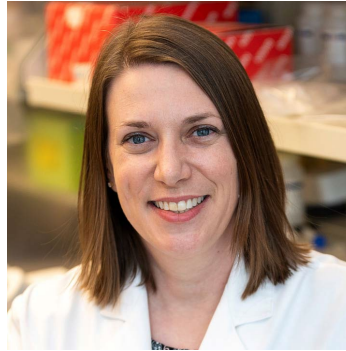


WOMEN IN MEDICINE AND SCIENCE (WIMS) NEWSLETTER

Issue 26 – MARCH 2025

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Division Director, Hematology Professor,
Hematology
Leukemia and Hematologic Malignancies
Research Program, Co-Lead
The Ohio State University



Dear WIMS Community,

I am so honored to be asked to write the cover letter for this WIMS newsletter. I am a Professor in the Division of Hematology and was recently appointed Division Director. I also serve as a co-leader of the Leukemia and Hematologic Malignancies Research Program within The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center. My translational and clinical research focuses on chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) and development of novel therapies for this disease. The transition to Division Director has been exciting and has been made much easier because of the exceptional faculty, staff, and leadership team in our Division.

I actually grew up in Columbus, but I have been a Buckeye since medical school. When I chose OSU for medical school, my plan was to spend 4 years in Columbus and then continue my training elsewhere. However, 24 years later, I am still here! At every transition point in my training and then career I have looked around at other institutions, but have continued to choose OSU because of the culture, the opportunities, and most importantly, the people. I have been so fortunate to have had remarkable women as role models, and mentors, both men and women, who advocated for women in medicine and in leadership. OSU has always been a place where I have seen diversity of people and diversity of ideas valued.

The past few months have been challenging, and I know a lot of us are feeling uncertain about the future...This is a time, I think, when we need to stick together, look out for one another, and remember our core values as scientists, physicians, and Buckeyes. This is how we have grown despite previous challenges, and how we will overcome any that the future may bring.

I am so proud to be part of the WIMS community at OSU, and I hope you are too. I look forward to working with all of you to make this a bright year for women in science and medicine!

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To support the advancement of women+ faculty in the College of Medicine, please donate to the 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.

Announcements and Opportunities

Interested in joining the WIMS Media/Communications/Outreach Committee?

Are you passionate about outreach and communication? Join the WIMS Outreach and Communications Subcommittee. Be a part of a dynamic team dedicated to empowering women. Help us amplify voices, share inspiring stories, and drive impactful change through outreach opportunities, Communications Champions, newsletters, and social media. We can use your skills to help us connect with our members and serve our community – no media experience required! With a shared workload among committee members, the time commitment is manageable.

Apply to the AAMC Early Career Seminar for Women Faculty!

The Early Career Seminar for Women Faculty is designed for women physicians and scientists at an AAMC member institution with at least two years of experience at the Assistant Professor level, but generally not more than eight years. **The application period for the Early Career Women Faculty Leadership Development Seminar is open until April 1st.** This year's seminar will take place at the Ballantyne Hotel in Charlotte, **North Carolina July 22-25, 2025.** The seminar's curriculum will provide a foundation for modeling leadership behavior and will focus on critical skills and strategies to assist you as you prepare for professional advancement or promotion. Due to the content focus, applicants' CVs must include or highlight activities demonstrating progress toward academic promotion and engagement in leadership roles. WIMS has a small budget that can be used to help offset registration fees not covered by your department/division. If you are accepted to the meeting, please email WIMS@osumc.edu with an explanation of available funds, to be considered for a funding award from WIMS that will offset the cost of registration for the seminar. Please note, only active WIMS members are eligible to apply for these funds, so please join WIMS at: <https://medicine.osu.edu/faculty/wims/membership>. WIMS membership is open to all College of Medicine faculty.

Past Events

WIMS hosted a “Bring an Advocate and/or Ally” volunteer event at the Mid-Ohio Food Bank on 2/8/25



WIMS members invited advocates and allies to join them in a service event held on Saturday February 8th, 2025. The WIMS team visited the Gantz Road Mid-Ohio Market and spent a few hours performing duties around the market, including scanning groceries at the check-out stand, packing groceries, and delivering groceries to customers' vehicles. The Events Committee noted the event – in addition to being a great team-building service activity – was meant to raise awareness and engagement of WIMS ally and advocate members. Look out for more such events in the future!

Upcoming Events

WIMS Annual Celebration



WIMS will be hosting its Annual Celebration at The Forum on **Wednesday May 14th, 2025**, beginning at 4:30 PM. There will be an hour-long networking reception preceding the event programming when we will hear from Dr. Dennis Durbin, MD, on the role and importance of advocates and allies. Always an event to prioritize! Register by 4/30/25



WIMS Welcome and Welcome Back



The annual WIMS Welcome and Welcome Back Event will take place at The Faculty Club on the Oval on **August 19th, 2025**, from 4-7 PM. Look out for registration details soon!

Outreach Opportunities

Dear WIMS members,

The WIMS Outreach Committee warmly invites you to attend the **2025 Uplift Her event** as community volunteers on **June 18, 2025**. Since 2021, the African American Male Agency (AAMA) has organized **Uplift Her** to empower women of color in Central Ohio.



Black women face serious health disparities - including being 3 times more likely to die of breast cancer, 4 times more likely to die of heart disease, and 4 times more likely to experience maternal-related complications. **Uplift Her** was created to bring awareness and action to help decrease health disparities by providing biometric exams, wellness resources, and promoting community engagement to help women take charge of their well-being. WIMS Outreach co-chairs will be in attendance and welcome all interested faculty volunteers, regardless of medical background (no medical training is required).

Please join us! To sign up, use the link below:

[Community Health & Wellness: 2025 Uplift Her Volunteer Sign Up](#)

Additional Volunteer Opportunities:

[Sign Up - SKYPE A SCIENTIST](#)

[Get Engaged with Freedom a la Cart | Volunteer & Give Back Opportunities](#)

Outreach Opportunities

COM Anatomy Outreach Days

Join us for the biggest anatomy event of the year, *Anatomy Outreach Days*'25 from **April 29th-May 1st**, 9:00-2:00PM at **Hamilton Hall**. This hands-on event offers high school students a unique opportunity to explore the wonders of human anatomy through interactive activities and anatomical specimens. Dive into the major body systems, including **Cardiopulmonary, Nervous, Musculoskeletal**, and more! It's the perfect chance to refresh your anatomy knowledge while inspiring the next generation of scientists. We would love for you to be a part of this exciting event.

For more information or to get involved, contact us at AnatomyOutreach@osumc.edu or Pilard.hanna@osumc.edu.

ISEF Volunteer Opportunity

The [Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair \(ISEF\)](#) is the world's largest international pre-college science competition. Regeneron ISEF provides an annual forum for more than 1,800 students in grades 9–12 from nearly every state in the U.S. and more than 60 countries, regions, and territories to showcase their talent on an international stage. Each year, millions of students worldwide compete in science fairs; winners go on to participate in more than 425 Society affiliated fairs from which the best win the opportunity to attend ISEF, to be held at the **Greater Columbus Convention Center, May 10–16, 2025**. These top young scientific minds will come together to showcase their talent on an international stage, be judged by doctoral-level scientists, and compete for more than \$9 million in awards during ISEF. Ohio State will play an important and prominent role in ISEF 2025. ISEF needs 1200 judges, and OSU faculty and staff are encouraged to apply. If you are interested in applying, please do so directly through their website.

Behind the Scenes @ WIMS: Awards Subcommittee

The mission of the WIMS Awards subcommittee is to nominate and facilitate the nomination of women and women-identifying faculty and allies for awards, create new awards to recognize women and allies, and create a repository of awards. This is done by:

- Identifying opportunities for women and women-identifying faculty to receive awards, including attending seminars/courses as well as recognition of achievements
- Facilitating nominations for identified awards. This can take the form of soliciting nominations, working with nominees to prepare required documents or preparing and submitting nomination documents for nominees.
- Assisting in the creation of new awards for women and women-identifying faculty in different areas such as leadership, education and business acumen.

Co-Chairs:

- Kristen Lewis, MD, Departments of Internal Medicine and Pediatrics
- Holli Loomans-Kropp, PhD, MPH, Department of Internal Medicine, Cancer Prevention and Control

Awards Committee Members:

- Carolyn Presley, MD, MHS, Department of Internal Medicine, Medical Oncology
- Nicholas Breitborde, PhD, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health
- Liubov Gushchina, PhD, Nationwide Children's Hospital, Gene Therapy
- Ashley Cetnar, PhD, Department of Radiation Oncology
- Ritu Kapoor, MD, Department of Anesthesiology

Advisory Board Members:

- Sheryl Pfeil, MD, Department of Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition
- Wendy Frankel, MD, Department of Pathology

2024-2025 Awards:

WIMS Buckeye Shining Stars

This recognition is for early to mid-career women-identifying faculty nominated by department and division leaders for exhibiting one or more of the following characteristics:

- Exceptional role model for trainees
- Dependable, trustworthy, providing formal or informal peer support
- Contribute to building community either within and/or outside of OSU
- Service to the division, department, or university at large (i.e. committees, faculty council, university senate)
- Educational or curriculum activities
- Consistent trainee precepting (medical students, residents, undergraduates, interprofessional education)
- At the 2024 WIMS Annual Celebration, 39 faculty members were recognized as Buckeye Shining Stars!

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

WIMS Engagement Award

This award is 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.

The 2024 recipients were Megan Ballinger, PhD (Internal Medicine) and Jaclyn Caccese, PhD (Health and Rehabilitation Sciences).

Next nomination announcement: July 2025

WIMS Emerging Leader in Healthcare

This award is presented to a faculty member seeking to strengthen their health care leadership, professional or career development, and/or business acumen skills through a major healthcare leadership opportunity of their choosing.

The 2024 recipient was Simiao Li-Sauerwine, MD, Department of Emergency Medicine, for attendance at the Collaborative for Health and Renewal in Medicine (CHARM) Graduate Medical Education Well-Being Leaders Certificate Course and Stanford Physician Well-Being Director Course.

Next application announcement: October 2025

WIMS Ally Award

This award is given to a COM Faculty member who (i) demonstrated a commitment to accelerating the advancement of women in medicine and science, (ii) created environments where women from all backgrounds feel welcomed and valued, (iii) completed actions to support the advancement of women in their field, organization, or community, and (iv) addressed/corrected barriers to inclusion of woman within their field, organization, or community.

The 2024 recipient was Eugene Oltz, PhD, Department of Microbial Infection and Immunity.

Next nomination announcement: December 2025

If you're interested in helping with awards, we meet on the first Thursday of the month from 10:00-11:00am. Email wims@osumc.edu if you would like more information or reach out to the co-chairs (Kristen.lewis@osumc.edu, holli.loomans-kropp@osumc.edu).

Accomplishments of Women+ Faculty



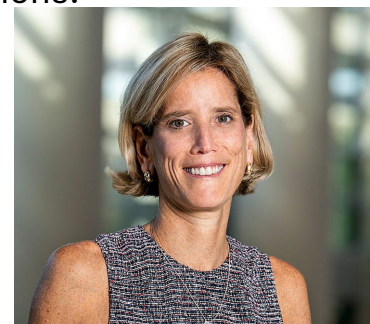
Congratulations to WIMS members who were named Dean's Excellence Award Winners! **Dr. Wendy Frankel, MD**, (left) was awarded the Lifetime Achievement in Education Award. **Dr. Arwa Shana'ah, MD**, (right) was awarded the Inclusive Excellence Award. Congratulations!

Dr. Kymberly Gowdy, Ph.D., associate professor in the Department of Internal Medicine and previous Advocacy Subcommittee Co-Chair, was awarded the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers by President Biden. This is “the highest honor bestowed by the US government to outstanding scientists and engineers early in their careers.” Congratulations!

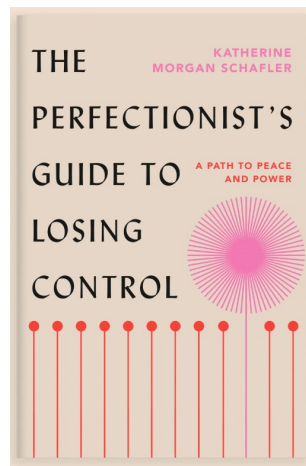
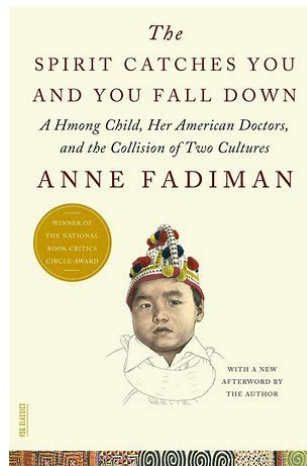
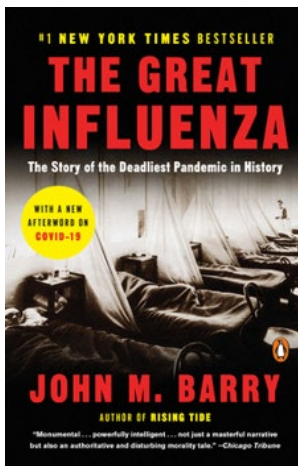


Dr. Julie Johnson, PharmD, the director of the OSU Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) was appointed for a three-year term on the National Academies Forum on Drug Discovery and Development and Translation. This group is tasked with hosting public workshops, action collaboratives and meetings that will identify critical issues and solutions to expedite drug translation to patients. Congratulations!

Jennifer Dauer, Chief Strategy and Transformation Officer for the OSU Wexner Medical Center, was named one of the “70 Chief Strategy Officers to Know” in 2024 by Becker's Healthcare. Congratulations!



Recommended Reading & Listening



Lost Women of Science

Lost Women of Science tells the remarkable stories of groundbreaking women who never got the full recognition they deserved - until now.

[Browse Episodes](#)

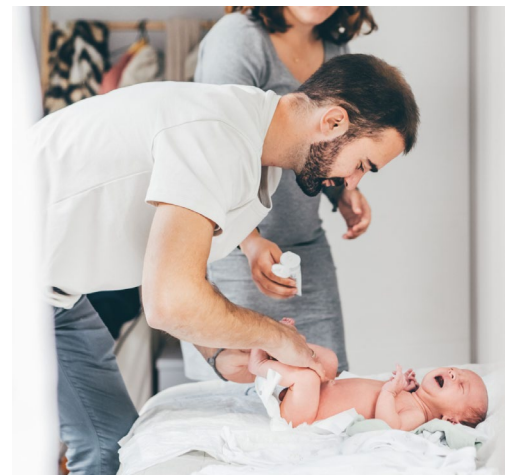
Spotify Apple Music Amazon Music Google Play Audiobook

← →

[Lost Women of Science](#)

[OSU News: Another way longer paternity leaves help new parents](#)

“When fathers take longer leaves, mothers might take that as a sign that fathers are more interested in being an active parent and be less likely to try to prevent them from participating in child care,” said [Reed Donithen](#), lead author of the study and a doctoral student in developmental [psychology at The Ohio State University](#).



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?

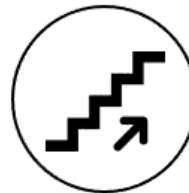
- Exclusive or early access to events and programming.
- Opportunities to meet mentors, colleagues, collaborators, and friends.
- Learn about resources, workshops, and trainings on campus and locally that will benefit your professional development.
- Support WIMS in advocating for programs and policies 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



@OhioStateWIMS



WIMS@OSUMC.edu



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