

NEWS

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## **Sherry Marts Named as New GSA Executive Director**

**Bethesda, MD** -- The Genetics Society of America (GSA) is pleased to announce the appointment of Sherry A. Marts, Ph.D. to the position of executive director, effective immediately. Marts is the third executive director of GSA since the office was established in 1983. Her predecessor, Elaine Strass, retired after serving as executive director for nearly 17 years.

Marts has a wide-ranging background in biomedical research, research administration, nonprofit management, public education and advocacy, and media relations. "We are ecstatic that we were able to recruit someone with Sherry's background and talents to GSA," said Fred Winston, GSA President.

Marts comes to GSA from the Society for Women's Health Research (SWHR), where she was vice president for scientific affairs and had developed SWHR's scientific programs to promote and develop the new interdisciplinary field of sex differences research. She produced six annual conferences on Sex and Gene Expression and established three interdisciplinary research networks to foster sex differences research in neuroscience, musculoskeletal biology, and metabolism. The success of these programs led to the 2006 launch of the Organization for the Study of Sex Differences (OSSD), a scientific membership society. Marts served as the first executive director of OSSD.

Prior to her work at SWHR, she worked in research administration and advocacy in biomedical services at the American Red Cross, and directed biomedical research grant programs in Alzheimer's disease, glaucoma, and cardiovascular disease at the American Health Assistance Foundation. She received her B.Sc. (Hons.) in Applied Biology from the University of Hertfordshire, United Kingdom and her Ph.D. in Physiology from Duke University, Durham, NC

"I am thrilled and honored to be joining GSA and humbled by the opportunity to work with world renowned geneticists. Research in genetics is key to our understanding of biological systems, and it will be exciting to be part of this continually evolving field." Marts said.