

Susan G. Kornstein, MD, Wendy S. Klein, MD, Janett A. Forte, MSW, Dace S. Svikis, PhD, Saba W. Masho, MD, DrPH, and Carol L. Hampton, MMS • Virginia Commonwealth University Institute for Women's Health, Richmond, Virginia

Purpose of program or project: The purpose of our project is to illustrate and report the many opportunities for leadership developed through the Virginia Commonwealth University Institute for Women's Health by highlighting the numerous and diverse leadership roles that women affiliated with the institute have attained in the university and beyond.

Methods of design and evaluation: Data were collected, tabulated, tracked and reported for women affiliated with the institute and the leadership positions that they have attained within the institute, in the university, in the greater community, nationally and internationally.

Summary of results: In the eight years since the institute was established, women affiliated with the institute have attained more than 75 different leadership positions across a broad spectrum of university, community, state, national and international venues. These positions have resulted in accomplishments and influence in a variety of spheres, as well as awards and recognition for both the individual women and the university as a whole.

Conclusion: The institute, a National Center of Excellence, is a model and showcase for cultivating and promoting strong women leaders who have opportunities to influence services, policies and practices within the academic medical center, the larger community and beyond.

About the Institute for Women's Health

The Virginia Commonwealth University Institute for Women's Health was established in 1999 to promote standards of excellence in women's health care, advance cutting-edge research, foster community outreach and collaboration, enhance women's leadership and provide training and education toward the goal of improving the health of women.

The institute fulfills its mission through the activities of the Women's Health Center at Stony Point, a nationally recognized multidisciplinary "one-stop shopping" health care facility for women that opened in 1993, as well as through interdisciplinary research, teaching and patient care conducted by faculty and clinicians in departments and schools throughout VCU and the VCU Medical Center.

The institute is one of 20 National Centers of Excellence in Women's Health as designated in 2003 by the Office on Women's Health in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The model provides an innovative, comprehensive, multidisciplinary and integrated health care system for women across their lifespan.

Institute for Women's Health National Center of Excellence Directors • Leadership Highlights



Wendy S. Klein, MD, Senior Deputy Director (since 1999)
Associate Professor, Internal Medicine and Obstetrics and Gynecology

- Deputy editor, Journal of Women's Health
- Vice president, Association of Academic Women's Health Programs
- Gubernatorial appointee, Virginia Task Force on Cervical Cancer Prevention and Screening
- Gubernatorial appointee, Virginia Council on the Status of Women
- Chair, VCU Annual Women's Health Conference
- Founding past president, VCU Women in Science, Dentistry and Medicine faculty organization
- Program director, Women's Health Track, Internal Medicine Residency Program, VCU
- 2 grants as principal investigator
- "Best Doctors in Richmond"
- "Top Docs for Women"
- "Best Doctors in America"
- VCU Women in Science, Dentistry and Medicine Professional Achievement Award



Susan G. Kornstein, MD, Executive Director (since 1999)
Professor, Psychiatry and Obstetrics and Gynecology

- Editor-in-chief, Journal of Women's Health
- President-elect, International Association for Women's Mental Health
- Scientific program chair, 3rd World Congress on Women's Mental Health
- President-elect, North American Society for Psychosocial Obstetrics & Gynecology
- Conference chair, Annual Congress on Women's Health
- 57 grants as principal investigator
- 30 national and international advisory boards
- Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) Program
- Gubernatorial appointee, VCU Health System Board
- Chair, VCU Committee on Endowed Chairs and Professorships
- VCU Women in Science, Dentistry and Medicine Professional Achievement Award
- VCU "Salute to Discovery" Research Scientist Award
- YWCA Outstanding Woman of the Year Award
- "Best Doctors in America"



Dace S. Svikis, PhD, Deputy Director (since 2001)
Professor, Psychology

- Chair, National Institute on Drug Abuse Motivational Incentives Study Group
- Chair, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Special Review Committee Education/Prevention Research
- Chair, NIAAA Health Services and Behavioral Treatment Study Section
- Chair and executive member, NIAAA Alcohol Research Center Grant Review
- Member, board of directors, College on Problems of Drug Dependence
- 6 grants as principal investigator
- Co-director, Center for Advancing Correctional Excellence, VCU Wilder School
- Director, Promoting Healthy Pregnancies, VCU Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Chair, exploratory committee focused on the establishment of a global network for women's and children's health research, VCU
- Mentor and advisory board member, VCU Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health Faculty Training Grant
- Grace Harris Leadership Institute Scholar, VCU
- Outstanding Contribution to Research, VCU Department of Psychology
- Distinguished alumna, Pharmacology Immunology Training Program, University of Minnesota



Catherine Matthews, MD, Director of Clinical Services (since 2004)
Associate Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology

- Co-director, Urogynecology Program, VCU Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
- 7 grants as principal investigator
- Fellow, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- Grace Harris Leadership Institute Scholar, VCU
- Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching, M-III clerkship, VCU
- Outstanding Teacher Award, M-II course, VCU
- Mentoring Award for Best Resident Research Project
- Berlex Scholarship Award
- John McCain Fellowship Award, South Atlantic Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- "Rising Star Award," State Council of Higher Education of Virginia
- Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics Teaching Award
- "Best Doctors in America"
- "Best Urogynecologist in Virginia"

Advancing women's leadership
Women affiliated with the VCU Institute for Women's Health have attained numerous leadership positions, awards and grants across a broad spectrum of venues.

53 Women's health leadership positions at VCU
33 Women's health leadership positions beyond VCU
31 Leadership positions beyond women's health at VCU
25 Leadership positions beyond women's health outside of VCU

45 Awards/honors
119 Grants as principal investigators
16 Grants as co-principal investigators
22 Committee chairs



Judith Collins, RNC, MS, WHNP, FAAN, Chair of Steering Committee (since 1999)
Professor Emeritus, Nursing and Medicine

- Vice chair, Women's Health Virginia
- Vice president, National Certification Corporation for Obstetric, Gynecologic and Neonatal Nurses
- Board member, American College of Nurse Midwives Certification Council
- Chair, National Alliance of Nurse Practitioners
- National vice president, Nurses' Association of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- Former (founding) director, Women's Health Center at Stony Point, VCU
- Trustee and vice president, MCV Foundation
- Trustee, Richmond Memorial Foundation
- Co-chair, Advisory Council of the YWCA
- Chair, Virginia Capital Area March of Dimes
- YWCA Outstanding Woman of the Year Award
- VCU Woman of the Year Award



Janett Forte, MSW, LCSW, Program Director (since 2003)
Assistant Professor, Psychiatry

- Attorney General's Domestic Violence Summit Advisory Group
- Consultant, International Association of Chiefs of Police
- Virginia Data Advisory Committee, Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance
- Virginia Intimate Partner Violence Primary Prevention Plan Steering Committee
- Virginia Department of Health Model Policy Advisory Committee
- 7 state grants and foundation awards as principal investigator
- Board president, Virginians Against Domestic Violence
- Board vice president, Virginians Against Domestic Violence
- Committee on the Status of Women and Minorities, VCU School of Medicine
- Field instruction faculty, VCU School of Social Work
- YWCA Outstanding Woman of the Year Award



Sheryl Garland, MHA, Director of Outreach (since 2003)
Vice President for Outreach, VCU Health System

- Governor's Indigent Healthcare Task Force
- Statewide Community Access Planning Grant Committee
- Director, VCU Center on Health Disparities
- Vice president, Ambulatory Care Services, MCV Hospitals and Physicians, VCU Health System
- Principal investigator, HRSA Community Access Program
- YWCA Outstanding Woman of the Year Award



Saba Masho, MD, DrPH, Director of Evaluation (since 2004)
Assistant Professor, Epidemiology and Community Health

- Director of surveillance, Clark-Hill Institute for Positive Youth Development
- 9 grants as principal investigator
- Co-chair, Committee on the Status of Women and Minorities, VCU
- Chair, Cancer Epidemiologist Search Committee, VCU
- Faculty senator, VCU School of Medicine
- Executive committee member, Richmond Healthy Start Initiative
- Outstanding Research and Scholarship Recognition Award in Epidemiology and Community Health, VCU School of Medicine
- Excellence in Teaching Award, VCU School of Medicine
- Outstanding Teachers Award, VCU Department of Preventive Medicine



Judith Bradford, PhD, Director of Community Based Research (since 2006)
Associate Professor, Epidemiology and Community Health and Director, Community Health Research Initiative

- Advisory Committee, Black Women Breast Cancer Survivors Research Initiative, University of Massachusetts at Amherst
- National Advisory Board, Our Bodies Ourselves
- National Institutes of Health Study Section, Health of the Population
- 10 grants as principal investigator
- Chair, Health Policy Concentration, Ph.D. in Public Policy and Administration Program, VCU
- Peer reviewer on two federal grants



Brigitte Sicat, Co-director of Professional Education (since 2003)
Assistant Professor, Pharmacy

- VCU delegate to the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
- 2 grants as principal investigator
- 4 grants as co-principal investigator
- Chair, VCU School of Pharmacy Software Review Committee
- Course consultant, Women's Health Section, Certified Medical Representatives Institute
- Phi Lambda Sigma, VCU School of Pharmacy
- Teacher of the Year Award, VCU School of Pharmacy
- VSHP Alumni Award, VCU School of Pharmacy
- Preceptor of the Year Award, VCU School of Pharmacy



Carol Hampton, MMS, Director of Leadership (since 1999)
Associate Dean for Faculty and Instructional Development

- Program chair, "Pathways to Leadership Conference," VCU
- Member, Women's Health Centers of Excellence Leadership/Mentoring Workgroup
- School of Medicine representative, University Equity and Diversity Committee, VCU
- Educational Innovation Award, VCU School of Medicine
- WISDM Professional Achievement Award, VCU

