



Women's Health Update

Women's Health
Center of Excellence
Wake Forest University
School of Medicine

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The WHCoE bids a fond farewell to Dr. Claudine Legault as it's Director

Effective August 1, 2004, Claudine Legault, PhD, stepped down as Director of the WHCoE. Under her leadership, the WHCoE enjoyed numerous accomplishments.

The Research Support Core (RSC) was developed to assist women's health researchers and women faculty with their proposal submissions. This highly successful endeavor has expanded further and is now housed within the Office of Research.

Under Dr. Legault's leadership the WHCoE continued to attract prominent speakers to WFUSM, including *Bernadine Healy, MD*, Former Director, NIH; *Sharon Turner, DDS, JD*, Dean, University of Kentucky College of Dentistry and *Valerie Williams, MPA, PhD*, Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, University of Oklahoma College of Medicine. A "Meet the WFUSM Leaders" social was held to provide women faculty with an opportunity to meet the WFUSM administration, and the "Skills for Success" workshop series continued with a session on Negotiation & Conflict Management led by Drs. Legault & Shumaker.

In 2003-2004, the WHCoE directors and staff secured funding on grants totaling over \$14 Million from the NIA, CDC, NHLBI, NCI and industry and community sources. Dr. Legault was instrumental in forging collaborations with the Forsyth County Department of Public Health and Novant to conduct research on breast feeding. The WHCoE also organized the 9th Annual Women's Health Conference on Women's Cognitive Health at the Graylyn International Conference Center, attended by the most prominent investigators in women's cognitive health.

Claudine Legault served on the Race Crew Team at the 2003 Excellence Triathlon held at WFU



Further accomplishments include initiating mentoring connections with the Center for Education, Research and Learning; participating in the newly reorganized orientation for new faculty; revitalizing the Women Faculty and Administrators Forum jointly with the Reynolda campus; spearheading

the initiative to develop a faculty database to advance research collaborations throughout the medical school and organizing the Domestic & Sexual Violence Group which brings investigators from WFU, WFUMS, WSSU, UNCG, UNC-Chapel Hill and Family Services together to collaborate on research and community projects.

Additionally, the WHCoE organized three community forums on hormone therapy to address questions about results from Women's Health Initiative (WHI) & WHI Memory Study. The WHCoE collaborated with BestHealth and the Heart Center to organize the Women's Heart Day at Hanes Mall, as part of NHLBI's National 'Red Dress' campaign.

The Annual Excellence Triathlon, now in its 7th year, continues to raise awareness and funds for domestic violence prevention programs.

It is expected that the new Director will be named in September, 2004. Currently, Maggie Dailey, MPH, PhD, WHCoE Associate Director is serving as Interim Director.

Dr. Legault will continue her biostatistical work in Public Health Sciences, Section on Biostatistics. We wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

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New Page on WHCoE Website Celebrates the Achievements of WFU & WFUSM Faculty

The WHCoE recently published a new page on our website celebrating the achievements of female faculty members, women's health researchers and healthcare providers on the WFUSM & WFU campuses.

Some recent accomplishments included:

Dr. Karin Drotschmann, PhD, was awarded the New Investigator Award from the Department of Defense, Prostate Cancer Research Program, for her research developing a test to identify which cases of prostate cancer will become life threatening. Dr. Drotschmann, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Cancer Biology, is also supported by the National Cancer Institute and the Cancer Center.



Deborah Best, PhD, MA, was promoted to Dean of College, effective July 1st. Dr. Best is a Professor of Psychology at the Reynolda Campus and has served as chair (1994-2002). She is well-known for her work on gender stereotypes, cross-cultural psychology and cognitive development in young children.



Sally Shumaker, PhD, was appointed to Associate Dean for Research effective June 1st. Dr. Shumaker will continue to serve as Interim Associate Dean of Faculty Services and Career Development until Dr. Steve Block, M.B., B.Ch. takes the position in October. Dr. Shumaker is also Director of Intercampus & Community Program Development (WFU); and Professor of Public Health Sciences-SSHP. She is the Founding Director of the WHCoE and a nationally and internationally recognized expert in women's health, health-related quality of life, and behavioral science research.



Angela Hattery, PhD, was awarded a 3-year Z. Smith Reynolds Fellowship. Dr. Hattery is an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology at the Reynolda Campus (and cross-appointment in the Department of Public Health Sciences). Her focus is in the intersection of work (Women, Work, and Family: Balancing and Weaving, Sage 2001) and family and intimate partner violence (Violence in Intimate Partner Relationships, currently under review).



Kathi Kemper, MD, MPH, received a Women of Vision Award from the Winston Salem YWCA in April.



Dr. Kemper holds the Caryl J. Guth, MD Chair for Holistic and Integrative Medicine and was recently chosen as one of 16 finalists for the Bravewell Leadership Award, given to an international leader in the field of integrative medicine.

Dr. Kemper is a Professor in the Departments of Pediatrics, Public Health Sciences and Family & Community Medicine who is a nationally recognized expert in the safety and efficacy of complementary and alternative medicine for children. She was nominated by the WHCoE for her enthusiasm, caring, unique expertise and dedication.

Congratulations to all! We look forward to collaborating with these women more in the future. Be sure to keep checking the page at www.wfubmc.edu/women/whcoe_achievements.htm for updates.

If you know of a women's health researcher or healthcare provider or female faculty member who should be recognized for a recent achievement, please nominate him or her by emailing a brief description of their accomplishment to us at whcoe@wfubmc.edu.



Celebrating Our New Women Leaders



Top: Guests of Honor, Drs. Sally Shumaker and Deborah Best presented with gifts by Claudine Legault, PhD, WHCoE Director and Anne Boyle, PhD, Women's & Gender Studies Program Director.

Bottom: WFU & WFUSM Women Faculty network at the Piedmont Club

A reception, sponsored by the WFUSM Women's Health Center of Excellence and WFU Women's & Gender Studies Program, was held on June 9, 2004 to honor Drs. Sally Shumaker and Deborah Best in their new leadership positions at Wake Forest University and the School of Medicine.

Dr. Best is the new Dean of the College on the Reynolda Campus. Dr. Best is a Professor of Psychology and served as the chair of the department from 1994-2002.

Dr. Shumaker is the new Associate Dean for Research at the medical school on the Bowman Gray Campus. Dr. Shumaker will remain Associate Dean of Faculty Services and Career Development at the medical school until a successor is named.

Approximately 50 women faculty from WFU & WFUSM attended this event held at the Piedmont Club in Downtown Winston-Salem.

Congratulations to both!

Third Forum on Hormone Therapy Held

The Women's Health Center of Excellence held its third public forum on recent research in hormone therapy (HT) on June 29, with over 100 attendees at the Benton Convention Center. The forum highlighted new information from the Women's Health Initiative (WHI) Memory Study, called WHIMS. WHIMS is a clinical trial focused on the effects of hormone therapy on memory and dementia among WHI participants.

The WHCoE arranged this forum to follow up on last spring's surprise findings from WHI: the estrogen-alone arm of the HT clinical trial was discontinued early because risks of treatment outweighed the benefits in postmenopausal women without a uterus. Safety monitors found signs of an increased risk of blood clots and stroke associated with estrogen, and no evidence of other overriding health benefits. A similar

conclusion was reached 2 years ago regarding the effects of estrogen plus progestin on postmenopausal women with a uterus, the other arm of the HT clinical trial in WHI.

The news from WHIMS was also a surprise: although the investigators thought that estrogen would slow rates of dementia, it did not. Furthermore, in women whose test scores indicated some cognitive dysfunction at baseline, estrogen may have quickened the pace at which dementia was seen.

A panel of WFUSM experts gave brief talks and then fielded questions from the audience. The panel was moderated by Dr. Claudine Legault, Director of the Women's Health Center of Excellence. Also participating were Drs. Mark Espeland, Steve Rapp, Carolyn Ferree, David Herrington and Denise Bonds.



Panelists: Stephen Rapp, PhD, Mark Espeland, PhD, Denise Bonds, MD, David Herrington, MD, MHS, Carolyn Ferree, MD, and Moderator: Claudine Legault, PhD - explain the recent WHI & WHIMS results published in JAMA, June 2004.

WFUHS is the lead for the WHIMS trial (Dr. Sally Shumaker, PI). WFUSM also hosts a WHI study site and participates in its national data coordinating center.

To receive educational materials assembled for the forum, email your request to whcoe@wfubmc.edu.



Incontinence Impact Questionnaire and Urogenital Distress Inventory Now Available

Survey Instruments to Assess Impact of Urinary Incontinence on Women's Lives.

WHCoE researchers helped develop and validate two survey instruments for collecting detailed data on how urinary incontinence affects women's lives.

The Incontinence Impact Questionnaire (IIQ) measures the impact of urinary incontinence on activities, roles, and emotional states. The Urogenital Distress Inventory (UDI) measures how troubling the symptoms are to women.

The WHCoE administers the distribution and use of these two questionnaires. On request, we will send copies of the self-administered instruments and scoring materials for each instrument for a one-time, \$250 administrative fee

for use of these questionnaires.

To receive these materials or view the citations, visit www.wfubmc.edu/women/whcoe_iiq_udi_instrument.htm, complete the request form. For questions, please email whcoe@wfubmc.edu.

Excellence Triathlon Update

The 7th annual Excellence Triathlon was held Saturday, May 22nd at Wake Forest University. Registration closed two weeks early and was bulging at the seams with over 320 participants. In the race's seven years, it has raised over \$120K to support work within the Wake Forest

community focused on violence-related issues, local workshops on dating violence, and collaborative efforts with organizations throughout the Piedmont Triad.

Duncan Hoge from Chapel Hill won for the men with a time of 52:11 and Karen Starets of Winston-Salem was the

top woman with a time of 1:00:13.

Plans are already underway for the 2005 race which will move to the scenic Tanglewood Park.

If you would like to help with planning the next race, please contact Kristin Kidd at kkidd@wfubmc.edu. No previous experience needed!



2004 race photo album. Participants & spectators read the stories of domestic violence victims on the Silent Witness figures; participants on the 300 yd swim, 20 mile bike & 5 K run; bikes in transition; awards presented by Kristin Kidd, Race Director and Gena Hargis, Logistics Captain.

Events on the Horizon

October 1 is National Work to End Domestic Violence Day

Silent Witness figures will be on display in October in observance of National Work to End Domestic Violence Day. Visit the silhouettes of victims who died as a result of domestic violence in Forsyth County since 1995 at: * Watlington Hall, Ground Fl

* Piedmont Plaza I, 1st Fl * Piedmont Plaza II, 1st Fl

For more about the Silent Witness National Initiative, visit www.silentwitness.net.



Silent Witness display at the WHCoE

Research Seminar Series Returns November!

The following seminar is the first in the series which will continue in 2005.

Monday, November 15, 12-1: Adolfo Fernandez "Dr. Fuzz.", MD: *Bariatric Surgery*

This seminar will be held in the Commons Conference Room 1, Nutrition Bldg, Ground Floor. Lunch will be provided. We hope to see you there.

Next Issue

- A tour of our Resource Center
- 2005 Research Seminar Series
- and more!