

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Foundation for the History of Women in Medicine Announces 2006 Maria Cherney Brabb Scholarship Recipients

On September 28, the Foundation for the History of Women in Medicine announced Nicole Camp and Sharron Manuel, both Drexel University medical students, as the 2006 Maria Cherney Brabb Scholarship recipients.

Ms. Camp, whose parents are Mr. Windell Camp and Mrs. Robbin Camp, and Ms. Manuel, whose parents are Dr. John R. King and Mrs. Alice S. King, received a \$2,000 scholarship for the 2006-07 academic year.

Both students are active in their community. Ms. Camp is a third year MD student, planning to graduate in 2008. She is also a 2005 Astra Zeneca Scholar. Ms. Manuel is a third year MD/PhD student, planning to graduate in 2011.

Ms. Camp and Ms. Manuel were honored at the Foundation for the History of Women in Medicine's annual Alma Dea Morani Award in an evening of presentation and social gathering held at the Philadelphia College of Physicians. Coupling together the scholarships and life-long achievement award, revealed a continuum of women from the name-sake of these honors, Maria Brabb Cherney, alumna of Drexel, and Alma Dea Morani, ground-breaking plastic surgeon, to Ms. Camp, Ms. Manuel, Drexel students, and Dr. Mary Guinan, Founding Dean, University of Nevada School of Public Health. Medical excellence spanned a three-quarter century and beyond.

Dr. Guinan, whose work included identifying the AIDS epidemic and fighting small pox in India, was the 2006 Alma Dea Morani recipient. She is the founding Dean of the New School of Public Health at the University of Nevada. Dr. Guinan gave a keynote speech, "Viral Plagues of the Twentieth and Twenty-first Century, Smallpox, Herpes, AIDS to Avian Flu: Are the Viruses Winning?" During her presentation, she made correlations of the 1918 Spanish Flu to today's Avian flu. She drew on the coincidence of her being in Philadelphia on September 28, 2006 and a War Bonds Parade held September 28, 1918 in Philadelphia, an event that was the incubus for the Spanish Flu epidemic to spread rapidly through Philadelphia, killing more people than most other urban areas. In illustrating our history, she showed how epidemics (and pandemics) occur in a vacuum and that political interest, social circumstances, and a virus mutation have collided and such circumstances might again occur if the slow spreading Avian flu mutates into a human-to-human virus. She urged the audience to act politically with putting the right people in charge of public health.

The mission of the Foundation for the History of Women in Medicine is to establish strong relationships with partners such as the College of Physicians of Philadelphia and the Association of American Medical Colleges in order to create collaborative programs that focus on advancing our mission: *to preserve and promote the history of women in medicine and the medical sciences.*

For more information about the Foundation for the History of Women in Medicine or to nominate a 2007 candidate for the Alma Dea Morani award, phone 484-945-2106, e-mail [fhwim@aol.com](mailto:fhwim@aol.com), or check the website [www.fhwim.org](http://www.fhwim.org).