

February 20, 2008

Dear WTS Members:

Another successful STS meeting has come and gone. This year we had a dynamic leadership meeting which preceded the general meeting. For those of you who attended, you know the general meeting saw its best attendance in years with standing room only for the presentations. As usual, it was wonderful to reconnect with colleagues and socialize with friends.

At the leadership meeting I was charged with invigorating the mentorship program. If you have visited the WTS Web site recently, www.WTSnet.org, you will see that it has undergone significant reconstruction. It is easier to maneuver and provides mentees with direct links to mentor CTSNet sites and e-mails.

If you have agreed to be a WTS mentor, I would ask that you visit the Web site, review your information, and update your areas of advice, levels of mentoring, and contact information. To update the information you may send in an e-mail to Web Site Editor Dr. Virginia Litle (virginia.litle@mountsinai.org) or you may choose to complete the online form and fax or e-mail it to me. If you are not actively a mentor but would like to be, please download the same mentoring commitment form, fill it out, and e-mail it to me. We will see that your name is listed with the rest of your colleagues to provide mentoring to young surgeons and students.

The Web site is being expanded to include articles and presentations about how to help build a successful mentoring program. I also invite you to visit the Association of Women in Science mentoring Web site (<http://www.awis.org/careers/mentoring.html>) which is a superb resource for learning about mentoring our younger colleagues.

The Web site renovation has been phenomenal. Dr. Litle has done a wonderful job, so please take some time to visit the site and peruse its many options. If you have any additional questions about mentoring, or if you have any suggestions about the future direction of this section of the Web site, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



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