Women’s Faculty Association General Membership Meeting  
May 11, 2007  
Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm by Merry Lindsey. The minutes from the prior meeting and current agenda were submitted and reviewed. There was one correction. Dr. Bonnie Blankmeyer is the Executive Director of the Equal Employment Office/ Affirmative Action Office. This office is not affiliated with human resources. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Old Business
Medical Hispanic Center of Excellence (MHC0E) Special Program- Janet Bickel  
Janet Bickel will be coming to UTHSCSA for a June 27th program coordinated by Martha Medrano. For more information on Dr. Bickel, please see www.janetbickel.com. Jan Bruder confirmed that Dr. Bickel is an excellent career coach. Janet will present at the Internal Medicine Department’s Grand Rounds from 8 to 9 am (all are invited). There will be a joint presentation co-sponsored by WFA and MHC0E entitled “Thinking Like the CEO of Your Own Career: Goal-Setting, Advancing, and Avoiding Career Derailers.” The program is scheduled for 5 pm in room 3.104A. Everyone is encouraged to attend, and a wine and cheese reception will follow. Administration from all 5 schools is supporting this event.

Committee Reports
Public Relations Committee: Shivani Maffi, Committee Chair, reported that the website is being updated over the next few weeks. Please see www.uthscsa.edu/wfa for details. The NIH also has a new website to promote the advancement of women in biomedical research careers. The website is http://womeninscience.nih.gov.

Leadership Awards Committee- Lyn Daws and Alice Gong have organized this year’s annual WFA Leadership Awards program. The program will be held May 24, 2007 from 4:00-5:15 pm in Room 409L. Dr. Shannon Carpenter and Dr. Xin-Yun Lu will lead a panel discussion on career planning. Everyone is invited to this awards program. Please contact Lyn Daws or Alice Gong for more details.

Program Committee: Meetings and programs are scheduled for the second Friday of each month in room 2.0142 from 1 to 2 pm. Upcoming programs:

- June 8, 2007  Childcare and an Academic Career
- July 13, 2007  Managing People
- August 10, 2007  The Sandwich Generation
- September 14, 2007  Annual Meet and Greet (& vote on new officers)
- October 12, 2007  Knowing What You Want

The WFA executive committee is requesting ideas for the September welcome event. Please contact any officer or committee chair with your suggestions.
Membership Committee: Donna Lehman reports that we have several new members this month. Membership forms were available, and those wishing to join the WFA were encouraged to do so. Membership runs from Oct 1 to Sept 30, so if you have not paid dues since before last Oct, we welcome you to do so. Monies go for lunch, Science Fair awards, Leadership awards, website support, and programs (like Janet Bickel’s upcoming visit). Donna discussed ways to increase our membership, including monthly drawings for new members and those who recruit new members. Please contact Donna if you have ideas on ways to boost membership numbers.

Program
Sandy Burge, PhD, chair of the career development committee, led an exercise on networking. Everyone was given a sheet of paper with 3 circles, in which we wrote our most passionate topics, interesting topics, and least interesting topics in terms of our professional careers. The group then used these circles to network for 25 minutes, with the goal being to identify 3-5 other faculty to write a grant with. Discussion was very animated and several faculty members found new collaborators. During the group discussion at the end, someone suggested that we start an expertise list to put on our website, so that members can more easily find other members to work with.

Next month’s meeting will be on June 8, 2007 from 1-2 in room 2.042, and the topic is “Childcare and an Academic Career”. We have been talking about onsite childcare since the early 1990’s, and Janet Williams has agreed to give us an update and lead a discussion on childcare as it relates to UTHSCSA.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm, and was followed by several small group discussions that continued networking until after 3 pm.