Women in Nuclear Medicine

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The second Women in Nuclear Medicine program was held on June 7 at the 2015 SNMMI Annual Meeting in Baltimore, MD. The 90-minute session, titled “How to Develop a Successful Career,” was well attended by both women and men. Three speakers offered insightful summaries of their personal stories, including self-reflections and advice. The presenters were the Honorable Moira Stilwell, MD, a nuclear radiologist and a member of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, Canada, representing Vancouver; Darlene Metter, MD, an academic nuclear radiologist from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio; and Tiffany Olson, MBA, president of Nuclear Pharmacy Services at CardinalHealth (Indianapolis, IN).

Following an active panel discussion, an SNMMI-sponsored afternoon tea was attended by more than 100 individuals who networked, asked additional questions of the presenters, and discussed future program foci. The event was organized by Leonie Gordon, MD, Medical University of South Carolina (Charleston) and was made possible by the support of Virginia Pappas, CAE, SNMMI CEO.

The Women in Nuclear Medicine Committee was formed by the SNMMI Board of Directors in June 2014. The committee was established to foster a community of women in nuclear medicine that will span their career paths and help them develop into future leaders. The committee vision is to achieve the highest level of excellence in the professional and personal development of SNMMI women physicians and scientists. An organizational structure has been put in place, with individuals assigned to key leadership roles. To define and implement its activities, the committee has created 4 working groups for membership, programming, mentoring, and communications. Co-chairs for each working group have been selected and have assumed their charges.

The Curie Fund, founded under the Education and Research Foundation for Nuclear and Molecular Imaging umbrella, has been active and is dedicated to raising funds to support the promotion of women in nuclear medicine into leadership positions. The first award was given to Viviany R. Taqueti, MD, MPH, a physician/scientist at Brigham and Women’s Hospital (Boston, MA), who attended the Association of American Medical Colleges Early Career Women Professional Development Seminar in Englewood, CO, in June. To learn more about the Curie Fund, including ways to support its activities, see https://www.mierf.org/news-events/article/the-curie-fund1.
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