



Women in IR news

Winter 2022

Owning success: Championing the achievements of women and underrepresented minorities

Debuting in the fall issue of *IR Quarterly* is the first installment in a new column, "Owning success," created by current WIR Governing Council Chair Nishita Kothary, MD, FSIR. This column spotlights a panel of IR luminaries with a particular focus on women and underrepresented minorities to celebrate the success and contributions that each has made to the field. This edition features Anne C. Roberts, MD, FSIR, Katharine L. Krol, MD, FSIR, Jeanne M. LaBerge, MD, FSIR, and John A. Kaufman, MD, FSIR, each of whom has received the SIR Gold Medal for their dedication and contributions toward advancing the specialty. The brief interviews celebrate the triumphs and lasting impact of each panelist, showing the depth of passion and commitment they have demonstrated throughout their careers. This column may be found in the print version of *IR Quarterly* or online at eIRQuarterly.

As an extension of the column, a companion episode of the Kinked Wire podcast (also available on the *IR Quarterly* website) features bonus content from the panel interview led by Dr. Kothary. Together, they discuss how the spirit of interventional radiology and the community fostered by SIR have encouraged inclusion, participation and enthusiasm for the field. When reflecting on their individual paths to leadership, several felt that a strong group of role models and peers provided them the inspiration to push for positive change and seize new opportunities. The importance of mentorship and sponsorship were also addressed as key to attracting women and underrepresented minorities to IR and continuing to build a strong community.

Mary Costantino, MD, FSIR



Mary Costantino, MD, FSIR grew up in Livermore, California, prior to spending a year in Europe and completing her undergraduate degree at Bryn Mawr College. After college, she worked in investment banking in San Francisco before obtaining her medical degree from the University of California, Los Angeles, where she learned about UAEs, which ultimately sparked her interest in IR. She then completed her internship at Stanford University and her residency at Oregon Health and Sciences University. Afterwards, she completed her IR fellowship at Georgetown University Hospital under the tutelage of James Spies, MD, MPH, FSIR.

Throughout her training and practice, Dr. Costantino has often been the only woman in the room. While this has not always been the easiest task, she states that the key is to lead with working hard and practicing good medicine, and the rest will follow. Dr. Costantino has been practicing in the state of Oregon since 2006 and runs her own practice, specializing in treatment for uterine fibroids. Outside the IR suite, she enjoys spending time with her family, including her two incredible children.

Fun facts: WIR by the numbers

The Women in IR Section boasts more than 1,200 members!

What would YOU do? Exploring the importance of gender equality in IR

Join the Early Career and Women in IR sections for a webinar on gender equality, taking place on Tuesday, Jan. 13. This webinar encourages all to understand the experience of women in the interventional radiology field and stand in solidarity to create a bold, visible and united force for gender equality. Through the webinar we aim to discuss several real-life scenarios experienced by women in the field and break down scenarios into actionable steps towards accelerating gender equality. We look forward to having all join and engage in tangible commitments to improve the experiences of their women colleagues.

Save the Date!

The SIR 2022 Annual Scientific Meeting will be held in person in Boston, June 11–16. More information about the meeting, including section programming, will be released soon. Registration will open late January. We hope to see everyone there!

Upcoming events

- Jan. 11: Dream Big Book Club
- Jan. 13: He for She Webinar
- Feb. 8: Dream Big Book Club
- June 11–16: SIR 2022 Annual Scientific Meeting