SIR is seeking nominations for the WIR Champion Award. This award recognizes an individual who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of women in interventional radiology in areas such as sponsorship, mentorship, teaching, promotion, advocacy and recruitment. Nominees must be currently practicing SIR members, 10 or more years post-training. Award criteria and nomination instructions for the 2022 WIR Champion Award are available on the SIR website. The deadline for nominations is Sept. 30, 2021.

Women in IR news
Summer 2021

Dream Big Book Club

The Women in IR (WIR) Section is excited to announce the Dream Big Book Club, launching this month! Envisioned by Elsie Koh, MD, and geared toward mid-career women, the book club aims to help physicians learn to lead their own personal and professional lives, as well as to teach physicians to be strategic and intentional in their career. Dr. Koh states, “It is my conviction that physicians need to be at the forefront of healthcare transformation... we need to dream big, and what better way to empower physicians than the WIR platform?” The inaugural discussion of you² by Price Pritchett, PhD, will be led by Dr. Koh on Sept. 14. you² promotes an unconventional strategy for achieving breakthrough performance. Learn more and register for this discussion here.

Additional selections include:
- Oct. 19: Unlocking Your Authentic Self (Jennifer Hunt, MD), led by Dr. Jennifer Hunt
- Nov. 16: The Leader’s Compass for Medical Professionals (Robert M. Underwood, MD, MHCDS, and Dennis F. Haley), led by Dr. Robert Underwood
- Dec. 14: 168 Hours (Laura Vanderkam), led by Christina Shenvi, MD, PhD, FACEP
- Jan. 11, 2022: Radical Candor (Kim Scott), led by Paula Novelli, MD, FSIR
- Feb. 8, 2022: How Women Rise (Marshall Goldsmith and Sally Helgesen), led by Sally Helgesen

Members are encouraged to join as many discussions as time allows and are expected to read the selected texts before attending the meetings. Discussions will be held as Zoom webinars on Tuesday evenings, 8–9:30 p.m. ET and will consist of the speaker’s presentation, followed by a panel discussion with open Q&A. Anyone interested in joining a book’s panel discussion should contact Emily Penninga at epenninga@sirweb.org.

Sarah B. White, MD, MS, FSIR

Sarah B. White, MD, MS, FSIR, is the vice chair of research and professor of radiology in the division of vascular and interventional radiology at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Her earliest encounter with the field of IR occurred when a close family friend and neurointerventionalist, Robert S. Siegel, MD, shared what he did for a living, sparking her interest in the field. Numerous individuals contributed to fostering her passion in IR clinically and scientifically, including the IR team at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School and Bradford Johns Wood, MD, FSIR, at the National Institutes of Health, with whom she did ablation research. Dr. White was the first medical student in the country to complete the Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology Enhanced Clinical Training (DIRECT) Pathway, an early version of the IR Residency. She attributes her success to a great many people including diagnostic radiologists, surgeons and her IR residency program director, Michael C. Soulen, MD, FSIR. Her advice to younger women in the field is, “Do what you love, and everything else will fall into place.” She manifests this in her own life by successfully balancing a thriving academic clinical and research career with her family. Outside the IR suite and lab, she loves art, music, travel, being outdoors and, most of all, her three amazing children.

Fun facts: WIR timeline
March 2007: Women in IR Committee formed
March 2012: First Women’s Luncheon at SIR annual meeting held
June 2015: Women in IR Section formed
July 2017: WIR Section’s “SIR position statement on parental leave” published
March 2020: Inaugural Women in IR Champion Award presented

Call for nominations
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Get involved!
Volunteer applications are now open via the SIR Connect application online. In addition to the WIR Governing Council, opportunities are available for many areas of interest or expertise. Typical volunteer assignments are for a 3-year term. The deadline to apply is Sept. 10.

Upcoming events
Sept. 14: Dream Big Book Club
Oct. 5: Virtual Angio Club
Oct. 19: Dream Big Book Club
Oct. 29: LEARN meeting
Nov. 12: ACTIVE meeting