



# Women in IR News

Summer 2025

## SIR Annual Meeting WIR Recap

The Women in IR (WIR) programming for the SIR 2025 Annual Scientific Meeting was packed with dynamic sessions aimed at fostering leadership, addressing gender biases and supporting career growth for women in interventional radiology. This year’s offerings provided valuable tools and insights for IR professionals at all stages of their careers.

Key highlights included:

- **WIR/ACIR Leadership Seminar:** A session for those looking to enhance their leadership skills. The seminar began with an interactive panel featuring seasoned leaders followed by a roundtable discussion.
- **Making Your Degree Work for You:** This 30-minute discussion focused on leveraging the physician's degree to build a rewarding career. Topics included industry involvement, consulting and work-life balance strategies.
- **Managing Biases in the Workplace:** A discussion that explored navigating biases as an underrepresented group in IR. The session aimed at gaining strategies for addressing implicit bias and fostering inclusivity in the workplace.
- **Women in IR InspiRed Lecture and Luncheon:** A compelling discussion, "All Roads Lead to IR," featured a panel of women interventional radiologists who work in a variety of practice models. The 2025 Women in IR Champion Award was presented to Maureen P. Kohi, MD, FSIR, during the luncheon.
- **WIR: Navigating the Female Medical Career:** This session addressed key gender-related topics in medicine including: sleep differences, gender biases and negotiation strategies to close the pay gap. Attendees were provided insight in to how to advocate for workplace equity and inclusivity.

SIR WIR RFS Contributor: Haseeb Mukhtar, PGY1



## Mentoring Conversations

Laura Findeiss, MD, FSIR, and Alexa Levey, MD

In the inaugural WIR Mentorship Conversation, Dr. Levey (Yale School of Medicine) sat down with Dr. Findeiss, past SIR President, for an unfiltered conversation about professional growth, purpose and resilience.

Reflecting on their careers, both physicians shared what it means to show up fully in a system that wasn’t built with us in mind. When Dr. Levey expressed the urgency, she felt to “fix everything right away,” Dr. Findeiss offered a lesson that resonated deeply: “You’re not wrong about what you want to change - but you want to be successful. It’s about knowing when to be quiet and when to be loud.” They spoke of navigating new jobs, new systems and new expectations: “It takes two years,” Dr. Findeiss advised. “Two years for people to trust you. For them to think of you first.”

Their conversation didn’t shy away from harder truths - about gender, motherhood, burnout, and the illusion of perfect balance. “Balance? Maybe it’s just wobbling back and forth and figuring out which side feels most comfortable,” Dr. Findeiss said. One of the most powerful moments came when Dr. Findeiss recalled a former mentor who dismissed her dreams with: “Maybe you should just have babies and let your husband work.” That moment, she said, lit a fire that still fuels her. “Success is the best revenge.”

Ultimately, the message was clear: mentorship is more than advice—it’s about being seen. “The most impactful thing a mentor can say?” Dr. Findeiss shared, “Why not you?”

This conversation is a reminder that leadership isn’t about having it all figured out. It’s about showing up with intention, learning out loud, and lifting others as you go. Mentorship in WIR means sharing the real stories, the detours, and the doubts so we can all move forward with greater courage. Because sometimes, the most transformative words you can hear are simply: “Why not you?”

Hear the full conversation on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wwyNdmWTcqc>

SIR WIR RFS Contributor: Lynsey Claus, PGY6



## Upcoming events and deadlines

Nov. 3, 2025: **Leading with a Purpose: From faculty to department chair Webinar**

Join the WIR Section for our upcoming webinar focused on the empowerment of women through professional development and leadership opportunities. This session explores the unique challenges women face in the workplace, shares strategies for navigating them, and highlights pathways for thriving in leadership roles.

- **Coordinator:** Natosha N. Monfore, DO
- **Moderator:** Shellie C. Josephs, MD, FSIR
- **Speakers:** Ellen A. Redstone, MD, and Stacey Bass, MD

Register for the webinar: [sirweb.org/learn/events/leading-with-a-purpose-from-faculty-to-department-chair/](https://sirweb.org/learn/events/leading-with-a-purpose-from-faculty-to-department-chair/)

## QUICK LINKS

**Pregnancy Toolkit**  
Empowering women in interventional radiology, this toolkit is your companion through the journey of pregnancy and parenthood. While a refreshed edition is coming Fall/Winter 2025, its current insights remain a powerful resource.

[sirweb.org/toolkits/ir-pregnancy-toolkit/](https://sirweb.org/toolkits/ir-pregnancy-toolkit/)

**WIR Champion Award Nominations Open**  
Know someone making a difference for women in interventional radiology? Nominate them for the 2026 Women in IR Champion Award and help celebrate those who are shaping the future of IR.

[sirweb.org/about-sir/awards-grants-and-funding/women-in-ir-champion-award/](https://sirweb.org/about-sir/awards-grants-and-funding/women-in-ir-champion-award/)



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