The 11th HTRS Symposium will be offered for the first time in partnership with NASTH! The meeting will feature state of the art education in non-malignant hematology and offer opportunities for collaboration and networking across the full spectrum of basic science, clinical and translational investigators.

Visit https://www.eventscribe.com/2019/HTRS/ for more information, to register, and to reserve a hotel room.

**HTRS Trainee Workshop: “Building a Career in Hemostasis and Thrombosis”**

May 7-8, 2019
Prior to HTRS/NASTH 2019 symposium!
Hilton New Orleans Riverside

Applications due March 29, 2019

Apply at: https://www.eiseverywhere.com/ereg/index.php?eventid=400841&

**HTRS Social Event at 2019 Symposium:**

Rock-n-Sake Bar & Sushi Kai Lounge
New Orleans, LA

Thursday, May 9, 2019
8:30 – 10:00 pm

**Have a presentation at HTRS/NASTH? We want to know!**

- Please email htrs@bcw.edu using subject line “FN HTRS Abstracts”
- Be sure to include your name, abstract title along with the time and location of your presentation.
- A list will be compiled and disseminated to the Network so that we can support each other.

**FUNDATION FOR Women & Girls with Blood Disorders**

**Presents:**

**Uterine Hemostasis Colloquium II**

May 8-9, 2019
(Preceding HTRS/NASTH 2019)
Hilton New Orleans Riverside

Register at:
A 4.5-day educational event targeted for young hematologists at the end of their specialty training who have a career interest in treating patients with hemophilia.

October 28 – November 1, 2019
Edinburgh, Scotland

Apply to Hemophilia Academy here: [https://haemophiliaacademy.com/](https://haemophiliaacademy.com/)

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**ASH 2019: 61st Annual Meeting & Exposition**
December 7-10, 2019
Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, FL

**THSNA 2020: 5th Biennial Summit of the Thrombosis and Hemostasis Summit of North America**
April 22-25, 2020
Chicago, IL

**Twitter:** @HTRSfellows

**Facebook:** Hemostasis and Thrombosis Research Society Fellows Network
Questions on a Career in Benign Hematology

Ayesha Zia, MD
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Division of Hematology Oncology
University of Texas Southwestern
Children’s Medical Center
Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta

1. What mentors and experiences (research, training, and/or professional) inspired you to enter the field of benign hematology?

Hematology had always appeared be an intellectual field, and that was the biggest driving force to enter the field, compared to pediatric oncology, which seemed to consist of following chemotherapy protocols. The latter has its challenges and fun moments, but hematology involved plenty of learning and the actual thinking process of how to approach and solve new problems. With coagulation medicine, I have learned that there is more than one answer to even the most trivial problem. I am proud when I can devise and defend a rationale for my own answer; I am pleased when my thoughts are novel or insightful; and I am delighted when I am able to verbalize what some may not.

I was lucky to find great role models* during fellowship. Work-life balance is a predicament of every driven, intelligent, professional woman who has the curiosity, determination, and desire to challenge herself professionally while yearning for a peaceful life with her family. It was great to have mentors that showed by example that one could be a great clinician, researcher, mentor, advisor and an involved mom at the same time.

*Dr. Zia would like to thank Madhvi Rajpurkar, Mike Callaghan, Meera Chitlur, Sarah O’Brien, Peter Koides and Ravi Sarode for being her role models.

2. What was the biggest challenge(s) you faced as a fellow? And now as a junior faculty member?

It became very clear to me during fellowship that I wanted to pursue a research career. The biggest challenge I faced as a fellow and as a faculty member was the realization that women are underrepresented in this area. The initial female physician-scientist pipeline only carries a trickle and it leaks. And this path is especially difficult for women entering physician-scientist careers as “late-bloomers”, that is, physicians who become focused on research after medical school or after post-graduate training. The unpredictability of academic careers makes it very daunting; there isn’t a clear-cut pathway for physician scientist training and women receive very little encouragement to become physician scientists. I was able to overcome some of these challenges because I had role models, but these are deeply rooted problems that we need to attack head-on because of their impact on research and discovery.
Questions on a Career in Benign Hematology (cont’d)

3. What is one piece of advice you can provide fellows to help them become successful hematologists and hemostasis/thrombosis researchers? From the beginning, focus. If you want to be considered an expert in a field, you need to singularly focus on that. Don’t expect yourself to become an expert without dedicating time and effort to it. To truly excel at something requires extra engagement and initiative. I suggest two books, “Deep Work” by Cal Newport and “Outliers” by Malcolm Gladwell to all my trainees, both of which influenced me one way or the other.

4. What does your typical workweek consist of? I see patients once a week in The Bleeding Disorders and Thrombosis Clinic. Rest of the week is divided between my Masters of Clinical Sciences classes, conducting research, mentoring and overseeing the clinical operations of The Bleeding Disorders and Thrombosis Program at my institution.

5. If you were not a physician, what profession would you choose, and why? My children tell me I should have been a singer (I love music!). I agree except I don’t exactly have a singing voice, so wouldn’t have stood a chance in the professional singing world.