

Women in Medicine
Hosted by Dr. Laura Mulloy
Thursday, August 20, 2006, 6:30 PM

Attendees

Amanda May Kavita Natarajan Kysten Shepard Melina Diaz Monisha Garg Pamela Fall Rhonda Colombo Saloni Tanna	Sejai Kuthiala Sharm Mehta Teresa Coleman Molly Szerlip Laura Mulloy Cheryl Newman Mindy Gentry	Geena Singh Sharika Raof Midhi Agarwal Carolyn Landolfo Jeniffer White Akima Harrigan (AZ)
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Summary

- The first Women In Medicine Meeting was held on Thursday April 20, 2006, 6:30 PM at The Bees Knees in Augusta, Georgia.
- The program was very well attended (22 attendees). Dr. Mulloy opened with her vision regarding the purpose and direction of the program. Dr. Coleman facilitated the discussion and sharing of ideas.
- The purpose of the initial meeting was to
 - 1- Convene a group of female physicians, residents, or medical students to determine the professional, academic, and social needs of women in medicine at the Medical College of Georgia.
 - 2- Further, the group would decide how often they should meet and the desired content of future meetings.

Outcomes

- The objectives of the initial meeting were met.
- All attendees introduced themselves and shared their thoughts/needs of this type of forum. The recurring themes of interest were as follows:
 - Mentorship
 - Integrating laboratory science with clinical science
 - Grants networking
 - Professional development including CV development and career advice
 - Work Life Balance
 - Navigating the "MCG" system effectively
 - (A detailed list of all suggestions shared follows on page 2).
- Several faculty volunteers emerged to address many of the needs expressed.
- The consensus was that meeting at least every other month would be beneficial. Many faculty members offered their homes as a venue for future Women in Medicine Forums.

Next Steps

- Identify a date and location for the next Women in Medicine forum
- Determine the desired outcomes and plan content/agenda accordingly
- Research ways to maintain interest and energy in the program
- Invite guests from existing distribution list or create a new one
- Contact Akima Harrigan regarding venue for next program. (678-852-9528)

Women In Medicine Group Comments/Suggestions

- 1- Mentorship
- 2- Expanding working relationships between basic scientists and clinicians
- 3- Grants networking
- 4- Serve as a venue to welcome new faculty/housestaff
- 5- Serve as a forum to disseminate information about grant opportunities
- 6- Learn "how to sell yourself" – CV development
- 7- Career advice – "how to find the right job for you"
- 8- Research/mentoring/career development
- 9- Work/Life balance – how to "do it all" and still have a life
- 10- Career mentors needed; physician scientists
- 11- Translational research mentorship
- 12- Volunteer to serve as an academic mentor (Dr. Pam Fall)
- 13- Stress management
- 14- How do I find a job? What to ask a potential employer? How to make the transition from academic to private practice.
- 15- Meeting and really knowing women that you work with (outside of the job). This can serve as support (professionally), social networking opportunities, which may lead to improved work relations
- 16- Group could be involved more in community service (e.g., Habitat for Humanity)
- 17- W.I.M. forums can serve as a means for EARLY mentorship intervention. This would ensure success as one matriculates.
- 18- We have power as a group. Use the power for good.
- 19- Seeking a mentor that is good at balancing work and life such that you can be a good role model for your own children.
- 20- Personal real life back-ups (e.g., can't leave work but kids need to be picked up from daycare...who can you call if you don't know anyone?)
- 21- Mentorship, support staff, experts, and knowing who the "go to" people are within the institution that can get things done.
- 22- How to protect yourself from being "punished for competence." Negotiate your worth appropriately and minimize being taken advantage of or for granted.
- 23- Taking time for continued professional development (focussing and achieving ones own professional objectives). With so much "to do" on the job, it's easy to let your personal professional development go by the wayside. How do you stay on task?
- 24- Mentoring and work/life balance
- 25- Support for conference attendance
- 26- How to be non-threatening in a male dominated environment but not appear "less than."
- 27- Interest in meeting nationally renowned cardiologists (or other national key opinion leaders).
- 28- Clinical/bench research opportunities