

WNA



## 巻頭言エール



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## Future of WIN WFNS

Most Departmental Chairs and Program Directors of Neurosurgery across North America acknowledge that one of the most important topics in neurosurgery is the recruitment of highly qualified women into the field. While we, as a subspecialty, have lagged behind other surgical disciplines in this regard, such as general surgery, it is clear that we must expand the workforce in neurosurgery to include more women.

Recent data from North America show that female representation in neurosurgery has risen from 4.7% in 1980 to 12% in 2004. There is still a long way to go when we consider that female enrollment in medical schools is greater than 50% in most institutions.

Improved mentorship, enhanced career programs, and elimination of discrimination and harassment are clearly factors today which will pave the way to increased numbers of women entering neurosurgery and becoming successful in their own careers.

I have been very impressed with efforts such as the WFNS Women in Neurosurgery Committee as it has encouraged women world-wide to pursue their life long dreams in neurosurgery.

The future is bright for women in neurosurgery in my opinion, and I look forward to the day when women will assume the positions of Chair, Program Director, and President of Organized Neurosurgical Societies in increasing numbers.