

# Group on Women in Medicine and Science Lunch and Learn Seminar

February 6, 2019 • 12:00-1:00 p.m. • Onyiuke Dining Room

Hosted By:

Marja Hurley, M.D., Professor of Medicine and Orthopedics  
Institutional Designee, AAMC, Group on Women in Medicine and Science



*Guest Speaker*

**Carol Pilbeam, MD, PhD**

Professor of Medicine and Orthopedics, Director of MD/PhD  
Combined Degree Program, UConn Health

***“Medicine as a Second Career (or Why Geology Was Good Preparation for Biomedical Research)”***

Dr. Carol Pilbeam came to Connecticut from Texas in 1964 for graduate school at Yale. As one of the first women in the Geology department, I had such a good time that it took me 7 years to get my PhD. Seven years later I changed direction and went to Yale Medical School (1978-82). Yale took several of us older folks in those years, thinking we would add diversity and maturity (diversity yes, maturity no). I did a medical residency at Waterbury Hospital (1982-85) and determined that I needed a specialty with research. Geriatrics was very new at that time and although I had never actually met a geriatrician, my experience with elderly patients was rewarding and I believed they were underserved. I did my fellowship in geriatrics at Harvard (1985-87), loved geriatrics, taught myself about osteoporosis and followed Dr. Besdine from Harvard to

UConn Health in 1987, as he was setting up the Center of Aging. I brought a Brookdale Foundation Fellowship in Geriatrics to work on bone with Dr. Larry Raisz and continued working with him for over 20 years. In addition to Larry, I have had many colleagues here who are also mentors and friends, including Dr. Barbara Kream, Dr. Marja Hurley, Dr. Joe Lorenzo, Dr. Mina Mina, Dr. George Kuchel and Dr. David Henderson. (It takes a village to develop a career.) It has been my good fortune to run an NIH-funded lab for over 25 years, which I could not have done without Dr. Shilpa Choudhary (who actually does the running these days). Perhaps most importantly, I have had the opportunity to mentor students at all stages, as well as postdoctoral fellows and junior faculty, and now have the very good luck to be the Director of the MD/PhD program.

– A discussion to follow on balancing a successful academic work-life career. –

**RSVP required by emailing [Rollins@uchc.edu](mailto:Rollins@uchc.edu) or call: (860) 679-3484.**

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