



**iGIANT Roundtable
November 7, 2017
Washington, DC**

Participants:

American Medical Women's Association

Eliza Chin, MD, MPH – Executive Director

Roberta Gebhard, DO – National Secretary

Lisa Tate – Director of Partnerships and Business Development

Mollie Marr – Oregon Health Sciences University Branch President

Founded in 1915, AMWA is an organization that works to advance women in medicine and improve women's health. AMWA's programs provide leadership, advocacy, education, mentoring and strategic alliances.

Amgen

James Ingram – U.S. Advocacy Relations at Amgen Inc.

Amgen is one of the world's leading biotechnology companies. Amgen is a values-based company, deeply rooted in science and innovation to transform new ideas and discoveries into medicines for patients with serious illnesses.

Audrey Sheppard Women's Health Consulting

Audrey Sheppard – President

Allison Ivie, MPP, MA – Director, Strategic Planning and Research

Audrey Sheppard Women's Health Consulting is a boutique firm specializing in unmet needs in women's health. Based in Washington, DC, the firm brings together innovative pharmaceutical and medical device companies with the most prominent, dynamic, and connected health leaders to advance the health of women in the US and worldwide.

Explore Mars

Chris Carberry – CEO

Explore Mars, Inc. was created to promote science and technology innovation and education with a use for Mars exploration. Not for profit set to put humans on Mars by 2033.

Federation of State Medical Boards

Lisa Robin, MLA – Chief Advocacy Officer

The Federation of State Medical Boards represents the 70 state medical and osteopathic regulatory boards -- commonly referred to as state medical boards -- within the United States, its territories and the District of Columbia.

HealthPolCom & HealthyWomen

Michael D. Miller, MD – Founder, HealthPolCom; Senior Policy Advisor, HealthyWomen

Healthcare and life sciences subject matter expert providing strategic and tactical advice for healthcare and life sciences executives for communications, business, public affairs, and advocacy needs and opportunities. Projects focus improving outcomes, expanding access, increasing adoption of innovations, and supporting reimbursements. Clinical areas have included opioids and pain management, cancer, cardiovascular diseases, infectious diseases (e.g., HCV, HIV, and antibiotics), and neurodegenerative diseases.

HealthyWomen

Phyllis Greenberger, MSW - Senior Vice President for Science and Health Policy

HealthyWomen is the nation's leading independent, nonprofit health information source for women. Its mission is to educate and empower women to make informed health choices for themselves and their families. For nearly 30 years, millions of women have turned to HealthyWomen for answers to their most personal health care questions. HealthyWomen provides objective, research-based health information reviewed by medical experts to ensure its accuracy.

Ideagen

Leif Ackerman – Global Chief Operating Officer

Where the world's leading companies, NGO's and public sector organizations convene to innovate and collaborate to address the world's most vexing issues.

iGIANT

Saralyn Mark, MD – President and Founder

iGIANT™ (impact of Gender/Sex on Innovation and Novel Technologies) is a nonprofit accelerating the translation of research into gender/sex-specific design elements such as products, programs, policies and protocols for the health, IT, transportation and retail sectors to improve the safety and quality of life, including work performance, for men and women.

Johnson and Johnson Healthcare Systems

Ann Powell - Healthcare Policy and Advocacy Director

Johnson and Johnson is one of largest leaders in pharmaceuticals, consumer medical products, and medical devices, internationally known for innovation and technology advances to assure positive patient health.

Madison Services Group, Inc.

Ann Sullivan – President and Founder

Madison Services Group, Inc. is a woman-owned government relations business specializing in the small business and entrepreneurial sector with offices in Washington, DC and Virginia. They work with associations, non-profit organizations, and corporations to assist them in developing and executing strategic plans centered on top-tier advocacy. "Our approach is collaborative and our expertise based on our intimate knowledge of public policy. Our relationships run deep and our knowledge of the legislative and regulatory processes are unparalleled. We strive to ensure that organizations who work with us achieve desired outcomes and build their voice in Washington DC."

National Consumers League

Lee Granados - Senior Director of Development

National Consumers League provides government, businesses, and other organizations with the consumer's perspective on concerns including child labor, privacy, food safety, and medication information. The mission of the National Consumers League is to protect and promote social and economic justice for consumers and workers in the United States and abroad.

Discussion Highlights:

1. Equipment is not always designed for both genders. For example, the Swiffer tool is more easily broken by men because it is too lightweight. Another example was military gear such as boots, helmets, vests, and even rifles are designed more for men than for women. Several iGIANT roundtables have explored these issues.
2. Sex differences have important implications in medicine, for example, artificial hearts, opiate usage and treatment, stents, orthopedic devices. Sometimes devices fail, not because of the device but because of the operator such that the device is not designed for how an individual may move or interact with the technology. It was recommended that scientists starting their careers be educated about sex/gender differences in order for them to think about these issues early on in their study designs.
3. Space exploration is an ideal setting to study and develop gender/sex-specific design elements because the changes that the body experiences to adapt to space are dramatic and happen quickly. Technology transfer from the space community is valuable and should be encouraged.
4. Gender/sex differences with respect to policy are equally important to recognize to ensure that women's participation is as powerful and impactful as that of men. Consider design elements in regard to health insurance benefits, access to capital and loans (women entrepreneurs get fewer loans), and leadership positions. Having policies in place or advocating for new policies is important.
5. Industry needs to address gender/sex-specific differences in regard to their design elements and having roundtables and other neutral environments will stimulate innovation and collaboration.

Call to action – Attendees were encouraged to be ambassadors for the iGIANT such as hosting roundtables, supporting Scholars-in-Residence, challenge competitions/prizes and to join the Corporate Advisory Council. Resources are available, including a toolkit to engage groups or host roundtables.

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