

CANDIDATES FOR AWIS-PHL 2022-2023 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Roshell Muir, PhD – Candidate for President-Elect

Dr. Roshell Muir is a Senior Research Associate in Immunology and Infectious diseases at Drexel College of Medicine (DUCOM) with expertise in designing comprehensive systems immunology and vaccinology studies that straddle the fields of basic science and applied clinical research. She earned her undergraduate degree at The University of the West Indies and her Master of Science in Virology at Imperial College London. She went on to do her Ph.D. in Medicine at Queen's University Belfast where she specialized in respiratory immunology and completed her postdoctoral research at The Vaccine and Gene Institute of Florida and Drexel University, in immunology and HIV Medicine. Dr. Muir's current research focuses on the role of the germinal center (GC) in health, disease, and vaccination and she continues to pursue interests on how cell subsets of the GC can be targeted for novel vaccines against HIV and other viral infections. Over her career, Dr. Muir has presented her work nationally and internationally, and successfully published and collaborated on a range of immunological topics in prestigious journals including Nature Medicine, Science Translational Medicine, and The Journal of Clinical Investigation. With a passion to serve, Dr. Muir co-founded the Drexel Postdoctoral Association and led the university's participation in its first National Postdoc Association (NPA) week of activities, including planning and hosting the first Mentor-Mentee Panel and Reception, aimed at fostering better relationships between mentors and postdocs across the university's schools and colleges. She was awarded to travel and present the work of the association at the NPA Annual Conference, which highlighted the unification of the postdoc community on all three campuses to improve support and advocacy. Dr. Muir is currently a representative on the DUCOM Women in Medicine and Science Committee, which promotes professional development for women staff and faculty, and is an integral member of the planning committee that plans an annual Women's Leadership Summit focused on gender equity in medicine, science, and leadership. Dr. Muir is the current Secretary and has held other leadership positions on the Executive board of the Association for Women in Science-Philadelphia Chapter for the last 3 years, including Vice President and Chair of Programs; and in this role, has brought valuable speakers and programs to the local professional community for women in academia and industry at all career levels. Dr. Muir seeks to merge her expertise in science and publishing with academic leadership, to support clinical and basic research efforts, and continue to promote equity in the academic research space.

Dolly Al Koborssy, PhD – Candidate for Vice President of Programming/Diversity Officer

Dolly Al Koborssy, PhD, is currently a medical writer at Oxford PharmaGenesis. She did her Master's in Physiology at the University of Claude Bernard in Lyon - France, and received her Ph.D. in Neuroscience at the Florida State University. She moved from Florida to Philadelphia to train further in chemical senses research and took a postdoctoral position at the Monell Chemical Senses Center. Dolly has recently pivoted from bench work and is now dedicated to writing about the latest clinical trials. She has more than 10 years of experience in neuroscience research focused on neurophysiology. Dolly has lived and worked in three different countries and is fluent in three languages. She is committed to increasing the participation of underrepresented groups in STEM through mentorship and teaching either on the bench or outside the lab. Dolly is an advocate for empathy and mental health support. She received training on how to support peers from different backgrounds when they are in distress or crisis, and she is constantly learning how to address the issues of discrimination in STEM. Dr. Al Koborssy has been an active AWIS member for the past two years and is now looking forward to serving the Philadelphia community a second term as a Program Chair.

Morgana Favero, MD, PhD (North America Field Scientific Consultant Manager, Inscopix, Inc.) – Candidate for Secretary

Morgana Favero earned her MD and PhD in Neuroscience in Italy and moved to Philadelphia afterwards for postgraduate scientist positions at Drexel University and CHOP. Dr. Favero's background in basic neuroscience spans from sensory and motor physiology, migraine, and epilepsy. She briefly held an Assistant Professor position in human physiology at the University of Verona, in Italy, before joining her current company, Inscopix, where she has been for more than 4 years. Inscopix is a neuroscience biotech that patented and manufactures miniaturized implantable microscopes used in animal models in behavioral neuroscience. Morgana started as a field scientific consultant, and is currently managing a group of 5 PhD level neuroscience consultants distributed in the North America. She lives with her husband and two dogs in the suburbs, enjoys hiking, watching plays and movies, reading, and cooking. Morgana was recently a member of the AWIS-PHL mentoring circle program.

Sheri Lordi, PhD (Director, Laboratory Sciences, Charles River Laboratories, Inc.) – Candidate for Treasurer

Dr. Lordi currently works for Charles River, a contract research organization, in their Drug Safety division. In her current role as Director of Laboratory Sciences she leads teams responsible for supporting successful execution of the drug safety toxicology studies that are necessary for bringing new drug products to market. She is proud to be part of an organization that helps to bring over 85% of the new drugs to market each year which has a direct impact on improving patient lives. Prior to Charles River, Dr. Lordi worked for Schering-Plough in their Biotechnology Development group and was responsible for developing and validating cell based bioassays and immunoassays to support process development, preclinical and clinical studies. She held a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and obtained her Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Western Ontario, in London, Ontario, Canada. Dr. Lordi enjoys mentoring work colleagues and AWIS mentees by helping them to grow personally and professionally. Additionally, she has been a co-leader of her daughter's high school level Girl Scout troop. She enjoys helping them to grow as young leaders and realize their potential through outdoor adventures.