

March 2, 2011

We are extremely proud to nominate Kathleen Gilbert, Ph.D., for the 2011 Outstanding Woman Faculty Award. Her accomplishments in research and her dedication to advancing the position of women in academics and in society are truly inspirational. Dr. Gilbert received her Ph.D. in Immunology from Tulane University. Following postdoctoral fellowships at Sloan-Kettering Institute and at the National Institute for Medical Research in London, she held a faculty position at The Scripps Research Institute. In 1995, she joined the UAMS Department of Microbiology and Immunology where she has recently been promoted to Professor.

Dr. Gilbert's research interests include autoimmune disease and regulation of the immune system. She is a leader in her field, and has earned many honors, including service on the prestigious Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Science Advisory Board. She was featured in a groundbreaking book ([The Autoimmune Epidemic](#), Donna Jackson Nakazawa, 2008). She has authored over 50 peer-reviewed journal articles and 9 book chapters, and has been an invited speaker at national and international meetings. She is peer reviewer for 10 national/international journals, and has served as an ad hoc member of numerous grant review panels. She has received grants from the National Arthritis Foundation, EPA, NSF, and American Cancer Society and recently received an NIH R01. The recipient of competitive Arkansas Biosciences Institute funds since 2001, she has developed and directs The Arkansas Center for Environmental Exposure Research whose mission is to diminish the impact of pollutants on human health and the environment. At UAMS and ACHRI, she directs a core facility and serves on several important committees including the UAMS research council.

Dr. Gilbert's teaching accomplishments are exemplary. She lectures in nine courses. During a 7-year stint as course director for graduate Immunology, she developed the immunotoxicology curriculum for the Toxicology for Graduate Students course. She has served as major advisor or thesis committee member for several PhD and MS students as well as mentoring several summer students and multiple postdoctoral fellows through the Women's Faculty Development Caucus.

Dr. Gilbert is dedicated to encouraging the professional growth of women faculty. She is an active member in the Woman's Faculty Development Caucus, and has served as Vice President and President. She has demonstrated dedication to the challenges women face in becoming excellent scientists while finding the time for a balanced life. We feel uniquely qualified to attest to these skills. Dr. Gilbert has been our mentor and dissertation adviser (Blossom) and unofficial mentor and role model (Hennings). We consider ourselves fortunate to have worked with such a strong female role model. She is friendly and approachable, but also tough with high expectations. Because of her example, we know that it is possible for basic scientists to successfully balance work, personal, and family life. We are thrilled to have the opportunity to continue working with Kathleen who is a source of encouragement and inspiration as mentor, colleague, and friend. We cannot think of a person who is more deserving of this honor.

Sincerely,

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and Microbiology and Immunology  
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