Women in AMIA MISSION

WIA's mission is to grow opportunities for women in AMIA; aid women in AMIA to reach their goals and advance their careers; and promote equal opportunity and equal treatment of women in our field.

2023 WIA Steering Committee

Donghua Tao, Tiffany Leung, Sripriya Rajamani, Sue Boren, Pei-Yun Sabrina Hsueh, Ece Uzun, Amy Wang, Duo(Helen) Wei, Yaa Kumah-Crystal, Theresa Walunas, Arlene Chung, and Kelly Taylor

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The Women in AMIA (WIA) Initiative is a movement created by and for members. During 2022, Women in AMIA continued its commitment to informing and inspiring the informatics community toward action around opportunities for women in AMIA to improve health and healthcare.

WIA subcommittees were fully engaged in creating new opportunities to aid women advance their careers, and promoting equal opportunities and treatment of women in our field.

This issue highlights achievements in 2022 and upcoming opportunities.

#WomeninAMIA

MENTORING, NETWORKING AND LIFECYCLE SUBCOMMITTEE

#AMIA2022

CO-CHAIRS: MARGARITA SORDO, DUO (HELEN) WEI

The 2022 AMIA Annual Symposium was the venue for reunions, opportunities to reconnect with colleagues we missed during the pandemic, and for meeting new colleagues in person. It was also another fruitful year for the WIA Mentoring, Networking and Lifecycle Subcommittee, or MNL for short. The WIA MNL subcommittee provides opportunities for women's growth and development by fostering valuable connections over career and lifecycle events to support and empower diverse AMIA members through networking and mentoring to reach their career goals.

At the Annual Symposium, we successfully hosted two major events: The Women in Informatics Networking Event (WINE) event and a Women in Informatics Mentoring Event (WIME) event. Both were open to those that identify as female. The WINE event offers an opportunity to socialize, meet with other women to discuss various topics, and to network. We aim to host this event at every AMIA gathering, however, the largest turn out for WINE is at the Annual Symposium. Over 150 people attended the event, and even though the venue was small, everyone was happy to meet, reconnect, engage, and talk.

This year, one of our newest MNL subcommittee members, Jennifer (Jenna) Thate, helped to host the event. Though, beyond handing out drink vouchers, not much else was needed as the attendees readily shared in lively conversations regarding their current work, their dreams for 'what next', and encouragement to press on. For next year we will plan on a larger venue for the event and reach out to other WIA subcommittees to increase participation and engagement to expand networking opportunities.

Polina Kukhareva, Laura Barrett, and Imon Banerjee, all members of the MNL subcommittee organized and hosted the Mentor-Mentee event (WIME).
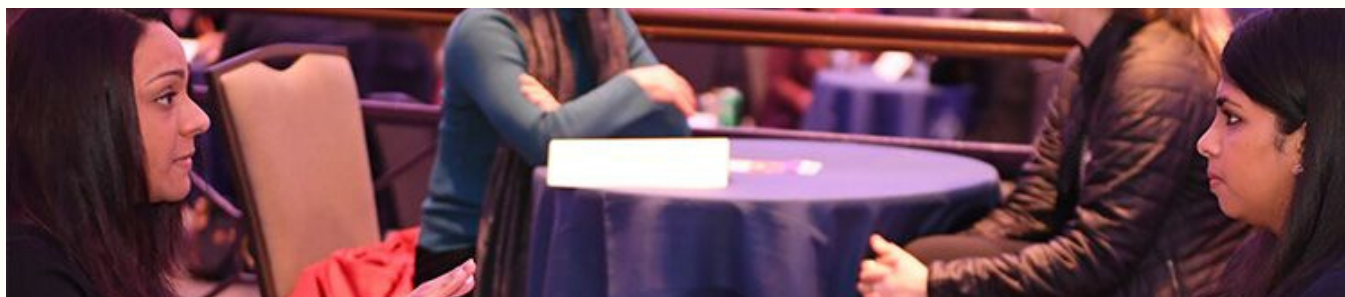
From the AMIA side, Kelly Taylor was instrumental in preparing the event. Polina, Laura, and Imon worked assiduously from conception and design to holding the event, by finding and contacting mentors, developing the enrollment form, designing the flier, and developing an automated matching algorithm in statistical software R. The 90-minute event provided an opportunity for 29 mentors at advanced stages of their careers, to answer questions and offer guidance to 30 mentees at earlier stages of their careers. Some of the mentors participating are MNL members.

This was not the first time the MNL subcommittee offered this event; it was a success, and we certainly will offer it next year. We realized we need to advertise to the wider AMIA community through social media and direct messages to engage more members willing to contribute with their expertise. This year the WIME event offered both hierarchical and peer-mentoring opportunities.

A big thank you to **Kelly Taylor** who diligently worked with the MNL Subcommittee and AMIA for coordinating all the logistics of these two events and making them a huge success. These events would not be possible without her support!

Our committee also presented the podium abstract "Impact of COVID-19 on Career and Family Life for Women in AMIA", prepared by Joanna Abraham, Margarita Sordo, Duo (Helen) Wei, Polina Kukhareva, Deepti Pandita, Prerna Dua, Imon Banerjee, and Donghua Tao.

This was the result of a survey the MNL subcommittee designed and administered in 2020 via the AMIA newsletter to ascertain COVID-19-related challenges and factors impacting women's careers and family life in AMIA. The detailed survey results have been reported in JAMIA titled "Assessing perceived effectiveness of career development efforts led by the women in American Medical Informatics Association Initiative" (J Am Med Inform Assoc. 2022 Aug 16;29(9):1593-1606. doi: 10.1093/jamia/ocac101. PMID: 35773963; PMCID: PMC9382400.)

Even though COVID-19 restrictions resulted in people working from home, this convenience brought up the challenge of setting up boundaries, further aggravating an existing situation of lack of work-life balance faced by women. Prerna Dua, one of the authors and members of our subcommittee, presented on behalf of all the authors and the subcommittee. Joanna Abraham, the lead author, attended the presentation and gathered feedback on the importance of this work and its impact on WIA. Given that our findings addressed gender issues significantly impacting career development for women in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medicine (STEMM), and highlighted known problems including gender bias, stereotyping, family responsibilities, fewer career development opportunities, networking exclusion, pay inequality, and underrepresentation in higher-ranking positions, our abstract was also selected by the Diversity Equity Inclusion (DEI) subcommittee to present the findings at the poster session within the Concepts and Practice of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) in the Scholarly Communication for Biomedical Informatics Workshop. Polina Kukhareva presented the poster at the workshop. As we look forward to 2023, the MNL subcommittee will continue working on identifying opportunities for WIA members to improve work-life balance; collaborate and professionally grow; provide spaces for mentors and mentees to connect, identify areas of growth, and offer advice on how to pursue a career in medical informatics.

We are honored to co-chair this subcommittee and would like to thank all the members who so generously contribute with ideas and hard work to make all the events, activities, and publications of this subcommittee come to a successful fruition.

AWARDS AND LEADERSHIP
SUBCOMITTEE

CO-CHAIRS:
ECE (GAMSIZ) UZUN, SABRINA HSUEH

The WIA Awards and Leadership Subcommittee Identifies, encourages and enables women in applying for and obtaining leadership positions, awards and professional recognition within and outside of AMIA.

At the AMIA Symposium, we had a great panel titled "How to thrive in AMIA and Beyond:What You Need to Know about Cross-Functional Leadership, Gender Representation, and Career Paths" The panel was followed by an interactive discussion in breakout groups based on discipline . Speakers were Sabrina Hsueh, Ashley Griffin, Jessie Tenenbaum, Tiffany Leung and Karmen Williams.
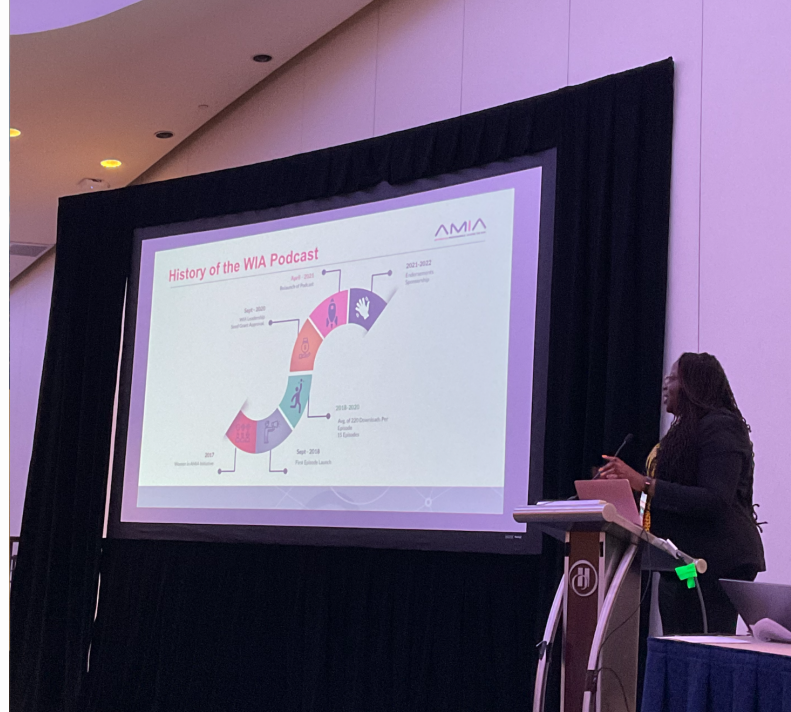
ACM-AMIA JOINT PODCAST SERIES

ACM-AMIA Joint Podcast Series is a joint effort of the Women in AMIA's For Your Informatics (FYI) podcast and the ACM ByteCast, is a podcast series exploring the interdisciplinary field of medical informatics where both the practitioners of AI /ML solution builders and the stakeholders in the healthcare ecosystems take interest. In addition, we are interested in the career paths of female leaders who are shaping this emerging field. The series is hosted by Sabrina Hsueh, Karmen Williams and Adela Grando.

Our next two speakers are as follows:
- Prof. Regina Barzilay (Professor at MIT, School of Engineering Distinguished Professor for AI and Health AI Faculty Lead, Jameel Clinic; MacArthur Fellow)
- Dr. Holly Urban (Chief Medical Informatics Officer, Cerner)

What questions would you like to ask Dr. Barzilay or Dr. Urban? Do you have someone in mind that you hope that we can interview? Please send an email to Sabrina (pyhsueh@gmail.com). If you are interested in co-hosting one of the future episodes, drop us an email too. We look forward to continuing on this journey with the interest of our Women in AMIA in mind.

History of the WIA Podcast

AMIA Award Recipients

AMIA Signature Awards

1. Morris F. Collen Award of Excellence
2. Donald A.B. Lindberg Award for Innovation in Informatics
3. AMIA New Investigator
4. Virginia K. Saba Informatics
5. William W. Stead Award for Thought Leadership in Informatics
6. Don Eugene Detmer Award for Health Policy Contributions in Informatics

Number of Awardees

Men
Women

2022

1993 1999 2004 2009 2014 2019

AMIA 2022 | amia.org

50

PATHWAYS SUBCOMITTEE

CO-CHAIRS: PRIYA RAJAMANI AND SUE BOREN

At the AMIA Symposium, forty-one women participated in the AMIA First Look program on Sunday, November 5 in Washington DC. The women were undergraduate students in STEM or nursing fields attending Georgetown University, University of Maryland Baltimore County, Trinity Washington University, Morgan State University, American University, Howard University, Johns Hopkins University, and Bowie State University.

The WIA Pathways Subcommittee works with other volunteer groups in AMIA to increase the number of women in AMIA and retain them in the early stages of their career development.

Priya Rajamani and Sue Boren are the 2022 Women in AMIA Pathway Subcommittee chairs. Kelly Taylor is the AMIA liaison.

For the program this year, the women listened to an introduction to informatics, engaged in panel discussions with informatics professionals and graduate students, and participated in lightning chats. Panelists included Tiffani Bright, Victoria Tiase, Tiffany Leung, Arlene Chung, Kim Unertl, Terika McCall, Karmen Williams, and Kadura Sullafa. Graduate student panelists included Pooja Desai, Courtney Diamond, Ashley Griffin, Humayera Islam, and Ploypun Narindrarangkura. After lunch, the participants attended the opening plenary session, a scientific session, and the welcome session.

After attending the AMIA 2022 Annual Symposium as a First Look participant all participants indicated they know what informatics is as a profession; 79% would consider informatics as a career; and 96% would recommend the First Look program to others.

The AMIA First Look program has been organized by the Women in AMIA Pathways Subcommittee since 2017 to address workforce disparities among women, including those from marginalized communities. The program exposes women to informatics, furnishes mentors, and provides career resources. The Women in AMIA First Look program has an important history and the outcomes are shared in the following publication: Bright TJ, Williams KS, Rajamani S, Tiase VL, Senathirajah Y, Hebert C, McCoy AB. Making the case for workforce diversity in biomedical informatics to help achieve equity-centered care: a look at the AMIA First Look Program. Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association 29 (1), 2022, 171-175.

WIA INVITES YOU TO
JOIN A SUBCOMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEE

Award & Leadership
Contact: Sabrina Hsueh & Ece Uzun
Contact info: pyhsueh@gmail.com &
dilber_gamsiz@brown.edu

Networking, Mentoring, & Lifecycle
Contact: Margarita Sordo & Helen (Duo) Wei
Contact info: msordo@bcognizant.com &
duo.wei@stockton.edu

Pathways
Contact: Sripriya Rajamani or Sue
Boren
Contact info: sripriya@umn.edu &
borens@health.missouri.edu

Career Advancement
Contact: Amy Wang
Contact info: amywang@uabmc.edu

MEETING DAY/TIME

3rd Thursday of the month 5-6pm ET

3rd Mondays at noon ET

3rd Wednesdays at 3:00 pm ET

FOR YOUR INFORMATICS PODCAST

AVAILABLE NOW

FOR YOUR INFORMATICS PODCAST
NEW EPISODE NOW AVAILABLE

LIVE AT #AMIA2022
INCLUSIVE INFORMATICS: REDUCING
BIAS IN OUR AI SYSTEMS

Guests:
Kevin Wiley, PhD
Kenrick Cato, PhD, RN, CPHIMS, FAAN
Tina Hernandez-Boussard, PhD
Adrienne Pichon, MPH, PhD Student

Host: Leyla Warsame, MD

COMING SOON...

**TEENS, PORTALS AND THE
21ST CENTURY CURES ACT**

Featuring MARIANNE SHARKO, MD,
MS and TRENT ROSENBLOOM, MD,
MPH, FACMI, FAMIA and hosted by
Anita Murcko. MD, MACP, FAMIA

CALL FOR PAPERS

REPRODUCTIVE INFORMATICS: IMPLICATIONS FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH AND INFORMED CHOICE

JOURNAL OF MEDICAL INTERNET RESEARCH (JMIR)

The Journal of Medical Internet Research is inviting submissions to a theme issue examining the role of health information technologies in promoting and protecting reproductive health decisions. In this theme issue (e-collection), the focus is on the impact of the US Supreme Court ruling—and similar laws like it in countries around the world—on technology, digital health, and informatics.

The Call for Papers is available here: https://www.jmir.org/announcements/336

JAMIA OPEN

SPECIAL ISSUE ON WOMEN'S HEALTH + INFORMATICS

CALL FOR PAPERS

Submissions due by February 28, 2023 11:59 ET

SUBMIT @
https://academic.oup.com/jamiaopen/pages/call-for-papers

WOMEN'S HEALTH + INFORMATICS

JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL INFORMATICS ASSOCIATION (JAMIA OPEN)

This special issue calls for submissions in all areas intersecting informatics and women's health. Submissions that report novel informatics evaluations and/or show the effectiveness of new models and methodologies for the design, implementation, use, and evaluation of clinician-facing or patient-facing tools are particularly encouraged.

Submit here ->
https://academic.oup.com/jamiaopen/pages/call-for-papers

Interesting in being a **REVIEWER** - sign up here ->
https://forms.gle/ayer69GimrkNXetP9