December 2015

Leadership

2015 has been an exciting year under the leadership of AMWA Presidents Dr. Farzanna Haffizulla (2014-15) and Dr. Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber (2015-16). Please enjoy this report highlighting AMWA’s accomplishments in 2015.

Anti-Trafficking

In September, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and AMWA co-sponsored Human Trafficking: A Summit to Engage Healthcare Organizations, bringing together more than 50 different groups. Speakers included leaders from academia, federal agencies, organizations, survivors, and AMWA’s Physicians Against the Trafficking of Humans (PATH) co-chairs. In March, a training for healthcare providers was held in collaboration with First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley (California). PATH promotes ongoing education of providers through presentations, videos, and research.

AMWA Centennial

AMWA’s Centennial Meeting was a resounding success, bringing attendees from all over the world. The meeting began with a visit to the Van Hoosen Farm and a Career Development Pre-Course specifically for women physicians. Meeting highlights included inspiring keynotes by Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy, Dr. Mae Jemison, Dr. Nancy Snyderman, and a host of distinguished speakers – best-selling author Nicholas Kristof, association presidents, deans, and leading health advocates and an NIH Director, actress, and triple Olympic medalist. Over-arching themes of women’s empowerment, leadership, innovation and health were woven throughout. There was something for everyone – from the pre-medical student to the retired physician and a blending of the different specialties, backgrounds, and ages that make up the fabric of AMWA. Networking and mentoring sessions provided opportunities for collaboration; old friends reunited and new friendships were made. The sense of fellowship was palpable, as was the energy and vitality to launch AMWA’s next century.

Sex and Gender Medical Education Summit

AMWA co-sponsored the Sex and Gender Medical Education Summit, a landmark event bringing together world-renowned experts in sex and gender based medicine and over 100 medical school representatives. The Summit’s long-term goal is the creation of national student competencies on sex and gender based health and establishment of dedicated sex and gender education curricula in all medical schools within the next five years. The Summit was co-sponsored by AMWA, the Laura W. Bush Inst. for Women’s Health, the Mayo Clinic, the Society for Women’s Health Research, Texas Tech Univ. Health Sciences Center, the Sex and Gender Women's Health Collaborative, Verizon, Brown Univ - Div of Sex and Gender and Emergency Med, Duke School of Med. - Office of Diversity and Inclusion. sgbmedicationsummit.com.

Studio AMWA - An Online Exhibition

Studio AMWA – A gallery of art by women who practice the art & science of medicine... & by those who believe in them

AMWA’s 101st Anniversary Meeting

March 10-13, 2016                      Hilton Miami Airport                      Miami, FL
CME Program, Speed Networking, Innovation Lounge, Posters, Mentoring, Awards, Gala

Merchandise available at www.amwa-doc.org

AMWAs Inaugural Artist in Residence, Kathryn Ko, MD, MFA
Neurosurgeon, Artist
Dr. Ko is working on a painting that depicts the leadership role of women in medicine.
RESIDENCY DIVISION

The AMWA Residency Division continues to grow under the leadership of Dr. Heather Lenzy. Membership has increased 32% from last January and the division has created 3 new regional chapters. The residency division this year has focused on advocacy issues such as patient leave, expanding residency spots, and bullying. The next event is a weekend wellness webinar held on Jan. 21 at 8pm EST (register here). Publication opportunities exist through the AMWA Resident Quarterly (ARQ). There are many leadership opportunities in this coming year with the creation of resident chapters and current positions on the executive board. Please check out AMWA’s website for branch startup handouts and details on leadership applications.

STUDENT DIVISION

The AMWA Student Division, under the leadership of Fatima Fabs, continues to expand with a 33% increase in membership. Student co-chairs are now active in every national committee. Regional conferences have been conducted or are being planned in all nine regions across the U.S. New partnerships have allowed the student division to provide larger discounts and more free perks for being an AMWA member. Monthly mini-mentorship videos are now available for members as well as webinars on topics such as residency interviewing and work life balance. A monthly Student Newsletter keeps members informed about these monthly programs and opportunities.

PREMEDICAL DIVISION

The AMWA Premedical Student Division, under the leadership of Jennie Lau, implemented their first national leadership board this year. With this year’s premed leaders, the division has grown close to doubling in membership, developed a monthly newsletter, and established new local chapters and students. This year also paved the way for two premed symposiums, new premed sessions to be included in the 101st Anniversary Meeting, along with the beginning stages of a new mentorship program that will be extended to high school students who are interested in medicine.

American Women’s Hospitals Service (AWHS)

This year’s accomplishments are marked by AWHS’s success through intentional efforts to create optimal sustainability so that 100% of grants and donations go toward clinic support, engaging students and residents, and member-initiated service/research projects. This was made possible by shifting administrative costs and expanding volunteer contributions for future sustainability. AMWA’s charitable arm, the American Women’s Hospitals Service (AWHS), currently supports 4 medical clinics in the under served – Hospital Bon Samartain (Haiti), Clinic Nepal (Nepal), Enghye Clinic (Uganda), and Vine Trust (Peru). Travel grants this year have allowed students and residents to perform projects in Ethiopia, Uganda, Haiti, and Tanzania. The community project initiative has also continued to encourage member advocacy and community empowerment. The following is a list of some of the accomplishments through AWHS’s efforts to engage members in designing projects in partnership with specific communities to create immediate impact and will continue making change:

1. Community needs assessment in Nepal
2. Collaboration with homeless healthcare service in Boston to explore the impact of mobile dermatology assessment
3. Obesity and nutrition education for medical students and residents that was published into a health handbook
4. Project to improve quality of referral and emergency of obstetric care in Rajasthan
5. Connecting women who have successfully obtained benefits for Medicaid enrollment and contraceptive care with women who have not yet obtained due to lack of access or information

Other 2015 Highlights

- New Gun Violence Prevention Task Force participates in advocacy efforts on Capitol Hill with other medical organizations in an effort to remove the ban on CDC gun violence research.
- AMWA partners with NEJM Group Career Center and Medrato to launch on line series on women in medicine.
- New mentoring on line platform recruits new mentors and users.
- Fatima Fabs pens KevinMD article on the relevance of AMWA.
- Advocacy work supports women’s health, patient safety, healthcare reform, flame retardant hats, and end of life care and more.
- AMWA inaugurates the first group of fellows.
- Undergraduate Drinking Initiative raises awareness about alcohol poisoning on college campuses.
- AMWA attends WomenHeart’s National Policy & Scientific Summit on Women’s Cardiovascular Health
- AMWA Centennial Award Recipients
- AMWA joins the Society for Women’s Health, establishes the first council, and establishes the “American Association of Women Dentists” to discuss oral health issues.
- New Maternity Leave Task Force formed to advocate for improved maternity leave policies.
- AMWA leaders attend the 9th Session on the Commission on the Status of Women. Bicing 29
- AMWA attends a NIH Summit
- AMWA attends Women’s Health Policy Stakeholder’s Roundtable with Secretary Burwell
- New biography about AMWA founder Dr. Bertha Van Hoosen.
- Physician Suicide and Burnout Task Force formed.
- AMWA student leaders invited to the White House for Young America Conference.
- New mentorship webinars.
- AMWA forms Documentary Task Force for a documentary on women in medicine.
- AMWA raised over $5000 for Clinic Nepal in the earthquake’s aftermath.
- Haffrulla Family Scholarship announced.
- AMWA Attends Viva2020 9th National Congress
- AMWA receives generous bequest of $89,000 from Dr. Lilo Suskind.

Preventative Medicine Task Force

AMWA’s Preventive Medicine Task Force (PMTF) collaborated with the Residency Division to publish the AMWA Resident Nutrition and Fitness Manual. The task force works to fight obesity through programs in the first region with the STOP Obesity Alliance. Obesity Week, 2015, and the Obesity Society. The Task Force has also partnered with Mission: Critical Health on health education initiatives. Signing the Healthy Campus 2020 Pledge, PMTF continues to promote health education on college campuses and has disseminated digital and print health brochures. An android app resource for health information was launched and a position paper on cardiovascular risk reduction in women has been published.

Diversity and Inclusion Task Force

The Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) Task Force published a cultural cookbook to promote diversity and healthy eating. Through partnerships with Food Day, Latinitas Against Alzheimer’s Disease, B. Stigma Free, and Native American Health Initiative, the D&I Task Force promoted health issues, ethnic awareness, and diversity. Additional work is planned to promote issues relevant to veterans, LGBTQI patients and providers, and other ethnic groups.

Gender Equity Task Force

The Gender Equity Task Force continues to support the Linda Brody Memorial Essay Contest with publication of the second volume of top essays by Medical Student Press. Work continues on bullying research and publications as well as the Linda Brody Memorial Fund to support gender equity initiatives.

AMWA Interim Meeting

Over 75 AMWA leaders attended the Centennial Interim Meeting to revitalize the organization’s strategic plans and goals. Highlights were keynote speakers, Dr. Janis Orlowski, Chief Health Officer of the AAMC and Dr. Alice Chen, Executive Director of Doctors for America. A screening of the documentary on women in medicine from Dr. Lilo Suskind with guest appearance by Tamika Felder, a survivor featured in the film, sparked the launch of AMWA’s Cervical Cancer education campaign.

AMWA Digital Quilt Project

Personalize a quilt square in AMWA Digital Quilt which will be featured on the AMWA website. Honor a loved one, a mentor, or event.

Thank you to our honor roll donors...

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AMWA's success comes from dedicated leadership...

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- **Studio AMWA**
- **Traveling Exhibit**
- **Underage Drinking Campaign**
- **Website Committee**
- **Women's Health Working Group**
- **Women Physicians in War Project**

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(available at www.amwa-doc.org)