29TH ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

MAY 1, 2019
Dear friends,

New technologies and therapeutics are rapidly transforming women’s health. By 2025, the women’s health market is estimated to be worth $50B globally, with recent funding and regulatory activities showing growing interest in it. But there is still a significant gender gap in health innovation and investment, particularly the need for scientific advancements in women-specific conditions where progress has long stalled and for tracking health outcomes of women affected by specific diseases.

SWHR’s mission is to improve women’s health through science, policy, and education. We advance this mission by identifying gaps in research and barriers to treatment and care, and then working to overcome them.

In the past 12 months, SWHR has convened multiple scientific programs and published peer-reviewed papers on Alzheimer’s disease, endometriosis, migraine, and urological health.

Our scientific work forms the basis for our policy activities and educational initiatives that promote innovation and improved access to health care across a woman’s lifespan.

We cannot do this important work without your support. We thank our sponsors and partners who share our values and vision to improve health care for women.

Tonight, we celebrate achievements, advancements and innovations in women’s health by honoring three leaders for their contributions to the field through public service, industry, and communications: Dr. Carolyn Clancy, Mr. John Seng, and Dr. Cen Xu. Please join me in congratulating them.

Thank you for your ongoing support and for joining us this evening.

Amy M. Miller, PhD
President and Chief Executive Officer

Amgen is a proud sponsor of the SWHR 29th Annual Awards Dinner

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At Amgen, we believe that the answers to medicine’s most pressing questions are written in the language of our DNA. As pioneers in biotechnology, we use our deep understanding of that language to create vital medicines that address the unmet needs of patients fighting serious illness – to dramatically improve their lives.

For more information about Amgen, our pioneering science and our vital medicines, visit www.amgen.com

Message from the President & CEO
Evening Activities

6:00 PM  Welcome Reception
7:00 PM  President’s Welcome
7:30 PM  Dinner
8:00 PM  Awards Presentation
9:00 PM  Closing Remarks

InterContinental DC / The Wharf
801 Wharf Street SW / Washington, DC

Mr. Ford has worked for WJLA-TV for 30 years and has been a broadcaster for 45 years, starting with radio stations in Kansas and Minnesota before moving to television. He spent nine years as a correspondent for CBS News, and during his tenure at the network, he was stationed at bureaus in New York, Atlanta, and Washington, DC. Prior to CBS, he reported for WCCO-TV in Minneapolis. Mr. Ford is a founding member of the National Association of Black Journalists and has won a number of journalistic awards, including several regional Emmys and the Edward R. Murrow Award. His focus at WJLA has mainly been DC government, life, and crime. A Kansas native, he is a graduate of the University of Kansas William Allen White Journalism School and did graduate studies at the University of Minnesota.

Sam Ford
DC Bureau Chief, ABC7 and WJLA 24/7

Master of Ceremonies
Sam Ford
DC Bureau Chief, ABC7 and WJLA 24/7

JOIN THE CONVERSATION
Follow us on Twitter @SWHR and share your thoughts using #SWHRGala
Carolyn Clancy, MD
Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Discovery, Education and Affiliate Networks, Veterans Health Administration

A highly experienced physician executive, Dr. Clancy has held several leadership positions at the Veterans Health Administration, including Executive-in-Charge overseeing a health system delivering care to more than 9 million veterans. In her current role, Dr. Clancy works to foster collaboration with facility-based educators, researchers, and clinicians within VA, as well as between VA and its affiliates.

She has also served as VHA’s Chief Medical Officer, Interim Under Secretary for Health, and Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Organizational Excellence. Before coming to VHA, she served as Director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality for 10 years. In these influential roles, she has enhanced access to and quality of care for women.

Dr. Clancy was selected as the Outstanding Federal Executive of the Year by Disabled American Veterans in 2015 and named one of the Top 50 Physician Executives by Modern Healthcare in 2018.

A general internist and health services researcher, she is a graduate of Boston College and the University of Massachusetts Medical School. She holds an academic appointment at George Washington University School of Medicine. She is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine and was named an Honorary Fellow by the American Academy of Nursing.

Mr. Seng is SWHR’s immediate past Board chair and a longtime supporter of the organization and its mission to eliminate imbalances in health care for women. A public relations veteran of nearly 40 years, he worked for Pfizer as well as PR firms such as Ketchum, Hill & Knowlton, and Shandwick before launching his own firm, Spectrum Science Communications, in 1996. Under his leadership, Spectrum became a top-tier, award-winning health and life sciences communications firm.

In 2001, Mr. Seng founded GLOBALHealthPR, the largest independent health and science communications agency partnership worldwide. He also served on the PR Council Board of Directors and Executive Committee, as well as on the Board of Visitors of the Merrill College of Journalism at the University of Maryland, where he earned his bachelor’s in journalism. The Progeria Research Foundation named Mr. Seng as the first nonscientist recipient of the prestigious SAM (Science And Medicine) Award in 2018. He was also elected to the Public Relations Society of America’s National Capital Chapter Hall of Fame and received PRSA’s Frank J. Weaver Lifetime Achievement Award.

Today, Mr. Seng counsels communications firms on management practices as a senior counselor with Prosper Group and advises corporate and nonprofit institution clients on their organizational advancement needs through Grayscale LLC.

HEALTH PUBLIC SERVICE VISIONARY AWARD

John J. Seng
Past SWHR Board Member and Founder, Spectrum Science Communications

HEALTH COMMUNICATIONS VISIONARY AWARD
Dr. Xu has 30+ years of neuroscience research experience and 20+ years in neuroscience drug discovery. She joined Amgen in 2016 as a key contributor in building the company’s neuroscience strategy. Dr. Xu is a co-inventor for the first FDA-approved treatment designed to prevent migraine, which is three times more common in women than men and affects 18% of women in the U.S.

She has also aided in the discovery and development of other therapeutics, including for schizophrenia and sleep disorders. Her areas of focus include neurodegeneration, psychiatry disorders, migraine, and analgesia.

Dr. Xu obtained her PhD in pharmacology from Illinois State University and did her postdoc in University of Illinois College of Medicine. She was involved in basic research of drug abuse and neuropsychiatry for about 10 years before joining the industry. She also worked in a psychiatry institution for six years, with firsthand experience in patient interaction before entering the doctoral program.
As biopharmaceutical researchers keep searching for breakthrough cures they don't have to look far for inspiration. PhRMA is proud to support the Society for Women's Health Research 29th Annual Awards Dinner. We congratulate the 2019 honorees.

PhRMA is proud to support the Society for Women’s Health Research 29th Annual Awards Dinner. We congratulate the 2019 honorees.

Turning Innovative Science into Value for Patients

Astellas is committed to turning innovative science into medical solutions that bring value and hope to patients worldwide. Every day, we work together to address unmet medical needs and help people living with cancer, overactive bladder, heart disease and transplants, among other conditions. We remain dedicated to meeting patients’ needs, and our support for them will never waver.

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In Memory of
Colleen Conway-Welch, PhD, RN

2018 SWHR Health Education Visionary Award honoree
and former SWHR Board member
Women’s health advocate, visionary educator, nonprofit
leader, and philanthropist

“If we didn’t have the Society for
Women’s Health Research,
we’d simply have to invent it.”

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At Roche, personalized healthcare is about fitting the right treatment to each patient. This includes developing innovative diagnostic tests to meet a woman's changing health needs at different stages of her life.

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SWHR aims to eliminate imbalances in health care for women by bringing attention to a variety of diseases and conditions that disproportionately, differently, or exclusively affect women.

**ESTROGEN-DRIVEN DISEASES**

The normalization of women’s pain and the stigmatization of menstrual issues have resulted in a lack of scientific innovation and public awareness for estrogen-diseases such as endometriosis and uterine fibroids. This program aims to raise awareness of the gaps in research, diagnosis, treatment, and care for these diseases as well as related conditions and symptoms.


**ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE**

Two-thirds of those suffering from AD are women, and women decline faster than men after being diagnosed. This program seeks to explore, understand, and leverage the scientific basis for the roles of sex and gender in AD to inform prevention and treatment.

Peer-Reviewed Paper: Understanding the Impact of Sex and Gender in Alzheimer’s Disease: A Call to Action, *Alzheimer’s & Dementia*, June 12, 2018

**CHRONIC PAIN**

The majority of those with chronic pain are women, and research shows that sex differences exist in pain perception, management, and treatment. SWHR’s upcoming roundtable will identify knowledge and education gaps specific to chronic pain and women and make recommendations to address them.

**MIGRAINE**

Migraine is three times more common in women than men, and women tend to experience longer, more intense migraine attacks and have greater levels of migraine-related disability. This program engages, educates, and empowers patients, health care professionals, and health care decision-makers about the burden of migraine on women.

Peer-Reviewed Paper: Sex and Gender Differences in Migraine — Evaluating Knowledge Gaps, *Journal of Women’s Health*, August 1, 2018

**UROLOGICAL HEALTH**

Unhealthy bladders disproportionately affect women and girls, and stigma prevents many women from discussing these issues with their health care provider. This program promotes bladder and urinary tract health across a woman’s lifespan.

Peer-Reviewed Paper: Sex Differences in Lower Urinary Tract Biology and Physiology, *Biology of Sex Differences*, October 22, 2018
BIOHAVEN is proud to support the SWHR

Applauding Women in Research

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SWHR Policy Advisory Council

The Policy Advisory Council is a forum for thought leaders in senior-level policy, advocacy, government affairs, communications, and commercial roles at industry, nonprofit, and other health care stakeholder organizations to support emerging research and public policy that will improve health care for women. Members have an opportunity to work collaboratively to develop positions, promote research, and create materials that benefit women’s health.

Policy development efforts focus on three key areas:

- **Access and value** – coverage and payment policy, and health care value assessment
- **Regulation** – drug, diagnostic, and device regulatory modernization
- **Innovation** – patient engagement in research and development

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SWHR IS THE THOUGHT LEADER in promoting research on biological differences in disease and improving women’s health through science, policy, and education.

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The Society for Women’s Health Research in their efforts to improve healthcare for women.