

**West Virginia University**  
**Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center**

**National**  
**Center of Excellence**  
*In Women's Health*

Quarterly Progress Report  
April 1, 2005 – June 30, 2005

DHHS Contract #HHSP23320042207TC

**West Virginia University Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences  
National Center of Excellence In Women's Health  
Executive Summary  
June 30, 2005**

The Robert C. Byrd Health Science Center National Center of Excellence in Women's Health has had energetic 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. We marked the end of the third quarter with the receipt of a final draft of West Virginia University Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences National Center of Excellence in Women's Health brochure. (See attached) The next step in this process is approval at the National level. The goal of the brochure is to provide information about the National Center of Excellence in Women's Health. We will use this piece at exhibits and conferences in which we participate, as well as other opportunities to showcase the West Virginia University Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center National Center of Excellence in Women's Health.

We received a grant from the Office on Women's Health (OWH) in Region III, to participate in the Diva's Out Walking Campaign. The WV Divas Out Walking is a six-week program designed to encourage women of all ages to walk at least 30 minutes per day. The WV WALKS program passed the baton to the National Center of Excellence in Women's Health Divas Out Walking on Saturday, May 7th. This ceremony also marked the start of Women's Health Week.

Through the Divas Out Walking program the CoEWH hopes to increase the proportion of women who engage in regular physical activity and an to heighten the awareness of women that regular exercise such as walking as a method of health maintenance will begin to reduce the rate of obesity and the risks of heart disease and diabetes in West Virginia women. The program included a lecture/lunch program that addressed women and stress and a session on yoga in your seat and menopause.

This six-week campaign provided CoEWH an opportunity to begin collaboration with the West Virginia on the Move and West Virginia Out walking Programs as well as to strengthen our relationship with the WVU Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Wellness Group.

We signed up 139 women from across the state to participate in this program. We believe the fact that we were able to recruit women from Fairmont, Clarksburg, Parkersburg, Hurricane, Institute, Mullens, Wheeling and Philippi, Racine, Dunbar, Princeton, Weston, Grantsville and Morgantown was directly related to the work of our Outreach component.

The Divas Out Walking program encouraged women to walk together. Every Wednesday, we lead walking groups from three locations in the greater Morgantown area at three different times and encouraged our participants in other towns to do the same. A local radio station, WVAQ, announced the program as Walking Women's Wednesday/Divas Out walking, advertised us on their web site. We received a lot of positive feedback and look forward to growing the program next spring.

The Diva's Out Walking program offered the use of the West Virginia on the Move as a control site (<http://www.wvonthemove.org>) This site has just changed to (<http://www.healthywv.com>) to celebrate the recently, signed into law Healthy West Virginia Act of 2005. This legislation will encourage and support healthy lifestyles in the state. Key provisions of the legislation include: (Appendix J)

- Creating the Office of Healthy Lifestyles within the Secretary of the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources' office,
- Establishing a clinical advisory committee,
- Establishing a statewide voluntary private sector partnership and recognition program,
- Encouraging the development of incentives for participation in employee wellness programs,
- Establishing a definition of healthy beverages that can be sold in schools, and
- Enhancing requirements for physical education and health education.

The outreach component identified a working group to study the new Healthy West Virginia Act and to identify and suggest how the CoEWH can best support this legislation.

The CoEWH participated in the following screenings/fairs/lectures:

- May 5 we delivered an information lecture to the Medical School Curriculum committee in regard to the CoEWH.
- May 9<sup>th</sup> sponsored a lecture on foot health and provided an oostporaozus screening
- May 11<sup>th</sup> at Scott Ave, Morgantown, offices.
- May 19<sup>th</sup> in the Health Science Cafeteria,
- May 13<sup>th</sup> Ruby Memorial Hospital cafeteria
- , June 3<sup>rd</sup> delivered a lecture on Women and Stress and provided a body fat and blood pressure screening at the health sciences center
- June 28 we delivered a yoga in your seat seminar session at the college of Business and Economics downtown
- Mom's Turn to Learn
- Memory Walk of WV Walks
- Mental Health Walk of WV Walks
- 2005 State Health Education Council (SHEC) of West Virginia Conference

The CoEWH had an exhibit in the following events: 2005 West Virginia Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Statewide Conference in Charleston WV, in Charleston WV, and at the Morgan Spurlock lecture at WVU, Live Longer & Better June, WVU Conference on Nutrition and Wellness June 10 –12, 2005

Judy Sedgeman, Leadership Director, directed a conference called creating a Dialogue between Science and Spirituality". 200 people from attended this conference across the country and the world. ([www.sbih.org](http://www.sbih.org))

Dr. Barbara Howe, discussed the CoEWH as part of a presentation delivered to the National Women's Studies Association Program Administration and Development PreCofnerenc in Orlando Florida.

Dr. Elaine Bowen, discussed the CoEWH as part of a presentation delivered to the West Virginia Association of Family and Consumer Sciences

The Executive Advisory Board (CoEWH Brain Trust Group) is working on an exciting event we believe will mark the beginning of an effort to turn around women's health in WV. The West Virginia University Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center National Center of Excellence in Women's Health is sponsoring an event that will provide women with a revolutionary way to look at preventive health care. About a hundred West Virginia women will come together for 24 hours to learn to control their own wellness maintenance program on an individual basis, with the goal of changing the health care statistics for women in WV. The first session will be held in Fairmont West Virginia on July 29-30. We have designed the session to be "suitcased" in a way that it can be taken and "owned" by woman in other cities in West Virginia, as well as across the nation. A draft agenda is attached. We will provide a summary of the event in our year-end technical report. This event is sponsored by the WVU Health Sciences Center is once again a demonstration of the institutional support as well as a evidence of integration of the components of the CoEWH.

The Outreach Component identified the following working groups to study and develop a plan for the development of initiatives and teams in the following areas:

- Inventory of Women's Resources
- Resources/materials for resource center
- Obesity
- WVU conference on Nutrition and Wellness booth October 05
- Conference and seminars
- Identify articles and newsletters etc that WV colleagues have published in the area of Women's Health
- Screenings
- Women's Health month 06
- State Fair 06
- Work with schools – PTA
  - Healthy eating
  - Preventative health care
  - Careers in health sciences

Betty Critch Parsons, Project Director of the CoEWH has been asked on behalf of the CoEWH to participate on the following boards: WV Walks Advisory board and the WV

Wellness Council. In addition she has been asked to write an article for the WV Executive and to lead session at the Governors Wellness Conference in October.

The CoEWH is in the process of developing a cooperative relationship with the Mary Babb Randolph Cancer Center. A representative will attend the Women on the Water Retreat. In August we will meet again to begin to define the relationship.

We are proud to announce that we will open our first specialty clinic July 1, 2005. A Women's Stroke Clinic. (Appendix A.) The CoEWH stroke clinic is located just within a couple walking minutes from the CoEWH main clinic. Dr. Claudette Brooks has been named as the Director of the Stroke Clinic.

The Executive Directors attended two meetings in DC for the National Center of Excellence. These meetings were extremely beneficial in that they provide an opportunity to share ideas and build relationships with directors and project directors from across the country.

The executive committee had meetings with the COO of the West Virginia University Hospitals, the CEO and President of the WV United Health Systems, the WVU Health Science Center and with the WVU HSC Foundation Development group.

As a part of our effort to improve and expand involvement in the CoEWH, we engage in the following regularly scheduled meetings.

- Directors meet monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month. As of May this meeting has changed to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month.
- A CoEWH large information meeting is held the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month. This meeting has been changed to a bi-monthly meeting. This group is growing as we identify people and organizations. Those who are a part of the list serve for this group receive the minutes of the meetings. This allows people to keep up with the CoEWH even if they cannot attend the meetings.

The Clinical Care Working group has reduced its meeting to monthly, meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month. It has enlarged its members to include more multi-disciplinary and specialty Health Sciences Center providers as well as representatives from our Call Centers. We have included the Call Center manager in an effort to improve the customer service our current patients and potential patients receive at the beginning of their experience with the CoEWH.

Our Project Director meets monthly with the administrators from Family Medicine, Internal Medicine and Ob/GYN. The purpose of these meetings is to address the administrative issues of the CoEWH Clinic and to keep the channels of communication open.

The Information Technology Committee has engaged the support of the Institution with the addition of the Internet Marketing Manager, HSC to the committee. We have a new

web site: [www.wvhealthlywomen.org](http://www.wvhealthlywomen.org) and the web page in the process of graphic redesign.

We believe the third quarter demonstrates progress toward our mission to improve the health of WV women across their life span. We are working hard to identify, participate and deliver activities for Women's Health across the State of WV. We look forward to your comments.

### **Clinical Service Component:**

West Virginia University National Center of Excellence in Women's Health is conveniently located in on the fourth floor of the Physician's office Center. It is a patient friendly place where women of all ages will receive clinical care and up-to-date, easy to understand educational materials. The Clinic integrates multi-disciplinary research and training activities with clinical services in women's health, spanning both academic and clinical department.

#### **a. Physically identifiable Clinical Care Center**

The CCC utilizes clinic space on the fourth floor of the Physicians Office Center, consisting of multiple (13) consultation rooms and a waiting area, and a resource area.

The CoEWH Clinical Care space is wheelchair accessible and has Americans with Disabilities Act compliant examination rooms and exam tables.

Executive Leadership engaged a local WV artist to chair a committee to develop an area in the CoEWH clinic waiting area to celebrate The National Center of Excellence in Women's Health, "Body, Mind and Soul" of WV Female Artists. This committee was charged with identifying and exhibiting the work of a Female WV artist every quarter.

The Marketing department, as a part of a strategic marketing plan, has designed and continues to exhibit a billboard that advertises the existence of a "Center of Excellence in Women's Health), as well as airing a TV advertisement.

#### **b. Patient centeredness- integration of care,**

Dr. Vicki Baker, Clinic Director and Clinic Co Directors, Drs. Davisson (Internal Medicine) and Long (Family Practice) welcome the opening the CoEWH Stroke Clinic, our first dedicated specialty clinic, scheduled to open July 1, 2005. We will report more specific information on the stroke clinic in our year-end technical report. (appendix A)

The Clinic Component Working Team has changed it meeting time to monthly on the third Thursday of the month. The team has continues to include the manager

of the Physician Office Center Phone Center as well as to include additional specialty areas.

The inclusion of the Call Center will help us identify areas of improvement that are required at the inception of the CoEWH visit (initial impression by the patient). By including the call center in the clinic care working team, we have expressed the value the call center adds to the CoEWH. As a result the call center has changed the way the phone is answered. Thus improving a point of origin. By attending these meetings the call center is able to hear first hand from a health care provider problems identified with patients initial impression of the CoEWH that may be call center oriented. The issue is then addressed and we become more patient centered from the point of origin.

Working towards providing a seamless one-stop shop concept of clinical care, the clinic provides the following:

- 1) On site social worker, whose office is located off the waiting area
- 2) Faculty, residents, and staff can refer patients to her in person, through the nursing staff, or referral.
- 3) Services that are available include intervention for patients in the clinic for the following:
  - Crisis management for difficult news re: pregnancy/grief/ shock
  - Referrals and information for pregnancy terminations
  - Referrals for substance abuse treatment
  - Referrals of spousal abuse and domestic violence
  - Referrals and information for adoption planning – relinquishment and adoptions
  - Coordination for psych evaluations
  - Referrals to chestnut Ridge for medications, evaluations or hospitalizations
  - Referrals and information on paternity testing/custody questions
  - Referrals of home health
  - Referral for Ronald McDonald/Family House
- 4) Ongoing counseling can be scheduled for the following:
  - Depression and Anxiety disorders, including post partum depression
  - Stress Management
  - Adjustment to pregnancy/parenthood
  - Relationship changes: marriage/divorce/family dynamics
  - Life changes: relocation/job changes/child birth
  - Loss/grief work: missed AB's /terminations/IUFD/stillborns/BUFAs/infertility
  - Women's Health Issues
  - Domestic violence/rape/abuse issues
- 5) On site financial counselor
- 6) Managed care specialty for authorization/referrals

- 7) Patient information literature available and on display
- 8) Patient resources center see catalog of materials (see appendix)
- 9) Outpatient laboratory, EKG and ultrasound conveniently located (same floor 3 doors down the hall)
- 10) Outpatient pharmacy in the same building (located on the first floor)
- 11) Ultrasound clinic conveniently located on same floor
- 12) Pre-admission testing unit conveniently located on the same floor
- 13) Outpatient radiology (x-ray) located in the building
- 14) Direct referral to the WV Breast and Cervical Cancer Program
- 15) Direct referral to the Betty Puskar Breast Care Center
- 16) CoEWH Stroke Clinic

We will be working with the Betty Puskar Breast Care Center over the next months to identify/develop a seamless relationship as well as with the Mary Babb Randolph Cancer Center.

The clinical care-working group is in the process of identifying a referral network/system/policy.

**c. Evidence Based and innovative care**

The interdisciplinary Clinical Care Working Group meets monthly to review clinical practices as well as patient care processes to ensure high quality, innovative and evidence-based practices.

**d. Effective Information Management**

A new Women's Health History/Clinical Intake Form is in its draft form has been submitted. Next steps require direction for ROS billing compatibility and to established placement location in each chart.

We have developed a complete listing of all reference materials in the CoEWH, (not including books and videos). This list will be a work in progress in regard to improving upon the multi-disciplinary concept. During the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter we have increased our inventory by close to 30 new pieces. (Appendix B)

We continue to work on a new process that was developed to accommodate the HC providers from Family Medicine and Internal Medicine in regard to referrals, location of patient charts, patience lab results and process when HC provider is not in the clinic.

**e. Timely and accessible clinical services.**

See Clinical service a. regarding easy access to patients.

The CoE clinic provides classes during the week and on weekends that cover, child-birthing, breastfeeding, sibling classes and new parenting.

**f. Effective management of CCC Human Resources**

Dr. Baker is working with the Clinical Care Working group to develop effective management strategies.

g. **Number of new patients and minority and underserved patients**

1. We are working on establishing best identification procedures for our patients. During this quarter, we saw 3150 total visits and new visits. Our current registration does not allow us to segregate patients by race or disability; however, we estimate that approximately 5 percent (%) of the patients served are minority patients, as we have a larger minority population in Morgantown and in our clinic population than West Virginia at large. Approximately 44% of our total patient population is economically disadvantaged (i.e. Medicaid or uninsured). These visit counts exclude repeat OB visits.

h. **Participation in CoE Clinical Care Center Directors' Working Group.**

Our CoE will participate in all future CCC Directors' Working Group activities.

i. **Institutional commitment:**

In addition to the commitments from the Departments of Internal Medicine and Family Medicine for faculty time and by the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology for space and staff support. Robert D'Alessandri shared the Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center's commitment; Vice President for Health Sciences at the beginning of our site visits presentation. We are currently negotiating with the hospital and hospital system (Ruby Memorial Hospital) for additional financial support for the CoE.

j. **Integration:**

Medical students and residents see patients at the CCC as part of their professional training. With the addition of Dr. Baker as CCC director, we anticipate adding clinical trials to the population of the CCC.

Dr. Baker, Director CoEWH Clinic delivered a Teaching conference and Grand Rounds June 16, 2005, M&M Review.

Overview:

- Understand the multi-disciplinary approach in patient care
- Understand the new concepts in the field of genetics, perinatology and neonatology as applied to obstetrics
- Be informed in the ultrasound evaluation of patients with or without pregnancy complications

k. Evaluation

We are working with the evaluation director. See evaluation template attached. We will work this quarter to complete the baseline data. (See appendix C)

### **Professional Education Component**

The stated purpose of the Professional Education Working Group is to “develop and implement plans for women’s health professional education programs across the continuum of the health professions.” This quarter, a plan is in the early stages of development defining the appropriate programs that can be impacted in the Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Dentistry, and in the Allied Health programs housed in the School of Medicine. Combined, these constitute over ten degree programs. In addition, it is also realized that it is important to promote women’s health education across the continuum of education in each one of these schools. As evidenced below, many of the initiatives in women’s health are under development in this 2nd quarter of 2005.

A. **Diverse training/education programs:** *Provide diverse training/education programs by fostering the development of culturally competent health care professional training/education in women’s health.*

- Appalachian “cultural” competence opportunities are provided in their required WVU Rural Health Partnerships program (RHEP) (See D for definition of RHEP program) rotations across the all of the health professions. Status: ongoing. This experience was described in the Quarterly Report of 2004:
  - The professional education-working group has identified areas within the health professions that can work together to focus on the cultural differences of the diverse populations of women in the state. Experiences in “cultural competence” already exist for health professional students in training during their “clinical” phase of their education in the West Virginia Rural Health Partnerships (RHEP) program. All students in all the health professions are required to participate in community settings for an extended period in their educational programs. Multidisciplinary faculty related to race, ethnicity, and gender offers multidisciplinary topics. (From the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarterly Report).
- Curricula in Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Allied Health (Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy), and Social Work are currently being examined, and threads pertaining to women’s health are being identified. Plans to rectify weaknesses in curricula will be developed. Curricular examination will proceed throughout the ‘05-‘06 academic years.
- The School of Nursing (SON) and the WVU Women’s Studies Dept. offer a “linked course” in which freshman nursing students enroll in an introductory course in the SON and a linked women’s studies class. Students fulfill certain

assigned activities and readings that fulfill the requirements of each course. They also are required to develop teaching /instruction materials geared to laypersons that focus on health concerns of women.

- The AAMC and the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy will host a live Webcast May 12 to inform health professions educators about approaches for incorporating cultural competence into curricula. The program, "Cultural Competence in Health Professions Training: Considerations for Implementation," will take place from 2:00-4:00 PM EST. The Professional Education Working Group has been asked to attend. This program did not air on schedule. The materials were produced on a CD. The CD is in the process of review.
- The Teaching Scholars Program delivered a Summer Institute. The program focus was on developing educational theories/technologies as well as promoting educational skills, critical thinking and innovation education approaches. (Appendix D)
- The Certificate in Women's Health received approval as a track in Public Health Degree Program. .

See appendix D for partial listing of gender specific curricula for the health professions programs

**B. Expansion of training/education programs: *Expand the core curricula of health professions programs to include all levels across the continuum from undergraduate, graduate, post-graduate, and continuing professional education.***

- The Dept. of Obstetric and Gynecology has developed a one-month, 4<sup>th</sup>-year elective clerkship elective in women's health. This is in cooperation with CoEWH. It will be on the agenda of the School of Medicine Curriculum Committee shortly. (Under development as scheduled.)
- The School of Medicine is in the process of enhancing the third year medical student Medicine Clerkship that will offer students the opportunity to experience a 2-week clinical rotation in women's health in the CoEWH. (New: to be piloted this spring and implemented this summer.)
- The Department of Community Medicine and the School of Nursing have collaborated in the development of a 15-credit program that will enable upper level undergraduate students and graduate students across campus to complete a certificate program in women's health. (New. In the final stages of approval by the University.).
- The School of Nursing is in the process of planning a rotation in the CoEWH for its Family Nurse Practitioner graduate students who are interested in a focused clinical experience in women's health. (Under development).

- The School of Medicine Curriculum Committee will conduct an analysis of the Pre-Clinical Education Program for the M.D. degree, using the Association of American Medical College's CurrMIT curriculum database to identify gender-specific topics appropriate to enhancing women's health. This is scheduled, but not yet completed. The degree programs in the other health professions schools have been asked to conduct similar analyses.

C. **Numbers of individuals in residency and fellowship programs in Women's Health** *Expand the numbers of individuals in residency and fellowship programs in women's health.*

- As mentioned in last quarters report, there is currently under development a Residency Fellowship Program in women's health. It would be housed in the Dept. of Obstetrics and Gynecology. The fellowship would be open to residents who have completed training in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Internal Medicine and Family Medicine. A proposed curriculum has been developed. Unfortunately, the individual developing this proposal had family health issues and has taken a temporary leave of absence. Work on this important project for the School of Medicine will resume. (Status: Because of these unforeseen family circumstances, we are behind meeting the CCGME, ACOG, and RRC requirements and procedures for the approval process.)
- A certificate in Women's Health received formal approval. More information to come in the year-end technical report.

D. **Curriculum component in women's health module:** *Develop a curriculum component in the form of a women's health module.*

- The WVU CoEWH Professional Education Working Group has continued to meet and plan for the development of a module that all health professions at all levels of the continuum of education can access. It is envisioned that these learning materials be available on the Internet and in a form that can be easily accessed. The emphases and differences that may be required by the different health professionals (students and practitioners) accessing it will be accommodated by discipline and "continuum specific" study guides that will be developed by expertise in the various health professions, schools, and programs. (Status: This is currently in the discussion and planning stages. The literature is being searched for suitable materials and pre-existing e-learning materials. This topic is a major item for discussion at the next Working Committee meeting.)
- A component of this module will address "cultural competence" issues, thus contributing to the accomplishment of performance indicator A. The cultural distinctions include women of the State who are primarily of a rural, entirely Appalachian population, most of whom do not move out of the state. People of

WV are undereducated as a whole. In 2000, approximately 20% of the population age 25 or younger did not have a high school diploma.

E. **New information technologies in education and training, including rural areas:**

*Use information technologies in the provision of education and training of health care professionals in institutions and rural areas across the continuum of health professions education.*

- West Virginia Rural Health Education Partnership (WV RHEP). The mission of the West Virginia Rural Health Education Partnerships is to achieve greater retention of West Virginia trained health science graduates in underserved rural West Virginia communities by creating partnerships of community, higher education, health care providers, and governmental bodies. This mission is not rhetoric, rather one that has been carved from a set of guiding principles formulated by the partners who govern this organization and have four years experience at building this partnership. Value-based leadership from all elements that constitute the partnership characterizes our organization: the community and rural providers, higher education, and state government. The values of WV RHEP are: partnerships between communities and institutions, high quality education experiences, community-based education experiences, interdisciplinary teaching and learning, and community-based service and research. The use of information technology to keep the students linked is foremost in the implementation of this required program. At the major rural teaching sites there are Learning Resource Centers (LRCs). Each LRC is equipped with desktop computers and ports for students to connect with their laptops (a required part of the MD and Allied Health professional student programs).
- To provide a platform for the dissemination and access to the delivery of the WVU CoEWH has established a website: [www.wvhealthlywomen.org](http://www.wvhealthlywomen.org).
- The School of Nursing uses web casting as a method to deliver content to students at distance-learning sites. (On-going).
- Mountaineer Doctor Television (MDTV). No change in its use. It was described in the December 2004 Quarterly Report:
  - MDTV delivers education across the state to students in different locations. MDTV is a state wide Tele-health Network delivering services in clinical telemedicine consults, professional continuing education, patient/community education, distance learning and administrative teleconferencing. MDTV currently delivers services through a digital ISDN network to 19 distant sites and 2 service provider sites located within the states of West Virginia, Maryland, and Ohio. The use of ISDN allows MDTV to expand its services throughout the world, thus improving our current administrative teleconferencing capabilities. MDTV can

provide point-to-point or multi-point configurations at varying bandwidths. WVU uses MDTV to provide graduate and undergraduate courses, which allows the students to remain in their local community while pursuing their educational goals. Medical students and residents doing rotations at any of the distant sites have access to programs originating from the two service provider sites to complement their training. Community education continues to be a growing area of the network. EMS programs are held on a bimonthly basis in an effort to assist EMS personnel in understanding their unique role in the recognition and prevention of injuries. A diabetes support group was also developed for patients in communities with MDTV. This program educates patients on the importance of proper diet, exercise, and blood glucose monitoring. Professional continuing education is also an integral component of the MDTV system. Weekly grand rounds in Emergency Medicine, Medicine, Pediatrics, and Surgery are available to all distant sites. With increased demands and shrinking resources for continuing education across the state, MDTV provides a valuable educational tool in decreasing professional isolation. (No change. Continues to be used to connect the campuses and rural areas for the delivery of real-time education and clinical care.)

- Two other physician programs are of note: Doctors on Call (a weekly call-in television program) and Healthline (a weekly call-in radio show). While they are mainly to answer questions of a clinical nature, considerable education of the public on pertinent health issues occur. (Appendix G)
- Secure OnLine Environment (SOLE): SOLE is learners' portal for online education and information. It is a web-based tool for students to access courses and for instructors to build and maintain those courses. Developed by Academic Technologies as an open-ended system for online course development and management, SOLE harnesses the communication power of the Internet within a single-login, user-friendly environment. SOLE began as a course delivery system, but has grown to become an environment for many other applications and resources. This is WVU's main LMS (Learning Management system). WebCT is also used as a development and LMS platform for the development of instructional materials.
- The School of Nursing participated in a CDC sponsored initiative to study ways of reducing cardiovascular risk factors for WV women. The project was titled "WV Wise Woman Enhanced Project".
- Students across the health professional school participate in the WV CARDIAC (Coronary Artery Risk Detection In Appalachian Communities) project. West Virginia (WV) is the second most rural state in the nation, with two-thirds of its 1.8 million people living in communities of less than 2500 population and 44 of its 55 counties designated non-metropolitan by the Federal Office of Management and Budget. Eighty percent of the counties in WV have full or partial designation

as Health Professions Shortage Areas (HPSAs) and all but eight counties have full or partial designations as medically under served areas. Over half of the state is considered "distressed" economically by the Appalachian Regional Commission. The economic plight of WV is reflected in the cardiovascular health of its residents. The age-adjusted rate of heart disease was 328/100,000 in 1995, 21% higher than the national average and 49th in the nation. Lifestyle clearly is an issue. Results of the Center for Disease Control (CDC) Behavioral Risk Factor Survey in 1997 showed that WV had the highest rate of obesity, the third highest rate of self-reported hypertension, and the fifth highest rate of cigarette smoking in the nation. Unfortunately the cardiovascular disease (CVD) burden of WV is typical of Appalachia in general. While death due to heart disease has declined over the past 20 years, the gap between Appalachia and the rest of the nation is widening. The CARDIAC Project was initiated in 1998 as a means of reversing this disparity in CVD. Comprehensive in design, CARDIAC has two components: a school-based surveillance and intervention initiative, and a targeted individualized approach toward identification and referral for treatment of those individuals with the most severe genetic cause of death from premature CVD: familial hypercholesterolemia (FH). CARDIAC is the first statewide CVD intervention program of its kind in the nation. Since its inception CARDIAC has grown from a small school-based CVD surveillance project piloted in three rural WV counties to an expanded multidimensional effort involving all of the State's 55 counties.

- One of the off-shoots of projects such as CARDIAC, in which nursing students participate, is a project in which traditional WV recipes were adapted in such a way to reduce saturated fats and add fruits and vegetables to women's diets. Community advisory groups of WV women offered recipes, tested the adapted recipes and advised the researchers in planning and conducting the project.
- The CoEWH web site continues to be updated with particular attention to the possibility of it to serve as a medium for our educational materials.
- The University has invested in a new e-learning platform for course development – VISTA. It replaces WebCT as the old platform.

F. **Collaboration on professional education/training activates with other institutions and programs:** *Collaborate with other CoEWH funded institutions in a Professional Education Forum sponsored by the funding agency.*

- Collaboration has occurred at the senior management level of the project. But no direct collaboration has occurred with representatives of the Professional Education Working Groups getting together.
- Internal collaboration has occurred however. For example:

- A mentorship program for women in health professions is planned in collaboration with the Leadership Working Group. Not only would such a program offer an opportunity for integration and collaboration among working groups (Education and Leadership), but it would afford an opportunity for emerging leaders in women's health in WV to be mentored by women who have an in-depth knowledge of the culture, needs and practices of women in the state.
- In co-operation with other school and departments in the University, The Educational Working Group will establish interdisciplinary alliances that will foster holistic and comprehensive care for women of WV and society. Interdisciplinary alliances already established include:
  - An industrial relations graduate student from the WVU College of Business and Economics is working with the CoEWH project director to develop an internal communications model for the CoEWH.
  - An MBA intern is working with the CoEWH project director to gain experience in program development and administration.
  - A graduate student in the Executive MBA program is working with the director of the Research component to identify research focusing on women's health across the health professions.
  - Working with students and faculty in the WVU Women's Study program.
  - A graduate student in the Public Administration Department is working with the project director to gain experience in program development and administration.
  - An accounting undergraduate is working with the project director to gain experience in accounting and budget functions.

The Co-director of the educational component, while at a meeting in Washington State, identified a possible collaborative relationship with the co-director of CoEWH University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine, Louise Arnold, and PhD. Dr. Arnold is interested in WVU's cultural competence module and various study guides specific to the health profession.

G. **Serve as Change Agent within the University:** *Serve as a change agent within the University.*

- In order to meet this objective the following activities have been undertaken:

- Determine specific facets of curriculum in all health care disciplines that target women's health issues
  - Stress the need for culturally competent health care, especially for WV women
  - Integrate Informatics and Distance Education Modalities to offer holistic education modules in various aspects of women's health care that are targeted to specific health care providers, but are wide enough in scope to be appropriate for other health care providers
- An agenda item has been placed on the School of Medicine's Curriculum Committee to appoint a subcommittee to: 1) identify curricula that relates to women's health, and 2) to suggest strategies to enhance women's health teaching in the curriculum
  - Recruit education opinion leaders in women's health to promote curriculum change among the health professions schools and continuum of education

The project director, Betty Critch Parsons and the co-director of Education, Nan Leslie addressed the SoM Curriculum Committee to discuss the CoEWH at West Virginia University Health Sciences Center.

H. **Collaborate with OWH, DHHS Regional Women's Health Coordinators and State Women's' Health Coordinators and Minority Women's Health Panel of Experts:** *Collaborate with the Office of Women's Health (OWH), DHHS Regional Women's Health Coordinators (RWHC), State Women's Health Coordinators (SWHC), and Minority Women's Health Panel of Experts (MWHPE) on issues affecting women's health.*

- Not implemented yet at the national level. Waiting to hear from the funding agency.
- At the state level, collaboration has occurred through the various state agencies. This has mainly been possible working with the Outreach and Leadership Working Committees.

I. **Participate in CoE Professional Education Working Group:** *Send a representative(s) to participate in the national CoEWH Professional Education Working Group.*

- Representative(s) are available. Waiting to hear when meetings have been scheduled.

J. **Institutional Commitment:** *Demonstrate an institutional commitment to improving women's health.*

- This was demonstrated by the participation of all components and leadership of the health sciences community at the site visit
- Mentioned in Dean's request for annual faculty and staff annual giving as strength of the institution.

K. **Integration:** *Integrate with other components of the Center of Excellence in Women's Health.*

- Integration continues through bi weekly attendance at leadership meetings, general meetings and conferences. All members of the CoEWH Professional Education Working Group are informed and invited to the various weekly and monthly meetings.
- The leadership of the Professional Education Working Group works particularly closely with the overall leadership of the WV CoEWH and with the component leadership of the Leadership and Outreach Working Groups.
- The Education and Leadership components participated in the Teaching Scholars Summer Institute.

L. **Evaluation:** *Evaluate the professional education component of CoEWH.*

- To facilitate the evaluation of the Professional Education component of WV CoEWH, the Project Evaluation Director has been invited to attend the meetings of the Professional Education Working Group.
- The Project Evaluation Director has met regularly with the leadership of the Professional Education Working Group. An outline of how to proceed with establishing a baseline has been agreed upon. The Professional Education Working Group is discussing criteria to facilitate the accomplishment of outcomes. (Appendix C)

### **Leadership Component**

The Leadership component supports the development of women as leaders in:

- Academic health centers
- Partner organizations
- Communities we service

The COEWH Leadership team, continues to work closely with the well-established Women in Science and Health Committee (WISH) which has, for many years, represented women's interests at the Health Sciences Center and offered mentoring and development programs focused on women students, residents and faculty. The Leadership Director, Judith A. Sedgeman, is a vice-chair of the WISH committee, and a

majority of WISH members serve on the COEWH Leadership team. This working partnership has been effective for both WISH and the COEWH in terms of institutional visibility and credibility for both organizations. WISH activities planned for the coming academic year include:

- COEWH Leadership support (continued): potential RFP for leadership
- Salary equity survey on-going
- Gender equity survey design, institutional support, and initiation
- Quarterly Newsletter development
- Expansion of Women's Leadership efforts to include other WVU campuses and all of West Virginia
- Concierge resources for faculty & family
- Participation in regional or National mentoring program for women
- HSTA mentoring
- Introduction to Health Sciences Students
- Nomination of WVU women for national leadership awards and development programs

a. **Recruitment, retention, and promotion of women in the health care professions:**

The Leadership team, thus far, has focused on three areas that we see as critical to explore before creating a specific mentoring and leadership development plan:

- 1. Assessing leadership programs and activities already in place across the Health Sciences to find both overlaps and gaps and to assist people to network more effectively in the development of leadership programs.** As a result of a query of members of the committee who play significant leadership roles in each of the HSC schools. We have compiled a list of important leadership events and opportunities for women across the Health Sciences. A subcommittee of the Leadership committee is building a Leadership/Opportunity page for our web site that will also link to the WISH web site, which keeps an updated list of conferences and educational advancement opportunities for women. A comprehensive Women's Resource List has been created by COEWH.
- 2. Reviewing recent studies of salary equity and diversity and determining what, if any, baseline data is available from which to build our new surveys.** As a result of a March, 2005, meeting with all the Deans of the Health Sciences schools, we received the support of all four Deans and the VP, Health Sciences to proceed with a salary equity survey. Review of earlier data made it clear that a review of contract data alone will not provide the information needed for a fully descriptive, comprehensive compensation survey since much of the gap in compensation occurs as people take on roles that are incentivized or covered by non-contract funding. We have met with the Vice President of Finance twice to determine how we can obtain the needed data. There was a delay in the original plan engendered by a request from the legal office to suspend this activity pending resolution of a legal matter. That was resolved in June 2005.

Subsequently, the compensation survey subcommittee met to discuss next steps and another approach was made to the Vice President, Finance and Dean of the Medical School. The Dean pledged his full support. COEWH leadership developed a proposal to move this project forward and has presented it to the Dean of the Medical School. The other Deans are willing to share their salary information as long as it is pooled in any reports made to protect individual confidentiality, as their faculties are much smaller than the medical school.

**3. We are in the process of exploring existing policies and attitudes regarding recruitment, retention and promotion of women faculty and leaders**

After our initial investigative work, we determined that it was important to conduct a thorough climate survey of the HSC. A joint WISH-COEWH task, chaired by Kathy Rosen, M.D., who is the Chair of WISH, has developed a climate survey instrument and partnered with researchers who are planning to conduct the survey and publish the results. The survey will be conducted on-line throughout the HSC in the fall. Once we have the findings from the survey, along with the other information we have gathered, we will present this information to the Deans and the Vice President of Health Sciences, along with policy recommendations to address issues that are identified. We plan to repeat the climate survey annually and track changes as the administrative responses are noticed and begin to affect the culture of the institution.

**b. Recruitment of diverse students in women's health.**

Both the Medical School and the Dental School have active programs to engage minority students in studying science and becoming interested in the health professions starting in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. We have talked to the leadership of both those programs about using them as a model for the other health professions, or incorporating the other health professions, at some point, in the decision matrix for their students learning about health careers.

- Technology in Delivery of Leadership activities: The Health Sciences Center Teaching Scholars Program, which is a yearlong program for junior faculty across all health sciences programs, identified as future leaders, offered a Summer Leadership Institute in summer, 2005. The Institute was attended by four female faculty (and three male faculty) from WVU and one female faculty from Temple University. The Institute was extremely well-received and we expect it will attract many more participants next year. While this was an on-campus institute, it included sessions on the use of technology and discussion of the plan to establish a Virtual Leadership Institute by 2006. The Virtual Institute will then be offered nationally. A committee has been formed to use what was learned from participants in the summer institute and our experience with the on-line Teaching Scholars Program to develop the Virtual Institute.
- Integration: The directors of the four working groups meet regularly and continually discuss ways to work together to meet mutual goals.

- Attraction and retention of diverse students will be on the agenda of items talked about at the leadership institute. This issue is important to the leadership of the HSC and is on the radar screen. We will discuss ways to enhance institutional efforts in this regard.

c. **Recruitment of diverse faculty of Departmental Chairs, Deans and upper level university positions**

The WISH committee has, as one of its primary goals, the support of recruiting and retaining diverse faculty so that a diverse pool of qualified emerging leaders is available when important leadership openings occur. At this time, the internal pool is relatively shallow. West Virginia University salaries hover just below 50% of the national average, and WVU loses many highly qualified diverse faculty to other institutions in mid-career. In addition, the competition for highly qualified diverse leadership candidates is fierce and WVU loses good external candidates because of salary limitations as well. It is our hope that our salary equity and climate surveys bring this issue to the foreground for leadership within the university and at the State level so that we may begin to change policy internally to attract, reward and retain highly qualified people. The COEWH designation is a plus in this regard as it provides both an additional incentive for action and an opportunity to attract good candidates.

This issue was discussed in our meeting with the Deans in March. At this time, in all honesty, the focus of the institution is on attracting quality candidates and filling positions. Positions here often go unfilled for longer than at other institutions because of where WVU falls in the national salary levels. We will continue to work with the leadership in this area and we feel that the outcome of the salary and compensation surveys and an ongoing dialogue on the opportunities they present for institutional change will begin to address the diversity issue.

This is an area that demands more attention and it is very much on radar screen, but we have determined that we should not take it on full-bore until we have all our information together.

As we conduct the two surveys currently underway, we will also compile complete lists of people serving in leadership positions and on faculty committees, both appointed and voluntary, across the Health Sciences to determine if there are patterns of diversity or if there are gaps that should be filled. This information will be integrated with the salary and climate information when we present it.

d. **Retention of diverse faculty**

See c. above. The Dean of the Medical School, who assumed that position in July 2004, has made a clear commitment to retaining diverse faculty. He informed the COEWH leadership that he had met with the Social Justice Officer for WVU to begin a dialogue to introduce aggressive strategies to create and promote increasing diversity.

e. **Promotion of diverse faculty**

See c. and d. above. This is part of the WISH committee's agenda. The committee is compiling a list of female and minority faculty and gathering CV's and tracking accomplishments with the goal of recommending people for honors, special courses (such as the AAMC's ELAM course, or university-sponsored leadership opportunities). Working with CoEWH, WISH plans to make a concerted effort to see that promising diverse faculty are brought to the forefront of opportunities as they arise.

f. **Salary equity for diverse faculty**

A strategy for salary equity will emerge from the salary equity survey. At this juncture, we do not have sufficient understanding of the sources of inequity to propose solutions. Salary surveys conducted by the Institution's finance office have indicated no inequities in the past; on cursory examination, we feel that this is misleading since such surveys do not include incentives or bonuses. We will extend the definition of "salary" in our survey to capture such data.

g. **Development and implementation of a "Mentoring Plan for Diverse Faculty and students in Women's Health"**

This will be done during 2005, once we complete the information-gathering process described earlier in the report.

h. **Technology in delivery of leadership activities**

The Teaching Scholars Program, of which 54% of the faculty served are women, is offered on-line. Although the scholars meet, most of the information, background reading, exercises and group discussion for this program now takes place on-line. In 2005-6, this program will be further developed into a Virtual Leadership Institute.

i. **Institutional commitment**

The Vice President for Health Sciences and all the Deans have demonstrated significant support and enthusiasm for the COEWH. Leaders from across the Health Sciences, from WVU Hospitals, and from across the WVU campus attended our recent site visit and continue to be responsive and available to us as we make requests for information or assistance. The Institution is proud of the COEWH designation and has offered considerable in-kind support for many of our efforts.

j. **Integration**

The Leadership committee will continue to work with Outreach as programs are developed in response to community leadership needs. In addition, the Leadership programs that are geared to promising students will build connections with the Research group to provide opportunities for students to participate in and learn from research

projects. Leadership offerings, such as the Faculty Development Leadership series scheduled in Spring 2005 and the Teaching Scholars Leadership module, offered for one month each year, reach across all disciplines.

**k. Evaluation**

Appendix C

**Research**

**a. New sex/gender-based research**

The WVU National Center of Excellence in Women's Health (CoEWH) has established a multi-disciplinary research committee with the purpose of meeting the second objective of the National CoEWH. The second objective of the National CoEWH is to encourage, a multi-disciplinary research agenda on women's health issues, fostering collaborations across academic departments and promoting strategies to encourage women to participate in clinical research trials. Starting in September the COEWH research committee will have monthly meetings for the purpose of meeting this objective.

To meet the national objective, the WVU CoEWH research committee has developed several goals for the 2005-2006 school year. The first goal is to continue to increase the listing of the current research at WVU involved in gender-specific studies and to recruit these researchers to join the WVU CoEWH. The second goal is to establish a lecture series on gender specific research.

The following researchers have been identified as gender-specific investigators and are the initial core of WVU CoEWH research group:

Pam Brown, M.D.  
HSC, MBR Cancer Center, Division of Cancer Prevention & Control

Richard Crout, DDS  
HSC, College of Dentistry  
Periodontal Disease and Pregnancy

Robert Dailey, PhD  
College of Agriculture; Department of Animal Science  
Nutrition and pregnancy

Firyal Khan-Dawood, Ph.D.  
Health Sciences Center (HSC), Department of Pathology  
Molecular mechanisms of Uterine Fibroid Formation

Gerry Dino, Ph.D.  
HSC, Department of Community medicine

Behavioral patterns of adolescent smoking in WV

Cindy Fitch, PhD  
College of Agriculture; Department of Nutrition  
Demographics of obesity

Jorge Flores, PhD  
Arts and Sciences, Department of Biology  
Ovarian Follicular Development

R. Turner Goins, Ph.D.  
HSC, Center on Aging  
Barriers to health care for rural elders and health care differences between American  
Indians and white elders

Elbert Glover, M.D.  
HSC, Addiction and Psychiatry  
Gender and Depression

Robert Goodman, Ph.D.  
HSC, Department of Physiology  
Pituitary function in women

Leah Hammer, Ph.D  
HSC, Department of Physiology  
Effect of gender, obesity and age on muscular blood flow

Stan Hileman, Ph.D.  
HSC, Department of Physiology  
Effect of Leptins on obesity

Kimberly Horn, EdD  
HSC, Department of Community Medicine  
Behavioral patterns of adolescent smoking in West Virginia

Keith Inskeep, PhD  
College of Agriculture; Department of Animal Science  
Role of the Corpus Luteum in pregnancy

Wikom Karsakul, M.D.  
HSC, Department of Pediatrics  
Protein absorption

June Lunney, Ph.D.  
HSC, School of Nursing

End of life issues in elderly women

Nan Leslie, Ph.D.

HSC, School of Nursing, Department of Health Promotion and Risk Reduction

Kristen Matak, PhD

College of Agriculture; Department of Nutrition  
Obesity and Gender

Susan McCrone, Ph.D.

HSC, School of Nursing, Department of Health Promotion and Risk Reduction

Carl Palmer, MD

HSC, Department of Internal Medicine  
Pharmaceutical treatments for menopause

RoseAnn Schaffer, Ph.D.

Effect of herbicides and environmental estrogens on women

Janet Tou, PhD

College of Agriculture; Department of Nutrition  
Molecular and genetic effects on obesity

Rachel Yeater, Ph.D.

HSC, Human Performance

b. & c. **Recruitment and facilitation of underrepresented individuals.**

The WVU CoEWH Clinical Care Center (CCC) serves as the focal point for the recruitment of women for gender specific studies of underrepresented individuals. The state of West Virginia does not have a substantial number of minorities relative to other states, however, every effort is being made to identify underrepresented individuals. Of the current WVU gender-specific two researchers who have been studying women from underrepresented groups and who plan to use the CCC are:

June Lunney, Ph.D.

HSC, School of Nursing  
End of life issues in elderly women

R. Turner Goins, Ph.D.

HSC, Center on Aging  
Barriers to health care for rural elders and health care  
differences between American Indians and white elders

d. **Link University research departments to the CoEWH**

The WVU CoEWH research committee, as indicated above in section (a), has already recruited researchers from several separate WVU colleges. It is also establishing a campus wide lecture series on gender-specific research. To start off the series, Ms. Judy Norsigian of the ‘Our Bodies, Our Selves’ project is being recruited as the first gender-specific lecturer.

Furthermore, the director of research has given talks about the WVU CoEWH to the faculties of various departments in the Colleges of Medicine, Agriculture and Arts & Sciences.

The CoEWH research executive committee is composed of:

Michael W. Vernon, Ph.D., HCLD  
CoEWH Research Committee Chairperson  
HSC, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Barbara Ducatman, M.D.  
CoEWH Director  
HSC, Department of Pathology

R. Turner Goins, Ph.D.  
HSC, Center on Aging

Mary Ellen Zeppuhar, EdD  
Center for Excellence in Disabilities

Kimberly Horn, EdD  
HSC, Department of community medicine

Firyal Khan-Dawood, Ph.D.  
HSC, Department of Pathology

e. **Collaborative projects**

The WVU CoEWH has been working with the new director of the Clinical Care Center, Dr Vicki Baker, to recruit patients for gender-specific studies. Two studies are currently applying for CCC privileges to perform basic research studies on humans:

Carl Palmer, MD  
HSC, Department of Internal Medicine  
Pharmaceutical treatments for menopause

Dr Palmer and his colleagues have previously observed that the drug Octreotide alleviated some of the symptoms of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. During the course of these studies it was noted that some of the peri-menopausal women experienced a

remission in their hot flushes. Dr Palmer will be recruiting patients from the Clinical Care Center to test the effect of Octreotide on hot flushes.

Jorge Flores, PhD

Arts and Sciences, Department of Biology

Ovarian Follicular Development

Dr. Flores is a basic scientist that has been investigating the role of the hormone endothelin in ovarian cells in the cow. To compliment this project, he will be working with the Clinical Care Center and the Department of Ob/Gyn to obtain human ovarian tissue that would normally be discarded.

f. **Published papers/abstracts on gender-related research**

The members of the WVU CoEWH research committee have been actively engaged in research. However, since their current publications were derived from former studies and not directly from CoEWH, no publications or abstracts will be reported in this report.

g. **Presentations on gender-related research to professional and lay audiences**

The following members of the WV CoEWH participated as lecturers at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual West Virginia Conference on Women Health Policy held on December 7, 2004, in Morgantown, West Virginia

Barbara Ducatman

*High Risk HPV in a Population of Indigent Appalachian Women*

Michael Vernon, Ph.D.

"Governmental Regulation of Recent Advances in Reproductive Medicine"

Mary Ellen Zeppuhar, EdD

"Women with Disabilities: Barriers to Health Care/Emerging Trends.

(See appendix A 5<sup>th</sup> Annual West Virginia Conference on Women's Health brochure.)

h. **Institutional commitment**

The WVU CoEWH research committee has organizing a seminar series on gender-related research. External and internal speakers will be invited to present their research to the WVU research community. The WVU Department of Research and Graduate Studies has committed \$2,000 and the Women's Studies Program has committed \$1,000 to the new seminar series. As indicated above, Ms. Judy Norsigian of the 'Our Bodies, Our Selves' project is being recruited as the first gender-specific lecturer.

i. **Integration**

As can be seen from the list of new CoEWH researchers (section a), the research program has been integrated between various colleges at WVU. Furthermore, this research not only involves faculty but, medical students, medical residents, nursing students and graduate students.

j. **Evaluation**

As a new program, the research component of the WV CoEWH has initiated steps towards increasing gender-specific research at WVU. These initial steps include the development of a working CoEWH research committee, organizing WVU gender-specific researchers into a cohesive group, establishing a gender-related seminar series and facilitating the availability of female research subjects from the CCC. (See appendix C)

**Community Outreach Component**

The goal of Community Outreach is to strengthen established community partnerships through a comprehensive, integrated outreach strategy through:

- Women’s health education materials/activities
- Innovative outreach strategies
- Consumer Advisory Board (CAB) and community alliances
- Outreach to middle/high school students
- Accessibility of preventive services/screenings
- State/regional OWH
- Collaboration with CCOEs
- Women’s Health Resources Center
- Women’s Health Resource Inventory
- COE Outreach and Minority Working Groups
- Institutional Commitment
- Integration
- Evaluation

This report is identified by the above goals, with appropriate subheadings for major activities.

a. **Identifying and developing culturally and linguistically appropriate women’s health education materials/activities**

- We are partnering with the WVU Health Sciences Center (HSC) Mary Babb Randolph Cancer Center, as that unit would like to collaborate in evaluating and disseminating low literacy materials. Current collaborative activities include: 1) cancer education publications produced and distributed through the WVU Extension Service website are currently being updated; 2) additional materials have been identified for joint distribution (e.g. “West Virginia Cancer Resources A Patient’s Guide”); 3) a publication from Wyoming that addresses breast care in women with developmental disabilities is currently being reviewed for possible adaptation for West Virginia women.
- A WVU Public Service Grant of \$5,303 will pilot test community workshops and health information for seniors in Wood County on accessing quality health information via the Internet. Partners include WVU Extension Service, the WVU

School of Pharmacy, WVU Health Sciences Library, Community Educational Outreach Service (CEOS) clubs, local libraries, and senior centers.

- We continue to identify other sources and methods of distributing such materials that are relevant to West Virginia women and their health needs.
- We will collaborate with Dr. Ruth Kershner, an associate professor of community medicine in regard to her expertise in developing materials with appropriate literacy levels, especially in terms of developing items related to sexual assault, domestic violence, and reproductive issues.
- We have continued to identify materials available through the WV Department of Health and Human Resources and through our CAB members. For example, one of the CAB members shared information on lymphedema which has been distributed via the COEWH exhibit and clinic. We will continue to work toward identifying and, if needed, developing resource materials in Spanish to distribute as part of our outreach mission.
- Students in a senior women's studies seminar completed a service-learning project with women in the local Muslim community to help orient these immigrant women to Morgantown and available services, including health care and American health care practices. This included information on domestic violence and resources available to victims of domestic violence because, in meeting with some of the Muslim women, they indicated a need for those resources. One woman in this class, who has an extensive background in patient education and certifications in areas like CPR and first aid, will be developing a manual related to some aspect of parenting or women's health for this target audience as a fall 2005 independent study assignment. She is also interested in holding a class on CPR for the Muslim women that would address issues of doing CPR through a veil and other culturally appropriate issues. She has talked to some of the leaders of the Muslim women's community to get this set up
- A women's studies minor/nursing major/disabilities studies certificate student is developing material that nurses can use with mothers of babies with disabilities to help the mothers while they are still in the hospital. Apparently, this is an area where there is little available information, so the staff at Ruby Memorial Hospital is interested in the results of this work. The Center of Excellence in Disabilities at WVU is also interested in helping disseminate this information. One of the WVU outreach committee members, Dr. Mary Ellen Zeppuhar, is supervising this project, which will be completed in the summer of 2005.

b. **Innovative outreach strategies**

OWH Literature Dissemination - The following groups were reached this quarter with various women's health literature. In most of these events, the COEWH exhibit provided information about the center and other activities.

- **April 2:** Mom's Turn to Learn Day (an information fair for women seeking to continue their educations; sponsored by the WVU Center for Women's Studies and Council for Women's Concerns). The WVU medical technology program also had a booth at this event. Several potential students asked about nursing careers, so we will ask the School of Nursing to participate next year.
- **April 10:** Morgantown senior Girl Scout troop; one of those scouts took materials to the Bartlett House, a local homeless shelter, and others took materials to two of the Monongalia County high schools.
- **April 18:** WVU Festival of Ideas program featuring Morgan Spurlock, producer of "Super Size Me," a program that attracted over 1000 attendees. We shared exhibit space in the WVU Mountainlair (student union) with the West Virginia Walks exhibit.
- **April 28:** Eight state Cancer Information Specialists who work with hundreds of volunteers and groups throughout the state.
- **April 30:** Memory Walk (sponsored by the North Central West Virginia Alzheimer's Association chapter)
- **May 7:** Morgantown-area Mental Health Walk that ended West Virginia Walks and started National Women's Health Week in Morgantown.

### **Presentations and Publication for Professional Audiences**

- **April 8-9:** Elaine Bowen presented the COEWH information and discussed partnerships with approximately forty members of the West Virginia Association of Family & Consumer Sciences, West Virginia Association of Extension Family & Consumer Sciences, and the West Virginia Association of Extension 4-H Agents.
- **April DATES:** WVU outreach committee members Leesa Prendergast and Dr. Ruth Kershner and CAB member Julie Lejeune represented us at the State Health Education Conference at Pipestem State Park.
- **April 28:** Barb Howe and Elaine Bowen met with the Cancer Information Specialists at their regular meeting in Flatwoods, WV, and talked about the COEWH – all were very eager to participate.
- **June 9:** Barb Howe talked with about thirty-five persons about the NCOEWH as part of a presentation on building alliances for women's studies programs at the National Women's Studies Association Program Administration and Development PreConference in Orlando, Florida.

- **June 10-12:** Elaine Bowen was on the planning committee for the WVU Wellness Conference in Morgantown. About 100 persons from across the state attended this first time conference.
- **October:** Barb Howe is submitting a proposal this summer to present a session about the COEWH to the Ohio University-Zanesville conference on Women of Appalachia: Their Heritage and Accomplishments, the only national conference focused totally on women in Appalachia. This conference offers CEUs to nurses and social workers, so this should be a popular session.
- 
- **October 26-28:** Elaine Bowen is on the planning committee for the forthcoming West Virginia Rural Health Conference.
- Elaine Bowen is submitting a publication for national extension audiences on collaboration between extension organizations and state COEWHs.
- We are identifying other conferences, with the help of CAB members, where we can have some presence.

### **National Women's Health Month (NWH)**

- We launched Women's Health Week with the culmination of the West Virginia Walks campaign, a very popular public event on May 7th. This included a "passing of the baton" from the chair of West Virginia Walks to Dr. Barbara Ducatman, Director of the COEWH. The First Lady of West Virginia, Gayle Manchin, was to attend but had to cancel at the last minute. The chair of the West Virginia Senate Committee on Health, Roman Prezioso, was present at the event, as was Ron Justice, mayor of the City of Morgantown, and Cindy Frich, a member of the West Virginia House of Delegates.
- We distributed information about the OWH web site and materials to CAB members to use in their communities.
- Eight state Cancer Information Specialists were provided with NWH materials for their audiences across the state when Elaine Bowen and Barb Howe attended their meeting on April 28th .
- The OWH web site was linked to [www.wvhealthywomen.edu](http://www.wvhealthywomen.edu) to make information and publications easily available via our site.
- Betty Parsons and Barb Howe participated in the national conference call on outreach for National Women's Health Month on April 12th.

- CAB members posted information on the OWH web site to publicize West Virginia activities. CAB member Julie Lejeune posted information on the Shop Talk Breast Cancer Awareness Project entitled Shop Talk Mammograms Save Lives Campaign. She reported that “This was the second year for this breast cancer awareness program. We had 550 participating shops and covered all 55 counties (about a 10% increase from 500 shops in 50 counties the first year). I think it's important to mention that the Cancer Information Specialists with the West Virginia Breast & Cervical Cancer Screening Program play a huge role in making this program a success. They hand delivered kits (over 200) to shops in 16 counties, including eight counties that do not have local mammography facilities. Our goal with this project is to increase awareness of early detection and to connect (eligible) women who are insured or underinsured with services available through BCCSP.” CAB member Patsy Harman posted a Celebrate Women’s Health Week event sponsored by Partners in Women’s Health Care, where she works.
- Emily Hopta, a CAB member, got Gov. Joe Manchin to issue a proclamation for the week of May 8 that is available on our web site. Additionally, the City of Morgantown issued a proclamation. We used the sample proclamation on the OWH web site as a model.
- We had an osteoporosis screening as part of a West Virginia Walks program on May 9 at the Monongalia County Health Department. We presented a lecture on proper foot health and provided a screenings for osteoporosis. This was part of a series of lectures that West Virginia Walks had sponsored during its campaign, and approximately 15 people attended.
- Barb Howe and Betty Parsons met with the WVU Wellness Council staff on April 13<sup>th</sup> to discuss ways to collaborate with them about events during May that fit into Employee Health and Fitness Week, which was the week after National Women’s Health Week. The Wellness Council planned to have exhibits and screenings at Ruby Memorial Hospital and at the Health Sciences Center cafeteria, as well as at a University Health Associates office building located away from the hospital and health sciences center. We participated in 3 of their events/screening.
- We participated in a WAJR (local radio program) Thursday morning call-in talk-show segment on about the COEWH. Dr. Michael Vernon, research director, did the presentation. This radio station sponsors programs about health every Thursday morning.
- We are working with the WVU HSC to distribute PSAs for broadcast and print media for National Women’s Health Week.

- We contacted the West Virginia Library Commission, which serves all state libraries, and the West Virginia Wellness Council about getting materials about National Women's Health Week to libraries, employees, and the school system (students, employees). Susan Hayden, adult services library consultant for the West Virginia Library Commission, sent out the following notice to all the librarians: "National Women's Health Week is the week of May 8th. A wide variety of free publications about women's health is available from the Office on Women's Health web site: [www.4woman.gov](http://www.4woman.gov). A display of books and materials from your library collection would be an easy promotion for this important week. The book *What to Do When You're Having a Baby*, from the Institute for Healthcare Advancement's What to Do Health series is a great title to start your display with." Ms. Hayden has offered to help in our activities because she has a particular interest in the West Virginia Literacy Volunteers. We had hoped publications would be available through the OWH for libraries to order, but the OWH ran out before the libraries could order.
- We tried to contact the appropriate people for the National Energy Technology Laboratory and National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health centers here in Morgantown after learning on the outreach conference call that the national offices were being encouraged to have activities for the week of May 8. In spite of having leads through a friend at NETL, the NETL person in Pittsburgh who would handle these events never answered Barb Howe's email. A colleague at NIOSH was not able to identify anyone in that office in charge of these activities. We also contacted the federal prison in Hazelton, West Virginia. Jennifer Tennant, a psychologist there, said, "I have not heard anything about this as of yet, but I will check with the other diversity management team members to see if they are familiar. The screening would probably be difficult as we do not have a physician on board yet, but it would be great if you had some literature for us to distribute. Also, if there are community activities for which you need volunteers, I would be happy to solicit our staff, who has been quite helpful with responding to community service requests so far." The other major federal agencies in our state are the USDA agencies (e.g. Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm Service), US Army Corps of Engineers (Baltimore, Huntington, and Pittsburgh districts), and US Treasury, but we did not have time to contact them this year. We suggest the OWH encourage federal agencies to contact their regional offices, as none of the local/regional offices we contacted seemed to know about this event. As an alternative, it would be helpful if the OWH could give guidance on the office(s) that might be responsible for health activities in each agency so we can target our queries more effectively next year. Having more materials available from OWH would also be helpful.

- Dr. Maria Kolar contacted the Veterans Administration Hospital in Clarksburg and learned that Karen Leon, the women veterans' program manager, scheduled a Women Veteran's Health Fair on May 14, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and advertised this as part of "Women's Week." This was outside the VA Center and included diabetes-blood sugar testing, blood pressure checking, and a cholesterol check, as well as various information booths, entertaining, refreshments, and door prizes. While we did not have a direct role in this event this year, there is clearly an opportunity to publicize the COEWH at this event next year.
- Through Hilda Heady, vice president for rural health at WVU, we contacted all the Rural Health Education Program (RHEP) offices and Appalachian Health Education Centers in the state via e-mail to encourage RHEP students to do programs or screenings in the communities where they were working as part of their public service requirement. We did learn from Kathryn Greenlief, WVRHEP site coordinator for the Mountain Health Consortium, that Julia Spelsburg from Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital in Lewis County had screenings scheduled for May 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. She asked for RHEP students to do cholesterol screenings and possibly help with paps.
- WVU Outreach Committee member Mary Ellen Zeppuhar shared information with us about the fact that Miss Wheelchair America was able to come to communities during the week of May 8<sup>th</sup>. We also learned about this at the April 12<sup>th</sup> conference call but did not feel we had enough time to plan for such a visit, especially since the week of May 8<sup>th</sup> came between the end of WVU's spring semester and commencement, so there would not have been a large audience at that time.
- The WVU Health Sciences Center News and Information Services office distributed press releases during Women's Health Month to announce the appointments of members of the Consumer Advisory Board. These were individualized for each person's appointment and targeted for distribution to the appropriate region of the state.

### **Divas Out Walking**

- Hired Colleen Harshbarger to coordinate this project. We encouraged our CAB members to publicize this throughout the state and targeted mailings to WVU offices with large numbers of women employees. Staff in Admissions and Records and the WVU Human Resources office volunteered to publicize the event.
- There were lectures and 139 people registered – walks were every Wednesday at Ruby Memorial Hospital, the WVU Mountainlair, and at Working Women's Wednesday events at the Radisson Hotel. The

Working Women's Wednesday events are co-sponsored by a local radio station.

- We contacted the director of the WVU Mountainlair (student union) to publicize a marked mile within the Mountainlair since many people walk there in bad weather. There are many employee groups and individuals actively walking at this worksite.
- We contacted Ron Justice, Morgantown Mayor and advisor to the WVU sororities and fraternities, and, with his encouragement, will talk to these groups in the fall about developing marked miles for walking at various points on our campus and to identify how far it is to popular student destinations, i.e., from a residence hall to the post office downtown. He feels sure groups will be willing to help with this in the fall semester.

### **Other Innovative Outreach Activities**

A COEWH Speakers Bureau is in the formation stage. To date, sixteen people are on the list of speakers who are available for local and/or statewide presentations on a gamut of topics related to women's health. This will be posted on the COEWH web so the public can easily request a speaker for their programs

- Elaine Bowen is working with the American Heart Association and WVU partners to secure funding for a community project on heart health. It will focus on testing national heart health campaign messages with older, rural women in Marion County. A proposal was submitted in May to the Bowers Charitable Fund.
- Elaine Bowen is developing consumer publications on heart health and obesity for West Virginia Community Educational Outreach Service (CEOS) leaders. She will train about 50 CEOS leaders in October, and they, in turn, will present the program to clubs across the state
- We are exploring opportunities through CAB member Emily Hopta, who works in the Office of the Secretary of the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources and is on the West Virginia Women's Commission, to disseminate women's health information through newsletters of PEIA (the state's insurance program for public employees) and managed care programs for public employees, like the Health Plan
- The West Virginia University Center on Aging, WV Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program, and the WV Medical Association are interested in having articles about the COEWH for their newsletters
- We continue to look for web sites of organizations to promote women's health and the COEWH resources/activities (e.g. WVU Hospital's

Wellness Program, Monongalia General Hospital Wellness Program, Public Employees Insurance Agency, education, Blue Cross-Blue Shield, Health Plan and other managed care providers that serve the state, American Association of University Women, Business and Professional Women, as well as the West Virginia Education Association, West Virginia-National Association of Social Workers, and other professional organizations that have a large number of women members.) We have started to submit information to the NCOEWH web site and encouraged our CAB members to use the OWH web site to announce local events for National Women's Health Month

- We are working with Syamala Jagannathan on the WVU COEWH web site so events can be easily submitted and posted on the web site. There is no state-wide health events calendar, and we would like to develop that calendar on our COEWH web site
- We will ask our CAB members to link our site to the sites of any organizations with which they work
- We plan to develop a press resource section on our COEWH web site, at the suggestion of CAB member Emily Hopta, to publicize the COEWH and links to materials already available on women's health on sites like [www.4woman.gov](http://www.4woman.gov) and others
- The WVU Health Sciences Center marketing office has developed a general brochure for the COEWH. CAB members reviewed the text for this brochure when it was being developed and will be instrumental in getting these disseminated broadly when they are available
- We have also drafted business cards for the CAB members and will distribute cards to them for use in their communities.
- We are exploring having a presence at the West Virginia State Fair August 12-22, 2005. Since this event is at the southern end of the state, we are exploring partnering with existing WVU units that will have exhibits there and/or asking CAB members from that part of the state to assist in this effort
- Yuseff Dawood and Mike Vernon were on "Doctors on Call" on Thursday, June 23, to talk about infertility problems.
- Monica Andis, CAB member, has agreed to head an ad hoc committee to review new state health lifestyles legislation to see what WVU is already doing on the issue of obesity. Addressing the problem of obesity in the state is a key part of this legislation, and she has identified several people

who are willing to be on the committee. Because the legislation was just passed this spring, the regulations for it are not yet complete

- We will explore developing the concept of “Partners in Health” with local businesses
- We are developing outreach to minority groups, including immigrant communities, in West Virginia who may not understand the American health care system or may need culturally appropriate materials. We have started this with the local Muslim community (see above) and with our link to the West Virginia Women of Color Empowerment Network (WOCEN). The purpose of WOCEN is “to provide networking opportunities, enhance leadership capacity and support for women of color and activists working to eliminate violence against women and children.” Kenyatta Coleman is the coordinator of this network, which first met in January 2005 and will meet next in July 2005. Cathy Jasper, administrative associate for the WVU Center for Women’s Studies, will attend the meeting of the West Virginia Women of Color Empowerment Network on July 7. We will provide materials about the COEWH for distribution at this meeting.
- Barb Howe is working with Carroll Wilkinson, the WVU librarian who is coordinating the “Changing Face of Medicine” traveling exhibit coming to WVU October 18 – December 8, 2006. Dr. Howe will give a public lecture on early women doctors in West Virginia when the exhibit is here. Additional speakers, community programs, and student involvement will be planned as part of the exhibit. For more information see the website [www.nlm.gov](http://www.nlm.gov).
- We will explore a regular column in the *Dominion Post* newspaper that serves several north central West Virginia counties.

c. **Consumer Advisory Board and community alliances**

Consumer Advisory Board

- A third CAB meeting is scheduled July 14, 2005. This will be held by teleconference with locations in Charleston, Beckley, Wheeling, Parkersburg, and Morgantown to facilitate participation and minimize travel expenses. The WVU Extension Service is covering the cost of the teleconference, which will be arranged through WVU’s Extended Learning Office
- We surveyed CAB members about their recent activities and received the following information:

- From Mary Glenn Rice in Huntington: “The West Virginia Division of the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition (that meets at Cabell Huntington Hospital in Huntington) had the following events/activities:
  - April 1st - 5th Annual Talk of the Town, luncheon and spring fashion show to raise awareness of ovarian cancer, held at Guyan Golf & Country Club in Huntington. The Honorable Irene M. Keeley, Chief U.S. District Judge and ovarian cancer survivor, guest speaker.
  - April 30th - Hosted a Spring Retreat for ovarian cancer survivors. Held at the Heritage Farm Museum and Village outside of Huntington.
  - May 20th - Participated in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life at the Lefty Rollins field at Marshall University in Huntington.
  - June 6th - Monthly meeting with guest speaker Doug Lawson, COO of Cabell Huntington Hospital and the Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center, soon to open in October 2005.”
  - From Tracy Novak of Morgantown: “Because of your email, the West Virginia Lymphedema Network (WVLN) provided materials for your information table in the HSC cafeteria for [Employee Fitness Week]. The WVLN also advertised the COEWH at our quarterly support group meeting on May 5, 2005 and COEWH information was part of an email that went out to the group. (99% of our members and participants are women with post-cancer challenges.) Beth Weaver, a certified lymphedema therapist at HSC, is also providing Betty Parsons with brochures about lymphedema to put in the reception/seating area of the COEWH.”
- CAB and WVU outreach committee members will be invited to the July 29-30 Women on the Water event.
- Sally Richardson, a CAB member based in Charleston, would like to start a Charleston-based group to do outreach and perhaps include some of the many health care professionals in that region who are interested in the COEWH. This would allow easier access to the southern part of the state
- We are exploring ways to involve other health care professionals who want to be involved but who do not really fit the OWH’s definition of those who should be on a CAB
- We are currently gathering input from CAB members and others related to perceived barriers, benefits, and promotional opportunities of the new CoE. CAB members gave input on the content and look of the new brochure and we will continue to involve them in the development of additional COEWH materials
- COEWH activities link with a variety of community groups and activities. Examples include the Memory Walk and the Alzheimer’s Association.

d. **Outreach to middle and high school students**

- Barb Howe met with the local Morgantown senior Girl Scout troop on May 1 to talk about the COEWH and encourage girls to get involved in National Women's Health Week. We gave them copies of the 4girls date book. The troop's service project is to work with the local homeless shelter and one of the girls took information to them about domestic violence resources and copies of the 2005 date book. They also made initial contacts at two area high schools, but unfortunately there were not enough materials for them to distribute widely.
- We will continue to collaborate with the Girl Scouts, 4-H, the Association for Women in Science's Expanding Your Horizons Program, and other youth organizations. We hope this will lead to more involvement with girls in National Women's Health Week in 2006.

e. **Accessibility of preventive services/screenings**

- A CAB member shared a directory available through the state that includes sign language interpreters.
- A WVU community outreach committee member shared a publication from Wyoming that addresses breast care in women with developmental disabilities, and we have permission to adapt this to West Virginia.
- The WV WHC told us that the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources is developing materials for people with low literacy levels.

f. **Work with OWH DHHS Regional Women's Health Coordinators and State Women's Health Coordinators and Minority Women's Health Panel of Experts**

- Betty Parsons worked with Rosa Myers to get a Divas Out Walking grant for WVU (see section on that above).
- Unfortunately, Pat Meadows went on medical leave after the March CAB meeting and did not return until late April. Shortly thereafter, her husband died unexpectedly, so we have not had the same level of communication with her that we did earlier.

g. **Collaboration with the CCOEs through joint CoE/CCOE projects**

No update yet.

h. **Women's health resource center, library and/or kiosks**

- We started the clinical care center display of new materials in August 2004 by collecting materials from a variety of agencies.
- We developed an inventory of educational materials to keep on hand for replenishing the display and work with the staff of the CCC as needed to be sure these materials are always available.

- We are currently identifying potential space for additional resource centers (e.g. new Health Sciences Center library addition now under construction, Wheeling Hospital).

i. **Women's Health Resource Inventory**

- The West Virginia Women's Commission's comprehensive *West Virginia Women's Resource Directory* is now on our COEWH web site.

j. **CoE Outreach and Minority Working Groups**

- We are asking outreach working group members to give us information about their availability for public presentations on women's health.
- Betty Parsons and Ann Chester attended the June 2<sup>nd</sup> outreach meeting in Washington, D.C.
- Small, task-oriented groups are being formed to plan and implement activities in the following areas: state/local fairs, obesity, women's health resources/materials, screenings, Women's Health Month, conferences, COEWH promotion.
- Members of the COEWH WVU Outreach Committee are as follows, in addition to co-chairs Elaine Bowen and Barb Howe:
  - Amy Allen, MA, MS, CHES  
Project Director, Cancer Information Service
  - Sally Brown  
WVU Libraries
  - Alan Ducatman MD, MS  
Professor and Chair, Department of Community Medicine
  - Linda M. Carson, Ed.D.  
Ware Distinguished Professor  
Director, WV Motor Development Center
  - Linda Cooper  
Department of Community Medicine
  - Ann Dacey, RN  
Senior Program Coordinator, Department of Accounting and Financial Systems
  - Kimberly Cordingly, M.A.  
Consultant, Job Accommodation Network
  - Ann Chester, Ph.D.  
Assistant Vice President for Health Sciences for Social Justice
  - Suzanne Gosden  
Clinical Instructor, Job Accommodation Network
  - Linda Jackowitz, MS  
Mountains of Hope Cancer Network
  - Ruth Kershner, Ed.D., RN  
Professor, Community Medicine
  - Joyce McConnell, J.D.  
Professor of Law
  - Marjorie McDiarmid, J.D.

Professor of Law  
 - Pat Meadows  
 Women's Health Coordinator  
 Office of Maternal, Child and Family Health  
 West Virginia Bureau for Public Health  
 - Leesa G. Prendergast, M.S., CHES  
 Assistant Director for Community Outreach  
 WVU Prevention Research Center, Center for Healthy Communities  
 - Shelia Price, D.D.S.  
 Assistant Dean of Administration, School of Dentistry  
 - Sally K. Richardson  
 Executive Director/Associate Vice President, WVU Institute for Health Policy  
 Research  
 - Deborah Strouse  
 Health Education Specialist, WVU Student Health Service  
 - Catherine Yura, Ed. D.  
 Director, WVU Carruth Center for Counseling and Psychological Services  
 - Mary Ellen Zeppuhar  
 Clinical Associate, WVU Center of Excellence in Disabilities

k. **Institutional commitment**

- WVU President Hardesty formed the Executive Task Force on Wellness in March. Its mission is the support the University's efforts to develop and promote quality nutrition and wellness programs. Elaine Bowen serves on this task force. They are currently formulating a strategic plan of action. COEWH efforts will be reflected in this plan.
- The June 10-12 WVU Conference on Nutrition & Wellness attracted 100 persons from across the state. It featured exhibits on WVU programs and units including the COEWH.

l. **Integration**

- CoE outreach co-directors continue to attend monthly leadership meetings and monthly COEWH meetings.
- They have also worked with Syamala Jagannathan about the web site and outreach and with Valerie Frey-McClung on evaluation procedures.
- Members of the COEWH leadership team and committee members helped with contacts for National Women's Health Week events.
- Barb Howe presented a Teaching Scholars Program on May 11 at the WVU Health Sciences Center about integrating issues of gender into teaching about medicine. Her presentation focused on women's medical history, including how women have been defined as "crazy" in the past. She also discussed the COEWH. She has been invited to present another program on teaching about gender for the Teaching Scholars Program in the fall 2005 semester. Dr. Rashida

Khakoo, a member of COEWH committee, is the co-facilitator for the Teaching Scholars Program.

m. **Evaluation**

See appendix C