

May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 WRHR Wednesday Session:  
“A Clinician’s Guide to Basic Sciences” Panelists

**Discussion Host**

**Raina N. Fichorova MD, PhD**

*Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Harvard Medical School*

Dr. Fichorova is Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology at Harvard Medical School (HMS), the Walter Channing MD Distinguished Chair in Obstetrics and Gynecology, the inaugural Vice Chair for Ob-Gyn Research at Brigham and Women’s Hospital (BWH) and the Research Director of the Harvard Interdisciplinary WRHR K12 for Obstetricians and Gynecologists. She is also the Founding Director of the Laboratory of Genital Tract Biology at BWH. Originally from Bulgaria, Dr. Fichorova earned her MD and PhD from the Medical University of Sofia, completed Research Fellowship in Reproductive Immunology at BWH and has been accredited as a Laboratory Director by the College of American Pathologists since 2004. She is the recipient of multiple NIH grants, honors, and awards, including the Excellence in Teaching Award from the Academy at HMS. The Fichorova’s Laboratory performs basic, clinical, and translational science at the intersection of immunology, microbiology, reproductive, maternal and child health and has been serving as the central lab for several large clinical studies including multiple clinical trials, the Extremely Low Gestation Age Newborn (ELGAN) study and the Hormone Contraception and HIV (HC-HIV) study. Dr. Fichorova is married with two sons.

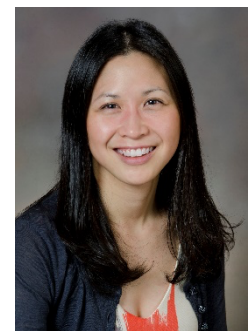


**WRHR Faculty Panelists**

**Jamie Lo, MD MCR**

*Oregon Health and Science University*

Dr. Jamie Lo is an Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Maternal Fetal Medicine, at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) with a joint appointment in the Division of Reproductive and Developmental Sciences at the Oregon National Primate Research Center. She completed her residency training at the University of Utah and her fellowship training at OHSU. She is a physician scientist with a research focus on the effects of environmental exposure (particularly substance use) on reproductive health and offspring outcomes using non-human primate models and human cohorts. Dr. Lo was a former NIH/NICH K12 Reproductive Scientist Development Program (RSDP) scholar. The current focus of her laboratory is on the impact of paternal and maternal use of cannabis preconception, and during the pregnancy and postnatal period on reproductive health and offspring outcomes. In addition, Dr.



Lo has mentored 30+ undergraduates, medical students, graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, residents and fellows on research projects.

### **Melissa Suter, PhD**

*Baylor College of Medicine*

Dr. Melissa Suter is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Baylor College of Medicine. Her research focus is to investigate the molecular mechanisms behind the Developmental Origins of Health and Disease. Her research interests include studying changes in the placenta and the fetus due to exposure to a maternal high fat diet and maternal obesity. She is funded by the NIEHS to study exposure to environmental toxins and their role in preterm birth. Her studies include leveraging non-human primate models, murine models, primary cell culture and work with human samples. As a basic sciences researcher in a clinical department, she has worked with medical students, residents, fellows and junior faculty. She currently serves as the Recruiting Officer for the BCM WRHR Program.



### **Virginia D. Winn MD, PhD**

*Stanford University*

Virginia D. Winn, MD, PhD, is an Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology (Reproductive and Stem Cell Biology) at Stanford University, the Director of Reproductive, Stem Cell and Perinatal Biology at Stanford School of Medicine's Ob/Gyn department, and the Program Director for the Women's Reproductive Health Research (K12) at Stanford Program. Dr. Winn received both her Biochemistry PhD training and medical education from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry (in 1994 and 1996 respectively.) She completed her residency and fellowship at UCSF. She received research training through the NIH-funded Reproductive Scientist Development Program (RSDP). Dr. Winn was on faculty at University of Colorado and from 2006 to 2014 leading a basic and translational NIH-funded research program. She then moved to Stanford in 2014. She is Board Certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology and Maternal and Fetal Medicine from the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Winn is a member of the Dunlevie Maternal-Fetal Medicine Center for Discovery, Innovation and Clinical Impact, the Maternal and Child Health Research Institute (MCHRI), the Stanford Cardiovascular Institute, BioX. She is a recipient the MCHRI Arline & Pete Harman Faculty Scholar award and is currently a H&H Evergreen Scholar.



Winn is an expert in human placental development and preeclampsia pathogenesis. She leads a basic and translational research program with the mission of improving maternal and child health while training the next generation of perinatal researchers. As a physician scientist, Dr. Winn's ultimate goal is to see this knowledge translate to improved clinical care resulting in healthier

mothers and babies. Her lab uses a combination of molecular, cellular, tissue and translational studies in their research. Additionally, Dr. Winn has mentored 40+ undergraduates, medical students, graduate students, post docs, residents and MFM Fellows on research projects. Many of which who have received presentation awards and have gone on to faculty positions.

### **Guest Panelist**

#### **Karen Young, MD**

*University of Miami Miller school of Medicine.*

Dr. Karen C. Young is Professor of Pediatrics, Director of the Neonatology Fellowship Program and Director of Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine/Holtz Children's Hospital. Originally from Jamaica, she earned her medical degree at the University of the West Indies and completed her pediatric residency and neonatology fellowship training at University of Miami Miller school of Medicine.



Dr. Young's research is focused on understanding the molecular and cellular mechanisms that contribute to endothelial dysfunction in preterm infants with bronchopulmonary dysplasia (BPD) and pulmonary hypertension (PH). Dr. Young also performs translational research focused on stem cell-based therapies for BPD and PH. Her research has been supported by grants from the National Institute of Health, American Heart Association, Florida Biomedical Research Program, Batchelor Research Award for Excellence in Pediatric Research and Project Newborn. She serves on several local and national committees including the American Heart Association and the Neonatal Kidney Collaborative.

In addition to her research, Dr. Young is dedicated to improving resident education and training the next generation of physician-scientists. She has mentored/co-mentored more than 40 trainees, including medical students, residents, and fellows, several of whom have embarked on successful academic careers. She has received several teaching awards and currently serves on committees focused on mentoring underrepresented minorities and women. Dr. Young is also an attending and ECMO specialist in the level IV neonatal intensive care unit at Holtz Children's Hospital.

Dr. Young is married with three children, ages 9, 17, and 18.