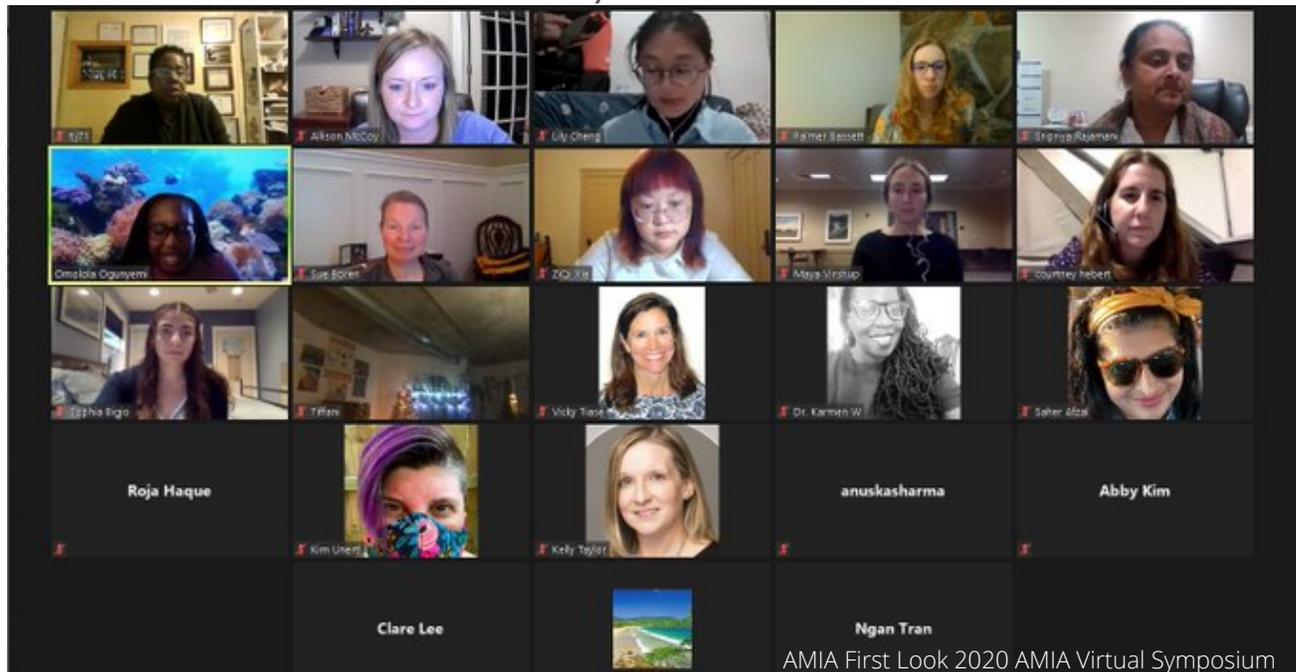


OCTOBER 2021, ISSUE 18

The Women in AMIA UPDATE

Monthly E-Newsletter



WOMEN IN AMIA AT AMIA 2021

In this issue of the newsletter:

- We spotlight Dr. Carrie Baker, founding Clinical Informatics Fellowship Program Director at Kettering Health-Soin Medical Center (p. 2)
 - *This is part of an ongoing series that will feature clinical informatics fellowship directors and explore ways to increase the representation of women in clinical informatics fellowship programs across the US.*
- We converse with Dr. Pamela Garcia-Filion, Research Associate Professor in Biomedical Informatics at the University of Arizona, Phoenix (p. 4)
- A guide to all Women in AMIA activities at the AMIA Fall Conference in San Diego (p. 6)

Previous issues of the WIA newsletter can be found on the Women in AMIA webpage [here](#).

Steering Committee Members:

Tiffani Bright, Wendy Chapman, Prerna Dua, Sabrina Hsueh, Xia Jing, Tiffany Leung, Allison McCoy, Omolola Ogunyemi, Margarita Sordo, Donghua Tao, Kelly Taylor (AMIA Staff), Rebecca Wilgus, Karmen Williams

Spotlight on Clinical Informatics Fellowship Directors



Carrie Baker, DO, MS, FACEP

WIA: *What is your current position and title?*

Carrie: Director of Medical Informatics Education and Innovation for Kettering Health (KH) and the founding Clinical Informatics Fellowship Program Director at KH-Soin Medical Center. Clinically, I practice as an emergency physician.

WIA: *How did you first learn about clinical informatics?*

Carrie: I learned about it after I started working in it! As an emergency medicine resident in 2012, I led the transition for my hospital from a faxed, paper, call-schedule to a software solution which was later rolled out to the network. I took an Epic Physician Builder class, joined AMIA, took the AMIA 10x0 with Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) and the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP).

WIA: *What made you decide on a career path that includes clinical informatics?*

Carrie: I followed my bliss. My AMIA 10x10 class led to the OHSU Health Certificate and subsequently the Master of Science in Biomedical Informatics. Jeff A. Nielson encouraged me to run for the ACEP Section for EM Informatics (SEMI) leadership.

WIA: *What do you find most exciting about your work as a Clinical Informatics Fellowship Director?*

Carrie: I love participating in the evolution of the field. It's exciting to share ideas, develop a new program at Kettering Health, work with the AMIA Clinical Informatics Fellowship Program Directors (CIPD) on the Education Sub-Committee, the ACEP SEMI section leadership and the ACGME Milestones 2.0 Committee.

Spotlight on Clinical Informatics Fellowship Directors, cont'd.

WIA: Do you have any words of advice for medical students or residents who may want to consider a career path that includes clinical informatics?

Carrie: Start with Dr. William Hersh's lectures here: <https://dmice.ohsu.edu/hersh//whatis/>
Connect with other like-minded individuals through AMIA, your medical school or a professional organization like ACEP.

WIA: There may be medical students and residents out there who would be interested in a clinical informatics fellowship but aren't fully aware of this option. Do you have any ideas on how to reach out to this group?

Carrie: AMIA needs to start a forum for medical students and residents.

WIA: What is something about you that you'd like to share that most people don't know about?

Carrie: I'm an artist and a former professional photojournalist. I'm a creative problem-solver and eternal optimist.



Mid Career Spotlight



Pamela Garcia-Filion, PhD

WIA: *What is your current position and title?*

Pamela: I am a Research Associate Professor and Research Associate Scientist in Biomedical Informatics at the University of Arizona College of Medicine in Phoenix.

WIA: *How did you first learn about biomedical informatics and what got you interested in the field?*

Pamela: My background is in epidemiology and biostatistics, with nearly 20 years investigating pediatric health outcomes. In my opinion, biomedical informatics (BMI) is the cornerstone of clinical research. I was never aware of BMI as a distinct discipline in medicine. It was only after many years of developing databases and building predictive models that I learned about BMI and realized that my work had naturally evolved into a career in BMI.

Specifically, the design and implementation rely predominantly on common methods, clinical data sources and data monitoring tools in informatics.

WIA: *What do you find most exciting about your current work and/or about the field of biomedical informatics in general?*

Pamela: I don't know where to begin. I love teaching physicians about the vast opportunities afforded by clinical data and the many ways to implement data analytics into day-to-day workflow. But most of all, my favorite part of teaching BMI is demystifying data analytics to physicians and putting advanced tools within reach.

Mid Career Spotlight, contd.

WIA: Do you have any words of advice for biomedical informaticians starting out in their careers?

Pamela: Understand predictive modeling; specifically, the nuances, strengths and weaknesses of translating predictive models into clinical practice.

WIA: How do you think informaticians can get the general public to understand what it is that we do and why it's important?

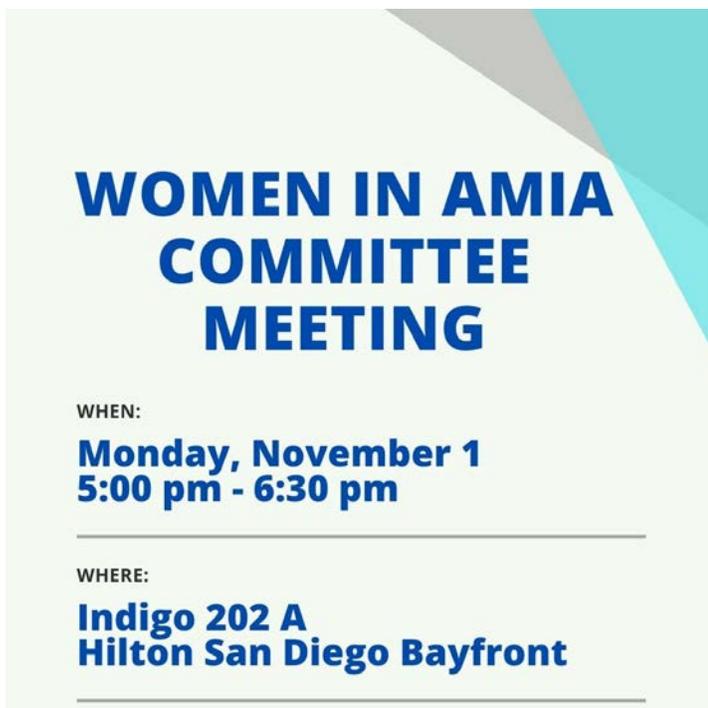
Pamela: Great question. My clinical informatics fellows regularly field this question. I like to keep it simple, we work with the different types of clinical data sources, how to find the data, access the data and then leverage the data to improve the health of people. I think this resonates well with the public and makes the discipline relatable.

WIA: How is the pandemic affecting you professionally (and personally if you'd like to share)?

Pamela: Epidemiology is now a household word, and I no longer have to explain that I'm not a skin doctor. My professional workload has increased substantially and so has my role as a single working mom. Professionally, I've had to evolve and adapt to virtual teaching of advanced analytic methods which has reduced my availability to do research. Personally, I'm just grateful that my kids see more of what mom does for a living. They have a better understanding of how my work helps people. Eventually, I'll catch up on publications.

WIA: What is something about you that you'd like to share that most people don't know?

Pamela: Majority of people know how much I love data and sharing the fun of analytics. What people don't know is that I love fishing and backpacking adventures with my fishing pole. I spend 15 weekends a year trailblazing in Northern Arizona and finding unfamiliar places to explore.



**WOMEN IN AMIA
COMMITTEE
MEETING**

WHEN:
**Monday, November 1
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm**

WHERE:
**Indigo 202 A
Hilton San Diego Bayfront**



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WOMEN IN AMIA (& OTHER NOTABLE) EVENTS

AMIA 2021 - San Diego

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM PT

Linking Informatics and Education Academic Forum (LIEAF)

AFS13: Strengthening and Diversifying the Clinical Informatician Career Pipeline Through Community Building & Connection
Academic Forum Members Only

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30

5:30 - 7:30 PM PT

WINE - Women in AMIA Networking Event

Location: Pool Deck - Hilton San Diego Bayfront, Promenade

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31

7:30 AM - 6:00 PM PT

AMIA First Look Program

(Actual Program 7:30 AM - 1:30 PM)

Lunch with participants - 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm

Location: Aqua Terrace

See the full program [here](#)

3:30 - 5:00 PM PT

S02: Panel - The Women in AMIA-led Podcast and Focus on Diversity: Past, Present, and Future

Location: Sapphire BC - Hilton San Diego Bayfront

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1

8:30 - 10:00 AM PT

S18: Panel - Career Development Issues for Women in Biomedical Informatics within Professional Organizations

Location: Aqua Salon EF - Hilton San Diego Bayfront

12:15 PM - 1:30 PM PT

For Your Informatics Live Podcast Recording Event with Special Guest, Dr. Irene Dankwa-Mullan

Location: Sapphire BC, Hilton San Diego Bayfront Room Level 4

5:00 - 6:30 PM PT

The Women in AMIA Committee Meeting

OPEN TO ALL

Location: Indigo 202 A - Hilton San Diego Bayfront

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM PT

S84: Panel - Representation Requires Intentionality: Our Journey to Creating a Diverse Informatics Workforce

Location: Aqua Salon EF, Hilton San Diego Bayfront

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM PT

LB10: Oral Presentations - Barriers to and Facilitators of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Informatics

Location: Sapphire 400, Hilton San Diego Bayfront



Women in AMIA would love to hear from you about what's working, what's not and what to feature in future editions of the newsletter. We also have some questions for you: How are you dealing with COVID-19? In these trying times, how are you focusing on the positive?

Please email us at:

AMIA-2020womeninamiasteeringcommittee@ConnectedCommunity.org

Note from the Women in AMIA Awards and Leadership Subcommittee:

It's the time of the year to celebrate the outstanding achievements of the brightest stars in our AMIA community. The Women in AMIA Awards and Leadership subcommittee (WIA-AL) would like to congratulate all AMIA Signature Award and Leadership Award recipients, Distinguished ACMI fellows, new ACMI fellows, FAMIA fellows, LEAD Fund recipients, and AMIA Doctoral Dissertation Award recipients in 2021.

Particularly, we want to highlight Drs. Vimla L Patel (WIA-AL facilitated her nomination), Theresa A. Cullen, Karen A. Monsen (WIA-AL facilitated her nomination), Tiffani J. Bright, Joan S. Ash, Marion J. Ball, Cynthia Brandt, Jianying Hu, Patricia Sengastack, Rebecca Schnall, and Teresa Zayas Caban for their outstanding work and well-deserved recognitions by AMIA. We want to express our recognition and appreciation to each nominee for your courage and willingness to compete. WIA-AL has a very open nomination process; please consider nominating your exceptional colleagues, friends, or yourself for future recognitions.