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Special Issues on Women's Health

Women and Heart Disease: An Under Appreciated Threat

JULIE BURING

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2007

LUNCH 11:45 a.m., LECTURE 12:15 p.m.

Issues in Women's Health: The Contribution of Statistical Thinking

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DINNER 6:00 p.m., LECTURE 6:45 p.m.

Though she took her major in Mathematics at Pomona College in 1971, Dr. Julie Buring is coming to CMC this time around. Currently, she divides her time between serving as professor of medicine, ambulatory care and prevention at Harvard University Medical School and acting as deputy director of Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

Thus far, the primary focus of Dr. Buring's research has been on the epidemiology of chronic diseases, particularly cardiovascular disease and cancer, and especially among women. At present, she is primarily involved in four ongoing large-scale randomized clinical trials. The first is the Women's Health Study, a primary prevention trial evaluating the balance of benefits and risks of low dose aspirin and vitamin E on cardiovascular disease and cancer among 40,000 female health professionals. The second is the Women's Antioxidant Cardiovascular Study, a secondary prevention trial evaluating the roles of vitamin E, vitamin C, beta-carotene, and folic acid/B6/B12 among 8,000 women with a prior history of heart disease. The third is the Physicians' Health Study II, evaluating vitamin E, vitamin C, beta-carotene, and a multivitamin among 15,000 male physicians. Finally, she leads the Brigham and Women's Hospital Vanguard Center of the Women's Health Initiative, evaluating the roles of low-fat diet, postmenopausal hormones, and calcium/vitamin D supplementation among over 70,000 women nationwide.

Dr. Buring's visit to CMC is sponsored by the Reed Institute of Applied Statistics. She will present two lectures at the Athenaeum, the first at 12:15 p.m. and the second at 6:45 p.m..

