New Executive Director Hired

Doris G. Bartuska, MD

AMWA's Search Committee concluded an exciting and exhaustive selection process on Sunday, June 26, when final contract details were worked out between AMWA and Eileen McGrath, JD—our new executive director. On Monday, June 27, Ms. McGrath was in AMWA's New York City office to meet the staff and to get acquainted with AMWA and her new role.

A resident of Alexandria, Virginia, AMWA's new home, Ms. McGrath is an attorney. She received her law degree from George Mason University in 1985 and has practiced commercial law and also worked in a general practice firm focusing on real estate settlements and probate.

In addition to her legal expertise, Ms. McGrath brings to AMWA extensive experience in nonprofit management, program development, and fund raising. For four years she directed an outpatient alcoholism program serving more than 2,000 clients annually, where she supervised a staff of 40. She has worked in nearly every aspect of substance abuse prevention and treatment, including program development and start-up; grant writing; recruiting, hiring, and supervising staff; fiscal management; and public education and media relations.

Eileen McGrath meets or surpasses all the criteria set by the Search Committee. She has excellent communication skills, solid PR experience, and will be a most credible spokesperson for AMWA during this important period of growth in membership and visibility. She is very organized, comfortable with budgeting, and a sound manager. Her background in planning will help shape AMWA's involvement in health care planning, policy, and legislation.

As I said in my recent report to AMWA's Board of Directors, the most important decision any association makes is in hiring an executive director. The commitment and dedication of the Search Committee inspired a truly collaborative work team. Of the total number of applicants (more than 700), more than 40 were interviewed in person and more than 100 by telephone. The most impressive CVs were reviewed by me and Mary Jane England, MD, and the top 20 were sent to the full committee. Separate interviews with the full Committee were scheduled for 7 finalists. In addition, I spent one day at ASAE headquarters in Washington reviewing the majority of resumes with our consultant Pamela Kaul.

AMWA Move Finalized

Mary Jane England, MD

On Thursday, June 30, 1988, our lease for office space at 801 North Fairfax Street in Alexandria, Virginia was signed. This was an exciting and satisfying moment for me as chair of the Relocation Committee and a milestone for AMWA.

The importance of this move cannot be overestimated. Relocating the national office will do much more than just solve the miscellaneous problems our current location presents, it will put AMWA into a whole new league. Our physical proximity to Washington, DC will allow us to become a truly national organization, to become directly involved in the issues that concern us and to have a meaningful impact on health policy as it is developed. AMWA staff will be able to attend key Congressional hearings, meetings of the Women's Health Roundtable, and briefings of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, to name only a few.

The new location will also have symbolic importance. AMWA's image as an organization of knowledgeable, highly skilled professionals will be enhanced immeasurably. Our location near the nation's capital will make it clear that we are serious about our mission and determined to make a difference in women's health care.

Of course, the new location will make a huge difference on a practical, functional level as well. The building itself is modern and attractive and offers a full range of maintenance services. Office support services available in the building include printing, computer processing, eating facilities, and a travel agency. Our new office, a total of 6,000 square feet,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, continued

just to be sure no one was overlooked.

As you can see, it was a remarkable search in many ways. The effectiveness of the Search Committee will long be remembered by the membership and demonstrated by AMWA's new executive director, Eileen McGrath, JD.

MOVE, continued

will give the staff room to work and to grow. We will be able to house our data processing equipment properly and to lay out other areas by function for the most efficient use of space. All of that plus gorgeous views of the Potomac River make for an ideal working environment.

AMWA members will also find that the new location makes life easier for them. It is a ten-minute cab ride from National Airport and is situated right next to a Ramada Inn. Its location near Alexandria's charming Old Town will make eating out a pleasure, not a problem.

Now for the nuts and bolts. The actual move is scheduled to take place right after the Annual Meeting, on December 1, 1988. We will try to make the transition between old and new offices and old and new staffs as smooth as possible, but AMWA members cannot expect business as usual. We ask that you have patience, bear with us—and try to remember your own last move! It's never easy, but it is worth it.

The view from one of the windows of AMWA's new office at 801 North Fairfax Street in Alexandria, Virginia.

Osteoporosis, AIDS Programs at Annual Meeting

The program for AMWA's 1988 Annual Meeting reflects our strategic agenda: leadership, osteoporosis, and antismoking workshops will all be featured. And the scientific session on Sunday will bring us all up to date on AIDS in women and children.

Scheduled for Saturday morning, the comprehensive, half-day program on osteoporosis will focus on controversies in prevention and treatment. Internationally known experts will present the latest research on both sides of every issue to give AMWA members the full picture. Just look at this agenda:

- Calcium Controversy/William Peck, MD, and Bente Juel Riis, MD
- Biochemical Markers/Bente Juel Riis, MD
- Bone Mass Measurement Controversy/Marjorie Luckey, MD
- Exercise Controversy/Barbara Drinkwater, MD
- ERT/Lila Wallis, MD
- Role of Progestins/Lila Nachtigall, MD
- Alternative Therapies/William Peck, MD

If you've been keeping up with the headlines on AIDS, you're aware of the conflicting reports—especially regarding the incidence and risks for women. Sunday's plenary session will give you the facts on risks, prevention, and treatment of AIDS in women and their children. Speakers and topics include the following:

- Controversies in Prevention/Mary Guinan, MD, PhD
- Plight of Children with AIDS/Virginia Anderson, MD
- Adolescent Youth at Risk/Mindy Fullilove, MD
- Neuropsychiatric Aspects/Susan Blumenthal, MD, MPA
- Ethical Issues/Margaret Somerville, LLB

These two exciting scientific programs are only one part of a unique meeting that offers CME credits, leadership training, networking, time for relaxation, and the sense of belonging to a dynamic group of women physicians. Experience the difference yourself—join us in Chicago November 2-6 for AMWA's 73rd Annual Meeting.

Arts and Crafts for 1988 Annual Meeting

An arts and crafts exhibit and sale will be held at AMWA's 1988 Annual Meeting in Chicago. Works made or designed by women physicians and medical students are welcome for display or sale. Proceeds from sales will go to the Scholarship Loan Fund; donations are tax deductible. Interested? Call Susan Dunkelman at 212-353-3822 for more information. Or contact committee members: Linda Yaskav, MD, 504-838-3613; Edel Hondl, MD, 206-324-7722; Lucy Young, MD, PO Box 1300, Chalmette, LA 70044. Deadline for reserving space is October 3, 1988. Be creative—call or write soon!

In Memorium

Naomi M. Kanof, MD, died on June 26, 1988 at George Washington University Hospital after a heart attack. Dr. Kanof was an active member of AMWA and edited its Journal from 1972 to 1976. A practicing dermatologist for 50 years, she also edited the Journal of Investigative Dermatology.
LEGISLATIVE ALERT

At AMWA's 1987 Annual Meeting in Orlando, nationally known women leaders spoke again and again of the importance of electing more women to national (and state) office. From Congresswoman Patricia Schroeder to NPR commentators Cokie Roberts and Linda Wertheimer to Eleanor Smeal, the message was the same: "women can and do make a difference in Congress, we must elect more women." Now is the time to remember that message and to act on it. There are a number of women running for Congressional seats across the country and they need your help.

The Women's Campaign Fund was founded in 1974 to support "progressive" women candidates, defined today as those who support the ERA and abortion rights. The bipartisan group is backing 17 new women candidates in the 1988 elections. By party, state, and district, they are:

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The National Organization for Women's Political Action Committee has also been making endorsements. Their list includes all those on the WCF list plus four more:

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What can you do? AMWA members living in the states or Congressional districts these women represent can contribute to their campaigns directly and offer whatever other support time and resources allow. Display campaign literature in your office, lend your name as an endorser, sponsor a fundraising event.

If there are no women candidates in your area, you can still help by making a contribution to either the Women's Campaign Fund or NOW's Political Action Committee—or both. Remember, women currently hold only 5% of the seats in the U.S. Congress. And whether they represent you directly or not, women legislators will represent your interests. Send donations to: Women's Campaign Fund, 815 15th St., NW, Suite 601, Washington, DC 20005; National Organization for Women PAC, 1401 New York Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20035.

Amicus Brief Successful

On March 17, 1988, the District of Columbia Court of Appeals agreed to vacate its judgment in the case of "A.C." and to rehear the case in full court. This decision was made in response to an amicus brief signed by AMWA along with 32 other medical, religious, and women's organizations. Arguing that the rights of fetus and mother were equal, the Court's judgment in this precedent setting case forced a pregnant, terminally ill woman to undergo a cesarean section against her own wishes and those of her family and doctors.

The Court of Appeals has asked the ACLU to submit a brief explaining why the case is not moot, since both mother and fetus died shortly after the operation. The brief, to which AMWA will add its name, will ask the court to rehear the case, arguing that its ramifications for the rights of terminally ill patients and pregnant women reach far beyond the actual participants in the original suit.
How to Be an Effective Delegate

Mary Bongiovii (Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons)

AMWA student members are considered full members of the organization and, therefore, have equal voting rights on every issue. This empowers us to take stands on issues of importance to students, from women's health to political activism to male membership. With our voting privilege comes the ability to effect change.

To make our voices heard, we should take complete advantage of our delegate status. Each chartered branch of at least 8 members is entitled to one delegate and an alternate; more than 45 members results in two delegates. It behooves us to increase our local membership because this translates into more delegates and a larger voting bloc.

If your branch has the right to a delegate use this privilege wisely. Here are a few suggestions for how to get the most out of your vote:

1. Credential your delegate(s) before the Annual Meeting. Every branch president will receive notice of the number of delegates her branch is entitled to. At that time she should decide who the delegates and alternates will be and notify the national office using the proper forms. This way, delegates will be made official in advance and everyone's valuable time will not be wasted credentialing at the meeting.

2. Know the issues. All delegates receive advance copies of the resolutions and bylaws changes that will be voted on at the upcoming meeting. Peruse them so that you are aware of important issues. When you arrive at the meeting, attend the hearing on resolutions; this year it is scheduled for brunch on Thursday, November 3. Learning the pros and cons of issues will help you make informed decisions. Knowing the issues allows for more effective caucusing.

3. Know the candidates. Since delegates vote for the officers of the association, it is important that you know as much as possible about their ideals. Attend the Student Senate (1:00 to

Newly Chartered Student Branches:

Indiana University, Bloomington
University of Nebraska, Omaha
Message from the Director of Students

Medical students are investments for the future: It may sound bold and brazen to view medical students as investments from whom we shall reap dividends in a monetary sense. However, through my professional and personal contacts with a variety of groups interested in supporting student activities, I realized that perceiving students as investments is a common thought. AMWA invests in its student members by providing leadership opportunities, education, information, and organizational skills.

Other professional organizations have taken students under their wings and, in some instances, have changed their organizational structures to allow students more participation. The AMA has its Medical Student Section and the AAMC its OSR (Organization of Student Representatives). Most of the specialty organizations have medical student and resident sections as well. Pharmaceutical companies are also eager to support student education and programs.

AMWA has followed this same philosophy in giving student members more voice and more influence in making decisions and setting policy. I have long believed that the students will in some large measure determine the future directions, membership support, and growth of AMWA. In the increasing number of women medical students there is vast potential for AMWA to strengthen its forces.

3:00 PM, Thursday, November 3) to meet the candidates for national student coordinator and the opening session (10:00 AM to 12 noon, Friday, November 4) to hear the physician candidates give their speeches.

4. Attend the House of Delegates.
This year the House will hold a marathon session from 1:30 to 7:00 PM on Friday, November 4. The best way to deal with this huge block of time is to take the "tag team" approach. Since both you and your alternate will have followed the previous suggestions, you will both be aware of the issues and have caucused with your constituents to determine your stand. This will leave you free to switch off the responsibility of sitting in the House. Prearrange times (eg, every hour on the half hour) and a place (eg, the back door of the House) to meet and pass over the delegate's badge. This way you do not have to attend the entire session and feel deprived because you may be missing a great workshop that is running simultaneously.

Being a delegate is a privilege and a responsibility. By following the above suggestions you will be a most effective and informed delegate.

3:00 PM, Thursday, November 3) to meet the candidates for national student coordinator and the opening session (10:00 AM to 12 noon, Friday, November 4) to hear the physician candidates give their speeches.

Build Membership Early

Tien-Bao Chao (Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons)

By now, most branches should have new officers. Congratulations to all of you! Don't forget to send your names and addresses to the national office.

Now is the time to think about membership recruitment for next year. A crucial aspect of medical student recruiting is to approach new students as early as possible. AMWA tables with membership applications should be set up at orientation, and, if at all possible, your branch should sponsor an event; a brunch with bagels and fruit is easy. Inviting both men and women to this event will improve visibility. You may want to use this time to publicize your upcoming events for the year, even if you do not have specific dates yet. Start planning your programs now! Regional and national student coordinators have been on the job for about eight months now and are good resources for program ideas. Your local AMWA physicians are also a good resource.

Working on membership at the begin-ning of the year accomplishes two things. It improves continuity within your branch because first-year students become involved, giving you time to "groom" them to take over branch leadership. The other thing it accomplishes is an increase in delegates.

Remember, the more members you have, the more delegates (and votes) your school is entitled to! To help with your membership drive, the national office is sending information packets to every dean of student affairs. Check with your dean. If the packets have not arrived, or if you need more, contact Celia Rea Gibney at the national office.

Call for Candidates

If you are interested in running for national student coordinator (NSC) or regional coordinator (RC), please follow these guidelines:

— Write to the national office for a copy of the job description detailing the responsibilities of the position.
— Submit a statement of interest and a curriculum vitae for distribution at the Student Senate; send them to Mary Bongiovanni c/o the national office by October 3.
— Alternatively, candidates may declare themselves at the Annual Meeting anytime prior to the second meeting of the Student Senate. A statement of interest and curriculum vitae should be given to a current NSC. Copies will be made and distributed at the next Student Senate.
— Candidates for NSC will have an opportunity to address the Student Senate for five minutes at its second meeting.
— NSCs will be elected by student delegates at the end of the House of Delegates.
— Each RC will be elected by the delegates from her region at the second meeting of the Student Senate. Candidates for RC will have the opportunity to address the members of their regions.
Nashville Interim A Success

The warmth of Southern hospitality greeted AMWA members as they arrived in Nashville, Tennessee, for the 1988 Interim Meeting. Although brief, the meeting was productive, educational, and fun.

Unusual this year was a special meeting of the House of Delegates. Delegates gathered at noon on Saturday to take up a one-item agenda. Article XVIII of AMWA’s bylaws, which states specifically that the national office will be located in New York City, was amended to allow the upcoming move to Alexandria, Virginia to take place. The bylaws change was the last obstacle standing in the way of signing the new lease.

In its meeting on Friday, the Board of Directors accepted the 1989 budget proposed by the Finance Committee. The $1 million plus budget included a dues increase of $35 for regular physician members. Membership Committee Chair Suzanne Widrow, MD, had good news for the Board: physician membership increased by 11.7% from 1987 to 1988, while MIT and student membership categories increased by 16.0% and 14.0% respectively.

Two Ad Hoc Committees, one on an AMWA Legislative Internship and the other on Board Reorganization, made substantial reports. Chair Eugenia Marcus, MD, described a five-day legislative seminar in Washington, DC that would train AMWA members in the legislative process. The Board approved a one-day seminar to precede the 1989 Interim Meeting as a start. Although no decisions were made on Board reorganization, Chair Eden Kavanagh, MD, did bring a proposal that would create five new vice-presidential positions and reduce the number of regional governors (and regions) to nine. This was referred for further review and discussion and report to the Board.

Panelists on the “Now that I got elected, what do I do? workshop agreed unanimously: communication is the key to building an effective regional board. Newsletters, frequent telephone calls, and regional conferences are essential. Annual visits to each state and women’s receptions at other medical society meetings are also important.

Although women are moving up in the AMA, they still account for less than 3% of delegates. Three panelists from the Tennessee Medical Association, to which 34% of Tennessee women physicians belong, joined Claire Callan, MD, to discuss how to remedy that. It is necessary to start from the bottom up. Begin at the local level, attend meetings, and get to know other members; when appropriate committee seats open up, volunteer. They warned that it can take a long time to emerge as a leader, but that home in order to attend were glad they did. Mary E. Guinan, MD, PhD, assistant director for science at the Centers for Disease Control, opened the program by correcting the media-created impression that few women have AIDS and that contracting AIDS should not be a major worry for them. In fact, in New York City today, AIDS is a leading cause of death among women age 25 to 44. U.S. Public Health Service statistics indicate that by 1993, 50,000 women will have been diagnosed. “There’s nothing we can do for those women, they’re already infected,” said Dr. Guinan. “Our job is to prevent the next 50,000.”

The way to do that is through education. Most women contract AIDS through IV drug use and sexual contact with an infected partner, a combined total of 76%. Another point Dr. Guinan really hammered home is that virginity, celibacy, and monogamy are healthy. “This is a health message, not a moral message,” she said. “And as health care professionals we must make people understand that.”

Virginia Anderson, MD, of the Pediatric AIDS Study Group at NYU Medical Center, also stressed the need for prevention. “The medical model has failed with AIDS because education is not part of it,” said Dr. Anderson. “Prevention is all we have to offer, but that’s a lot.” And, of course, the key to preventing AIDS in babies and young children is to prevent AIDS in women.

To counteract the “growing notion in middle America that this problem belongs to someone else,” Linda Fisher, MD, an AMWA member in the Department of Public Health in St. Louis, Missouri, spoke about her work. Denial is a common reaction she said, pointing as an example to the failure of St. Louis papers (and many others) to mention AIDS as cause of death in obituaries. Dr. Fisher also addressed workplace issues, saying that policies and procedures must be in place before problems arise.

Perhaps the best news about this excellent program is that it will continue at the Annual Meeting in Chicago.

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AMWA Slate for 1989

President-Elect: Susan Stewart, MD
Vice-President: Roselyn P. Epps, MD
Jo-Ellyn Ryall, MD
Secretary: Suzanne Widrow, MD
Nancy Beecher, MD
Councilor/Org: Eden Kavanagh, MD
Diana Helentjaris, MD
MIT Director: Janet Freedman, MD
Jeanne Arnold, MD
MIT Member: Linda Brzustowicz, MD

opportunities are available.

Several members joined AMWA's publicist Linden Berry in a training session on public relations. Some of the suggestions that emerged: commit the mission statement to memory; in an interview it will help to keep you on track; women physicians are a hot media topic; make yourself and your AMWA branch known as a resource; use your hospital or medical school newspaper to publicize AMWA events; and whenever you speak to the media, don’t forget to mention AMWA.

Sunday morning's plenary session on AIDS in women and children was the high point of the meeting. Those members who booked later flights
Bulletin Board

Career Choices Out

The second volume of the revised edition of Career Choices for Women in Medicine is now available. The 16-page pamphlet covers careers in developmental pediatrics, diagnostic radiology, family practice, orthopedics, and psychiatry. In addition to basic information on training requirements, opportunities, and styles of practice, women physicians offer personal insights into the satisfactions and problems of women in their fields. Copies of Volume I, which includes anesthesiology, internal medicine, general pediatrics, general surgery, obstetrics-gynecology, and ophthalmology, are also available. To order your copy, write to Career Choices, AMWA, 465 Grand St., New York, NY 10002.

Fellowship, Fiske Prize

The American Fertility Society is accepting applications for the AFS-Ortho Distinguished Fellowship, which is jointly sponsored by the Ortho Pharmaceutical Corporation. The one-year fellowship begins July 1, 1989 and carries a $25,000 stipend. Research conducted under the fellowship must "enhance the training of personnel who will ultimately assume academic positions in reproductive biology." Applications are due October 31, 1988. For more information on how to apply, write or call the American Fertility Society, 2140 11th Ave. South, #200, Birmingham, AL 35205-2800; 205-933-8494.

The Caleb Fiske Fund of the Rhode Island Medical Society invites nominations for the 1988 Fiske Prize for scholarly writing in medicine. Scientific articles, essays, and books published or submitted for publication in 1987 are eligible as are original manuscripts not yet submitted. Although limited to medical topics, the competition is not restricted to any clinical, socioeconomic, or historical area of medicine. The winner of the Fiske Prize will receive $2,500. Submissions are due September 1, 1988 and should be sent to: Fiske Fund Committee, Rhode Island Medical Society, 106 Francis St., Providence, RI 02903.

Fight Osteoporosis

From now through October 31, 1988, Florafax International Inc. will donate $2 to the National Osteoporosis Foundation for every floral arrangement ordered. Florafax has established a special toll free number — 800-331-8881 — for ordering arrangements. Remember that number the next time you have to say happy birthday, get well, congratulations, farewell. By ordering a Florafax arrangement, you can send a double gift — and help fight osteoporosis, too.

AMWA at AAP

Attention AMWA pediatricians: Membership Director Celia Rea Gibney will be taking the AMWA booth to the annual meeting of the American Academy of Pediatrics in San Francisco, October 15-20. Be sure to stop by and introduce yourself — or, if you have the time, lend an hour to the recruitment effort.

Trip for AMWA Seniors

A special postconference trip to Mexico has been scheduled for senior AMWA members. The seven-day tour to Guadalajara and Puerto Vallarta begins immediately after the 1988 Annual Meeting, departing from Chicago on November 6. The tour package includes air fare, ground transportation, hotels, and miscellaneous other items. For more information and to reserve your place, contact Linda Yoselowitz, IMT, 676 Winters Ave., Paramus, NJ 07652; 800-342-0476.

Antismoking Ideas

Branch 63 in Ohio has tried a number of antismoking activities they'd like to share with all AMWA members. One easy idea is placing timely newspaper advertisements. Here's a sample ad that actually appeared: "Attention: As chair of the Anti-Smoking Task Force of the Ohio Valley Chapter of AMWA and as medical advisor to the Belmont County Branch of the American Cancer Society, I am asking that if you smoke cigarettes, please make it your New Year's Resolution to quit." The ad was signed by AMWA member Doreen M. Dupont, MD. Branch 63 has also staffed a booth in a local shopping mall, from which they distribute literature, offer carbon monoxide testing, and survey people on nicotine addiction.

Committee Members Needed

CME Director Constance U. Battle, MD, is looking for AMWA members to serve on the CME Committee. Meetings are held twice a year at Interim and Annual. The Committee reviews branch programs for CME eligibility and evaluates AMWA CME programs; members may also participate in workshops on planning CME programs. Contact Dr. Battle, c/o CME Committee, AMWA, 465 Grand St., New York, NY 10002.

Correction: MWIA

In the July/August JAMWA a call for papers for the 1989 MWIA Congress appeared on page 103. The address in that announcement was incorrect. MWIA Corresponding Secretary Anne Barlow, MD, has asked that all papers be routed through her: 856 Grove Ave., Flourtown, PA 19031. The topic for the September 3-8, 1989 meeting is "Incidence of Cancer in Women in Different Countries." Papers must be submitted by October 15, 1988.
AMWA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MAIL TO: AMERICAN MEDICAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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Specialty Board Certification(s)
License(s)
Specialty(s)
Medical School
Year
Work Phone (Home)
City
State
Zip
Address
Name

Student Member $40
Member-in-Training $40
Regular Member $100

AMWA
465 Grand St.
NY, NY 10002

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Doris G. Bartuska, MD, President
Eileen McGrath, Executive Director
This issue prepared by Jane Williamson

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WHAT'S HAPPENING IN AMWA