I was impressed by our AAWR members’ active participation in the recent ACR Annual Meeting and Chapter Leadership Conference. The cardiac imaging educational program on the first day was chaired by Dr. Diane Strollo, who directs the College’s cardiac educational programs. The turnout and participation for the course were excellent. Dr. Melissa Rosado de Christenson is currently the Program Chair for Continuous Professional Improvement (CPI), an ACR educational tool constructed by radiologists to provide self-assessment in ten different subspecialties. All of us have an interest in the new Maintenance of Certification, and the CPI program will play an integral part in this initiative.

Dr. Etta Pisano, Chair of the American College of Radiology Imaging Network (ACRIN) Breast Committee, presented “New Directions in Breast Imaging”. She discussed the following priorities of her committee: improved early detection of breast cancer by individualizing screening strategies according to risk profiles; reduced overtreatment of non-lethal breast cancers; improved monitoring of the treated patient using imaging technologies; and percutaneous treatment of early breast cancer. Data on U.S. screening programs and the state of the art of breast MR screening were discussed. An interesting study is under development to assess the use of pre-operative MRI to reduce the number of operations and the risk of positive margins. Finally Dr. Pisano presented the exciting potential future directions of breast imaging, including breast CT with contrast, tomosynthesis, PET (or SPECT) CT of the breast, and microwave and near-infrared imaging.

The ACR Council met during the second portion of the meeting and held educational sessions as well as discussions to address resolutions, socioeconomic issues, and Guidelines and Technical Standards. The ACR Nominating Committee was chaired by Dr. Kimberly Applegate, who used her skill and judgment to encourage members to run for office. Thanks to Dr. Applegate and committee member Dr. Carol Rumack, there was a woman running for every contested position during the election. When I spoke with Dr. Applegate later about her experience, she shared with me how difficult it was to find people to run for each of the contested positions. A resolution to make a higher percentage of the ACR leadership positions subject to election was defeated - mostly due to not enough people willing to run for office!

I personally know of many individuals, myself included, who have turned down the chance to run for a contested position. Your membership in organizations such as the AAWR and the ACR is already appreciated, but I further urge you to say “yes” if asked to volunteer for a committee or an office. According to a recent article on gender issues, there are two principal reasons that keep individuals from stepping forward to fill an office: Reason: Not enough time (a universal problem). Solution: Consider starting out with simpler, more limited commitments and increasing them as you gain experience.
Being a mentor has added a significant dimension to my life as a radiologist and as a woman in radiology. When I see young women interested in the field that I practice, I get excited about the career I have chosen: I want them to see and experience the exceptional type of medicine that we practice. I remember as a resident having no female role models in radiology. My world was most definitely male oriented, with only a handful of other women in my program with whom to discuss concerns or issues. It wasn’t until fellowship that I met several very important females in radiology who have had a significant influence on my life and career, and remain friends and mentors to this date. They taught me that an academic career can be fun and stimulating, that a career in radiology can take on whatever form you choose it to be depending on your stage in life (e.g. single, family, personal hobbies, etc), and that ‘juggling’ many things in life at once is not only possible but enjoyable!

The University of Maryland School of Medicine recently started a mentor program for medical students which provides them with the opportunity to interact with physicians in a non-stressful environment. Students may choose to spend time with someone practicing in the field that interests them, and then get acquainted with them as people rather than someone scrutinizing their daily work. While this more structured method is one way of mentoring, I have also been happily surprised when a mentor-mentee relationship is sparked by a small group lecture to medical students. Often this is one of the few introductions they have to radiology, so I try to make it a teaching session as well as an open forum to discuss radiology as a career option.

It was during one of these sessions that I met a third year medical student, Michelle Cohen (please read her contribution on the following page). She was the only student in her group who put her hand up when I asked the class who was considering radiology as a specialty. I wanted to know her point of view, the level of interest in radiology at her institution, and how she particularly became interested in radiology. As you will read in her contribution, hers was an interesting path towards the idea of radiology and the achievement of her “aha” moment. She and I also shared similar interests in the “whys” and “hows” of radiology from a medical student’s perspective. As a result, Michelle and I began a study to look into this topic, with particular attention to the question of why more women aren’t applying or entering radiology. Michelle’s enthusiasm for this subject and her eagerness to learn has spurred me to discover what I can do to encourage other medical students who are facing the choice of many specialties, and to help guide them towards the one that is right for them.

Within residency programs there are many bright young female physicians who have a fresh outlook on the world of radiology, often finding new ways to improve or enhance a current program and its teaching methods. One such individual is one of our third year radiology residents, Dr. Theresa Kouo. For her, and for several of her fellow female residents, being on-call seemed to be a somewhat different experience when they compared notes with some of their male counterparts. As the trend continued, Dr. Kouo voiced her interest in more fully addressing potential differences in the on-call experience between genders. Dr. Kouo and I collaborated to develop a survey to answer these questions using a structured research method. Her interest and motivation formulated several questions that my own colleagues had voiced many years ago but never pursued. She provided me, the mentor, with an example of what can be done if you put your mind to it; further, she has opened the door to many future projects as a result.

In summary, I now regard every day as an opportunity both to teach and to learn from someone else, whether that person is a medical student, a resident, a fellow or even a junior faculty member. We can make lifetime friends and colleagues along the way, further building a great foundation and strong network of women in radiology. Finally, by working with the future radiologists in the field, I believe that we also gain a better perspective on own career, life and goals.

As we are gathering our data and information, we would be happy to hear from other individuals interested in further evaluating the issues discussed above. Please send inquiries to ssmith@umm.edu.

Dr. Smith is Associate Professor of Radiology and Co Program Director of the Diagnostic Radiology Residency, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland.
A Mentor’s Guide is the Key to Enlightenment
by Michelle Cohen, MS IV

Reflecting on my experiences as a third year medical student, I realize that the most popular question that people ask of us upon starting any third year clerkship is, “What are you going to specialize in?” The residents and attendings look at you expectantly, and it becomes clear that the inquirers hope that your desires will match their own. The pressure is on...what do you say?

I have always known I wanted to be a physician. With a father as a radiologist in private practice, I have seen how much he loves his job and enjoys working with patients. It has been a privilege to have this unique perspective of the medical field and to have him as a role model. On the flip side, I just knew that I was not going to be a radiologist. The radiology portion of anatomy my first year was frightening and overwhelming, and in my third year the attitudes of other physicians toward the field of radiology were discouraging; most importantly, I wanted my own field, not my father’s field.

Fortunately I kept an open mind about my career choice. My interest blossomed during my neurology rotation, where I found great excitement looking at the CT and MRI scans of my stroke patients. I enjoyed looking at the films with the radiologist and localizing the lesions, correlating them with the history and clinical findings. I could actually see the pathology! The radiologists at my university enjoyed teaching other physicians about their findings and I truly appreciated that interaction. As I moved on to complete other clerkships, I realized how important imaging was in both diagnosis and prognosis. Radiology truly bridges all medical fields.

Despite my new and positive insight, I confess that I remain discouraged by the prejudices that are perpetuated among physicians toward radiology as a field. The residents and attendings often make unpleasant remarks about radiology as a profession; they do not realize the impact that these comments have on impressionable third year medical students, still on the path of career selection. I believe that a radiology elective or requirement in the third year, in addition to more exposure in the first two years of medical school, would counter these prejudices and allow future physicians to make their own decisions with a more balanced view of the field.

On my internal medicine rotation, I had the ‘aha!’ moment that every third year medical student hopes for: radiology is for me. Working at the Veterans Affairs hospital, I had several patients with cancer. Various imaging modalities were used to assist in their care, and as a medical student I appreciated the luxury of being able to accompany my patients to their radiologic examination and then to review the images directly with the radiologist. The internal medicine clerkship also included a mini-series of radiology lectures and one of our lecturers, Dr. Stacy Smith, was particularly enthusiastic about her field. She was wonderfully receptive to speaking with me about radiology, and it was refreshing to speak with another young woman in the field. Throughout the past few months, Dr. Smith has taken me behind the scenes of academic radiology, invited me to participate in research projects, and helped me to see the field from a different perspective than the one I had gleaned from my father.

Having Dr. Smith as my mentor has been an invaluable experience in helping me decide on a specialty; I only wish I had met her earlier in my medical school career. She has shown me that there is not one mold into which all radiologists fit; I can create my own profession, especially within academic radiology. I am thankful that my father opened my eyes to radiology, but even more importantly I am grateful to my mentor for helping me see the field in an even more favorable light. As a medical student, and especially as a woman, I can say that having a mentor became an essential part of a daunting decision-making process. So, as my last third year clerkship began, I finally had a confident response to the ever popular question of “What are you going to specialize in?”: “I want to be a radiologist!”

Michelle Cohen has just begun her fourth year of medical school at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland.
The AAWR hosted its annual luncheon presentation during the International Pediatric Radiology Meeting (the fifth Conjoint Meeting of the Society for Pediatric Radiology and the European Society for Pediatric Radiology) in Montreal on Thursday, May 18, 2006. Dr. Janet Strife, AAWR 2005 Allison Ettinger recipient and former Chair of the Department of Radiology at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital, presented a program entitled “The Myth of Trying to Do it All”. Dr. Strife drew analogies from the plant world, where seeds have different requirements for growth: some need lots of sunlight, while others need shade. Their water requirements also vary: ferns require lots of water and shade, while cacti need lots of sun and little water. While seeds and plants come with directions on requirements for growth, people unfortunately do not. People rarely directly state their individual needs for growth, and we don’t always appreciate that individuals have different needs and working styles.

Dr. Strife’s sister, Ms. Marge Smith, conducted an interactive workshop. Ms. Smith provides leadership training for non-profit groups and personnel from Princeton University. Workshop participants were asked to answer the rhetorical question, “What do you need to know about me if you want to work with me?” Audience answers included: I am a morning person; I value punctuality; I need multiple reminders; I like feedback; I sound more intense than I am. Participants were challenged to find out the needs of those with whom they work, and to consider and share their own needs with colleagues.

In the last portion of the presentation, attendees learned how to say “no”. In the process of saying “no”, it is important to validate the relationship but say no to the request. Individuals worked in small groups and practiced saying “no” to a theoretical Dean’s request for immediate help on an important project. Ultimately participants agreed that the key to saying “no” was to divide the response into two parts: the first part acknowledged support for the Dean and his new initiatives, and thanked him for asking the individual to participate on the project. The second part stated the need to say “no” to his request, based upon prior commitments to projects that were due in a similar time frame.

The lunch was fun for all the participants with lots of laughter and sharing of ideas. Ms. Marge Smith wrote a poem to commemorate the event:

**Doing It All Is A Myth**

Doing it all is a myth. 
That we as women know.
For in order to be successful 
we must let some things go.
We must choose and find places 
that utilize our strengths.
If people or situations are toxic 
let’s keep them at arms’ length.
Let’s increase our connections 
by communicating what we need.
By respecting each other’s differences 
then we can succeed.
So as you leave this luncheon 
think of yourself as a gift.
Find environments that foster your growth 
and give your heart a lift.

*Dr. Janet Strife is Professor of Radiology and Pediatrics, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center in Cincinnati, Ohio.*
Madame Curie Visits RSNA

You are not allowed to speak your native language. Your mother and oldest sister die of infectious diseases. The government takes away your father’s job. Your home country forbids you to attend university. You have no money to attend college elsewhere. What are your chances for success?

In spite of these and other obstacles, Marie Sklodowska-Curie was the first European woman to receive a doctorate in the sciences, the first woman to receive a Nobel Prize, the first woman to teach at the University of Paris in its 600-year history, and the first person to receive a second Nobel Prize - a feat not repeated for over fifty years. Best known for the discovery of radium and radioactivity, Marie Curie opened the doors of science to women worldwide.

You can meet the woman behind the scientist Marie Curie, as portrayed by Polish-American author and actress Susan Marie Frontczak, at this year’s annual meeting of the Radiological Society of North America in Chicago. Since her debut in 2001, Frontczak has given over 140 performances as Curie at universities, theaters, schools and conferences in eighteen of the United States, Canada and Scotland. This free presentation at the RSNA is a costume drama portraying significant events in the life of Marie Curie, followed by a ‘Q & A’ session with the actress. This program is geared towards radiologists and their families, especially older children, and is presented by the American Association of Women Radiologists. Tickets (no cost) can be obtained in advance online via RSNA Tours and City Events and onsite at the AAWR booth and RSNA ticket center. Showtime is Monday, November 27, 2006 at 6:30 pm in Room E350, East Building, McCormick Place.

For more information, see http://www.storysmith.org/manya.

AAWR Introduces Editorial Support for International Members

AAWR has established the editorial and review office to help international AAWR members with preparation of scientific manuscripts for publication in radiology journals. We hope that this service will become an important added bonus of membership to our international colleagues. We will provide support for the review of the English grammar and manuscript composition, however we will not be able to offer input on the scientific merit of the manuscript, unless the reviewer has the required expertise and chooses to do so.

We will accept only electronic submissions of manuscripts, sent to Angela Davis ADavis@meetingmanagers.com. The timeline for the review will be established individually between the author (eligible are only active International Members) and the selected reviewer. The manuscript has to be completed, in the final draft version, not a work in progress, when submitted for language review.

If you are interested in this service, please contact Angela Davis. If you would like to contribute your help as a reviewer volunteer, also please let Angela know. Our goal is to have no more than 2 manuscripts reviews per reviewer, per year.

Once we complete the recruitment of the reviewers, we will include a section called “Editorial Office” in the Members Network on AAWR Web Site (password protected) and we will list the names and e-mails for the volunteer reviewers along with their radiology specialty.
As radiology residents, we all share the common (and sometimes hellish) experience of general call. I like to think of it as an initiation process, a hazing of sorts. We’ve all been in similar situations: hours behind reading studies; pager beeping incessantly; clinicians barking orders at you. Who could ever forget those amusing (only in retrospect, of course) scenarios, sweating bullets doing your first ultrasound alone in the night (the DVT study on a 400 pound patient) or reading that PE study over and over again, barely able to stay awake. For many of us, general call is one of the hardest things we’ve had to do in our lives and most likely, it is not what we envisioned when we selected radiology so long ago.

During the past two years, I have found solace in my co-residents. The identification, understanding and reassurance from those who know what you’re going through, those who have walked in your same shoes, have been invaluable. Whether helping me to laugh about my early insecurity, lament about the exhaustion of those twenty-four hour Saturday calls, or vent about insulting clinicians, my “radiology family” has supported me through the difficult times.

Over the years, however, I have noticed a difference between the male and female residents in my program: these two groups seem to perceive and respond differently to stressful situations on call. The men appeared less affected by the experience and I began to wonder - was this due to inherent differences in the expression of their emotions? Are women and men treated differently on call? Do men and women differ in their perception of a stressful situation? In fact, it may be a combination of all of these things.

After discussing these experiences with one of my mentors, Dr. Stacy Smith, we decided to examine the potential differences in stress perception between the male and female radiology residents in my program. We broadened our investigation to include not only call but also teaching activities, research pursuits and personal interactions. The survey consisted of 79 questions; participants were asked to rate the stress level associated with each activity on a scale of 1 to 5, five being the maximum stress level. Twenty-two residents, 10 female and 12 male, including PGY2 through PGY5, were surveyed anonymously.

We found that women expressed a higher stress level when taking both general and interventional radiology call (avg F=4, avg M=2.8). Women had higher stress levels regarding ‘standing their ground’ on decisions versus their male counterparts (avg F=3.9, avg M=2.5). Eighty percent of females reported getting anxious prior to call, whereas only 25% of males reported pre-call anxiety. Women perceived significantly higher stress levels when taking a case in “hot seat” conferences (avg F=3.7, avg M=2.8), making a presentation to peers and faculty (avg F=3.9, avg M=3), and teaching medical students or fellow residents (avg F=2.8, avg M=1.6). Most residents felt mid-range stress levels when reporting missed findings (of their own or of others) and experiencing inappropriate behavior or harassment. All residents shared low stress levels regarding approaching faculty and peers with complaints or issues concerning work relationships. Interestingly, there were only a few activities in which men’s stress levels slightly exceeded that of women: working with members of the opposite gender, reporting inappropriate colleague behavior to attendings/supervisors, and approaching faculty with suggestions for improvements within the department. We are in the process of finalizing our data for presentation and publication.

The preliminary data suggest that there is indeed a real difference in how male and female radiology residents perceive stress. For me, it has been an important exercise in identifying these differences and confirming their existence. It has also stimulated a great deal of interesting and thought-provoking discussion amongst my colleagues! Dr. Smith and I hope that our findings may help both faculty and residents to create an environment that will help all residents to succeed – and indeed survive – radiology residency. Despite these differences between men and women in training, it is important to recognize that we all share this unique common experience, and that our best resources are each other.

Dr. Kouo is a PGY4 radiology resident at the University of Maryland Medical Center, Baltimore, Maryland.
AAWR Fellows

The AAWR congratulates the following AAWR members who became Fellows of the American College of Radiology during the ACR’s annual meeting, which took place in May 2006 in Washington, DC.

Deborah Levine, MD

Dr. Deborah Levine is an Associate Professor of Radiology at Harvard Medical School. She has appointments in the departments of Radiology and Obstetrics and Gynecology (OB/Gyn) at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Radiology at Children’s Hospital in Boston. She went to medical school at the University of California San Francisco, completed her diagnostic radiology residency at University of California at San Diego, and finished her training with a fellowship in ultrasound at the University of California at San Francisco. At Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, she is Associate Radiologist-in-Chief of Academic Affairs, Co-chief of Ultrasound, Director of OB/Gyn Ultrasound, and Director of the Women’s Imaging Fellowship. She has published over 100 research manuscripts, book chapters, and reviews. Her early research involved sonographic evaluation of changes that occur in the postmenopausal pelvis. Her recent work centers on use of ultrafast MR in obstetric diagnosis. She has an National Institutes of Health R01 grant entitled “MRI of Fetal Ventriculomegaly: Morphology and Outcome.” She is currently Chair of the ACR Economics Committee on Ultrasound, and Vice Chair of the ACR Ultrasound Commission.

Diane Strollo, MD

Dr. Diane Strollo separated with an honorable discharge from the United States Air Force in 1993 as a Lt. Colonel after 16 years of service. She was a member of the second class of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland, where she received her M.D. degree and was commissioned as a Captain in the United States Air Force in 1981. After her internship in internal medicine, she practiced general medicine for three years, then completed her residency in Diagnostic Radiology at the Wilford Hall Medical Center (WHMC), Lackland Air Force Base (LAFB), in San Antonio, Texas and became a diplomat of the American Board of Radiology in 1989. Her first assignment as a radiologist was at WHMC at LAFB, where she practiced thoracic and breast radiology for four years and served one year as Chief of Mammography followed by three years as Chief of Thoracic Radiology. She served as a visiting professor at the Department of Radiologic Pathology at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP) for five years and trained over 1,000 radiologists, residents and other physicians who attended AFIP courses. In 1993 she joined the faculty of the Department of Radiology at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) where she is a Clinical Associate Professor of Radiology.

Dr. Strollo has published on the subject of thoracic diseases. She has been a featured speaker in national and international radiology meetings. She is the section head of American College of Radiology (ACR) Lifelong Learning – Cardiac and of the ACR Continuous Professional Improvement – Chest. She is section head of “Airways Diseases” of the ACR Institute Chest Learning File. She has been a Councilor of the ACR from Pennsylvania since 2001 and became a Fellow of the ACR in 2006. Dr. Strollo is the section head of the Multi-systems and Special Interests Educational Exhibits of the Radiologic Society of North America (RSNA). She became a member of the American Board of Radiology Pulmonary Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Examination Committee in 2006. She has grant support from the National Lung Cancer Screening Trial and for the Scleroderma Lung Study. Dr. Strollo is married to Patrick J. Strollo, M.D., an academic pulmonologist and sleep-disorder specialist at UPMC. They have three children, Patrick, Hilary, and Sara.

Katharine Scharer, MD

Katharine Scharer, MD
Department of Radiology
Crittenton Hospital Medical Center
Rochester Hills, Michigan
(AAWR member since 1993)
Nancy Ellerbroek, MD, FACR
Dr. Ellerbroek has been listed on the “Local Legends” webpage of the National Library of Medicine (http://www.nlm.nih.gov/locallegends/Biographies/Ellerbroek_Nancy.html), a program celebrating outstanding women physicians who are nominated by their congressman or congresswoman. Dr. Ellerbroek was nominated by California Representative Brad Sherman and her powerful byline is “Leading Educator and Director of Radiation Oncology”. She is quoted extensively and concludes that, “The most rewarding aspect of my life as a physician is interacting with patients who are often fearful of radiation treatment. Helping them through treatment is really rewarding; making sure they get answers to all the questions they may have is really important.” Dr. Ellerbroek received her MD degree from UCLA, and then stayed on to complete her residency in Radiation Oncology. She subsequently joined the faculty at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center as well as the Loma Linda University Medical Center prior to entering private practice with the Valley Radiotherapy Associates Medical Group. Her areas of special interest include interactions of chemotherapy and radiation therapy, as well as the treatment of breast and prostate cancer. Dr. Ellerbroek is Past President of the Southern California Radiation Oncology Society. She has served on the Program Committee of the Radiological Society of North America, is current Vice Chair of the Education Committee of ASTRO, is a member of the Editorial Board of the JACR journal, and is President of the AAWR.

Katarzyna Macura, MD, PhD
Dr. Macura is the 2006 American Roentgen Ray Society/Philips Medical Systems Scholar, an honor annually bestowed upon only two outstanding young investigators and educators to help prepare them for leadership positions in the field of academic radiology. Dr. Macura received this award with her proposal entitled, “Becoming a Translational Researcher in Prostate Cancer Imaging” which asserted the “need for convergence of multiple imaging techniques, from the molecular imaging, through functional imaging to high resolution anatomical imaging, and bioinformatics into a new imaging paradigm that defines a new role for the future radiologist.” This project will provide Dr. Macura the opportunity to become a “translational researcher whose role will be to translate the experimental imaging discoveries into clinical applications in the field of prostate cancer research and to evaluate the impact of those technologies on patient management.”

Focus Editor Search
Dr. Melissa Rosado de Christenson will complete her term as the Editor-in-Chief of Focus in December of 2006. The American Association for Women Radiologists (AAWR) is in the process of recruiting a new Editor for Focus. The Focus Editor-in-Chief is in charge of documenting the activities of the AAWR and celebrating the accomplishments of its members through articles published in the newsletter and on the AAWR website. There are three annual issues of the newsletter. The Editor-in-Chief working together with the Associate Editors makes all final decisions on the content and lay out of each issue of the Focus and solicits articles for publication. The work involves editorial review of all submitted articles and final review of each newsletter prior to publication. The Editor-in-Chief would also serve as co-chair of the AAWR Public Relations Committee and would serve for a minimum of two years. Applicants for this position should contact Angela Davis, Executive Director of the AAWR, at ADavis@meetingmanagers.com.
This wonderful seminar comprised a three-day schedule packed to the brim with plenary and general sections, lunch with career mapping group activities, and concurrent workshops. The general sessions brought over 120 women together to focus on topics such as “One Life, Many Choices: Choosing an Academic Path,” “Working through Differences”, “Presenting Yourself and your Message,” and “The Opportunity of Leadership.” I never knew I would find so many people who understood me perfectly in one room, or come to think of it, so many people who opposed my ideas vehemently. But that’s exactly what I discovered on the third day of the conference in the opening moments of “Working with Differences: Personality Types at Work,” one of the many fascinating activities I encountered at the AAMC Early Career Women Professional Development Seminar, which was held at the Ritz Carlton in Washington DC from July 8-12.

“Working with Differences” started with a short assessment tool called the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI), a sort of personality quiz that identified everyone as having one of four temperaments (Guardians, Artisans, Idealists, and Nationals). Participants were then grouped according to their temperaments (20-40 women in each group), and then further separated into subgroups of 8-10. Specific questions were presented and the responses from individuals sharing the same temperament were strikingly similar, while remarkable differences were evident in the answers from those of different temperament types. An equally amazing part of this section was learning about the ways in which people of different temperament types irritate each other. For the first time, I discovered that my opinions and beliefs were not maverick or unreasonable, but just my personality. On the other hand, I was faced with those who embodied the personality traits of my worst enemies and discovered that they, too, were not unreasonable. Like so many other parts of this conference, this activity helped me to see myself objectively and to work through my strengths and weaknesses, while at the same time strengthening my belief in myself. This newly informed perspective is also highly practical in the workplace: imagine how much more efficiently work could be done if everyone was aware of their own personality type, and tried to avoid irritating or being irritated by people with different personality types!

At the seminar we were also divided into many concurrent and smaller sessions, so that we could interact more personally with the instructors and our peers. One of these workshops was called “Mentors: the Wind Beneath your Academic Wings”. This section used an interactive and case-based approach to address the role of mentors in academic development and advancement. I am fortunate to have had a great mentor during my junior career; I have learned and grown so much with his guidance. In this session I learned even more about the meaning of a good mentor and mentee, and the right mentor-mentee relationship. I learned that we could find mentors outside of our own institution, the way to identify a good mentor, and how to be a good mentee. One study showed that female mentors actually spent more time developing relationships with their mentees than did male mentors. Most interestingly, however, I learned that we can be our own mentor.

Another section I really enjoyed was “Taking Risk and Loving It”. This workshop explored the concept of risk and how to use risk to advance a career or a mission. The risks discussed included personal, professional and political risks. This was an interactive session involving self assessment and group discussion; the instructor also used her own life example of success to inspire the motivated women. Other useful workshops included “Leading from the Middle,” “Negotiating Skills,” “Navigating the Maze of Federal Funding,” “Writing Proposals and Winning Research Grants,” “Demystifying the Promotion and Tenure Process,” “Financing 101,” “Advancing Your Agenda,” and “We are All Educators: How can We Contribute more Effectively?” We also had a choice between many interesting workshops including “The Nuts and Bolts of Effective Scientific Writing,” “Difficult Conversations,” and “Time Management and Organization Skills.” I wish I could have participated in all of them, because each one addressed a very important issue of academic life.

The women at this seminar were so similar, mostly MDs.
and PhDs, with MBAs and MPHs, and other graduate degrees. They were motivated, accomplished and willing to take on the risks, responsibilities and challenges of leadership—yet each one was unique in her own way. We got to know each other well through the career mapping section. We were first asked to “create the future from the best of the past”, to find out where we are now and what decisions brought us here. The section then showcased our potential with a strong Curriculum Vitae (CV). We worked in groups of 2-3 people to improve each others’ CVs, to map our individual short and long term goals, and to discuss the logistics and strategies to reach the goals. At the end of this section, we envisioned our personal accomplishment, its pathways, stumbling blocks, and transitions. Amazingly, we found that we shared the same desire to achieve great things as well as the same barriers holding us back. We were all so alike in our passion for work, our ambition, our successes and our difficulties. I found many people who were as confident as I am, while at the same time insecure. It was indeed a wonderful feeling to think, “I’m not alone. There are people out there who understand me, who are going through the same things.”

One important element that made this meeting so successful was the trusting atmosphere. Although people came from different fields and were complete strangers, the moment we started talking I felt as if we had been friends for long time. Women were not afraid to share their personal struggles, stresses, and excitement at work and at home. In addition to the instructors, these professional women learned from each other and consulted each other on how to deal with difficult situations. It was indeed a stress-releasing and enlightening learning experience.

I am very grateful to AAWR and my mentor and department chair for giving me the opportunity to attend this wonderful seminar. This AAMC seminar has given me many useful tools to work more efficiently towards my professional goals, and I would recommend it to all women in the medical field. I found more than just fellow comrades at this conference. Every woman’s unique perspective and vision helped me discover my individual “special-ness.” I discovered the personal strengths that I need to polish to propel my career forward, as well as the weaknesses I should try to suppress or translate. This experience has taught me, more than anything, the importance of understanding oneself. Further, it helped me to identify and confirm my passion. I wish I had attended this seminar many years ago!

Dr. Kong is a member of the Department of Radiation Oncology, University of Michigan.

**AAWR New Members**

**January 2006 – July 2006**

**Associate Member**
Dr. Yeonhee Lee

**Active Members**
Dr. Kathleen Corrigan
Dr. Maria Figarola
Dr. Gisela Mercado
Dr. Jill Robinson
Dr. Kristen DeStigler

**Corresponding Members**
Dr. Etsuyo Ogo
Dr. Stefania M.R. Rizzo

**First Year in Practice**
Dr. Sabah Servaes

**Members-in-Training**
Dr. Nora Dajani
Dr. Shannon Gulla
Dr. Stephanie Terezakis
Dr. Tiffany Tsai
Dr. Rachel Callaghan
Dr. Sandra Chaudhary
Dr. Ann Klopp
Dr. Rebecca Leddy
Dr. Robin Levenson
Dr. Amy Liebeskind
Dr. Elizabeth McDonald
Dr. Rajul Mehta
Dr. Natalie Sivak
Dr. Nancy Rifenburg
Dr. Fatima Salami
Dr. Maryellen Sun
AAWR Moments at the ARRS in Vancouver, BC
(April 29-May 5, 2006)

Photography by Dr. Robert Macura

Dr. Katarzyna Macura, assisted by her husband Dr. Robert Macura, was in charge of setting up and managing the AAWR booth. Drs. Ellen Wolf and Lynn Fordham joined Dr. Macura as volunteer booth staff. Thanks to all for the generous gift of their time!

AAWR members including Drs. Marjorie W. Stein (left), Ellen L. Wolf (center) and Linda B. Haramati (right) gather for the AAWR luncheon meeting.

Dr. Leonard Berlin, MD, FACR, Professor and Chairman, Department of Radiology, Rush North Shore Medical Center gave a presentation at the AAWR Luncheon entitled “Glass Ceilings, Sticky Floors, Maternal Walls and the Courtroom”.

Dr. Macura presents a Marie Curie t-shirt to the invited distinguished speaker for the AAWR Luncheon, Dr. Leonard Berlin, MD, FACR.
2006 AAWR Award Recipients

2006 AAWR Awards Recipients

MARIE SKLODOWSKA-CURIE AWARD
Dr. Carol Rumack, University of Colorado HSC
This award is presented annually to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of radiology.

ALICE ETTINGER AWARD
Dr. Peggy Fritzsche, Inland Empire Regional PET Center
This lifetime achievement award recognizes a long term contribution to radiology and to the American Association for Women Radiologists.

AAWR PRESIDENT’S AWARD
Dr. Julie Timins, Christ Hospital of Jersey City, NJ
Dr. Timins has been an AAWR member since 1994 and continues to serve the society as treasurer. She was chosen to receive this award in recognition of her outstanding academic and commission work. Her contributions in the field of pregnancy and medical radiation, controversies in hormone replacement therapy, and controversies in mammography have had a great impact on the lives of not only female radiologists, but also of all women.

LUCY FRANK SQUIRE DISTINGUISHED RESIDENT AWARD IN DIAGNOSTIC RADIOLOGY
Dr. Meghan Blake, Boston University Medical Center
Nominees are evaluated on the basis of outstanding contributions in clinical care, teaching, research or public service.

ELEANOR MONTAGUE DISTINGUISHED RESIDENT AWARD IN RADIATION ONCOLOGY
Dr. Sue Yom, MD Anderson Cancer Center
Nominees are evaluated on the basis of outstanding contributions in clinical care, teaching, research or public service.

2006 AAWR Research & Education Foundation Awards Recipients

AAMC PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR FOR EARLY-CAREER FACULTY
Dr. Feng-Ming Kong, University of Michigan Hospital
This seminar is tailored to women at the Assistant Professor level during the time of application, who are aiming for a position of leadership in academic medicine.

AAMC PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR FOR MID-CAREER FACULTY
Dr. Jennifer Lim-Dunham, Loyola University Medical Center
This seminar is for mid-career women faculty (in the rank of at least Associate Professor) with clear potential for advancement to a major administrative position such as section or department head.

Farewell!

With this Summer issue of FOCUS, I complete my three-year term as an Associate Editor under the direction of our Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Melissa Rosado de Christenson. It has been my great honor and pleasure to connect with so many extraordinary members and officers of the AAWR in the process of creating the last three Summer issues. Every contribution I received from you taught me something new–about the unique experiences and perspectives each of us have as women in radiology, the varied challenges and triumphs we face, and most importantly, the essential need for us to network and support one another through this tremendous professional journey. I encourage each of you to continue to express your ideas through FOCUS, whether it be a personal accomplishment to toast, a “worklife” solution you have discovered, an academic or research opportunity that may benefit others, or just a personal perspective to share. I thank you for the opportunity to serve the AAWR!

Aletta Ann (“Annie”) Frazier, MD
Medical Illustrator, Department of Radiologic Pathology at the AFIP
Associate Professor, Department of Diagnostic Imaging, University of Maryland Medical Center
President: Judith Amorosa, MD, F ACR
A native of Hungary, Dr. Amorosa received her medical degree from New Jersey College of Medicine and completed a pediatric internship at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital, and residency and fellowship at St. Vincent’s Hospital in New York. She is currently Clinical Professor of Radiology and Program Director of the Diagnostic Radiology residency program at UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. She is a Fellow of the American College of Radiology and has served as an oral examiner for the American Board of Radiology. She has authored four books and numerous journal articles. Her major interest is the creation of radiology learning materials. As a representative of AMSER (Alliance for Medical Student Educators in Radiology), she has received a RSNA World Wide Web Educational Grant for developing an online “Radiology Companion” for medical students to use during Medicine, Surgery, Ob-Gyn and Pediatrics clerkships. Dr. Amorosa is past chair of the AAWR Membership Committee and remains involved in the development of international membership policy and the creation of the AAWR International Committee. Her favorite activity is meeting with the international and potential new AAWR members in Vienna at the European Congress of Radiology.

President-Elect: Etta Pisano, MD, F ACR
Dr. Pisano received her medical degree from Duke University and completed her radiology residency at Beth Israel Hospital, Harvard Medical School. Following a year as Chief of Breast Imaging and Instructor in Radiology at Beth Israel, she relocated to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she served for sixteen years as Chief of Breast Imaging. She is currently Vice Dean for Academic Affairs of the University of North Carolina School Of Medicine, Kenan Professor of Radiology and Biomedical Engineering, and Director of the UNC Biomedical Research Imaging Center. She is a Past President of the Association of University Radiologists. She served as Principal Investigator of the Digital Mammographic Imaging Screening Trial (DMIST) and recently published the results of that study in the New England Journal of Medicine. Dr. Pisano has served on several AAWR committees, including the Committee to Promote the Advancement of Women.

Vice President: Lynn Fordham, MD
Dr. Fordham is Chief of Pediatric Imaging at the University of North Carolina. She attended Tufts University Medical School, completed radiology residency at the University of North Carolina, and a fellowship in pediatric radiology at Children’s Hospital in Boston. She has been a member of the AAWR since she was a resident and served on the Membership Committee for six years, acting as chairman of the committee for four years. Her favorite benefits from the AAWR are RSNA and SPR luncheon presentations: “I have been fortunate to hear a lot of really terrific speakers over the years. I learn so much from their presentations and enjoy the opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new members”.

Secretary: Zhongxing Liao, MD
Dr. Liao received her medical degree from Hunan Medical University in The People’s Republic of China. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Experimental Radiation Oncology at the University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. In 1995, Dr. Liao completed her internship in Internal Medicine at the University of Kansas and returned to the University of Texas for Radiation Oncology residency. Currently Dr. Liao holds the title of Associate Professor of Radiation Oncology and Clinical Section Chief, Thoracic Radiation Oncology, Department of Radiation Oncology at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. Dr. Liao has been a long-term active member of AAWR, serving as chair for the Radiation Oncology Committee of AAWR for the past three years. She also serves on the AAWR Bylaws and Nomination committees. Her awards and honors include a World Health Organization Fellowship (1989-1990), travel grants from the International Society of Gastrointestinal Oncology (2004, 2005) and the AAWR Early Career Women Faculty Professional Development Award (2004).

Co-Treasurer: Anna Chacko, MD, F ACR
Dr. Chacko is Vice-Chair of Radiology at Boston University, formerly Chair of Radiology at the Lahey Clinic in Massachusetts. She has her boards in Nuclear Medicine and Radiology, and completed a fellowship in magnetic resonance imaging. She served in the US Army for almost twenty-five years and held positions includ-
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Co-Treasurer: Marcia Javitt, MD, FACR

Dr. Marcia C. Javitt is Section Head of Body MRI and of Genitourinary Radiology at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. and Adjunct Professor of Radiology and Radiologic Sciences at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland. She is a Fellow of the American College of Radiology as well as the Society of Uroradiology; she serves as Chairman of the Radiology Resident Curriculum Committee for the Society of Uroradiology. Dr. Javitt is the Associate Editor for Women’s Imaging for the American Journal of Roentgenology, and was Editor-in-Chief and founding editor of the Journal of Women’s Imaging, a peer reviewed CME accredited quarterly medical journal. She serves as chairman of the Genitourinary Subcommittee for the RSNA and is peer reviewer for multiple radiology journals including Radiology, American Journal of Roentgenology and RadioGraphics. She is a recipient of the Editor’s Recognition Award with Special Distinction given for excellence in peer review from Radiology. Dr. Javitt has authored two textbooks, many book chapters and multiple publications in peer reviewed journals. She has served as an investigator in funded projects for Cytogen (a monoclonal antibody used for imaging prostate cancer) and Ferridex (an injectable MR agent for liver imaging) as well as multiple funded educational media presentations and learning modules. Her main research interests have been in imaging the female pelvis.

Consultant to the Treasurer: Julie Timins, MD, FACR

Dr. Timins is a diagnostic radiologist in hospital-based private practice in Jersey City, New Jersey. She received her medical degree from Thomas Jefferson University Medical School and completed a general radiology residency at George Washington University Hospital, followed by fellowship in Nuclear Medicine at the National Institutes of Health. Board certified in General Radiology and in Nuclear Medicine, she is past president of the Radiological Society of New Jersey and has chaired the Council on Communications and served on the Council on Medical Services of the Medical Society of New Jersey. She has served on the New Jersey Taskforce on Telemedicine and is a member of the New Jersey Interagency Council on Osteoporosis, where she co-chairs the Medical and Scientific Subcommittee. Dr. Timins chairs the New Jersey Commission on Radiation Protection. A Fellow of the American College of Radiology, she has chaired the ACR Nominating Committee and is serving a second elected 2-year term on the ACR Council Steering Committee. She was recently elected to the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements and sits on the National Mammography Quality Assurance Advisory Committee of the Food and Drug Administration. Dr. Timins has chaired the AAWR Membership Committee and has served as AAWR Treasurer and Finance Committee chair since 1999.

Member-at-Large, Diagnostic Radiology: Julia Fielding, MD

Dr. Fielding is Director of Abdominal Imaging and Associate Professor of Radiology at University of North Carolina. She attended medical school at the University of Pittsburgh, then completed residency in Diagnostic Radiology at Boston University and a fellowship in magnetic resonance imaging at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. After several years as a staff radiologist at the Harvard Hospitals, she was recruited to the University of North Carolina in 2000. She has lectured nationally and internationally on the role of imaging in women’s health, specializing in benign and malignant disease of the urinary and gynecologic systems. Her research focuses on the development of virtual reality as a diagnostic tool. Dr. Fielding lives in Cary, North Carolina with her husband who is a pediatric orthopedic surgeon, her 12-year-old son and two poorly behaved pug dogs. She has a background in the performing arts and has enjoyed producing the Manya show to be presented at RSNA this year (see show announcement in this issue).

Member-at-Large, In Training: Amy Kirby, MD

Amy Kirby is currently a fellow in musculoskeletal imaging with Dr. Doug Beall at the University of Oklahoma. She attended the University of Oklahoma for both medical school and residency. She also received a Masters Degree in Medical Sciences from Boston University College of Medicine. She has been a member of AAWR

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throughout her residency and currently writes the legislative column in the Focus Newsletter. She is also heading up the legislative committee for the group. She appreciates the support from the AAWR towards residents and towards new ideas: “They have been very supportive of everything that I have brought to them as an idea, and have helped make things happen. I appreciate that they are so supportive of residents and women in radiology and it continues to motivate me to be involved not only now but throughout my career. I have met many great people and who have now become my friends through the organization. They motivate me and inspire me daily.”

Member-at-Large, Radiation Oncology:
Feng-Ming Kong, MD, PhD, MPH

Dr. Feng-Ming (Spring) Kong, MD, PhD, MPH, is a radiation oncologist at the University of Michigan. Dr. Kong trained in radiation oncology at Washington University in St. Louis and recently received a master’s degree in clinical trial design and data analysis through the University of Michigan School of Public Health and the K30 route of the National Institute of Health (NIH). Her research interests include designing and conducting clinical trials to improve treatment results for lung cancer patients and detecting molecular biomarkers in the blood for radiation induced lung toxicity. Dr. Kong has received numerous awards including the AAWR Member-in-Training Award in Radiation Oncology (2002), RSNA Trainee Research Prize in Radiation Oncology (2002), fellowship for the ASCO/AACR Workshop on Cancer Research Methods in Clinical Cancer Research (2003), Young Investigator Award for the First International Conference on Translational Research and Pre-Clinical Strategies in Radiation Oncology (2004), and the AAWR Early Career Women Professional Leadership Award (2006). She is a member of AAWR Radiation Oncology Committee, RTOG Lung Cancer Steering Committee and Translational Science Research Committee. Dr. Kong is co-chair of the Membership Committee for the Chinese-American Hematology and Oncology Network, and is in the process of setting up a China-American Network for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology. Her long-term goal is to lead international trials to improve the treatment results of lung cancer.

ACR Councilor:
Kimberly Applegate, MD, FACP, MS

Past President of the AAWR, Dr. Applegate trained in Diagnostic Radiology at Dartmouth and completed a fellowship at Children’s Hospital in Boston. Dr. Applegate also received a Masters Degree in Epidemiology and Biostatistics from Case Western Reserve University. Currently an Associate Professor of Radiology at Indiana University, Dr. Applegate is the recipient of several research grants, awards and honors including an American Roentgen Ray Society Scholarship. She is on the editorial boards for Radiology, AJR II, Pediatric Radiology and JACR. She is the Vice President for the Radiology Alliance for Health Services Research (RASHR), the secretary-treasurer for the AUR and serves on the boards of directors for the Academy of Radiology Research (ARR) and the ACR RadPac; she currently also chairs the ACR Nominating Committee.

ACR Alternate Councilor:
Katarzyna Macura, MD, PhD

Dr. Macura received her medical degree and PhD in Medical Informatics from the Medical Academy of Lodz, Poland. She engaged in research in the area of artificial intelligence in medicine at the University of Georgia and subsequently completed her residency training in Diagnostic Radiology at the Medical College of Georgia. She did her fellowship training in cross-sectional body imaging at the Johns Hopkins University, where she currently holds a faculty position. Dr. Macura serves on several committees of national radiology organizations and is a reviewer for Radiology, Radiographics, AJR and the Journal of Urology. Dr. Macura’s current clinical research interests are in genitourinary MR imaging. She received an RSNA Seed Grant for her work on MRI in female urinary incontinence and the Young Investigator Award from the Society of Computed Body Tomography and Magnetic Resonance. She received the 2006 ARRS Phillips Scholarship to pursue translational research in prostate cancer. She has published over 40 peer-reviewed papers, received three training scholarships, two software grants, three seed grants and served as a consultant or collaborator on eight federal grants. Dr. Macura was named among Top 10 women’s imaging specialists in the USA and received the Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award from the radiology residents at Johns Hopkins. Dr. Macura was instrumental in the development of the AAWR web site and served on the Web Site Committee and the AAWR Public Relations Committee prior to becoming the AAWR president in 2005. During her term, AAWR received the AAMC’s Women in Medicine Leadership Development Award. Currently, Dr. Macura is President of the AAWR Research and Education Foundation, chair of the AAWR Strategic Planning Committee, and continues to serve on the Web Site Committee.

Please access the 2007 Officer Ballot form at www.aawr.org to cast your vote. Ballots should be returned to the AAWR Office via fax at 713-960-0488 by November 1st.
You can reach us at

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Articles for consideration for publication in the *Focus* can be submitted to the address above.

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**Associate Editors**
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Lisa H. Lowe, MD, FAAP

We invite the membership to share its ideas and expertise with all of us by submitting articles for future publication in the *Focus*

**Editorial Deadlines**
September 1, 2006
February 1, 2007
June 1, 2007