Webster, Tammy; McBrien, Sarah; Becker, Betsy J; Haggar, Faye; Honeycutt, Karen; Skrabal, Jill; Love, Linda. Spouses, Children, and the Pursuit of a Doctorate: Real or Perceived Barriers for Women in Academia. Presented at: Group on Faculty Affairs and Group on Women in Medicine and Science Joint Professional Development Conference (AAMC); 12 July 2019; Chicago.
Spouses, Children, and the Pursuit of a Doctorate: Real or Perceived Barriers for Women in Academia

Tammy Webster  
University of Nebraska Medical Center, tammy.webster@unmc.edu

Sarah B. McBrien  
University of Nebraska Medical Center, sarah.mcbrbn@unmc.edu

Betsy J. Becker  
University of Nebraska Medical Center, betsyj.becker@unmc.edu

Faye Haggar  
University of Nebraska Medical Center, faye.haggar@unmc.edu

Karen Honeycutt  
University of Nebraska Medical Center, khoneycu@unmc.edu

See next page for additional authors

Let us know how access to this document benefits you  
http://unmc.libwizard.com/DCFeedback

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.unmc.edu/sahp_rste_pres  
Part of the Higher Education Commons
Spouses, Children, and the Pursuit of a Doctorate: Real or Perceived Barriers for Women in Academia

Tammy Webster, PhD, RT (R) (M)¹, Sarah McBrien, PhD¹, Betsy Becker, PT, DPT, PhD¹, Faye Haggar, EdD², Karen Honeycutt, PhD, MASCP, MLS(ASCP)SM¹, Jill Skrabal, PhD, RD, LMNT, CDE³, Linda Love, EdD²
¹University of Nebraska Medical Center, College of Allied Health Professions; ²University of Nebraska Medical Center, College of Medicine; ³Nebraska Medicine; Omaha, NE

Common Barriers to Success for Women Pursuing a Terminal Degree:
• Time Constraints
• Isolation
• Uncertainty
• Fear
• Balancing Personal and Professional Responsibilities

An interdisciplinary team of six women came together in an organically-formed dissertation support group to overcome these barriers through:

Accountability
• Regular Meetings
• Goal-Setting
• Progress Updates

Mutual Trust
• Positive Regard for One Another’s Work
• Celebrations of Writing Milestones & Other Career and Personal Successes

Ongoing Development
• Reference Tools & Library Services
• Writing Mechanics
• Turning the Dissertation into Publication
• Life After a Doctoral Program

Selected References