

From Doctorate to Dean or Director: Sustaining Women through Critical Transition Points in Science, Engineering, and Medicine

The Committee on Women in Science, Engineering, and Medicine (CWSEM) of the National Academies hosted a workshop sponsored by the National Institutes of Health's Office of Research on Women's Health, Astellas Pharma, and the Kauffman Foundation. This one and a half day workshop explored crucial transition points in women's career paths in academia and industry, as well as the increasing importance of interdisciplinary work and how it impacts women's career choices.



From left to right are: Lilian Wu, Chair of the Committee on Women in Science, Engineering, and Medicine; Joan Girgus, professor at Princeton University; and committee members Sue Wessler and Florence Bonner.

September 18, 2008: Framing Issues and Strategies—Where We Stand



Panelists June Osborn, Phoebe Leboy, Claude Canizares, and Joan Girgus discussed issues raised in the Macy Foundation's report, *Women and Medicine*, as well as topics that will be addressed in the upcoming National Academies' report, *Assessing Gender Differences in the Careers of Science, Engineering, and Mathematics Faculty*.



Members of the committee participated on a panel discussing critical transition points in an academic career and shared personal stories about how they achieved success in their chosen fields. Pictured are panelists Allan Fisher and Pardis Sabeti.

Sue Wessler and Florence Bonner also participated on the panel discussing critical transition points in academic careers.



Shirley Malcom, Head of the Directorate for Education and Human Resources Programs at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), delivered the keynote address.



Panelists Lesa Mitchell, Elizabeth Donley, Andrea Vergara-Silva, and Lydia Villa-Komaroff discussed women's careers in industry.

Members of the committee received oral testimony from 7 professional societies on critical transition points in their fields. Some of the society members giving oral testimony are pictured below.



Workshop attendees were encouraged to ask the panelists questions and give detail on their own experiences and best practices.

