



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN

AMWA

Annual
Meeting
Reflections

Volume XVI, Number 7/December 1997

AMWA's Annual Meeting Presents the Female Face of Medicine

AMWA held its 82nd Annual Meeting in Chicago on November 5-9 at the Fairmont Hotel. Entitled "Women Empowering Women: The Female Face of Medicine," this year's meeting featured more than 50 seminars on topics such as the differences in health care delivery based on physician gender, controversies in breast cancer, advances in cardiovascular disease diagnosis and treatment in women, issues for post-menopausal women, and the silicone breast implant controversy's impact on women's health.

Thirteen resolutions and four position papers were addressed by the House of Delegates at the Annual Meeting. Full text of AMWA position papers and resolutions will be available online by the end of this year.

The "Female Face of Medicine" not only applies to AMWA's successful and well-attended 82nd Annual Meeting, but also to AMWA, the organization, which continued to take a leadership role on many women's issues in 1997.

Throughout the year, AMWA strived to ensure that health care professionals in the U.S. and the world were aware of the unique health care needs of women in an effort to improve women's health. AMWA's continuing education programs not only enhanced the knowledge and skills of health care professionals but provided them with the opportunity to learn from women physician leaders. AMWA's master faculties and leadership feature the best and brightest who serve as ambassadors, not just for AMWA but for all women in medicine, as they conduct workshops at annual meetings of leading medical associations, travel to military bases in Europe to provide instruction on breast cancer detection and diagnosis, are interviewed by major media on women's health issues, testify before the Food and Drug Administration on new technologies that may be of benefit to women, and participate in press conferences and events focusing on issues affecting women in medicine or the health care of women.

Achievements of which all AMWA members can be proud include serving in a leadership role in efforts to

defeat legislation that would take away a woman's right to choose and criminalize medical decisionmaking, participating in a nationwide campaign to educate women about thyroid disease, working with the Older Women's League on nutrition education and managed care issues for older women, working with the Women's Legal Defense Fund and other women's and medical organizations to develop principles for evaluating managed care legislation, conducting awareness efforts on the targeting of women by the tobacco industry and serving on an advisory committee chaired by former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, MD, and then-FDA Commissioner David Kessler, MD, to develop a blueprint for tobacco control and prevention policy, and improving medical school curricula by offering a comprehensive reproductive health curriculum.

Reflecting on AMWA's activities and accomplishments, it is clear that AMWA makes a difference, and AMWA's leadership looks forward to working with its branches and leaders at all levels to ensure a vital organization for years to come.



AMWA's 1997-1998 Board of Directors: (l to r front): Drs. C. Herrera, M. Braude, D. Moore, D. Judelson, S. Lenhart, F. Taylor, N. Church. (l to r middle): Drs. C. Webber, G. Gardner, A. Houghton, A. Bernstein, E. Karlin, N. Binder, O. Silva. (l to r back): Drs. E. Shems, A. Kussmaul, D. Galindo, G. Nolph, M. Guinan. Not pictured: Drs. A. Heaton, A. Johnson, L. McCann, L. Morris, and E. Hirshberg, T. Warwick.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Inaugural Address

Sharyn A. Lenhart, MD



I have never felt more privileged than I do today as your incoming President. You honor me and you humble me with your confidence, and you inspire and you energize me with your willingness to join me in facing the challenges, both exciting and difficult, that lie ahead for us.

AMWA is rich in history, and many elements of our past are relevant and intrinsic parts of who we are today. Our organization was founded in 1915 by a small group of medical women possessing a unique spirit. They were determined; they were purposeful; they had deep personal motivations and strong convictions that women could make a unique contribution to the medical profession and to the health and the well-being of all.

I hear that same spirit in our current discussions, in our newly crafted Vision Statement, which speaks of empowering the voice of women to contribute to the well-being of all. I hear it in a recent board decision to create an award that honors not only achievement in women's health, but the spirit that motivated those achievements. I hear it in the very personal stories from members who tell me about the experiences that motivated them to join our organization — a senior physician who grew up in China, because her mother, who was a surgeon, couldn't get a job in the United States in the 1940s — a newly graduated physician whose beloved mentor told her that motherhood was not conducive to her completing her prestigious MD-PhD program.

Like our predecessors, we also occupy a strange position, vis-a-vis our female colleagues. The strong commitment to advocacy and change of those early 20th century physicians allowed them to speak eloquently to the needs of all medical women; but it also made them non-representative of many of the medical women of their time. As a result, they were not universally accepted by them. In fact, our founder, Dr. Bertha van Hoosen, spoke of the fledgling organization's membership crisis and near collapse when the \$2 dues were felt to be too high. A number of medical women felt that they were enough in the mainstream that there wasn't a need for an AMWA, even though they were barred from the AMA and were admit-

ted to medical schools at a fraction of the rate of their male colleagues. Today we know that many women physicians still will not join a women's organization on principle, and others believe that parity in medical school admissions, and the creation of multiple offices for women and women's health, both within our government and within our educational institutions, constitutes full integration. This despite the reports from AAMC and COGME (Council on Graduate Medical Education), that gender bias is the greatest career impediment for women physicians today and that few medical schools have adequate women's health curricula.

The climate of the external medical environment in which AMWA was created also parallels our current circumstances. Following the Flexner report in 1910, medical schools closed at an alarming rate, and both the role and the credentialing of physicians was widely questioned. It was a disquieting time for the medical profession.

Today physicians suffer constant assaults to their sense of professionalism, integrity, ethics, and autonomy, and they practice in unstable systems that collapse and merge to the tune of profit margins rather than patient needs. Amidst a distressing climate at home, our founders were forced to look beyond their national boundaries. The outbreak of World War I forced them to extend the organization's activities to a global arena. Excluded from the military at the time, these women physicians collaborated with their international colleagues in forming the Medical Women's International Association, and they served the health needs of international war victims through the creation of the American Women's Hospitals Service.

Today global economic wars have pressured U.S. employers to restructure their medical benefits, drastically changing the way in which we practice and train in medicine, and again reminding us of the importance of having a global perspective.

These striking similarities between us and our historic founders provides a stabilizing continuity to our organization. But we must also recognize how we have grown and how we have changed. What are our current realities and our future directions? What are our challenges? The past 15 years have been fruitful for AMWA. We have become a leader in women's health; we publish a respected scientific journal and a vast array of consumer books. We educate via master faculties, training grants, Annual Meetings, media events, Advanced Curricula on Women's Health, and ultimately via the co-founding of the National Academy on Women's Health Medical Education. We lobby, we advocate, we testify before Congress. We form creative partnerships with health care corporations

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AMWA Immediate Past President, Debra Judelson, MD, presents 1997-1998 President, Sharyn Lenhart, MD, with the President's Pin.

through our roundtable discussions, our Foundation, and our Scientific Evaluation Council. We develop leaders who now advocate for women's health in their roles as deans, professors, presidents of medical societies, directors of government offices for women, and clinicians.

Such rapid and successful growth can cause temporary problems. The current debates within the Women's Health Committee are stressful to us, but in my view, they represent the normal organizational need for structural refinements in leadership and in the coordination of activities that follow any period of rapid expansion. We are in the final stage of solidifying our position of leadership in women's health and that should free us to pursue additional goals.

The creation of the AMWA Foundation, which I sincerely urge you to support, the revision of our investment policies, and our success in obtaining grants help to stabilize our finances, but we still too often struggle with visions that are too big for our pocketbooks, and we must address our declining membership revenues. Our meetings display a unique and effective networking and mentoring system. Our career development workshops are uniformly well-received. Our employment and gender equity hotline, educational programs, and theme journal issues were groundbreaking, and they continue to be utilized. Our members, however, are asking us for even more help in developing and balancing their personal, professional, and leadership roles, and we owe it to them to deliver it. These are difficult times for physicians in general and for women physicians in particular.

Other traditional medical organizations are now joining us in recognizing the existence of gender bias in the medical workplace. This creates a momentum for change, but

women physicians, who are particularly stressed for both time and money, will expect us to be at the forefront of that change in return for their membership support. Given this current mixture of both significant stresses and significant successes, what is our vision for AMWA tomorrow?

First and foremost, we must continue to provide a unique and essential function for medicine. We are the only multi-specialty national organization in which issues related to women's health and medical women's career development are the primary focus. We are, therefore, a safe forum where these issues can be debated and clarified; studied and tested; and ultimately where strategies can be formulated to educate and advocate for these issues in the larger medical arena. Our specific future mandates include maintaining our leadership position in women's health, increasing our membership in coordination with expanding our career development activities, refining our newly acquired electronic media capabilities, and proactively identifying opportunities for growth. In response to these needs, Dr. Donnica Moore will head a task force to address dual-career membership issues and to explore potential partners for the creation of a career development institute. Our annual meeting will be dedicated to the woman physician and her development. Dr. Marjorie Clay will be joining us as our ethical consultant. The election of AMWA Past President, Dr. Lila Kroser, to the Presidency of the Medical Women's International Association; the expansion of our international communications capabilities via the Internet; the failure of our own health care reform efforts to provide us with a quality model of health care delivery nationally; the rapid growth of international health care corporations and organizations; and the sincere interest of many of our members in global women's health issues should lead us to look toward a more international perspective. To that end, I am converting the President's Trip to an international outreach project in collaboration with the People-To-People Program. In September, AMWA delegates will visit Scandinavian countries noted for their tradition of women leaders and their universal access to health care. We'll engage in roundtable discussions with their government and health care leaders, and we'll have academic exchanges, site visits, and touring and you are invited. Dr. Clarita Herrera will chair an international task force to explore additional activities.

AMWA members have been in the past, are in the present, and will be in the future, instigators for constructive change. Please join me in this spirit for the benefit of yourself, for the benefit of this great organization, and for the benefit of the health and well-being of all.

GRANT PROJECT UPDATE

AMWA conducts a range of educational efforts designed to ensure that women receive appropriate care and that their overall health and well-being are protected. These efforts include an Education Project on Coronary Heart Disease in Women; the Reproductive Health Initiative; AMWA's tobacco control and prevention grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to maintain and expand a Strategic Coalition of Women and Girls United Against Tobacco; and a contract funded by the U.S. Department of Defense to train primary care managers in breast cancer screening, diagnosis, and treatment. In addition, AMWA participates in short-term public education efforts, such as the 1996-1997 Gland Central thyroid education program with Knoll Pharmaceuticals and a nutrition education effort with NatureMade vitamins. Recent activities are highlighted below.

Coronary Heart Disease in Women

AMWA faculty members Debra R. Judelson, MD, Gerrie Gardner, DO, and Leslie Hamilton Poor, MD, teamed up at AMWA's Annual Meeting to present the latest information on risk factors, symptoms, prevention and treatment, and gender-sensitive diagnostic evaluation of coronary heart disease in women. The newest component of the program—Diet Therapy as Prevention and Treatment—was well received by participants. Leslie Hamilton Poor, MD, Susan Stewart, MD, and Catherine Henry, MD, recently presented the workshop at the Gerontological Society of America's Annual Meeting in Cincinnati.

To learn more about the role of diet in prevention and treatment and to receive materials for use in conducting your own educational seminars, members are encouraged to participate in AMWA's nutrition component loan program. You can receive the "Nutrition and Heart Disease" education packet, which includes, slides, a lecture guide, and a patient education brochure - "Guide to Heart Healthy Eating" - by contacting Sue Taylor of the National Association of Margarine Manufacturers. Please FAX (404-252-0774) or email (taylosu@assnhq.com) her with your name, address, phone number, fax number, email address, and information on how you plan to use the education packet. Because a limited number of packets are available, requests will be fulfilled on a first-come, first-served basis, and the loan packets must be returned within 1 month.

In addition, AMWA is working in with the American Heart Association to educate the public about heart disease in women. Public service announcements and television promotions will urge women to contact a toll-free number, 1-888-MYHEART, to receive educational materials on both coronary heart disease and stroke in women. The media campaign materials are currently being test marketed, and

successful materials will be incorporated into a 3-year nationwide campaign to educate the public, particularly women, on this important public health issue.

The Education Project on Coronary Heart Disease in Women is funded by an unrestricted educational grant from DuPont Radiopharmaceuticals, a division of the DuPont Merck Pharmaceutical Company, as part of its Difference in a Women's Heart Program. The "Diet as Prevention and Treatment" component of the project is funded by an unrestricted educational grant from the National Association of Margarine Manufacturers.

Reproductive Health Initiative

The Annual Meeting was once again a showcase for the Reproductive Health Initiative Curriculum. More than 70 enthusiastic medical students, along with some medical school faculty members, attended the RHI Workshop, which was moderated by RHI Chair Sally Faith Dorfman, MD, MSHSA. After a brief introduction of the curriculum and explanation of its importance, the workshop continued with presentations by medical students who have implemented the elective in their schools and who have taken the elective, and by Carol Wheeler, MD, course director of the elective at Brown. The workshop also gave AMWA the opportunity to introduce "A Medical Student's Guide to Improving Reproductive Health Curricula," which will help students improve and change their schools' curricula in this area. The guide was developed primarily by students for students; it was produced jointly by AMWA and Medical Students for Choice. If you are interested in receiving "The Guide," or finding out the most current information on electives being held and how to apply for an elective, please contact Abbe Bartlett at the National Office (703/838-0500; abartlet@amwa-doc.org).

Call for Proposals for 1998 Annual Meeting

The theme of AMWA's 83rd Annual Meeting is "Career Development and the Female Physician." The meeting will be held November 18-22, 1998, at the New Orleans Marriott Hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana. Proposals will be considered that meet the following criteria: promote women's health, provide for the professional development and personal well-being of women physicians and medical students, and investigate new or innovative ideas in women's health care. To submit a proposal for consideration, please contact AMWA's Meeting Department. Note that the deadline for submission of proposals is January 9, 1998.

AMWA Continues to Lead in Tobacco Control for Women

AMWA, in partnership with the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, held a Smoking Cessation Workshop on October 8, 1997, in Washington, DC entitled, "How Physicians Can Influence Female Patient Smoking Behavior Through Clinical Practice and Community Involvement." The workshop focused on smoking cessation guidelines from the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (AHCPR). Speakers included AMWA members Michele Bloch, MD, PhD, and Sally Faith Dorfman, MD, MSHSA, among other nationally recognized smoking cessation experts. Topics covered were smoking as a women's issue, the psychology of women's smoking, special issues for African-American and Latina women, and advocacy on tobacco control. Ten AMWA physicians from across the country were trained at the workshop to present information to a broad range of audiences.

Guidelines (Publication No. 96-0692) can be purchased for \$4.75 from the AHCPR Publications Clearinghouse by calling (800) 358-9295. Consumer pamphlets on smoking cessation can also be ordered in quantities up to 200 for free from the Clearinghouse and are available in several languages. Reference guides for Smoking Cessation Specialists (Publication No. 96-0694) and Primary Care Providers (Publication No. 96-0693) are also available for free. Full text of guideline documents and the meta-analysis are available online at <http://www.ahcpr.gov/guide/> (click on Clinical Practice Guidelines Online).

The workshop was made possible through a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

AMWA International Congress - Call for Delegates

AMWA physician members are urged to participate in the 1998 Medical Women's International Association (MWIA) Congress, which will be held in Nairobi, Kenya, November 8-13, 1998, at the Safari Park Hotel in Nairobi. Please note change in Congress dates. The Congress provides AMWA members with an opportunity to network with their international colleagues and to exchange information on health care for women as well as hear differing perspectives on being a woman in medicine.

The call for AMWA delegates continues. AMWA physician members interested in being a delegate should contact Estherina Shems, MD, 1310 Wyngate Road, Wynnewood, PA 19096, phone 610-649-0697, or Marie Glanz at the National Office.

First International Women's Health Conference Set for Miami in March

If you get the winter doldrums, would like to network with new international colleagues, or are interested in learning about the latest issues in women's health, don't miss AMWA's *Advanced Curriculum on Women's Health - First International Conference* scheduled for Miami in March!

Mark the dates March 19 - 22, 1998, on your calendar now, as those are the dates when you can gain continuing medical education credits at a gathering featuring outstanding plenary speakers, break-out sessions, and "hands-on" workshops covering all aspects of women's health from cardiovascular to reproductive health, from menopause to migraines, from breast cancer to falls and fractures. The opening reception on Thursday evening, March 19, features an address by CNN Anchor Judy Woodruff as well as other notables. Registrants are anticipated from around the world!

Special AMWA member rates in effect . . . make your commitment early so you can benefit from the best airfares to sunny Florida. For more information, contact Conference Facilitators at the University of Miami School of Continuing Medical Education at 305-243-6716 or call AMWA at 703-838-0500.

1996-1997 Member-Get-A-Member Winners

More than 400 new members were recruited through the 1996-1997 MGM Campaign (which runs from October 1—September 30). This year's physician winners are 1996-1997 AMWA President Debra R. Judelson, MD, of Beverly Hills, California, who is our first place winner. Second place went to AMWA President-Elect Donnica L. Moore, MD, of Neshanic Station, New Jersey, and third place to Kaaren A. Nichols, MD, of Seattle, WA. While there are no individual student winners, AMWA would like to commend participating medical schools, which were very busy recruiting new members. This year's medical school winners are: first place, Branch 534, University of Kansas; second place, Branch 516, Georgetown University; and third place, Branch 506, University of California, Irvine.

This year's campaign theme was "Take the Lead." Many AMWA members are to be commended for their leadership in recruiting new members—AMWA members are a major source for new member recruitment. Details on the next campaign will be mailed to you, so please watch your mail. If you need membership recruitment brochures and applications, please contact the Membership Department at (703) 838-0500 or member@amwa-doc.org.



1997-1998 President, Sharyn Lenhart, MD, with family after her inauguration which took place during the Plenary Session



Memorial service for deceased AMWA members



1996-97 AMWA President Debra Judelson, MD, presenting Lila A. Wallis, MD, with a President's Recognition Award at the Welcome Reception



AMWA members at the John G. Shedd Aquarium enjoy an Inaugural Banquet for Sharyn Lenhart, MD, 1997-1998 AMWA President



Attendees enjoy a reception for incoming President, Sharyn Lenhart, MD



Members of the 1996-1997 Board of Directors hard at work



Director of Residents, Gerrie Gardner, DO, with her son and Elinor Christiansen, MD



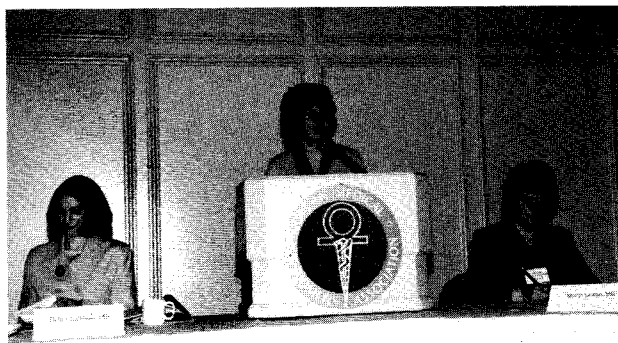
1997 award winners who were honored during the Opening Ceremony, along with presenters of the awards



Lynn Epstein, MD, shows off her AMWA T-shirt which was designed by one of AMWA's student branches



AMWA student members from East Carolina University Medical School browse the exhibit hall



Erica Frank, MD, MPH, delivers a talk at the Plenary Session on results from a study she conducted on the personal health and clinical practices of U.S. women physicians



AMWA members and guests enjoy the President's Banquet

Award Nominations Sought

Help us recognize the achievements of AMWA members and colleagues by providing us with nominations for 1998 awards. Please send your personal statement discussing why you believe the nominee is worthy of honor and the nominee's current CV, along with any other supporting papers to Marie Glanz at the National Office by January 5 (mglanz@amwa-doc.org). AMWA seeks nominations for the following awards:

- The Elizabeth Blackwell Award is presented to a woman physician who has made the most outstanding contribution to the cause of women in the field of medicine.
- The Bertha Van Hoosen Award honors a woman physician who has demonstrated exceptional leadership and service to AMWA.
- The Camille Mermod Award is given to a non-physician who has rendered exceptional service to the Association or to a physician whose exceptional service is unrelated to her capacity as physician.
- The Woman in Science Award is presented to a woman physician who has made outstanding contributions to medical science, especially in women's health, through her basic and/or clinical research, her publications, and leadership in her field.
- The Lila A. Wallis Women's Health Award was established this year and will be presented for the first time in 1998. (See article on page 11 for more information.)

National Osteoporosis Risk Assessment (N.O.R.A.) Program Recruits Physicians from Across the Country

N.O.R.A. is a public healthcare initiative designed to increase patient and physician awareness of the prevalence of osteoporosis through risk factor assessments, educational programs on osteoporosis, and state-of-the-art diagnostic testing.

The program is designed to provide physicians with firsthand experience in the identification of osteoporosis. As an outcome of this program, physicians will learn how to make osteoporosis checkups a routine part of ongoing patient management for mid-life and older women.

In addition, N.O.R.A. will establish the largest longitudinal research database of osteoporosis risk factors in postmenopausal women ever created, a resource with long-term potential to help researchers identify women at greatest risk for osteoporosis—a disease whose fractures

are more common in women than heart attacks, strokes, and breast cancer combined. Specifically, N.O.R.A. is expected to collect valuable patient demographic and risk factor data from a diverse group of postmenopausal women, age 50 and over to foster better understanding of the progression of osteoporosis, associated risk factors, and patient outcomes, and further the medical community's understanding of osteoporosis, and provide additional insight into long-term patient outcomes.

N.O.R.A. is identifying and recruiting physicians in 33 states including the 24 states where more than 82 percent of women age 50 and over reside.

Participating physicians' practices may enroll up to 100 of their postmenopausal patients, age 50 and over, who will receive an individualized risk factor assessment and a bone mineral density test. All testing, recruitment, and management of patients is conducted by N.O.R.A. staff, with no disruption to physicians' offices. All elements of the program are free of charge for physicians and their patients. While data from the study will be available to the research community, all individual patient and physician information will remain confidential. The first data from N.O.R.A. are expected to be released in 1998.

N.O.R.A. is being funded and managed by Merck & Co., Inc., in collaboration with the International Society of Clinical Densitometry. N.O.R.A. is being administered by PAREXEL International Corporation, a contract research organization specializing in clinical trial management services.

For more information on how to become involved in the project, please call (800)767-4424.

International Outreach Trip to Scandinavia

You are invited to join AMWA President Sharyn A. Lenhart, MD, on the International Outreach Program trip to Scandinavia in mid-September 1998. The purpose of the Program is to provide AMWA members with an opportunity to learn about health care systems outside the United States and to bring women physician, health care, and government leaders together across international borders. One of the program objectives is to establish a basis for communication regarding current information, common problems, the sharing of ideas and goals, and the identification of areas for future study and collaboration. Scandinavia was chosen as the 1998 destination because of the tradition of placing women in national leadership positions and for historically providing high quality health care to all citizens in those countries.

An itinerary for this ten-day trip will be available soon. If you would like to receive more information, please contact Gwen Miller at AMWA, 703-838-0500, or by e-mail: gwmiller@amwa-doc.org.

Complex Issues Debated by the House of Delegates

This year's House of Delegates (HOD) debated many ethical issues at the Annual Meeting. Thirteen resolutions were addressed by the House of Delegates, including the following:

Medical Use of Marijuana—Two resolutions addressed medical use of marijuana, which were ultimately combined into one and adopted by the House of Delegates. The resolution states that AMWA supports the right of physicians and patients to discuss potential benefits and risks of the medical use of marijuana, in the context of a physician-patient relationship, and for physicians to recommend its use when deemed appropriate, without fear of government interference. The resolution also supports research into the use of marijuana for treatment of cancer, AIDS/HIV, glaucoma, muscle spasticity, chronic pain, anorexia, arthritis, and migraine and supports legalization for these purposes.

Access to Care Under Managed Care—In light of the flood of legislation that has been recently introduced in Congress regarding managed care, AMWA's HOD established policy to support protections for women including access to a variety of primary care providers trained to meet women's comprehensive health care, choice of a generalist or specialist provider, direct access to specialists for patients with serious ongoing health conditions, and direct access to services such as obstetrics, gynecology, and psychiatry if needs are not being met by one's primary care provider.

AMWA Membership—A bylaws change was suggested to read, "Membership in the Association shall be limited to physicians and medical students," thereby allowing men to become full members. After lengthy debate, the resolution was defeated.

Other resolutions that were passed included topics covering the endorsement of physician labeling on aspirin



Past President and Winner of the 1997 Bertha Van Hoosen Award, Christine Haycock, MD, comments during HOD Session II, as Louise Davis and Susan Sklar, MD await their turn to speak

and recommendation for its use in prevention of first time and recurrent stroke and ischemic attacks; support of a worldwide ban on the manufacture and use of antipersonnel mines; support of reimbursement by insurance companies for either inpatient or outpatient breast surgical procedures, as decided upon by physicians and their patients; encouragement of education on diethylstilbestrol (DES) exposure and support for continued federal funding for such research; support of efforts to incorporate tobacco cessation into medical training for students, residents, and practicing physicians; support of parental leave; opposition to mandatory reporting of domestic violence to law enforcement for adult women; and encouragement of proper handling of domestic violence cases by all health care professionals.

In addition, AMWA's House of Delegates approved new position papers on Medicaid program reform and silicone gel breast implants. Position statements on adoption and physician-assisted suicide were also approved as AMWA policy. The adoption statement and the physician-assisted suicide statement, presented by the Medical Ethics Sub-Committee, were both heavily debated and revised by the Board of Directors and the House of Delegates before approval. They also received input from a medical ethicist.

Wilhelm-Frankowski Scholarship Offered

A \$4,000 scholarship for a woman medical student will be offered again in 1998. Criteria include community service, work, research, and participation in women's health issues. Additional criteria include participation in AMWA activities and in Women in Medicine or other medical student group(s). AMWA is in the process of putting the application on-line. Contact Marie Glanz at the National Office by phone, mail, or email (mgglanz@amwa-doc.org) for an application or for further information. Applications will be mailed beginning in January. Deadline for completion of the application is April 30, and supporting documentation is due by May 15.

Community Service Nominations Sought

Volunteerism embodies the spirit of America—reaching out to others and giving of ourselves to enhance the lives of others. Time and again we have all seen that AMWA members are not just leaders in their fields but also in their communities. Help AMWA recognize an AMWA physician who has given outstanding volunteer service to her local community through the AMWA Community Service Award program. Send your personal statement describing the community service of your nominee along with a current CV to Marie Glanz at the national office. Awardees will be recognized at the Annual Meeting. Deadline for receipt of nominations is July 15.

Chicago Corporate Roundtable Focuses on Breast Cancer

The AMWA Foundation sponsored a corporate roundtable at AMWA's 82nd Annual Meeting in Chicago that provided AMWA representatives with the opportunity to meet with major health care companies and share information about the latest trends in breast cancer detection and treatment. The Corporate Roundtable is a semi-annual event for AMWA leaders and health care company representatives to discuss current and emerging medical and health care issues.

The Annual Meeting Corporate Roundtable featured Laura L. Morris, MD, who is not only chair of AMWA's Breast Cancer Subcommittee and the project lead for AMWA's breast cancer project but is also an Assistant Professor of Surgery at Michigan State University's College of Medicine. Dr. Morris specializes in diseases of the breast; thus, she was a natural choice to serve as the lead on AMWA's breast cancer project. She trains faculty and conducts workshops for AMWA's Department of Defense-funded effort which will train more than 6,000 primary care managers in the screening, diagnosis, and treatment of breast cancer.

In her talk, Dr. Morris provided information on new surgery considerations, genetics and breast cancer, and new screening options related to mammography. Discussion topics included the role of weight gain and the incidence of breast cancer in post-menopausal women. Facilitated by AMWA Foundation Chair, Lesly T. Mega, MD, the program was viewed by many participants as enlightening and an excellent opportunity to discuss new medical information, including new technologies.

The Corporate Roundtable experience is just one of the many benefits of the Foundation's Corporate Partners Program. The program was designed to enhance professional and ethical relationships between AMWA and health care companies. Foundation Corporate Partners contribute \$10,000 annually to participate in this program.

AMWA Members are Generous to the Foundation in 1997

The AMWA Foundation plays an important role in funding historically important programs and seeding new initiatives, which can have a major impact on AMWA programs. The Foundation would like to give a special thank you to those individuals who have generously supported it by giving \$1,000 or more in 1997. Major donors were honored at the Annual Meeting, and several new donations were secured. AMWA applauds the generosity and greatly appreciates the efforts of all who have contributed to the Foundation to keep AMWA vital and strong, particularly:

Margaret S. Austin, MD
Kathryn Bemann, MD
Marjorie Braude, MD
Diana L. Dell, MD
Mary E. Guinan, MD
Christine E. Haycock, MD
Angela Houghton, MD
Charlotte R. Jones, MD
Debra R. Judelson, MD
Penniford L. Justice, MD
Lucy Jane King, MD
Annette Lansford, MD
Carolyn C. Lopez, MD
Roberta Gail Rubin, MD
Joyce A. Schild, MD
Cheryl Weinstein, MD
Suzanne Allen Widrow, MD

Call for Nominations

It's not too early to begin thinking about candidates to propose for election to AMWA National Office. You are encouraged to nominate yourself or a colleague for election to AMWA National Office in 1999. Criteria for National Office include being a national member in good standing for 5 years and serving in a national leadership position for 2 years. Offices to be filled in the 1999 election are President, President-Elect, Vice President of Finance, Vice President of Membership, Director of Residents, Resident Representative, National Student Coordinators, Speaker of the House of Delegates, and Vice Speaker of the House of Delegates.

Candidates must submit a curriculum vitae and complete a questionnaire. For a questionnaire, which must be completed and returned to the National Office by April 1, 1998, please contact Jannine Jordan at AMWA's National Office.

STUDENT SENATE

Ellie Hirshberg, Ellie.Hirshberg@m.cc.utah.edu
Tanya Warwick, twarwick@musom01.mu.wvnet.edu

Hello AMWA!! My name is Tanya Warwick, and I am a second-year medical student at Marshall University School of Medicine, in Huntington, West Virginia. I am also one of your new National Student Coordinators. My partner, Ellie Hirshberg, is a third-year medical student at the University of Utah School of Medicine in Salt Lake City, Utah. We would both like to take this opportunity to thank our predecessors Arielle Stanford and Louise Davies not only for their tremendous service as National Student Coordinators, but also for their efforts to make our transition into office as smooth as possible. We would also like to thank all of you who attended the Student Senate and Student Branch Development meetings at AMWA's 82nd Annual Meeting in Chicago.

Your participation was wonderful, and we pledge to serve you to the best of our abilities. The annual meeting was a great success. The Student Branch Development meeting and Student Senate meeting were both well attended, and several key issues were presented that both Ellie and I plan to address. Issues raised included communication, coordination, and community service, as well as concerns regarding student section financing and membership. Ellie and I are committed to working on these areas, and we encourage you to get involved by contacting your Regional Student Coordinators and other student branch presidents and coordinate with them so that we can all work together to resolve any issues and address areas of concern to students.

This is going to be an exciting year for AMWA and we want you all to get involved. Please feel free to contact any of your elected student officials. We are here to serve you.

Region I: Deanna Chin, deanna.chin@yale.edu; Melissa Scharf, mscharf@student.med.harvard.edu

Region II: Kim Clare, clare01@popmail.med.nyu.edu

Region III: Erin Duffy, sleduffy@mx1.usuhs.mil; Simone Betchen, sbetchen@welchlink.welch.jhu.edu

Region IV: Seema Kumbhat, skumbhat@newssun.med.miami.edu

Region V: Anisa Gopalani, agopalan@marlin.utmb.edu; Meghal Mehta, mm691885@express.bcm.tmc.edu

Region VI: Mindy Kim-Miller, mindykim@students.wisc.edu; Heather Williams, hcwillia@iupui.edu

Region VII: Marwa Moustafa, mous0001@gold.tc.umn.edu

Region VIII: Mareca D. Pallister, toddness@concentric.net

Region IX: Delaram Ghadisha, dghadish@meded.med.uci.edu

Region X: Anjali Kumar: anju@u.washington.edu

AMWA HONORS WOMEN GRADUATES

The Association's Glasgow Awards were established by Maude Glasgow, MD, in memory of her sister, Janet M. Glasgow, who unselfishly gave her time and resources to see that her sister completed her medical education. Maude received her medical degree from Cornell University Medical College in 1901 and her public health degree from New York University and Bellevue College. She was a pioneer in preventive medicine and public health.

Each year AMWA recognizes the academic achievements of women medical and osteopathic medical students with Janet M. Glasgow Certificates. In 1997, AMWA presented Glasgow Memorial Certificates to 63 women who graduated first in their class and 666 Achievement Citations to women who graduated in the top 10% or who were considered honor graduates by their schools. Certificates are prepared and sent to each school for presentation at the school's graduation ceremony. The annual presentation of the certificates recognizes the accomplishments of outstanding women medical students and reaffirms AMWA's commitment to encouraging their continuing scientific achievement.

AMWA Establishes Lila A. Wallis Women's Health Award

The Lila A. Wallis Women's Health Award will be presented for the first time at AMWA's Annual Meeting in New Orleans in 1998. The award is funded in 1998 by Pharmacia & Upjohn and nominations are now being sought.

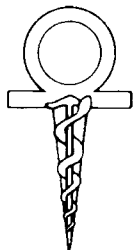
The Award will be given to that individual (woman or man - physician or non-physician) whose lifetime achievements, accomplishments, motivations, mentorship, energy and enthusiasm for women's health care, education, and research reflects the trailblazing achievements and influence in women's health exemplified by Lila A. Wallis, MD.

Dr. Wallis, Past President of AMWA, has brought new vision to the organization's founding charter of advocacy and leadership in women's health issues. Through her influence and dedication, AMWA took the lead in providing training on the unique health needs of women with the development of the *Advanced Curriculum on Women's Health*. (The Curriculum's First International Conference will be held March 19-22, 1998, in Miami, Florida.)

Send your nominations including a written statement indicating why your nominee is deserving of the award, along with a current CV, to Marie Glanz at the National Office by January 5, 1998.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN

AMWA



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Calendar

March 19-22, 1998—*The Advanced Curriculum on Women's Health*, Hyatt Regency, Miami, FL

June 26-28, 1998—*AMWA's Interim Meeting*, Double Tree Hotel, Baltimore, MD

November 18-22, 1998—*AMWA's 83rd Annual Meeting*, New Orleans Marriott, New Orleans, LA

Medical Education Loans Available

Recognizing that allopathic and osteopathic medical school tuitions are not decreasing, AMWA offers medical education loans of \$2,000 to \$2,500 to assist women in medical school. The interest rate of 10% does not begin until December 15 after graduation and monthly repayment begins the January following graduation. Applications will be mailed to interested students beginning in January. Deadline for completion of the application is April 30, and all supporting documentation must be submitted by May 15. AMWA is in the process of putting the application on-line. Contact Marie Glanz at the National Office by phone, mail, or email (mgglanz@amwa-doc.org) to receive the application or for further information.



AMWA Staff and Students at the President's Banquet