



@WIMS_UC



Women in Medicine and Science
2022-2023

WIMS Mission

Recruitment, advancement and retention of all women faculty and trainees

Advance the careers and leadership skills of our members

Collaborate in creating an **equitable, diverse & inclusive culture** at UC, the academic health center and community.

WIMS Structure



WIMS Structure

Members at large.

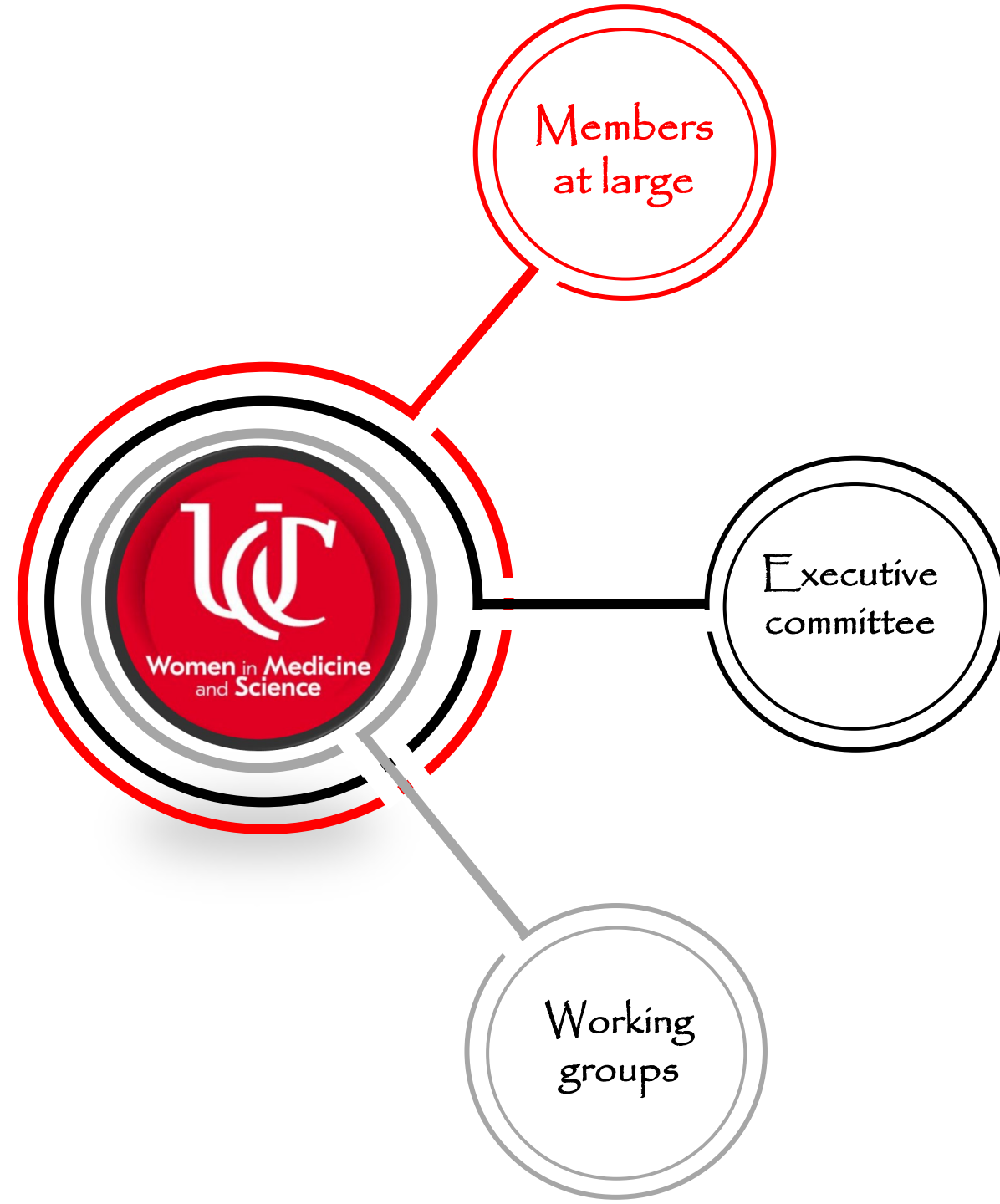
- Open to all
- Encouraged to attend meetings, events, and engage in policy work, professional development, & networking opportunities
- Monthly virtual/hybrid meetings on **2nd Monday of the month @noon**

Executive committee.

- Nominated & elected
- Participate and vote on WIMS initiatives

Working groups / subcommittees.

- Group of at-large members
- Work to advance specific goals





WIMS Executive Team

Liz Leenellett: Treasurer
Katie Phillips: Secretary
Alexa Sabedra: Secretary-Elect
Niralee Patel: Treasurer-Elect



WIMS Executive Team

Maggie Powers-Fletcher: Basic Sciences Rep

Laura Conforti: Basic Sciences Rep

Jason Blackard: Ally

Rachel Odin: Resident Rep



WIMS Executive Team:
Clinical Reps

Emily Voelkel
Annie Wehry
Melanie Thomas-Castillo
Sarah Skoch



WIMS Executive Team

Madison Noall: Med Student Rep
Natalie Botasso Arias: Post-doc Rep
Leah Fox: Clinical Research Fellow Rep
Stephanie Schuckman: Program Manager



Join our team!



Join us in Action

Awards & Sponsorship

Mentorship

Lactation Space



Lactation Spaces



Breaking silos



Needs assessment across COM & UHealth



Shared department initiatives



Creating COM Lactation guidelines



Working with UC leadership for identifying additional space

Mentorship Subcommittee



Completed needs assessment



Mentorship mixer



Launched unique mentorship program



90 day assessment



Scholarly work



Email List

Danielle L. Clark MD MEd

Clark2d9@ucmail.uc.edu

702-461-1928



Contact me anytime!



Website



@WIMS_UC

OHIOANS *for* REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM



Danielle Firsich, Director of Public Policy, PPAO

WHO ARE WE?

- Ohioans for Reproductive Freedom is a coalition of reproductive health, rights, and justice organizations working to ensure Ohioans, not the government, have control over their own reproductive freedoms. Collectively, we represent Ohioans from across the state and have been working in partnership for decades to protect and expand abortion access.

Join the Fight

OHIOANS for
REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM



Pro-Choice Ohio



ABORTION IN OHIO

- On June 24, 2022, the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade, eliminating federal protections for the right to abortion.
- Following this decision, a ban on abortions after 6 weeks, with no exceptions for rape or incest, went into effect in Ohio.
- This ban was put on hold in court in September 2022, restoring abortion rights in the state up to 22 weeks.
- The conservative Supreme Court of Ohio will be taking up this case in upcoming months.
- Gov. DeWine has recently asked the legislature to make Ohio's abortion bans stronger to hold up to court review, ahead of our abortion-rights amendment vote targeted for November.



AMENDMENT LANGUAGE

- Every individual has a right to make and carry out one's own reproductive decisions, including but not limited to decisions on contraception, fertility treatment, continuing one's own pregnancy, miscarriage care, and abortion.
- The State shall not, directly or indirectly, burden, penalize, prohibit, interfere with, or discriminate against either an individual's voluntary exercise of this right or a person or entity that assists an individual exercising this right, unless the State demonstrates that it is using the least restrictive means to advance the individual's health.
- However, abortion may be prohibited after fetal viability. But in no case may such an abortion be prohibited if in the professional judgment of the pregnant patient's treating physician it is necessary to protect the pregnant patient's life or health.



UNDERSTANDING THE PROCESS

- The total number of signatures on the petition must equal 413,446.
- This number will likely need to be closer to 600,000-750,000, due to the validity rate of signatures hovering at 60-80 percent.
- The signatures must be obtained from at least 44 of 88 counties in Ohio.
- Once the required number of signatures is collected, all petitions must be filed with the Secretary of State's office no later than 125 days prior to the November general election.
- This puts us at a final filing date of July 5, 2023.
- It is likely that this initiative will cost almost \$40 million, as it did in states like Michigan during the last legislature.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Early investment enables us to gather signatures to get on the ballot. These funds are the most critical to any ballot campaign.

Signature collection alone is projected to cost \$8-11 million—even with a strong volunteer effort.

- Volunteer: <https://ohioansforreproductivefreedom.org/volunteer/>
- Network, phone bank, host a signature or fundraising party!
- Follow up and uplift on social: @OH_ReproFreedom
- Endorse the Campaign:
<https://ohioansforreproductivefreedom.org/endorsements/>
- Or donate online: OhioansForReproductiveFreedom.org/contribute



LEGISLATIVE HURDLES

- **HJR1/SJR2:** would require future citizen-initiated constitutional amendments to be passed by 60% of voters, rather than a simple majority of 50%+1. It would also require signatures from all 88 counties, rather than 44.
- This upends nearly 175 years of precedent & progress.
- **HB144/SB92:** would establish an August special election, to the tune of \$20 million, to vote on the above bill(s) before the abortion rights amendment is on the ballot in November—deadline for passage is May 10th.
- Republicans removed August special elections JUST LAST YEAR because they are costly & notorious for low voter turnout (8% in last August election).
- "The No. 1 issue right now is protecting our Constitution from liberal interests who try to hijack our Constitution," Rep. Merrin said. Merrin is clear on the 60% constitutional amendment issue as his top priority, saying Republicans “do not want abortion rights enshrined in Ohio’s constitution”.



REINING IN SPECIAL INTERESTS?

- Recent reporting has revealed that the push for these bills is being primarily funded by out-of-state Illinois billionaire Dick Uihlein.
- Ohio Right to Life, The Center for Christian Virtue, and Heritage Action helped write and lobby for these bills.
- A leaked email from Rep. Stewart, the sponsor, revealed the following:
 - “After decades of Republicans’ work to make Ohio a pro-life state, the Left intends to write abortion on demand into Ohio’s Constitution,” the lawmaker wrote. “If they succeed, all the work we accomplished by multiple Republican majorities will be undone.”
- HJR1 had only 9 proponents and well over 100 opponents submit testimony—it is also opposed by 250 statewide organizations and four former bipartisan Ohio governors.



WHY NOW?

- Abortion ballot amendments were extremely successful in the 2022 midterm elections. All 5 states with an amendment on the ballot voted FOR abortion access, with big “surprise” wins in Kansas and Kentucky.
- All five states had a passage percentage between 52-59%--hence the intentional 60% hurdle proposed in HJR1/SJR2.
- The abortion amendment in Michigan was so successful that it outperformed all statewide elected officials in all but five counties.
- New polling shows that 59.1% of Ohio registered voters would support a constitutional amendment to make abortion a fundamental right in the state.
- Almost two-thirds of Americans believe abortion should be legal in most or all cases.



NATIONAL & STATEWIDE TRENDS

- This is part of a greater national & statewide trend attacking bodily autonomy via abortion bans and anti-trans legislation.
- There are currently four anti-trans bills moving through the House: HB6 (anti-trans sports bill), HB68 (gender-affirming care ban for minors), HB8 (forced outing in schools), and HB113 (Detransition Awareness Day).
- All of these bills are being written, paid for, & lobbied for by the same organizations.
- Ohio is one of the most gerrymandered states in the country and has been designated “the most corrupt” legislature in the country, particularly in lieu of the recent federal Householder trial. HJR1/SJR2 would essentially enshrine minority rule, allowing for 40%+1 of Ohioans to decide on critical issues for the majority of Ohioans.



ABORTION BILLS

- **HB15:** Amending sections of the Revised Code to revise the informed consent law regarding abortions:
- Would require women to view and hear ultrasound and have it described to them.
- Would require notification based on unproven evidence regarding the link between abortions and breast cancer.
- Would also require a pregnant person to be notified of “the short-term and long-term risk of psychological or emotional harm, including depression, suicidal ideation, posttraumatic stress disorder, and guilt, that they may endure from undergoing an abortion.”





MIFEPRISTONE UPDATE



- SCOTUS issued a stay freezing all lower court orders banning the distribution of abortion drug mifepristone as it goes through the appeals process.
- Justices Thomas and Alito issued a public dissent.
- The 5th Circuit Court of Appeals will seat a new three-Judge panel to consider the case on appeal, beginning with oral arguments on May 17th.
- This case will likely end up right back in the hands of SCOTUS, dependent upon the 5th Circuit's decision.
- TBD: Potential FDA and DOJ enforcement mechanisms



THANK YOU--QUESTIONS?



Planned Parenthood Advocates of Ohio