Group on Women in Medicine and Science (GWIMS)
Annual Symposium
and
Recognition of Outstanding Women Faculty & Students

Keynote Speaker: Anne A. Knowlton, M.D.
Professor, Cardiovascular Medicine and Pharmacology
University of California, Davis

Topic of Discussion:
“HSP60, Inflammation and the Heart
How the Innate Immune System Can Adversely Contribute to Disease”

DATE: Monday, May 6, 2019

RECEPTION: 4:30 pm - 5:00 pm, Academic Lobby
SEMINAR: 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm, Massey Auditorium
POST RECEPTION: 6:00 pm – 6:30 pm, Academic Lobby

My entire life I have been interested in how things work, and whether we could do things better. My first real research experience was at the Jackson Lab in Maine, which has a high school program for students interested in biomedical science. This program was revolutionary at the time, as it accepted half females and half males to spend 9 weeks in a laboratory working on a research project. My project was in the lab of Tibby Russell, who worked on inherited anemias in mice. This work was very interesting, as one type anemia was caused by a problem in the micro-environment and the other by what would now be called a stem cell problem. As an undergraduate at Harvard I did my research thesis on anemia. I had a strong interest in science, but also in medicine, and entered the MD-Ph.D. program at Yale, but it was taking 8 years or more to finish, and I decided to complete my MD, after finishing all the coursework for the Ph.D. After graduating I trained in Internal Medicine at Boston City Hospital followed by a Cardiology Fellowship at Boston Medical. This was followed by a post-doc at Boston Medical on myocardial ischemia, after which I was awarded a Physician Scientist grant and was subsequently appointed as a junior faculty member. It was during this time that I first began to study heat shock proteins, after reading about them in a scientific journal. I subsequently moved to Baylor College of Medicine to enhance my skills in molecular cardiology. After 10 years at Baylor, I joined the cardiology section at UC Davis, and have continued to work on the underlying mechanisms of heart failure, the role of heat shock proteins in heart disease, and aging and systemic inflammation.