

# WOMEN IN MEDICINE AND SCIENCE (WIMS) NEWSLETTER

Issue 24 – JULY 2024

**Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD**

**Glenn A. Fry Professor in Optometry and  
Physiological Optics**

Interim Executive Vice President and  
Provost

Office of Academic Affairs

**The Ohio State University**

Interim Dean, College of Public Health



*“I do not try to dance better than anyone else. I only try to dance better than myself.” –Mikhail Baryshnikov*

Every month since June 2014 for the College of Optometry, July 2023 for the College of Public Health, and January 1, 2024, for the Office of Academic Affairs, I have written a column based on an inspirational quote. Sometimes my columns are a call to action and sometimes I write about some professional or personal passion of mine, but I like to think they always give advice and seek to inspire the reader.

I had the honor of addressing the WIMS Annual Celebration in April in my capacity as provost. I was energized by the enthusiasm and commitment in the room. I felt surrounded by people aspiring to do their best.

Just like Mr. Baryshnikov, all of us want to do our best—in the abstract. Sometimes our best is the effort we can muster on a particular day. Sometimes it’s the best we can do after a brisk walk around our building or a quick nap. Other days it’s a true personal best.

All kinds of things influence us. Did I get up in the night with a sick family member? Was my morning coffee strong enough this morning? Am I jet lagged? Are the world’s events weighing particularly heavy on me? Am I worried about a colleague’s or friend’s current challenges? Am I concerned about an impending deadline for a big, difficult project? Am I sad, or happy, or frustrated--in general? Am I battling something no one knows about but me?

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To support the advancement of women+ faculty in the College of Medicine, please donate to WIMS development fund # 315293 or use the QR code below to donate to WIMS.



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### WIMS Mission Statement

To promote equity, advancement, and retention of women-identifying and marginalized or minoritized gender faculty within the College of Medicine at The Ohio State University by cultivating awareness, advocating for change, enriching the broad academic culture, and empowering faculty to achieve professional fulfillment and success.

## Cover Letter (Continued)

It occurs to me that WIMS can offer all kinds of help, from talking to work colleagues who have been where you are or mentors and sponsors who can help clear brush for you. You might need help on time management or advice that you focus on what's really important and stop sweating the small stuff. The resources that WIMS has and knows about are at your fingertips.

WIMS offers a wide range of support, from providing a network of connection to colleagues who have navigated similar paths or to potential mentors and sponsors who can help pave the way for your success. Beyond helping each other out, WIMS is deeply engaged with data-driven initiatives aimed at advocacy and advancement. WIMS strives to cultivate awareness, advocate for systemic changes, enrich the academic culture, and empower faculty to achieve professional fulfillment and success.

Personally, I find that I adapt Mikhail Baryshnikov's lofty ambition. I try to ask for the help I need. I use the techniques that often work for me to reduce my stress. I try to make the most of my down time. I aspire to eat better and exercise. I laugh ... and cry.

In short, I try to dance the best I can dance on any given day at any given moment. (Of course, if you've seen me on a dance floor, I don't actually try to dance at all, but that's a topic for another day.)

## Announcements and Opportunities

### Call for Nominations: Women in Medicine and Science (WIMS) Engagement Award

The OSU Women in Medicine and Science (WIMS) Awards Subcommittee is requesting nominations for the **WIMS Engagement Award**. This award will be given annually to 1-2 current or past members of WIMS who have demonstrated an impact on the development of WIMS and/or its members. Winners will be formally announced at the Annual [Welcome and Welcome Back](#) and presented with a plaque to recognize their contributions to WIMS.

Application materials:

- A 1–2-page nomination letter describing service, mentorship, and engagement in WIMS activities, including a statement of specific contributions to WIMS
- List of WIMS participation including committee/subcommittee membership activity, WIMS events, and mentorship of other WIMS members (include dates where applicable: time of service and contributions, etc.)

Nominations may be self or peer initiated. **Applications are due by Friday, July 19th, 2024.** Please send application materials in a single PDF to Ritu Kapoor, MD, [ritu.kapoor@osumc.edu](mailto:ritu.kapoor@osumc.edu) and Nicholas Breitborde PhD, [nicholas.breitborde@osumc.edu](mailto:nicholas.breitborde@osumc.edu). Winners will be notified by email. For any further questions, please contact Drs. Kapoor and Breitborde at the email addresses above.



**WIMS Welcome and  
Welcome Back Event**  
August 20<sup>th</sup> from 4-7 PM  
The OSU Faculty Club  
[RSVP](#) by August 6<sup>th</sup>!



The **2023-2024 FAME Faculty  
Development Programs Catalog** is  
live! Go to this site to explore  
offerings:  
<https://u.osu.edu/comfame/events/>

## Announcements and Opportunities (cont'd)




The Center for Medical and Engineering Innovation (CMEI) is accepting applications to its \$35,000 Pilot Grant Program supporting collaborations that initiate promising ventures at the medicine-engineering interface. Proposals must involve at least one faculty member from a Health Sciences College and one from the College of Engineering. Collaborations testing innovative approaches (ideas, technologies, devices) directed at basic or clinically relevant engineering solutions to medical problems are highly encouraged. **Applications are due by August 1, 2024.** See <https://medicine.osu.edu/departments/cmei/research> for more detail on how to apply.

### ***Deadline Extended for the Dean's Excellence Award nominations!***

These awards recognize staff and faculty members for their outstanding contributions to education, research, care, community service, and their commitment to advancing inclusive excellence.

Nominate a colleague by August 1<sup>st</sup>! See [here](#) for more information on how to submit.




 **Snacks & Scholarship**

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In-Person  
Prior Hall 462  
Wednesdays  
12 noon to 1:30 pm



 **Ugly Hour**

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Online  
ZOOM  
Fridays  
7 am - 8 am

Join these awesome opportunities from the **Health Professionals Education and Educational Research (HPEER) Collaborative!**

## Behind the Scenes @ WIMS: Events Subcommittee

### The mission of the Events Subcommittee is:

- To support the equity and advancement of women+ faculty in The Ohio State University College of Medicine (OSU COM).
- To develop and execute events that both promote the visibility of and address the unique needs, strengths, and barriers faced by women+-identifying faculty in medicine and science. Collectively, the WIMS Events Subcommittee strives to cultivate events that educate, inspire, and celebrate an inclusive community of women and women-allied faculty in the OSU COM.
- To co-sponsor educational experiences relevant to faculty resources for professional development

### Our subcommittee organized and executed 4 events for the 2023 academic year.

#### August 2023: WIMS Welcome and Welcome Back!

WIMS kicked off the academic year with an evening of networking with WIMS leaders, returning WIMS members, and prospective WIMS members at the OSU Faculty Club. The WIMS Awards Subcommittees also awarded the WIMS Engagement Awards to **Dr. Aubrey Moe** and **Dr. Susan Massick**, two WIMS members that have exceptional track records of commitment and engagement with the WIMS mission.

#### October 2023: WIMS Annual Speaker

WIMS was pleased to feature **Sara Laschever** as our Annual Speaker in Fall 2023 for a keynote address titled, “Women Don’t Ask: The Power of Negotiation.” Sara reviewed why women feel reluctant to ask for what they need and deserve—and reveals the shockingly high price women pay when they don’t take steps to combat this widespread phenomenon. Sara also offered a small workshop exclusively to WIMS members focused on understanding unique leadership challenges from the premise that success for women begins with negotiation savvy. Workshop participants developed and practiced the skills to ask for the resources and support they need to advance professionally, build the collaborations necessary for success, and achieve leadership roles across their organizations or institutions.

## Behind the Scenes @ WIMS: Events Subcommittee (cont'd)

### January 2024 Mindfulness for Presence and Purpose

WIMS hosted its first event at Nationwide Children's hospital with **Dr. Sophie Lazarus** for an experiential course on mindfulness. Participants had the opportunity to engage with a variety of mindfulness practices and tools to support their physical and mental wellness. This was further explored in small groups with a focus on how these tools can be applied within both personal and professional lives.

### April 2024: WIMS Annual Celebration

WIMS members and allies joined together in-person to network and celebrate the successes of women+ faculty in the College of Medicine. Our theme this year was focused on leadership and building a community. Our speakers included WIMS Director **Dr. Kristy Townsend**, **Dean Bradford**, and our invited keynote speaker Interim Provost **Dr. Karla Zadnik**. We were also able to recognize our inaugural "Buckeye Shining Stars" who were nominated by their respective departments for exceptional contributions to mentorship, teamwork, and engagement with building communities both within and outside of OSU. Finally, we congratulated our WIMS Ally Award recipient, **Dr. Eugene Oltz**, and the WIMS Emerging Leader in Healthcare Award recipient, **Dr. Simiao Li-Sauerwine**.

### **Upcoming Initiatives**

The WIMS events subcommittee is excited to organize and execute several events for the next academic year. Our theme this year will be focusing on engaging our allies and advocates. We will continue with our **Welcome and Welcome Back** event, our Annual Speaker, our WIMS Annual Celebration, and many more events. Our programming in the upcoming year will focus on a theme of engaging our WIMS Ally and Advocate members. Please stay tuned for additional details!

## Behind the Scenes @ WIMS: Events Subcommittee (cont'd 2)

*Save the date for the Annual Welcome and Welcome Back event on August 20th 2024 from 4PM to 7PM as we join together to network at the OSU Faculty Club.*

### WIMS Subcommittee Members

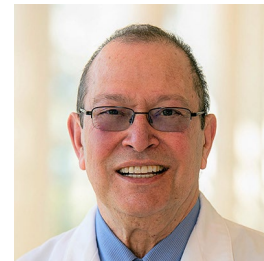
Co-Chairs: Aubrey Moe, PhD

Sarita Maturu, DO



Executive Board Members: Erica Bell, PhD

Raphael Pollock, MD, PhD

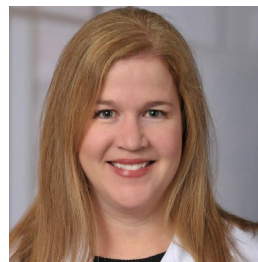


### Subcommittee Members:

Alison MacKinlay, MD

Patti Malerich, MD

Martha Yearsley, MD

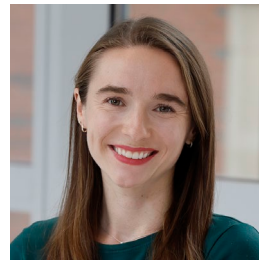
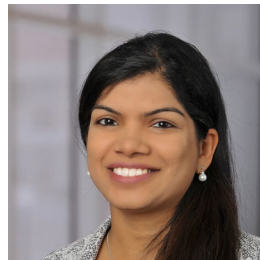


Matt Avenarius, PhD

Jewel Crasta, PhD

Colleen Reidy, DO

Min-Joeng Cho, MD



## Accomplishments of Women+ Faculty



**Leah Pyter, PhD**, associate professor of psychiatry and neuroscience, published work on the connection between chemotherapy and impacts on gut microbiota and cognitive function in the journal [Brain, Behavior, and Immunity](#). She commented, “The potential connection between the gut and the brain would allow us to create treatments for the gut to treat the brain.” Research highlights include:

- Chemotherapy induces microbiome disruption and inflammation.
- The microbiome disruption relates to cognitive decline
- The cognitively impaired have unique chemotherapy-induced microbiome alterations.

**Sharon Amacher, PhD**, professor of Biological Chemistry and Pharmacology in the College of Medicine and professor of Molecular Genetics in the College of Arts and Sciences, and **Joshua Joseph, MD, PhD**, associate professor of Internal Medicine, each received a 2024 [Community Engaged Scholar Award](#) for their outstanding achievements in producing engaged scholarship and positive community impact.



**Lauren Southerland, MD, MPH**, clinical associate professor of Emergency Medicine, received a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Award to conduct research in Australia on the topic of “Accelerating Geriatric Emergency Medicine Models of Care Dissemination Using Implementation Science.”

**Kerry-Ann Mitchell, MD, PhD, FACS**, assistant professor of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, received a National Institutes of Health K08 grant for a project titled, “Nanotransfection-based Cell Reprogramming to Drive Bone Revascularization in a Novel Mouse Model of Autogenous Cranioplasty.”





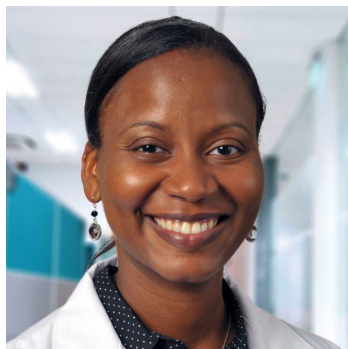
## Accomplishments of Women+ Faculty (cont'd)

**Amal Amer, MD, PhD**, Professor and Vice Chair for Microbial Infection and Immunity, and her team received a \$15 million program grant (P01) focused on long COVID, immunity and the brain.



**Electra Paskett, PhD**, Professor of Internal Medicine and Marion N. Rowley Chair in Cancer Research, was elected to a three-year term on the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Board of Directors. Her term began April 8.

**Laxmi Mehta, MD**, Clinical Professor of Internal Medicine and Director of the Lipid Clinics and Section Director of Preventative Cardiology and Women's Cardiovascular Health, was recognized as a change maker by the National Academy of Medicine.



**Lanla Conteh, MD, MPH**, Clinical Associate Professor of Internal Medicine and specialist in hepatology and gastroenterology, received recognition on *Becker's* list of [5 female gastroenterologists to know](#).

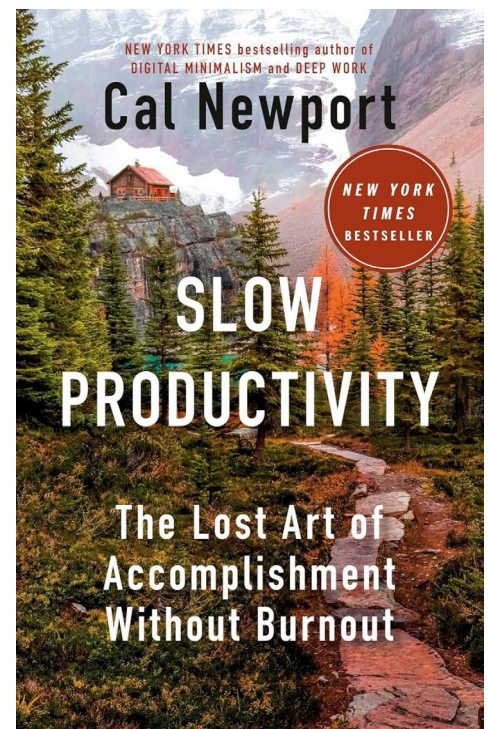
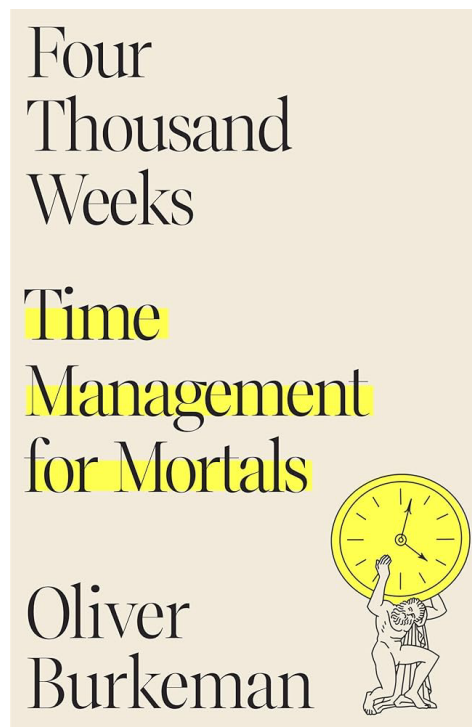
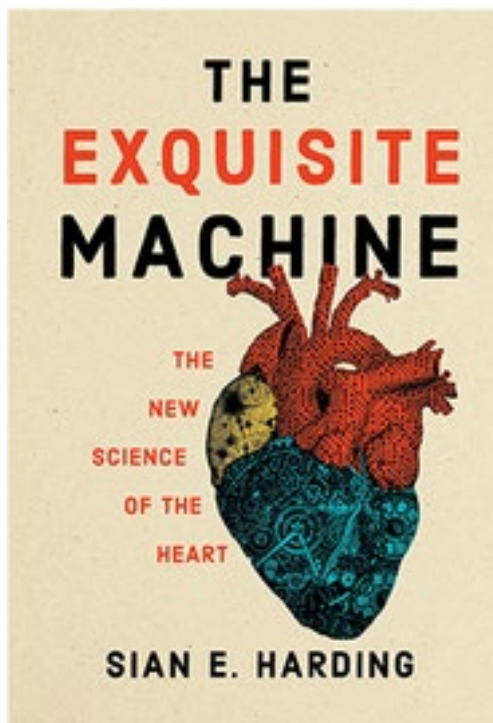
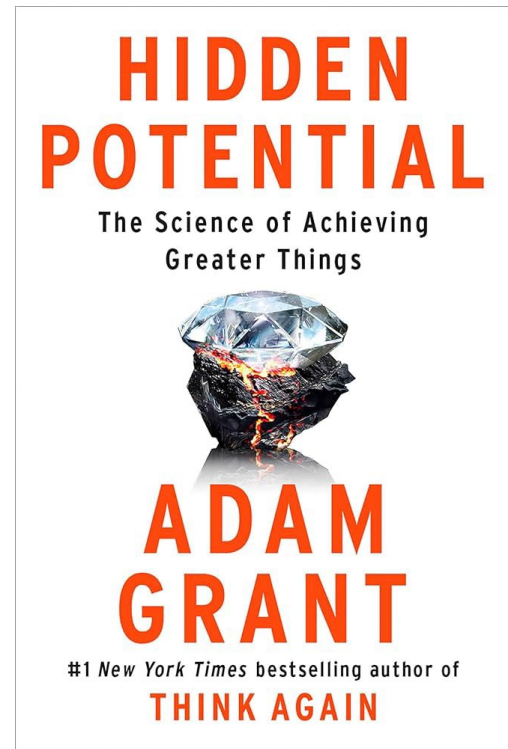
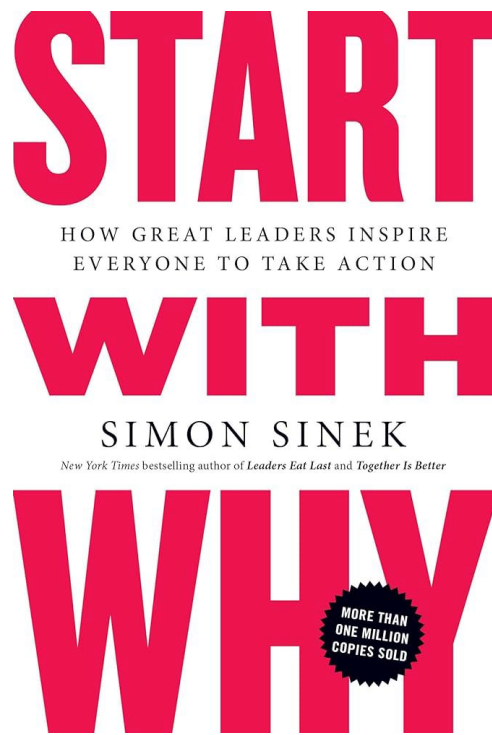
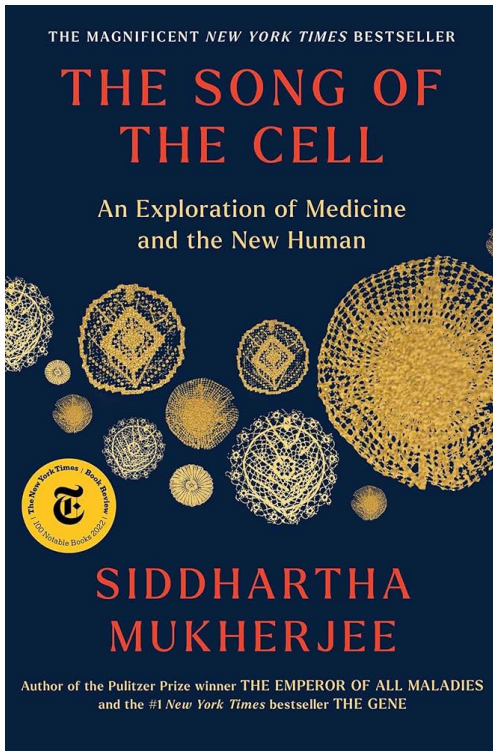
### Tell us about your accomplishments!

OSU WIMS has our own twitter feed and we would like to promote the amazing work that is happening on campus. Please follow us @OhioStateWIMS

To help us gather relevant content (promotions, awards, and other exciting news) please fill out this intake form to notify us of these accomplishments!

Access the intake form here: <https://medicine.osu.edu/faculty/fame/our-pillars/wims>

Recommended Reading



# Women in Medicine and Science (WIMS)



## WIMS is...

- A dedicated OSUCOM faculty group promoting equity and advancement by cultivating awareness, advocating for change, and empowering women faculty to achieve personal and professional fulfillment.

## Why Join WIMS?

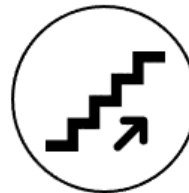
- Exclusive or early access to events and programming.
- Opportunities to meet mentors, colleagues, collaborators, and friends.
- Learn about resources, workshops, and trainings on campus and locally that will benefit your professional development.
- Support WIMS in advocating for programs and policies that enhance equity, advancement, and retention of women-identifying faculty.
- Membership Options - General Member, Advocate/Ally Member, or apply to join one of our 5 subcommittees (Data, Events, Media/Communications, Awards, Advocacy)
- Joining is easy and FREE, just scan the barcode

## What does WIMS do?

Promote equity and parity



*Identify and actively reduce barriers*



Support promotion and leadership

*Provide resources for mentorship, sponsorship, and career development*



Improve the health and well-being of all faculty

*Foster a positive culture and environment*

