

# AMWA 2020 AWARDS



## **Presidential Award – Jennifer Hunt, MD**

Dr. Jennifer Hunt is Chair of Pathology at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. She has served in a number of different leadership roles both at her institution and nationally, including Chief of Staff for her hospital, an elected member of the Board of Governors for the College of American Pathologists, and President of the Association for Molecular Pathology and President of the College of American Pathologists Foundation. She also maintains a practice as an Executive Leadership Coach which focuses on current and emerging leaders in healthcare. Her passion is increasing the number of women leaders in healthcare. She runs a very popular leadership development program for women to address the impostor syndrome in medicine called “[Unlocking the Authentic Self](#)”.



## **Elizabeth Blackwell Award – Darilyn Moyer, MD, FACP, FRCP, FIDSA**

Darilyn V. Moyer, MD, FACP, FRCP, FIDSA is the Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer of the American College of Physicians (ACP). Board certified in internal medicine and infectious diseases, Dr. Moyer has been a Fellow of ACP (FACP) since 1995, an honorary designation that recognizes ongoing individual service and contributions to the practice of medicine. Dr. Moyer was a Professor of Medicine, Executive Vice Chair for Education in the Department of Medicine, Internal Medicine Residency Program Director and Assistant Dean for Graduate Medical Education at Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in the Biological Basis of Behavior, Biology and Psychology from the University of Pennsylvania and attended medical school at Temple University School of Medicine. She completed her internal medicine residency at Temple University Hospital and went on to complete an Infectious Diseases Fellowship at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center.



## **Bertha Van Hoosen Award – Connie B. Newman, MD, FACP, FAMWA**

Dr. Connie Newman is an endocrinologist and Adjunct Professor of Medicine, New York University School of Medicine. As AMWA President in 2018-2019, Dr. Newman led the development of a 3-year Strategic Plan that re-focused AMWA and its mission on professional development of women in medicine, advocacy, and excellence in healthcare. She co-chairs the AMWA Fellowship Committee, and AMWA Opioid Addiction in Women Task Force, which she founded in 2018. She previously co-chaired the AMWA Preventive Medicine Task Force. Dr. Newman’s expertise is in lipids, diabetes, obesity, statin safety, and large randomized trials. She chaired the Writing Committee for the 2019 AHA Scientific Statement on Statin Safety. She is a member of the FDA Endocrinologic and Metabolic Drugs Advisory Committee. Dr. Newman is a co-editor of the first textbook on application of sex and gender differences to clinical practice, to be published by Elsevier in 2020.



## **Lila Wallis Women’s Health Award – Janice L Werbinski, MD, NCMP**

Dr. Janice Werbinski is a staunch advocate for education that must change the way healthcare is delivered to women, taking into consideration the many ways in which women's health, physiology, and needs differ from men’s. Board-certified in OB GYN, and a Certified Menopause Provider, she practiced Gynecology for 40 years, retiring from clinical practice in 2014. She received her M.D. from the Medical College of Wisconsin, 1975. Author of several publications in Sex and Gender Based Medicine, she also wrote a curriculum for the Women’s Health Track in Michigan State University’s Internal Medicine Residency program. As Clinical Associate Professor Emerita at Western Michigan University Homer R. Stryker School of Medicine, she currently teaches Sex and Gender Specific Medicine, and has written an iBook on that topic. She is Executive Director of the Sex and Gender Health Collaborative of AMWA, designed to inform students, faculty, and clinicians in sex and gender-appropriate medicine.



## **Ester Pohl Lovejoy Award – Shobha S. Krishnan, MD, FAAFP**

Shobha S. Krishnan, MD, FAAFP, is the Founder and President of the Global Initiative Against HPV and Cervical Cancer (GIAHC). She is a board-certified family physician and gynecologist with special interest in the field of HPV and cervical cancer, both nationally and internationally. Krishnan is on the Board of Directors of the American Medical Women’s Association. She is also the chair of the HPV and Cervical Cancer Task Force at AMWA, Vice Chair of the HPV Working group at MWIA, and on the Medical Advisory Board of the National Cervical Cancer Coalition. She is the author of the national and international award-winning book, *The HPV Vaccine Controversy: Sex, Cancer, God and Politics* (Praeger 2008). Her greatest joy and pride are working with Young Leaders in the global elimination of cervical cancer and she welcomes all to join this exciting movement.



## **Dr. Larry Zaroff Man of Good Conscience Award – Paul Kirchgraber, MD, MBA**

Senior Vice President and Business Unit Head for Covance Central Laboratories since 2015, he joined Covance in 2007. In 2009 he became Vice President of Global Laboratory Operations and Medical Affairs, responsible for laboratories in the United States, Switzerland, Singapore, China and Japan. In 2012, he took on additional responsibilities as the General Manager for the Americas. He worked at Quintiles Transnational as Global Medical Director for the Central Laboratory. He is Board Certified in Anatomic, Clinical and Cytopathology. Dr. Kirchgraber was the 2013 recipient of the “We’re All in Sales” Award recognizing his contributions to Covance’s commercial efforts. After graduating from Cornell University Medical School, he interned in Internal Medicine at Case Western Reserve/University Hospitals and completed Pathology residency and fellowship at the Institute of Pathology. He received his Master of Business Administration from SUNY Binghamton. Having been promoted through several roles of increasing responsibility to his current role as Senior Vice President and Business Unit Head for Covance Central Laboratory Services, he is an exceptional business leader. He is a mentor, diversity ambassador, health and wellness advocate, and patient champion.

**Camille Mermod Award – Michelle Benedict**

Michelle Benedict is an MD Candidate at the University of Michigan Medical School (Class of 2023). A non-traditional student, Michelle has a Business degree and over a decade of experience in the high-tech industry, most recently as an Engineering Project Manager at Apple Inc in the Applied Machine Learning department, before medical school commencement. Her passion for medicine has evolved through her (published) international medical mission work and artificial intelligence work in Health Technology. She has used her diverse background and skill sets as AMWA's Director of Research and Development to contribute to AMWA's Strategic Planning, Mentorship Committee, National Liaison Committee, Membership Committee, AWHS, Web/Communications/Marketing, and Social Media. She aims to leverage her technology background in her future medical career with biomedical innovations and to empower AMWA members to lead change in such an era of possibility.

**Anne C. Carter Student Leadership Award – Anna Cassell**

Anna Cassell is an MD/MBA student at the University of Utah. She has been involved in numerous AMWA positions including being president of her local chapter and is currently serving as president-elect of the national student division. She is passionate about leadership development for medical students and has helped lead local and national initiatives that promote leadership development for students. She has served in numerous leadership roles at her medical school including Class Co-President, Member of the Diversity and Professionalism Committee, and Co-Director of a local community clinic. She intends to pursue a career in hospital medicine and hopes to combine her medical and business interests to improve healthcare affordability. Outside of medicine Anna plays college ultimate frisbee and enjoys mountain biking, skiing, and backpacking.

**Anne C. Carter Student Leadership Award – Sara Grant**

Sara Grant is currently a third year medical student at Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine in Michigan. She has been involved in AMWA since her first year of medical school, when she served as a member of the Social & Networking Committee chair for the local chapter. She was elected Vice-President for her local chapter as a second-year medical student and served as co-chair of the Student Division Conference Committee for the MWIA Centennial Congress and the AMWA105 Conference. Sara is an aspiring pediatric surgeon who is passionate about encouraging women of all ages to never let anyone stop them from reaching their dreams.

## Exceptional Mentor Award Recipients

**Adebisi (Bisi) Alli, DO, MS, FACP**

Dr. Alli, a Lean Six Sigma Black Belt, is Assistant Professor at Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine and Senior Associate Consultant in the division of Community internal Medicine at Mayo Clinic Arizona.

**Tatjana Calvano, DO, FACP, FIDSA**

Dr. Calvano is an Associate Program Director, Internal Medicine Residency and Infectious Disease Physician at the Brooke Army Medical Center in Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

**Chwen-Yuen Angie Chen, MD**

Dr. Chen is Clinical Associate Professor, Medicine - Primary Care and Population Health at Stanford University.

**Charlene Dewey, MD, M.Ed, MACP**

Dr. Dewey is The Joseph A. Johnson, Jr. Distinguished Leadership Professor, Assistant Dean for Educator Development, and Director for the Educator Development Program and Center for Professional Health at the Center for Professional Health.

**Sandra Adamson Fryhofer, MD, MACP, FRCP**

Dr. Fryhofer is a private practice physician in internal medicine and Adjunct Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine at Emory University School of Medicine.

**Roberta Gebhard, DO, FAMWA**

Dr. Gebhard is the current president of AMWA and a Board Certified Family Practice physician.

**Mary Goldstein, MD, MS-HSR, FACMI**

Dr. Goldstein is Chief of the Medical Service at VA Palo Alto Health Care System and Vice-Chair for Veteran's Affairs, Department of Medicine, Stanford University School of Medicine.

**Susan Hingle, MD, MACP, FRCP, FAMWA**

Dr. Hingle, a new AMWA Board member, is Professor of Medicine and Associate Dean for Human and Organizational Potential at the SIU School of Medicine.

**Amy Hise, MD, MPH**

Dr. Hise, an AMWA Board member, is an Associate Professor of Pathology and International Health at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine and Staff Physician at the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center.

**Janet Jokela, MD, MPH, FACP, FIDSA**

Dr. Jokela is Professor and Head of the Department of Medicine and the Acting Regional Dean of the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Urbana-Champaign.

**Bridgette Jones, MD, MS**

Dr Jones is Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Missouri Kansas City, Children's Mercy.

**Kajal Khana, MD, JD**

Dr. Khana is Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Stanford University.

**Tammy Lin, MD, MPH, FACP**

Dr. Lin is Executive Director of Med Mindset and Voluntary Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Medicine at UC San Diego Health Sciences.

**Iris Liou, MD**

Dr. Liou is Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine for Hepatology/Liver Transplant Services for the Division of Gastroenterology, Department of Medicine at the University of Washington.

**Joan Lo, MD**

Dr. Lo is Assistant Program Director and Graduate Medical Education Research Director at Kaiser Permanente Oakland Center Internal Medicine Residency Program.

**Elizabeth Lowenthal, MD, MSCE, FAAP**

Dr. Lowenthal is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Informatics at the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine and Research Director at the Global Health Center at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

**Rosalia Misseri, MD**

Dr. Misseri is Professor and Chief of Pediatric Urology at the Indiana University School of Medicine and Riley Children's Health.

**Brittane Parker, MD**

Dr. Parker is Senior Associate Consultant in Hospital Internal Medicine at Mayo Clinic Arizona.

**Sima Pendharkar, MD, MPH, FACP**

Dr. Pendharkar is Chief of Hospital Medicine at The Brooklyn Hospital Center and Program Director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program.

**Shakaib U. Rehman, MD, SCH, FACP, FACH, FAMIA**

Dr. Rehman is Associate Chief of Staff for Education at Phoenix VA Health Care System and Professor and Interim Chair for the Department of Biomedical Informatics, Professor of Internal Medicine at the University of Arizona College of Medicine-Phoenix.

**Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber, MD, FACP, FAMWA**

Dr. Rohr-Kirchgraber, a past president of AMWA, is the Executive Director of the IU National Center of Excellence in Women's Health, the Barbara Kampn Chair in Women's Health, and Professor of Clinical Medicine and Pediatrics.

**Lipika Samal, MD, MPH**

Dr. Samal is a clinician-researcher and Assistant Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School.

**Katherine Sharkey, MD, PhD**

Dr. Sharkey Assistant Dean for Women in Medicine and Science, Associate Professor of Medicine, Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Human Behavior at the Alpert Medical School of Brown University.

**Cynthia (Daisy) Smith, MD, FACP**

Dr. Smith is Vice President of Clinical Education at the American College of Physicians and Adjunct Associate Professor in the Perelman School of Medicine.

**Jasmine Smith, MD, MBA**

Dr. Smith is an attending physician in internal medicine-pediatrics at Keck Medicine of USC and Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

**V. Fan Tait, MD, FAAP**

Dr. Tait is the Chief Medical Officer for the American Academy of Pediatrics.

**Julie Welch, MD**

Dr. Welch is Professor of Clinical Emergency Medicine and Vice Chair of Faculty Development in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Indiana University School of Medicine and IU Health Methodist Hospital.

**Emily Young, DO**

Dr. Young is a family medicine specialist and the faculty advisor for the AMWA Chapter at the University of Virginia.

**Donna Zulman, MD, MS**

Dr. Zulman is Assistant Professor in the Division of Primary Care and Population Health at Stanford University School of Medicine and Investigator in the Center for Innovation to Implementation at VA Palo Alto Health Care System.

**Resident Division Awards****Charlotte Edwards Maguire, MD Outstanding Resident Mentor Award – Brette Harding, MD**

Brette is currently a PGY3 surgical resident training in Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Missouri. She is currently the Advocacy Chair of the Resident Division of AMWA. She plans to pursue a fellowship in Head and Neck Oncologic Surgery and Microvascular Reconstruction. Her interests include HPV-related head and neck cancer treatment and prevention. In addition to this, she enjoys working with medical students and encouraging them to pursue their goals, especially surgical careers.

**Susan L. Ivey, MD Courage to Lead Award – Anne Kuwabara, MD**

Anne M. Kuwabara MD is currently a Physical Medicine Rehabilitation (PM&R) resident at Stanford University. Dr. Kuwabara is a passionate advocate for the field of PM&R. She serves as a Resident Section Editor of The American Journal of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, ambassador of the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Junior Resident Liaison of the Stanford PM&R Residency program, and resident leader of the PM&R medical student interest group at Stanford. She completed her undergraduate studies in molecular cell biology and public policy at University of California-Berkeley and medical degree at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.



**Elinor T. Christiansen, MD Altruism Award – Katharina Perlin, MD**

Rina Perlin is a first year Psychiatry resident at the University of Louisville. Advocacy, particularly related to reproductive health and establishing a national single-payer health program, has been integral to her medical career thus far, and she is excited to continue to work with patients and colleagues to bring about meaningful change in healthcare. Her professional areas of interest include women’s mental health, child and adolescent psychiatry, and geriatric psychiatry. In her free time she writes poetry and goes hiking with her dog, Lentil.



**Susan Love Writing Contest – Tara Shrout, MD, MSc**

Tara Shrout, MD, MSc is a first-generation college student who was born and raised in Frankfort, Kentucky. She developed an early fascination for medical research, attending summer camps and volunteering with STEM programs in rural Kentucky during middle and high school. She attended Vanderbilt University for a double-major in molecular biology and political science, and then returned to Kentucky for medical school where she was elected AMA State Delegate and helped create the Kentucky Medical Student Outreach and Leadership Program. During medical school, Dr. Shrout was granted an NIH TL1 award to support one year of cardiovascular research. She is now completing her internal medicine residency at Boston Medical Center in Boston, MA and working with the Framingham Research Study and AMA-RFS MA Governing Council. Dr. Shrout is grateful for a running friend and colleague who recently connected her with the AMWA and looks forward to learning from our organization.

**Medical Student Division Awards**



**Eliza Lo Chin Unsung Hero Award – Victoria Sefcsik**

Victoria Sefcsik is a first-year osteopathic medical student at Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences, College of Osteopathic Medicine in Yakima, Washington. She’s a 2<sup>nd</sup> lieutenant in the United States Air Force and will serve as an active duty physician after residency. Victoria has been a part of AMWA since college, with involvement in the pre-medicine club hosting several medical school panels and events to prepare students for interviews. She is also involved with the American Women Physicians in World War I Traveling Exhibition hosted by AMWA and is one of the coordinators for its travel across the country. She currently volunteers at the Union Gospel Mission free clinic near her school and is interested in family and internal medicine.



**Eliza Lo Chin Unsung Hero Award – Joanna Georgakas**

Joanna Georgakas is a third year medical student at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. She is a graduate of Middlebury College, where she double majored in Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies and Neuroscience. Joanna wrote her undergraduate thesis on Feminist Science Studies, focusing on the leaky pipeline of women in STEM and self-published her Zine series "scigrrrr!" to help promote women in STEM. At Brown, she helped found her local AMWA chapter, served as a class representative to the senate, organized a high school mentor program, and helped implement a formal LGBTQ+ curriculum for first year students. For AMWA National, Joanna has served as student co-chair for the Gender Equity Task Force and is currently working on a podcast series, "Doctor and \_\_\_\_: Multidimensional Women in Medicine."



**Linda Brodsky MD Essay Award – Alyssa Brown**

Alyssa Brown grew up in Chattanooga, TN. She majored in Biology and History at Centre College in Kentucky where she played NCAA Division III Golf. She joined AMWA at the University of Louisville Medical School where she became branch president and started a monthly mentorship happy hour for students to meet residents and physicians. Funds raised were donated to a women’s shelter. After third year, she moved to Rochester, MN to pursue a PhD in Biomedical Engineering and Physiology at Mayo Clinic. Her research focuses on inflammation’s effect on motor neuron function and congenital diaphragmatic hernia. Alyssa chairs AMWA’s Social Media/Branding Committee and helped grow AMWA’s Instagram to 12.1k followers this past year. When not working on her research or AMWA projects, she is baking sweets, going to concerts, or shadowing in the pediatric OR.



**Women in Academic Orthopaedics Research Internship – Alyssa Thorman**

Alyssa Thorman is a second year medical student at the University of Utah. She completed her undergraduate at the University of Utah in biochemistry with an emphasis in cell and molecular biology. Her research interests include pediatric orthopaedics specifically involving medically fragile and neurologically impaired patients. She is the founder and president of her medical school’s community garden and is currently working to address food insecurity among medical students. In her free time she enjoys swimming and coaching a local high school team as well as running with her dog.



**Heller Outstanding Branch Award – Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University @BrownMedAMWA**

The Warren Alpert Medical School AMWA Branch has made incredible strides since its founding three years ago. They are proud to connect their members with outstanding female physicians through AMWA, the Rhode Island Medical Women’s Association, and the Offices of Women and Medicine in Science at Brown. Their members are passionate about advocacy on issues from gun violence prevention to gender discrimination and sexual harassment. Every year they give back locally by hosting a cycling fundraiser for Sojourner House, a nonprofit that helps women who have experienced domestic abuse. They are grateful for lifelong connections with AMWA members around the nation and are committed to building a community of women dedicated to uplifting one another.

## Pre-medical Student Division Awards



### Student of the Year Award – Pooja Butani

Pooja Butani is a graduate from the University of California, Berkeley as a Premedical student with a Bachelor's degree in Molecular and Cell Biology with an emphasis on Neurobiology. She has been an active and dedicated member both in her local AMWA Berkeley Chapter and the National AMWA organization. Besides AMWA, she loves to mentor underserved elementary school children at Sylvia Mendez Elementary School in Berkeley. Just like her constant support system, she hopes to become a role model and a constant support for those children in their path to a greater education and involvement within the community. She promotes the importance of mental health not only amongst the empowering women of AMWA but also throughout the neighborhood and the young growing generations of great leaders and physicians that are just getting started with their educational path. She also serves our veterans in the Veterans Affairs Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System, where she does research to aid professionals in providing the best care to patients with available resources. For her mentorship means everything, and she strives to provide students and members the resources that can assist not only their goals but also their health throughout their lives.



### Premedical Branch Member of the Year Award – Brittany Nguyen

Brittany Nguyen is a sophomore at Rice University majoring in Cognitive Sciences with minors in Biochemistry and Business. She is currently working as a research intern at the Baylor College of Medicine and has been certified as an Emergency Medical Technician since January 2020. Her project for the spring 2020 semester was to spearhead a 3-day medical immersion project with the goal of offering pre-medical students the opportunity to explore different fields within medicine through volunteering with local nonprofits, attendance and certification at a CPR class, lectures by the head of the Baylor Orthopedic department, and others activities with physicians and organizations in the Greater Houston Area. Apart from AMWA, she has worked with both social workers and other student organizations at Rice to implement a volunteer program between her university and organizations dedicated to serving the underprivileged homeless population. She has been on the Development Committee for her Camp Kesem chapter at Rice for two years, working to fundraise \$95,000 throughout the year for the summer camp. Additionally, she has served as a volunteer at various hospitals in the Texas Medical Center such as MD Anderson and Houston Methodist, and she is currently working as a medical scribe to ophthalmologist Dr. Petros Carvounis. In her free time, she enjoys a friendly game of chess (and bughouse!), swimming, badminton, as well as exploring Houston. Brittany looks forward to graduating Rice and continuing her education into medical school.



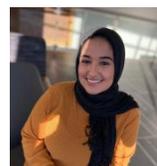
### Eliza Lo Chin Unsung Hero Award – Iris Dupanovic

Iris Dupanovic is a premedical student who has a BS in Biopsychology and a MS in Biomedical Sciences from Tufts University. She became involved in AMWA as a graduate student. She has served as the 2019-2020 Premedical Region 1 Director and is currently serving as one of two Exhibit Coordinators for the AMWA Women Physicians in World War I Traveling Exhibit. One of the things she loves most about AMWA's WWI exhibit is how it shines a light on women physicians who were courageous enough to advocate for their rights and organize hospitals and units to serve their country, even though they were initially told that they were not needed. Iris is inspired by their actions, which helped women physicians get to where they are today. Besides being involved with AMWA, Iris works as a medical scribe, volunteers as a medical advocate, and volunteers as a tutor for adults who are trying to receive their high school equivalency. In her spare time, she likes to bake and take spin classes.



### Premedical Education Scholarship – Breanna Thomas

Breanna Thomas is a fourth year Biology major at the University of Florida. She is also minoring in Health Disparities in Society. Breanna's ultimate goal is to become an obstetrician/gynecologist and serve underserved communities as well as women Veterans. She currently serves as Co-Outreach Director for the undergraduate chapter of AMWA at the University of Florida. Breanna is also the Public Relations Director for the University of Florida chapter of LADIES Incorporated, a mentoring organization that focuses on serving the Gainesville community. In her spare time, Breanna enjoys listening to music, cooking, and spending quality time with loved ones.



### Premedical Education Scholarship – Fatima Karkoub

I am an undergraduate pre medical biology major at the Women's College of Notre Dame of Maryland University. On campus, I am the founder and president of the Pre-Student of Osteopathic Medical Association Chapter; educating the community about the philosophy of Osteopathic medicine, providing guidance and academic enhancement opportunities to our members, and implementing preventive medicine programs throughout our community; as well as an undergraduate research assistant to the School of Pharmacy. While I am off campus, I am an Emergency Medical Technician at the Middle River Volunteer Fire Department; providing urgent care to the community. On my free time, I like to volunteer at a local elementary school, tutoring students who may be having academic disparities. After graduation, I plan to attend medical school and continue to give back to my community while broadening the spectrum of opportunities for young women in medicine.



### **AMWA Outstanding Branch Award and Active Branch Award – University of Houston**

Established in 2014, the AMWA Chapter at the University of Houston is a undergraduate student organization dedicated to promoting the advancement of women in medicine, providing resources to pre-health students, and advocating for women's health. As an organization situated in one of the country's most diverse cities, we also work to raise awareness of health disparities that are prevalent in our local communities. Among others, our accomplishments for this year include establishing a scholarship foundation for high school girls from underserved communities, hosting the first ever student-run health conference at our university, and contributing 388 hours of community service in the Fall 2019 semester alone. We look to build a community of women in medicine that includes everyone from premedical students to physicians as well as key community partners. Our members are encouraged to deepen their interests in medicine, knowing that they will always have a strong group of women cheering them on. Our hope is to see our members growing into their best selves and going on to become accomplished, passionate, and empathetic physicians.



### **Branch Event Award – University of Pennsylvania**

UPenn AMWA was founded in 2016 and strives to fulfill AMWA's mission. We aim to provide our members with networking opportunities, professional skills, and guidance for pre-medical students. With now more than 75 members, 2019 was our most eventful year yet. We held weekly events that featured female leaders in health, with topics ranging from bioethics, surgery, and transgender patient care, to environmental sustainability and period poverty. Among the speakers was Dr. Nicole Lurie MD, the former Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response appointed by Obama during his administration. We also held panels with accomplished physicians,

medical school application workshops, and current events in medicine discussions. UPenn AMWA is committed to community service. This past fall, we collected 100+ items of winter clothing to donate to Veterans, organized an Eagles game-watching party with patients at the VA Hospital, and made Thanksgiving and winter holiday cards for them. Additionally, our chapter helped collect over 15000lbs of trash from various waterways in Pennsylvania and baked holiday treats to distribute to families with loved ones in hospice or palliative care. With scholarship being a core value, we implemented a tutoring society last spring. It offers free tutoring services to help pre-health students excel in their Penn courses or the MCAT. We also held our first ever Research Symposium last fall where our members presented the research they've participated in. Last, we were honored to have had the opportunity to plan and host the annual AMWA Region 3 Premedical Conference this past January.



### **Humanitarian Branch Award – Louisiana State University of Shreveport**

The AMWA at Louisiana State University at Shreveport (LSUS) branch was officially established on March 29th, 2019. We currently have 56 National members and are continuing to expand our membership each semester! Since we began this chapter, our members have constantly taken the initiative to advocate for women's health in both the LSUS campus and the Shreveport- Bossier community. We have established close ties with several of our fellow student organizations on

campus and engaged many of the local non-profit organizations and businesses to make a difference in the field of healthcare. Our major service projects, "Care Center Collections," which aimed at helping expecting and new mothers by encouraging people to donate baby products, and "Project Period," which involved collecting new feminine hygiene products for the local homeless women, are just a few examples of how our branch has made a positive impact on the community. In addition, we conduct bimonthly awareness events and medical fundraisers, invite healthcare professionals for talks, and provide our members with educational resources and mentoring opportunities. It has been an honor to serve the community through our branch's projects, and we are very excited to continue our services with our sustained efforts!