



# THE AMERICAN GYNECOLOGICAL & OBSTETRICAL SOCIETY

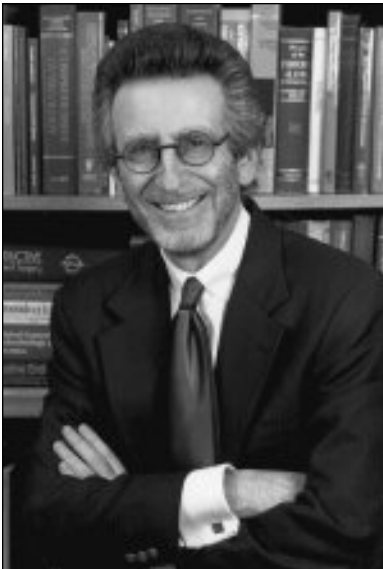


Vol. I, No. 2

NEWSLETTER

December, 2002

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF AGOS



Eli Y. Adashi, M.D.

By the time you receive this communication, the administrative offices of AGOS and AAOGF will have completed their relocation from Charlottesville, Virginia to Washington, D.C. In so doing, we are bidding farewell to the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Virginia, our generous host for the last 12 years. Thus effective November 1, 2002, the place we will call home is the ACOG headquarters in Washington, D.C. Side by side with this sea of change, we have reluctantly accepted the retirement of Ms. Nora Smith, who will, nevertheless, be guiding us for at least another year through a consultancy retainer. Filling Nora's shoes is Ms. Ericka A. Jones, our new Administrative Director whose official term began on November 4, 2002. Fortunately, we had the opportunity to have Ms. Jones at our last annual meeting, an invaluable experience, which will stand her in good stead as she settles into her new role. Please join me in thanking Nora for her long and distinguished service and in welcoming Ms. Ericka Jones who I am confident will do us proud.

As you can tell, these are heady days for AGOS. Although more on the goings on in AGOS will be coming your way in future months, perhaps I can list several items of potential interest:

- Our 2003 Price Orator will be Professor Alan A. Templeton, Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland. We propose to engage Professor Templeton in multiple capacities, the oration being dedicated to the current epidemic of Multiple Gestation (the variety attributable to infertility therapy) and the steps we must take to curb it.
- One of our keynote speakers will be Jordan J. Cohen MD, President of the American Association of Medical Colleges, who will address the all important educational mission of the future Academic Health Center.
- A second keynote lecturer will be A. Lorris Betz, M.D., Ph.D., Vice President for Health Sciences and Dean of the School of Medicine at the University of Utah, who will highlight current and future challenges of Academic Health Centers and the facilitatory role that Mission-Based Management may play in this regard.

.....More on the program from our dedicated Secretary, Dr. Eberhard Mueller-Heubach.

Other points of note include my charge to the Nomination Committee to open up the nomination and election process, which in the view of many, has been in need of revision. Specifically, the Nomination Committee will be soliciting nominations from the membership and will be re-evaluating the ballot in an effort to maximize the leadership opportunities of the membership. Consequently, consideration will be given to the possibility of open elections prior to the Annual Meeting. I am pleased to report that the Nominating Committee, under the leadership of Past President Gabbe, is proceeding aggressively in this context. I am confident that our Nominating Committee will deliver an August

### AGOS Executive Council

Eli Y. Adashi, MD, President  
Gloria E. Sarto, MD, PhD, President-Elect  
Eberhard Mueller-Heubach, MD, Secretary  
James E. Ferguson, II, MD, Assistant Secretary  
John G. Boyce, MD, Treasurer

### AGOS Council

Steven G. Gabbe, MD, Immediate Past-President (AGOS)  
Robert Resnik, MD (1999-2003)  
Frederic D. Frigoletto, Jr., MD (2000-2004)  
Steve N. Caritis, MD (2001-2005)  
Michael T. Mennuti, MD, Secretary-Treasurer (AAOGF)  
James M. Roberts, MD, Vice-President (AAOGF)

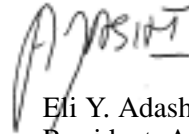
slate of nominees, whose nomination and election have been the subject of broad participation. This is also the year when we will finally make our transition into the electronic age. In that respect, this may well be my last "hard copy" communication to the membership as we cross the digital divide.

Before closing, I'd like to ask you to take special notice of your dues notices that you should receive before the end of the year. First, we are requesting that you return your dues along with the change of address/update form by January 31, 2003. You will notice on your dues statement that we are soliciting donations for AAOGF. This is a new initiative which we hope will be successful. As you know, the AAOGF is dependent on contributions of the members to continue its programs. We are most appreciative of the members' support.

Finally, I cannot tell you how pleased I am with the way the Society is progressing and with the dedication of the officers who serve it. I cannot help but feel that the 2003 meeting will be one to remember. It is not too early to note the dates during which we will be basking in the glory of the Napa Valley, September 18<sup>th</sup> through September 20<sup>th</sup> of 2003.

Wishing you and your loved ones a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,



Eli Y. Adashi, M.D.  
President, AGOS

## Annual Meeting

### Membership after Council Action on September 2002

Active	199
Life	136
Honorary	42 (Foreign: 23 U.S. and Canada: 19)
Total	377

### ANNUAL MEETING, SEPTEMBER 12, 13, 14, 2002 The Homestead, Hot Springs, Virginia

The twenty-first annual meeting of American Gynecological and Obstetrical Society was held at The Homestead, Hot Springs, Virginia, September 12-14, 2002. Physician registrants, members and guests, numbered 213. The total number of attendees including members, guests and spouses was 332. The mini-symposium entitled "Advances in Genetics" was chaired by Dr. Joe Leigh Simpson. Panelists included Drs. Anthony R. Gregg and Aleksandar Rajkovic from Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas. A panel discussion titled "Conflicts of Interest" featured three panelists: Dr. Alan H. DeCherney who addressed the topic of "Conflicts of Interest in Publishing," Dr. Ralph Hale who spoke on "Conflicts of Interest in Continuing Medical Education," and Dr. Alastair J.J. Wood who discussed "Conflicts of Interest in Research." President Steven G. Gabbe delivered his presidential address titled "Burnout in Chairs of Obstetrics and Gynecology: Diagnosis, Treatment and Prevention." Ten scientific candidate papers were presented. The program also featured the following special presentations:

#### Joseph Price Oration

"Will We Prescribe by Genotype?"

Alastair J.J. Wood, M.B., Ch.B.  
Vanderbilt University School of Medicine  
Nashville, TN

### Charles Hunter Award Paper

"Surgical Skills Assessment: A Blinded Examination of Obstetrics and Gynecology Residents"

Barbara A Goff, M.D.  
University of Washington  
Seattle, WA

### AAOGF Endowment Scholar Lectures

"Endothelial Activation of Nuclear Factor-Kappa B in Pregnancy and Preeclampsia"

Douglas A. Woelkers, M.D., AAOGF – Burroughs Wellcome Scholar, University of Pittsburgh, Magee-Womens Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA

"Molecular Basis for Estrogen Biosynthesis in Endometriosis: A Target for Novel Treatment Strategies"

Khaled Zeitoun, M.D., AAOGF – American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology Scholar,  
Columbia University, New York, NY

"Identification of Oocyte-Specific Transcription Factors in Silico Subtraction"

Aleksandar Rajkovic, M.D., AAOGF – J. Bay Jacobs Scholar, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX

"Dysfunctional Apoptosome Activation in Ovarian Cancer"

J. Rebecca Liu, M.D., AAOGF – American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology Scholar,  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

### September 12, 2002 Opening Meeting

President Steven G. Gabbe called the meeting to order on September 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:45 a.m. President Gabbe then proceeded to introduce the new Fellows and awarded those present the Society's certificate and medallion. Due

to the canceled 2001 meeting, new Fellows consisted of those inducted in 2000 as well as those inducted in 2001:

**Active Fellows (2000):**

D. Ware Branch	Edward R. Newton
Richard E. Buller	Richard J. Paulson
William M. Gilbert	Jeffrey F. Peipert
William H. Kutteh	John T. Repke
Charles J. Lockwood	Katharine Wenstrom
Sergio Oehninger	

**Honorary Fellow (2000):**

John M. Monaghan

**Active Fellows (2001):**

Joanna M. Cain	Thomas R. Moore
Steven R. Goldstein	Roger B. Newman
Brian J. Koos	Mark V. Sauer
Dev Maulik	Seang Lin Tan
Frederic J. Montz	George D. Wendel

**Honorary Fellows (2001):**

Stuart Campbell  
Alastair J.J. Wood

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Fellows who died during the past two years:

Gordon W. Douglas	Abe Mickal
John P. Gusdon	Kenneth J. Ryan
Ernst Knobil	Harold M.M. Tovell

**Significant Council Decisions:**

- Effective November 1, 2002, the administrative office of AGOS has moved from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, VA to the ACOG headquarters at 409 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20090.
- Ms. Nora Smith, the Administrative Director of AGOS for many years has retired. Council has thanked Ms. Smith for the many contributions she has made to the Society. Ms. Smith will be available as a consultant as needed for another year.
- Ms. Ericka Jones has been hired as the new Administrative Director. Ms. Jones has previously worked for the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG).
- A website for AGOS is being developed by Assistant Secretary, James E. Ferguson. The web address is [www.agosonline.org](http://www.agosonline.org). You are welcome to visit the website and to witness its evolution.
- The Financial Statements of AGOS will be audited by an outside accounting firm and the report reviewed by two AGOS members appointed by the President.
- Council emphasized that the “state-of-the-art” review, the new category of candidate paper for membership,

needs to be a systematic review of a specific focused question replete with a comprehensive literature search and objective presentation of the results.

- Council emphasized that age 50 or less is no longer a requirement for membership.
- Officers of ACOG, ABOG, CUCOG, SGI, SMFM, ASRM, and SGO will be invited to attend the annual scientific meeting of AGOS at their own expense.
- Fellows should identify themselves by their name when offering substantive negative comments relative to prospective Fellows. These comments are to be submitted in confidence to the President.
- The twenty-second annual meeting of AGOS will be held September 18-20, 2003 at The Silverado Resort, Napa Valley, CA.
- The following dates and future locations are confirmed:
  - 2004 – September 9-11 -  
Sagamore on Lake George, Bolton Landing, NY
  - 2005 – September 29 - October 1 -  
The Empress Hotel, Victoria, British Columbia
  - 2006 – September 14-16 -  
The Kingsmill Resort and Conference Center,  
Williamsburg, VA
- The following members requested transfer to Life Membership and were approved by Council:
 

Hervey E. Averette	Frederick Naftolin
Moon H. Kim	Antonio Scommegna
John Mikuta	

**News from the Business Meeting on September 12, 2002:**

- Council recommended Dr. Alastair J.J. Wood, the Joseph Price Orator, for honorary membership in AGOS. To avoid the need to send out a single ballot to the Fellowship, a motion was made, seconded and approved to temporarily suspend the by-laws. A motion was made, seconded and approved by the Fellowship to approve Dr. Wood for honorary membership in AGOS. The by-laws were then reinstated.
- President Steven G. Gabbe reported on the Strategic Planning Retreat, which took place on September 11, 2002 in Victoria, British Columbia. Among the items discussed, the following were approved by the membership:
  - AGOS mission statement: “AGOS will advance the health of women by providing dedicated leadership and promoting excellence in research, education and medical practice. The AGOS is an organization composed of those attaining national prominence in scholarship in the discipline of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Women’s Health.”

- Goals and Objectives for AGOS:
  - A. Identify, mentor and support the development of leaders in the discipline.
  - B. Promote the attainment and dissemination of new knowledge.
  - C. Stimulate and facilitate new initiatives to improve women's health.
  - D. Provide a forum through collaboration with other organizations for attaining unity of purpose and direction for the academic enterprise of the discipline.
- Consider the development of scientific reviews on issues of importance in the future of Obstetrics and Gynecology, an undertaking modeled after the Institute of Medicine.
- Encourage other organizations to have satellite meetings as part of the annual AGOS meeting.
- Move the site of the annual meeting to Chicago or New York (not every meeting).
- Eliminate the limitation on the number of guests that can be invited by a member.
- Emphasize that the most important criteria for fellowship are the lifetime contributions of the candidate and place less emphasis on the paper as the primary consideration for membership.
- Consider a change in the by-laws stating that a candidate on the ballot requires approval by 75% of the members, as was true in the past, rather than the present 90% requirement.

#### **By-Laws Changes:**

The membership voted in favor of the following by-laws changes at the Business Meeting on September 12, 2002:

There will be a Finance Committee consisting of the Secretary of AGOS, the Secretary-Treasurer of the Foundation, another Council member, an at-large member and other individuals as decided by unanimous decision of Council.

There will also be a Strategic Planning and Advisory Committee consisting of the Prior Past-President as chair, Past-President, President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer and two at-large members.

Expansion of options for submitted manuscripts to facilitate the path to Fellowship thereby promoting inclusiveness. The following modified criteria were proposed: "Candidates for fellowship in the American Gynecological and Obstetrical Society must submit an original scientific paper. Alternatively, they may elect to submit a "state-of-the-art" review on a focused topic that encompasses their previous or current work and expertise in the field. If the paper is accepted by the Program

Advisory Committee, the candidate will be invited to give a 15-minute presentation followed by five minutes for formal discussion and ten minutes for questions from participants and response from the candidate." There will be no specified limits on the number of papers submitted under this proposal. A paper in this format may also be submitted by a candidate whose previous submission has been rejected.

By-laws change regarding Article 1, Section 2 (b) Papers, should be amended to read "The manuscript of a paper to be read at an annual meeting..."

#### **AGOS Treasurer's Report**

Dr. Boyce reported a bank balance of \$84,691.53 as of 8/21/02. Additionally, the 2003 annual dues notices will be mailed on December 19, 2002. All members are requested to return payment, along with the membership update form, by January 31, 2003.

#### **AAOGF Secretary-Treasurer's Report**

AAOGF and AGOS have launched a new program to provide travel support for young academicians to attend the AGOS meeting. AAOGF will provide four travel awards to the 2003 annual meeting of AGOS at a level of \$1500.00 each. AGOS will waive the registration fee for the recipients of these travel awards. The Home Department of the recipients of the award should provide the balance of support required for attendance.

### **SAVE THE DATE!!!!!!**

.....*You Don't Want to Miss It*

2003 Annual Meeting  
of

The American Gynecological  
and Obstetrical Society

September 18 – 20, 2003

The Silverado  
Napa, California

#### **FEATURING 2003 PRICE ORATOR**

Professor Alan A. Templeton, Chair of the  
Department of Obstetrics  
and Gynaecology  
University of Aberdeen in Scotland

***Watch your mail....more to come!!!!***

## AAOGF PRESIDENT'S REPORT



It is a great honor for me to have been elected as the President of the American Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Foundation (AAOGF). I take this opportunity, in my first President's Report, to cite our Articles of Incorporation. The founding members of the AAOGF stated that the purposes of the organization were for the receiving and administrating of funds and property and the application of income for "the cultivation and promotion of theoretical and practical knowledge in the subjects of Gynecology, Obstetrics, and whatever relates to Obstetrics and Gynecology, to carry out the charitable, scientific, and educational purposes of the American Gynecological and Obstetrical Society [AGOS]."

Over the years the AAOGF has met these missions in many ways, such as sponsoring the Price Oration and the Hunter Prize Paper Award at the annual meeting of AGOS. However, our major undertaking has been the AAOGF Scholars Program. For six years I had the privilege of being the Chair of the Endowment Committee of AAOGF which selects and administers this program. Over fifty young Obstetrician-Gynecologist investigators have received funding since 1984, with 88% holding full-time faculty appointments. Nearly half (56%) of the scholars have been principal investigators on one or more grants or other NIH awards since completing their AAOGF Scholar Programs. Thus, the AAOGF is heavily invested in the development of our specialty's future leaders.

I wish to acknowledge the past AAOGF Presidents who mentored me as I served in the role of Trustee: Drs. William Dignam, William Creasy and Charles Hammond. I want to thank the current Officers and Trustees of AAOGF for their hard work and dedication: James M. Roberts, MD (Vice President), Michael T. Mennuti, MD (Secretary-Treasurer), Charles J. Lockwood, MD (Chair, Endowment Fund), Eli Y. Adashi, MD (Trustee), and Gloria E. Sarto, MD, PhD (Trustee). I also want to thank the members of the Endowment Fund Committee for their guidance of the Scholars Program and their work in reviewing proposals and selecting recipients. In addition to the individuals mentioned above, the committee includes Steven G. Gabbe, MD (Immediate Past-President of AGOS), John G. Boyce, MD (Treasurer of AGOS), Linda C. Giudice, MD, John E. Buster, MD, Donald J. Dudley, MD, Michele Follen, MD, and Norman F. Gant, MD. Finally, a special thanks to Nora Smith our former Administrative Director for twelve years, and our new Administrative Director, Ericka A. Jones.

Until we meet again.....

Sherman Elias, MD  
President, AAOGF

### AAOGF Trustees

Sherman Elias, MD, President  
James M. Roberts, MD, Vice-President  
Michael T. Mennuti, MD, Secretary-Treasurer  
Eli Y. Adashi, MD, President (AGOS)  
Gloria Sarto, MD, PhD, President-Elect (AGOS)  
Charles J. Lockwood, MD, Chairman,  
Endowment Fund Committee

## We've Moved

The AGOS & AAOGF Executive Office has moved. The new address is:

**Ericka A. Jones**  
**Administrative Director, AGOS & AAOGF**  
409 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20024-2188  
Office: (202) 863-1647  
Fax: (202) 554-0453  
ejones@acog.org

## A Message from the Nominating Committee

In an effort to involve our membership more actively in the selection of the leaders of AGOS, we are inviting you to submit nominations for the following positions:

President-Elect; Treasurer; two members of Council, one to succeed Dr. Robert Resnik for a term of 2003-2005 and a second to succeed Dr. Fredric D. Frigoletto for a term of 2003-2006; and two members of the Program Advisory Committee, one to succeed Dr. Mary Lake Polan for a term of 2003-2005 and a second to succeed Dr. Rodrigue Mortel for a term of 2003-2006. Dr. Eberhard Mueller-Heubach, our Secretary, and Dr. James E. Ferguson, II our Assistant Secretary, are eligible for re-election. Their names will thus be placed on the ballot for re-election.

Members who wish to propose nominees should send a letter to my office supporting the nomination(s) and enclose an updated curriculum vitae for each nominee. Self-nominations are acceptable. Nominations must be received no later than February 3, 2003. It is advisable, but not required, that individuals being proposed for Council have served on one of the society's committees and that individuals nominated for President have served on Council.

If you have questions about the nomination process, I hope you will feel free to contact me.

Steven G. Gabbe, M.D.  
Chair, Nominating Committee

### Nominating Committee Report:

The Nominating Committee consisted of Dr. Paul B. Underwood as Chair, along with Drs. Karlan, Merkatz, Resnik and Roberts as members. The nominees were unanimously approved.

#### AGOS Officers and Council:

President-Elect: Gloria Sarto, M.D., Ph.D.  
Secretary: Eberhard Mueller-Heubach, M.D.  
Assistant Secretary: James E. Ferguson, II, M.D.  
Council Member: Steve N. Caritis, M.D.  
Program Committee: Robert B. Jaffe, M.D.

## AAOGF SCHOLARS

The Foundation is currently supporting five scholars, two in their third year, two in their second year and one in her first year.

### Third Year Scholars - July 1, 2000 - June 30, 2003

**Dr. George Coukos** is the AAOGF American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology Scholar. Dr. Coukos' project is titled "Ovarian Cancer Immunotherapy", at University of Pennsylvania.

**Dr. Oliver Dorigo** is the AAOGF Burroughs Wellcome Scholar. Dr. Dorigo's project title is "Development of a Novel Gene Transfer System Using a Gutless Hybrid Adeno-Epstein-Barr (EBV) Virus for Prolonged Transgene Expression", at UCLA School of Medicine.

### Second Year Scholars – July 1, 2001 – June 30, 2004

**Dr. Angeles Aleida Alvarez** is the AAOGF Burroughs Wellcome Scholar. Dr. Alvarez's project title is: "*Regulation of Angiogenesis in Ovarian Cancer and Development of Anti-Angiogenesis Therapy*" at Duke University Medical Center.

**Dr. Wanda Kay Nicholson** is the AAOGF American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology Scholar. Dr. Nicholson's project title is: "*Health Care Utilization and Health Status in Diabetic and Normal Pregnancy*" at John Hopkins School of Medicine.

### First Year Scholars – July 1, 2002 – June 30, 2005

**Dr. Kristine Yoder Lain** is the AAOGF American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology Scholar. Dr. Lain's project title is: "*The Interaction of Age and Smoking With Endothelial Function and Insulin Resistance During Pregnancy*" at University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

## GUIDELINES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR MENTORS/SPONSORS OF CANDIDATES FOR AGOS FELLOWSHIP

1. The mentor/sponsor should review the criteria for fellowship before submitting a candidate's name for consideration. The candidate should be a leader in academic obstetrics and gynecology to include national prominence, good character and high ethical standing, recognized ability as a teacher and clinician. Evidence of research and scholarly activity is important and includes at least 20 publications in peer-reviewed journals.
2. The candidate's material, manuscript, and presentation to the organization are very important in the evaluation for membership. Please counsel the candidate on the importance of an appropriate topic and the importance of the quality of the study in his/her area of expertise. If there are any questions about this, feel free to consult with the President or Secretary of AGOS. The paper can be clinical or basic science in your specialty but must be original work performed by the candidate, not previously presented. Alternatively, a systematic "state-of-the-art" review may be submitted. With rare exception, this requires that the candidate be first author on the paper. The paper will be reviewed by five reviewers prior to presentation and for publication in the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*. The study design should be adequate, and the manuscript should be well written. You should review the paper well in advance for your suggestions, and you should review the candidate's presentation and slides to help him/her anticipate potential questions or problems before his/her final presentation to AGOS. Finally, you should not submit a candidate's name for consideration if you will be unable to attend the meeting at the time he/she presents the paper.
3. Mentors/Sponsors are encouraged to invite their candidates and potential candidates to attend the annual meetings so that the membership can become better acquainted with them. Papers presented to the society by potential candidates which meet all of the criteria will be accepted as the thesis requirement when the individual is later considered for fellowship.
4. Mentors/Sponsors are required to write a letter of support for the candidate.
5. Members of the AGOS Council cannot sponsor candidates.
6. Applications are due by May 1 each year.
7. Candidates must have attended at least one AGOS Meeting as a guest.

## FELLOWSHIP CANDIDATE GUIDELINES

The Fellowship Committee will use the following guidelines to determine if candidates meet the requirements for membership. To standardize this process, a scoring system is being used as noted below:

1. Scholarly contributions (quantity and quality of publications, especially first-authored publications in peer-reviewed journals and books and funded research) 55 points.
2. National prominence (holding membership in prestigious and selective societies, committee membership or office in national or regional organizations, independence) 35 points.
3. Letters of evaluation (letters from the two mentors describing in detail the strengths of the candidate) 5 points.
4. Comments from three Fellows who are asked to review the candidate's application and spontaneous input from members as requested in the newsletter – 5 points

Total point 100. Candidates should, in general, have at least 75 points.

## CRITERIA FOR MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION FOR MEMBERSHIP

- The manuscript must be submitted in the format of the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*.
- The candidate for fellowship need not be the first author; however, if not, the author should be the last (senior) author.
- The manuscript must be on clinical or basic science research that is original and not the review of work by others.
- The manuscript should ordinarily be expected to include a testable hypothesis.
- The manuscript should ordinarily be expected to include a well-defined control group and have a reasonable number of observations.
- The manuscript should ordinarily be expected to have analysis of results with valid statistical methods.
- The manuscript should be considered among the candidate's best research works.
- Alternatively, a "state-of-the-art" review on a focused topic that encompasses the previous or current work and expertise of the candidate in the field may be submitted.
- A "state-of-the-art" review needs to be a systematic review of a specific focused question with a comprehensive literature search and objective presentation of the results.

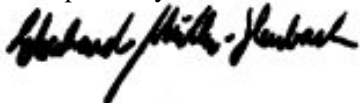
## **A MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY – EBERHARD MUELLER-HEUBACH, M.D.**

The past few months have been very eventful for AGOS. Our annual scientific meeting at the Homestead was very successful. My thanks to all officers, council members, committee members, fellows, discussants, panelists and AAOGF fellows for their contributions to this success. Our superb staff deserves special thanks for their hard work and professionalism: Nora Smith, Robin Shoaf, Marian Rossi and Charlotte Buttner. This was the last meeting for Nora Smith who is retiring as Administrative Director of AGOS after many years of exemplary service. Her major contribution to AGOS was repeatedly acknowledged at the meeting. We wish her well in retirement but, to assure a smooth transition, have retained her as a consultant as needed for another year. Ericka Jones, our new Administrative Director, was able to attend the annual scientific meeting although her official start date was not until November 1. The move of the AGOS Office from Charlottesville to the ACOG headquarters in Washington, DC went rather smoothly and Ericka Jones is now in full swing at our new office. We are indebted to Ralph Hale, M.D., the Executive Director of ACOG, for facilitating this move.

We would like the fellows of AGOS to carefully review the enclosed guidelines and responsibilities of mentors/sponsors for AGOS fellowship as well as the fellowship candidate guidelines and to identify potential candidates and submit applications by May 1, 2003. Please note that an age of less than 50 is no longer a requirement for candidates. Of importance are the expanded guidelines for manuscripts which now include a “state-of-the-art” review on a focused topic as an alternative for manuscript submission.

Enclosed with this mailing is an announcement of the Charles Hunter Award Paper. Please post this announcement in a prominent location in your department to allow as many young investigators as possible to compete for this prestigious award.

Respectfully Submitted,



Eberhard Mueller-Heubach, M.D.  
Secretary  
December, 2002