition celebrating AMWA leaders

www.amwa-doc.org

Help AMWA conserve resources!

Please send your email address to
associatedirector@amwa-doc.org
to receive this newsletter and other
important member information by email.

Special AMWA Member Discounts

Medelita: AMWA members receive 15% off Medelita's professional lab coats and performance scrubs.
(Discount code: AMWA). Medelita's unique lab coats are fluid resistant, featuring Advanced Dual Action Teflon®.

Pocket Medicine Discount: AMWA members receive 30% off of Pocket Medicine when ordered with the AMWA discount code through the Lippincott Website.

Blue Sky Scrubs: AMWA members receive 15% off of any orders from **www.blueskyscrubs.com**.



is a publication of the American Medical Women's Association

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Eliza Lo Chin, MD, MPH | Executive Director
Neelum Aggarwal, MD | Editor
Sarah L. Cutrona, MD, MPH | Editor
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