FROM THE SOCIETY

News from the Women and Medicine Task Force
Anuradha Paranjape, MD, MPH; Jennifer McCall-Hosenfeld, MD, MSc; Wendy L. Bennett, MD, MPH; and Amy S. Gottlieb, MD

Dr. Paranjape is chair, Dr. McCall-Hosenfeld is co-chair, Dr. Bennett is abstract chair, and Dr. Gottlieb is Career Advising Program chair for the SGIM Women and Medicine Task Force.

In 2007, SGIM Council created the Women’s Health Task Force (WHTF) to support research, education, and clinical practice in women’s health. In 2012, members of the WHTF voted to change the name of the group to the Women and Medicine Task Force (WAMTF) in order to reflect the expanded scope of its mission and activities. In addition to promoting women’s health endeavors, the Task Force has taken a leadership role in fostering the academic advancement of female physicians. The name change was recently approved by SGIM Council.

During the 2012 annual meeting in Orlando, FL, the Task Force hosted its sixth Distinguished Professor in Women’s Health lecture. The speaker was Carol Weisman, PhD, distinguished professor of public health sciences and obstetrics and gynecology at the Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine and a member of the Institute of Medicine’s Preventive Services for Women Committee. Dr. Weisman presented a keynote lecture titled “The Affordable Care Act and Women’s Health: The 2011 IOM Report” to a standing-room-only audience. Following her presentation, Dr. Weisman also served as the discussant for the women’s health oral abstract and poster sessions.

The Task Force would like to thank everyone who presented women’s health workshops, oral abstracts, posters, and the 2012 Update in Women’s Health. Additionally, we would like to announce and congratulate the 2012 winners of the Best Women’s Health Oral Abstract and Best Women’s Health Poster Presentation. These submissions received the highest ratings by peer reviewers.

Best Women’s Health Oral Abstract
Eleanor Bimla Schwarz, MD, MS, associate professor of medicine, epidemiology, and obstetrics, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences, University of Pittsburgh “Asking for What She Needs: Pregnancy Testing or Emergency Contraception”

Best Women’s Health Poster
Jacinda M. Nicklas, MD, MPH, MA, GIM research fellow, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School “Factors Associated with Depressive Symptoms at Six Weeks Postpartum Among Women with Recent Gestational Diabetes Mellitus”

The WAMTF will continue to advance women’s health research, education, mentoring, and clinical content at the SGIM 2013 Annual Meeting in Denver, CO, and is looking forward to hosting the following events.

Distinguished Professor in Women’s Health. We are very pleased to announce that the 2013 Distinguished Professor in Women’s Health will be Karen Freund, MD, MPH. Dr. Freund has been an SGIM member, leader, and mentor in women’s health for many years. She is currently the associate director for research collaborations within the Tufts Clinical and Translation Science Institute. Her many research interests include health system interventions like patient navigation to reduce health disparities, especially in women’s cancers. Dr. Freund also is a nationally recognized expert in faculty development. She has previously served as the principal investigator of the BIRCWH (Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women’s Health) K-12 Program at Boston University and currently serves as the principal investigator on the longitudinal follow-up to the National Faculty Survey looking at predictors of academic success among junior faculty. She is committed to developing programs to mentor the next generation of clinical and translational investigators. We are very excited to kick off our women’s health programming this year with such an accomplished investigator and committed mentor.

The Career Advising Program (CAP). The WAMTF would like to announce the creation of CAP, a collaborative initiative with the Women’s Caucus. CAP aims to help female junior faculty successfully navigate the academic medicine promotion process. By connecting these SGIM members with senior “career advisors” throughout the organization (i.e. associate or full professors), the WAMTF and Women’s Caucus hope to foster academic advancement of women in medicine. Advising will complement existing SGIM mentorship programs by focusing specifically on academic promotion. Guidance will center on effective CV preparation, targeted committee membership, and strategies for relationship building with external letter writers. We plan to launch CAP with an inaugural networking reception during the 2013 annual meeting. Stay tuned for details in the final program.

We look forward to another successful year and hope you can join us in Denver!