Journeys to Leadership: Women’s Stories of Success is a forum in which participants are offered professional development through understanding the career journeys of successful women. Each featured guest is a woman who has made a great impact in her leadership position, bringing success not only to herself but to others. In a relaxed conversational format with a facilitator, she will talk about her journey to success and the significant milestones in her personal and professional life. This forum simultaneously celebrates the success of the guest speakers while allowing the attendees to learn from their journey. The speaker on July 28th is Ms. Beth Hammers.

Beth Hammers, Executive Director—Marshall Health

Ms. Hammers has more than 24 years of experience with the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and Marshall Health having held numerous positions from graduate student to director of compliance & risk management and chief operating officer. She is a two-time Marshall University graduate having completed both her bachelor’s degree in business and a master’s degree in business administration. As executive director, Ms. Hammers serves as the chief administrative officer for both the School of Medicine and Marshall Health.

She is on the Board of Directors for Cabell Huntington Hospital; Marshall University Research Corporation; TEAM for West Virginia Children and West Virginia Women’s Education Forum. She is also a member of the Medical Group Management Association and Association of American Medical Colleges.

Ms. Hammers is married to the Prosecutor of Cabell County, Sean “Corky” Hammers, and they have two children: Gabrielle Von Hammers and Brodrick Sherwood Hammers. The family resides in Barboursville, WV.

WHEN: July 28, 2015 from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.  
WHERE: Cabell Huntington Hospital Board Room

Please RSVP by July 24 to Carrie Rockel (304) 691-8638 or rockel6@marshall.edu
Tips for Women Leaders: Journeys speaker Beth Hammers, Executive Director

Beverly Delidow, WIMS Executive Council Chair

On Tuesday July 28th, a capacity audience turned out to hear the career Journey of our guest speaker, JCESOM and Marshall Health’s Executive Director, Beth L. Hammers. Beth has been a member of the medical school community for 24 years; her story was fascinating and very well received. Her spirit of service, collaboration and effective leadership were so clearly demonstrated in her presentation. Afterwards, I impressed upon her to share a few tips for the WIMS community, about leadership, mentors, and her favorite career surprise. A summary of her thoughts is below.

1. **What are a few tips about developing as a leader you would pass on to women coming up now?**
   1. For working as a leader:
      a. Work ethic and job knowledge are key for any leader.
      b. Be willing to fail – stop playing it safe and put yourself out there. In the long run, it will pay off.
      c. Pick and choose your battles carefully and don’t sweat the small stuff.
   2. For your life as a leader:
      a. Establishing the right support system on a professional and personal level will allow you to be more confident with your position.
      b. As a working mother of two, I think it is important for you to *Disconnect in order to Reconnect*: take some time for yourself.

2. **What has been most helpful to you in seeking out and connecting with those who serve as your mentors?**
   1. I think it is critical to have mentors and more than one.
   2. Watch them in action and learn as much as you can from these professionals – what works and what doesn’t work.

3. **What is your favorite unexpected accolade for your accomplishments?**
   When I was promoted to Executive Director - it was a time of validation that I was worthy of such a position.

No doubt truly worthy and an example of Marshall excellence in action! Thank you, Beth, for your generosity in sharing!