

### The NIH-TAC (Transforming Academic Culture) Trial





### A Multi-level Intervention to Enhance the Careers of Women in Academic Medicine

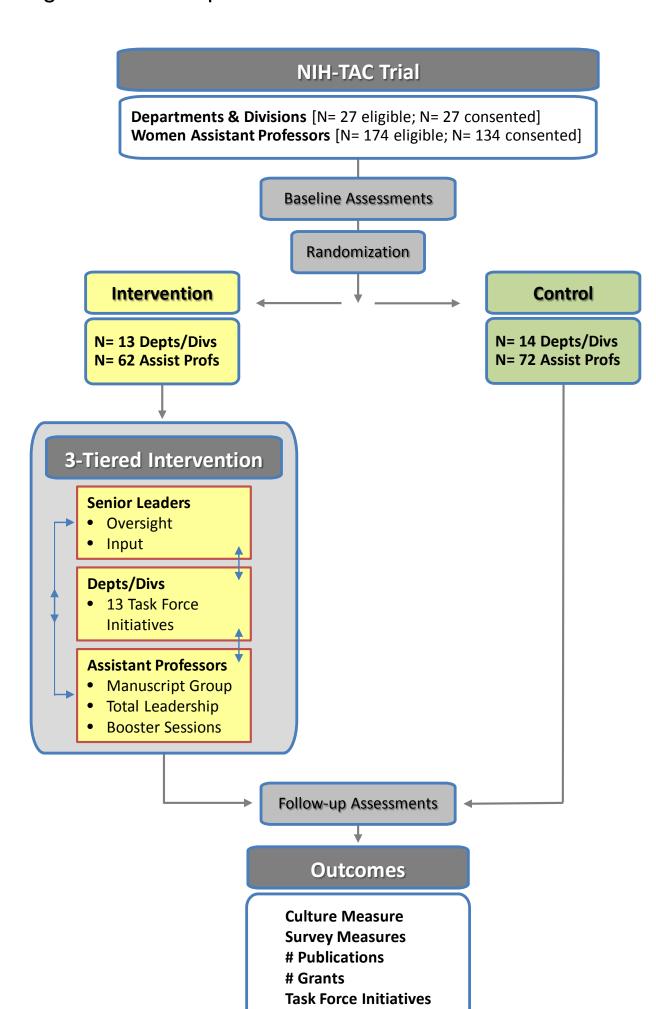
Jeane Ann Grisso MD MSc (Joint PI) • Mary Sammel ScD • Rebecca Speck PhD • Alyssa Westring PhD • Emily F. Conant MD • Patricia Scott BA • Lucy Tuton PhD • Stephanie Abbuhl MD (Joint PI)

#### Overview

The NIH-TAC Trial is a cluster-randomized trial of a multi-faceted intervention at the Perelman School of Medicine to enhance institutional culture, increase academic productivity, and improve job satisfaction for women assistant professors.

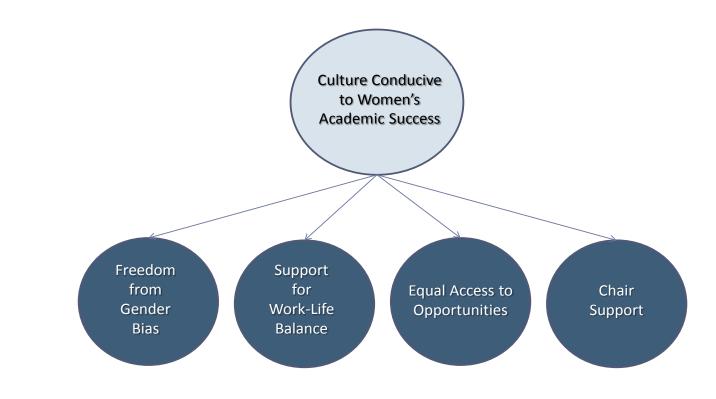
#### Multi-faceted intervention targeted 3 critical levels:

- Senior Leadership provided oversight and input
  - Deans, Vice Deans, Department Chairs and Division Chiefs
- **Department/Division Task Forces** created customized, local interventions to target unit-specific needs
- Women Assistant Professors participated in:
- 1. Total Leadership course for 4 months
- 2. Manuscript writing course for 4 months
- 3. Targeted workshops



### Culture Conducive to Women's Academic Success (CCWAS) Measure

- A measure of work culture was developed to identify:
- Shared beliefs and expectations that may impact ability of women faculty to be successful
- Development of work culture measure involved:
- Review of literature, focus group, discussions with experts
- Formal pilot test with 56 junior women faculty at over 10 academic health centers
- Final version: 46 items reflecting four dimensions:

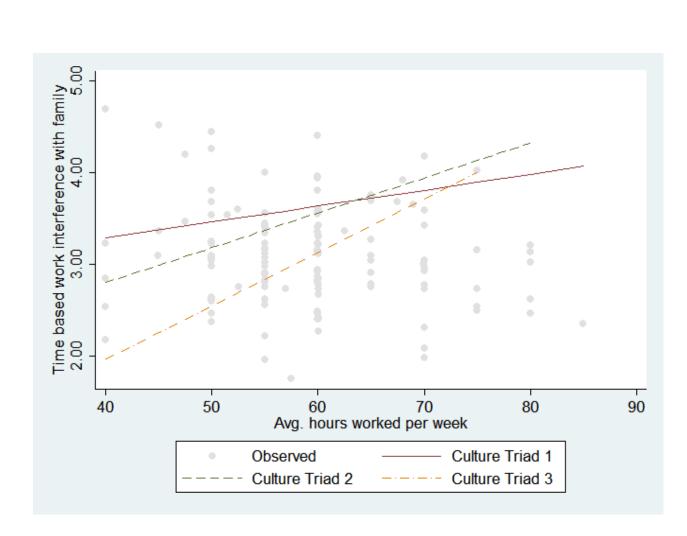


- Major Findings:
- Women within departments/divisions agree on the supportiveness of their unit
- Significant cultural differences exist among departments/divisions

# Impact of Longer Work Hours and Supportive Work Culture (CCWAS) on Work-Family Conflict

**Key Results** 

- Longer work hours were associated with greater work-family conflict
- Less supportive cultures were associated with greater workfamily conflict
- Culture mitigates the impact of long work hours on work-family conflict
  - Women in the most supportive culture (triad 3) experienced significantly less work-family conflict at any level of hours worked per week (up to ~70 hrs)
  - Women in the least supportive culture (triad 1) experienced higher levels of work-family conflict at any level of hours worked per week (up to ~65 hours)



## Task Force Initiative developed and implemented local change at department/division level

#### Magnitude of effort:

- 100 diverse faculty engaged over 2 years
- All 13 task forces met with facilitator for a total of 43 meetings
- Summit meetings of all 13 task forces, Dean and senior leaders shared insights and recommendations

#### Results:

- Task Force Initiative enhanced local engagement
- Specific interventions developed for local environments

### Examples Task Force "Local" (Department) Interventions

- Overhauled clinical accounting of night and weekend duty for junior/senior faculty to improve equity
- Created Vice Chairs of Faculty Development
- Instituted home reading stations in radiology for off-hour coverage (rather than in-house coverage)
- Increased support and accountability for mentoring programs
  - Augmented startup packages to support mentors of junior faculty
- Developed grant writing/review programs
- Established peer mentoring programs

#### **Summary**

Overall goal to create an environment where women can succeed fully in their careers, maximizing their contributions to academic medicine and improving workplace for <u>all</u> faculty

- First randomized trial to test effectiveness of a multi-level, school-wide intervention
- Women working in departments with more supportive cultures were more satisfied with and more committed to their departments; women faculty agreed on the supportiveness of the culture of their department and significant differences existed among departments
- Department culture played a key role in mitigating the effect of long work hours on work-family conflict
- A task force process to develop and implement local department changes resulted in creative initiatives to support faculty

