



THE AMERICAN GYNECOLOGICAL & OBSTETRICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



Vol. II, No. 1

June, 2003

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Eli Y. Adashi, M.D.

Amazingly, as this newsletter is being put together, we find ourselves beyond the three-quarters mark of this AGOS year. Although much transpired and much has been accomplished, it is still difficult to appreciate that the annual meeting is only three months away. As you might imagine, your officers are hard at work to prepare for both the annual meeting itself and the various committee functions which precede it. By all accounts, this one will be a meeting to remember with record numbers of candidate presentations, record numbers of candidates for membership, and record number of submissions to the Charles A. Hunter, Jr., Prize Thesis Award. Let this also be an annual meeting marked by record attendance.

Your officers have scheduled a total of three keynote speakers and a round table forum in which they will participate. As always, we will be treated to a Price oration, to be delivered this year by **Dr. Allan A. Templeton**, Professor and Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Aberdeen, Scotland. Dr. Templeton's chosen topic is the Multiple Gestation "Epidemic" and the role of various Assisted Reproductive Technologies in this regard.

By way of highlights, I chose to emphasize a few points from the year that was in which you might be interested. First, your officers have taken it upon themselves to constitute an operational executive group consisting of future and present AGOS officers.

This group is comprised of:

- Eberhard Mueller-Heubach, M.D. – AGOS Secretary
- James E. Ferguson, II, M.D. – AGOS Assistant Secretary
- John G. Boyce, M.D. – AGOS Treasurer
- Ms. Ericka A. Jones – AGOS/AAOGF Administrative Director
- Ms. Nora P. Smith – AGOS Consultant
- Gloria E. Sarto, M.D., PH.D. – AGOS President-Elect
- Eli Y. Adashi, M.D. – AGOS President

The executive group is convened on a monthly basis as well as on a need-dependent basis for conference calls in which operational issues are being systematically addressed. Appropriately, these conference calls are agenda-driven and as such documented by corresponding minutes.

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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 & AAOGF Headquarters

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

AGOS Council

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

Under this construct, the Assistant Secretary has been provided with significantly expanded responsibilities as compared with previous administrations. All in all, this new arrangement proved highly satisfactory and productive as attested to by tangible ongoing accomplishments which this communication attempts to highlight.

Second, the AGOS Council has launched an initiative titled, "Sustaining Investigative Careers in Academic Obstetrics and Gynecology," one designed to address growing concerns as to the ability of young members of our discipline to remain competitive and engaged in the research arena. To ensure discipline-wide participation, this initiative has been placed on the annual agenda of LCOG which is scheduled to meet in September 2003. President Adashi and President-Elect Sarto will follow the progress of the initiative by working closely with Dr. Ralph M. Hale, Executive Director of ACOG.

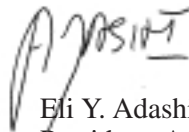
Finally, the overarching common focus of the 2003 Annual Meeting will be **The Future of the Academic Health Center**. This challenge will be initially explored by **A. Loris Betz, M.D., Ph.D.**, Senior Vice President for Health Sciences, Dean, School of Medicine and CEO of the University of Utah Health System. The subject matter will be the clinical and administrative challenges facing the Academic Health Center of today and the means required to address them. This presentation will be followed by a discussion of the challenges facing medical education in Academic Health Centers, to be delivered by **Jordan J. Cohen, M.D.**, President of the American Association of Medical Colleges. And last but not least,

Philip A. Pizzo, M.D., Dean, School of Medicine at Stanford University, will address the importance of interdisciplinary and translational research and education. I am certainly delighted to have all of these speakers take part in our annual meeting. If you have not received meeting registration materials, please contact Administrative Director Jones at (202) 863-1647 or ejones@acog.org.

In closing, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the multiple other activities which your officers have embarked on. All of those will receive a fair hearing in this communication in the context of the relevant reports from Secretary Mueller-Heubach, Assistant Secretary Ferguson and Treasurer Boyce. I would also like to use this opportunity to thank one and all and especially Administrative Director Jones and the aforementioned operational executive group for making it all possible. I would like to think that it is our collective hope to move AGOS forward such that it becomes a true year-round organization with a substantial and consistent voice advocating for the welfare of women and their newborns.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Silverado!

Best wishes,



Eli Y. Adashi
President, AGOS

AGOS SECRETARY'S UPDATE

Eberhard Mueller-Heubach, M.D.

Attendance Requirement for Active Members:

As stated in the By-laws, an active Fellow who does not attend an annual meeting for three consecutive years will be dropped from Fellowship unless he or she offers an excuse satisfactory to the Society. Therefore, if you cannot attend and desire the Council to excuse your absence, please write to the Secretary of AGOS.

REPORT FROM THE INTERIM COUNCIL MEETING OF MARCH 27, 2003

The Interim Council Meeting was held on March 27, 2003 at the Headquarters of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in Washington, D.C.

- Proposed By-Laws Changes – At the 2002 Business Meeting, the fellowship voted for by-laws changes establishing a Finance Committee and a Strategic Planning and Advisory Committee. These by-laws changes did not contain a stated charge for these

committees nor did they designate a chair for the Finance Committee. The proposed by-laws changes delineating these issues have been endorsed by Council.

Section 5 – Finance Committee: The Finance Committee shall consist of the Secretary of the Society, the Secretary-Treasurer of The American Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Foundation, an additional Council member, who will serve as the Chair of the Finance Committee, an at-large member and other individuals selected by a unanimous vote of Council. The Chair of the Finance Committee will be appointed by the AGOS President. His/her term shall coincide with his/her term on Council.

The Finance Committee shall receive prospective annual budget proposals from the Treasurer, review receipts, expenditures and deviations from the budget no less than twice a year and prior to each Council meeting. In addition, the Finance Committee will

evaluate the reserve funds and the investments of the Society, all of which shall be subject to review and consent of the Council. The Chair of the Finance Committee is expected to report the findings of the Committee at all Council meetings.

Section 6 – Strategic Planning and Advisory

Committee: The Strategic Planning and Advisory Committee shall consist of the prior Past-President, who will be serving as the Chair of the Committee, the Past-President, the current President, the President-Elect, the Secretary, the Treasurer and two at-large members.

The Strategic Planning and Advisory Committee will conduct strategic planning for the Society and will evaluate other issues as requested by the sitting President or his/her Council. The committee will also consider candidates proposed for active fellowship by the alternative mechanism and will forward its recommendation to the Council for final action.

- In response to a request by Dr. Catherine Y. Spong, Chief, Pregnancy and Perinatology Branch, NICHD/NIH, to establish an electronic list of qualified scientific reviewers from the discipline of Obstetrics and Gynecology, 25 AGOS members were sent an e-mail to inquire as to their willingness to participate. This listing will enable NIH to choose from a list of qualified scientific reviewers from the OB/GYN community and ensure proper representation of our specialty on NIH review panels.
- A by-laws change approved in 2002 established the “state-of-the-art” review as an alternate approach to the scientific paper for some candidates for fellowship. In recognition of this possibility, Council is developing guidelines defining what constitutes a systematic “state-of-the-art” review. The guidelines are intended to provide candidates with guidance thereby ensuring the presentation of high quality “state-of-the-art” reviews.
- Future meeting dates and locations: September 9-11, 2004 – Sagamore on Lake George, Bolton Landing, NY; September 29 – October 1, 2005 – The Empress Hotel, Victoria, British Columbia; September 14-16, 2006 – The Kingsmill Resort, Williamsburg, VA.
- Assistant Secretary Ferguson reported the deaths of the following fellows: Sir E.A.J. Alment, Elsie R. Carrington, Thomas F. Dillon, Roy Hertz, Frederic J. Montz, Humbert L. Riva, John E. Savage, Howard J. Tatum and Dyre Troelle. Assistant Secretary Ferguson is collecting memorials for these past fellows for publication in the program book.

- The Society is doing well financially. The reserve funds have been increasing over the past four years. However, the goal of having a balance equivalent to one year’s expenses has not yet been reached.
- The Nominating Committee (Steven G. Gabbe, M.D., Chair), submitted the following slate for vote at the Annual Business Meeting:
 President-Elect: Ronald S. Gibbs, M.D.
 Treasurer: Robert Resnik, M.D.
 Secretary: Eberhard Mueller-Heubach, M.D.
 Assistant Secretary: James E. Ferguson, II, M.D.
 Council: Beth Y. Karlan, M.D. (2003-2005)
 Council: Mark Phillippe, M.D. (2003-2006)
 Program Advisory Committee: Kenneth L. Noller (2003-2005)
 Carolyn D. Runowicz (2003-2006)

Membership Status after the Council Meeting of March 27, 2003:

Active Members	206
Life Members	134
Honorary Members	42
	(Foreign 20, US and Canada 22)
Total	382

Life Membership:

Council approved the request of the following four members to be moved to Life Membership:

Robert K. Creasy
 John I. Fishburne, Jr.
 Mary G. Hammond
 Arthur L. Herbst

2003 FELLOWSHIP APPLICANTS:

The following candidate applications have been received and will be considered by the Fellowship Committee in September. Please write to the Secretary regarding any information (pro or con) that could assist the Fellowship Committee with its decision. Please return the enclosed Fellowship Application Listing Form with comments. The form should be returned to Eberhard Mueller-Heubach, M.D., Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Medical Center Boulevard, Winston-Salem, NC 27157-1066 or Fax (336) 716-6937.

Jacques S. Abramowicz	Lawrence C. Layman
Nancy C. Chescheir	James H. Liu
David A. Fishman	Brian M. Mercer
Jeffrey M. Fowler	Bryan F. Mitchell
William W. Hurd	Yoel Sadovsky
Barbara A. Goff	Jerome F. Strauss, III
Gary L. Goldberg	Craig H. Syrop
Mark P. Johnson	

A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY MUELLER-HEUBACH

We are excited about our 22nd Annual Meeting at the Silverado Resort, Napa, California, a beautiful venue in the California wine country. The Program Advisory Committee has accepted 11 candidate papers for presentation at this year's meeting. In addition, we have received a record number of submissions for the Charles A. Hunter, Jr., Prize Thesis Award. There will be three AAOGF Endowment Scholar presentations this year. For the first time, abstracts of these presentations will be included in the program book. I wish to extend my gratitude to all the officers of the Society, Council members, Committee members and Fellows who are diligently at work for the meeting. My special thanks to the administrative staff, Ms. Ericka A. Jones, Administrative Director, AGOS and AAOGF and Ms. Robin T. Shoaf for their extraordinary efforts on behalf of the Society.

This has been a banner year for the Society. We have received applications from eighteen potential new members (two via the alternate pathway). I ask that all members refer to the newsletter of December, 2002 regarding the guidelines for and responsibilities of Mentors/Sponsors for AGOS Fellowship, Fellowship Candidates, and Manuscript Submission Criteria. Please pay attention to the proposed by-laws changes in this newsletter. Those will be voted on at the Annual Business Meeting. The development of a website for AGOS, under the guidance of Assistant Secretary Ferguson has made giant strides. In tandem with this effort the address list of AGOS Fellows including e-mail addresses has been updated. Please notify our office in Washington of any change in your mailing or e-mail address.

My sincerest thanks to those who have worked so hard on behalf of the important activities of the Society. I look forward to seeing all the Fellows and their guests at the Annual Meeting at the Silverado.

Respectfully submitted,



Eberhard Mueller-Heubach, M.D.
Secretary, AGOS

AGOS ASSISTANT SECRETARY'S UPDATE *James E. Ferguson, II, M.D.*

Near Future AGOS Web Site Launching

We are very close to the official launch of the new AGOS web site. The web site will contain a section entitled "Introduction" which has information about the governance and annual business meetings. Additionally, it will contain information related to upcoming events and will enable viewers to view current officers and council members as well as representatives to other important committees. An additional link will provide information about membership of important AGOS committees. The "History" section will include information about officers of AGOS and the parent organizations (AGS and AAOG). A unique link entitled "Member Profiles" will enable members (only) to determine current contact information about fellows as well as view in memoriam statements. Finally, there will be a section with links to other pertinent organizations, a section that provides information about the AGOS staff as well as a final section in which the current abstracts presented at the most recent annual meeting will be posted. Stay tuned and you will receive an email notification soon!

Effectively Communicating Memoriams

In the past we have been notified of deceased fellows on an annual basis in the program booklet distributed at our meeting. Officers of AGOS plan to utilize both the web site and electronic communications via email to notify members when we learn of deceased fellows. We anticipate that the membership will appreciate this as there will be a possibility to learn of the event in a more timely fashion and respond accordingly. If you as a member become knowledgeable about the death of an active, life or honorary fellow, please notify the Assistant Secretary, James E. Ferguson, II, M.D at jef@uky.edu.

Enclosed with this Newsletter

- 2003 Preliminary Meeting Program
- 2003 Fellowship Application Listing
- Officer and Committee Listing
- Winery Tour Form

THE 2003 AGOS ANNUAL MEETING DETAILS

About Napa

If you've ever heard about or been to NAPA, then it doesn't come as a surprise that it's one of the most breathtaking landscapes in the country. We are fortunate to have the Silverado Resort, which is located in Napa host our 2003 Annual Meeting, September 18-20, 2003. The Silverado is surrounded by exhilarating valleys and hills, and beautiful bodies of water that nestle endless numbers of wineries, quaint shops, and activities that create an unforgettable experience for every resident and visitor alike. The average seasonal temperature in Napa is generally 72-degrees Fahrenheit during the day.

Getting There

The Silverado is approximately 50-65 minutes away from the San Francisco, Sacramento, and Oakland airports. Options for ground transportation to and from the Silverado are car rental and "limousine" service. For car rental, Budget Rental is recommended. They may be reached at (800) 763-2999. For "limousine" service, please contact Royal Coach at (707) 642-3372 and be sure to mention that you will be a guest of the Silverado Resort and receive a special discounted rate. For more information regarding transportation, you may contact the Silverado Concierge at (707) 257-0200.

Room Reservations

If you have not already done so, book your room Silverado Resort and Spa today. The room blocks for AGOS are on a first come, first-served basis. In particular, a block of rooms are reserved especially for AGOS meeting guests at a special rate of \$275 per night for a one-bedroom suite, and \$400.00 per night for a two-bedroom suite. All rooms are subject to a 10.5 % sales tax. Don't forget the deadline to register at this special group rate is August 17, 2003. For more information about the Silverado Resort, please visit their website at <http://www.silveradoresort.com>, or call the Resort directly at (707) 757-0200.

Meeting Pre-registration Deadline

To guarantee an early meeting registration please send in your completed registration form that was previously sent to your attention, along with payment, to the AGOS Headquarters at: 409 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20024-2188, by the **July 15, 2003 pre-registration deadline**. You may also **fax your credit card payment to: ATTN: AGOS Registration at (202) 554-0453**. If you have any questions concerning the registration process, please contact the registration department at (202) 863-2570.

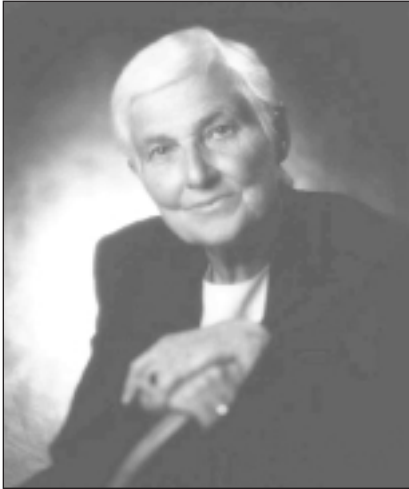
If by chance you did not receive a meeting registration packet, please contact Ericka A. Jones, Administrative Director, AGOS & AAOGF at (202) 863-1647 or ejones@acog.org.

Winery Tour for AGOS Registrants

AGOS has organized a winery tour that is especially crafted for the benefit of AGOS members and their guests on Thursday, September 18, 2003 at the exquisite Mumm and Clos du Val Wineries. This tour will consist of wine tastings, lunch, and an actual winery tour. To sign up, please fill out the enclosed "tour order form" and return it along with your payment directly to the Silverado Resort Destination Services Department at: 1600 Atlas Peak Road, Napa, CA, 94558 or fax your credit card payment to (707) 257-5538.



PRESIDENT-ELECT GLORIA ELIZABETH SARTO, M.D., PH.D.



Gloria Elizabeth Sarto, M.D., Ph.D.

It has always been my sense that one of the roles of a sitting President is to introduce his or her successor. In that we have not done so before, I took it upon myself to establish what I hope will be an ongoing practice. This may be especially appropriate this time around when AGOS is about to welcome its first woman president, a truly seminal event marking our 127-year-old history. I am absolutely delighted to be in a position to celebrate Dr. Sarto and in so doing this important and long overdue milestone in the lifetime of our society.

A native of Wisconsin, Dr. Sarto entered the University of Wisconsin in Madison in 1951, emerging in 1963 with an undergraduate degree, a medical degree and completed residency training in Obstetrics and Gynecology. A Ph.D. in Medical Genetics ultimately followed suit in 1971. In the intervening time window, Dr. Sarto served as a post-doctoral fellow at the NIH, a stint capped by an appointment to the faculty of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at her alma mater. Rising through the ranks, Dr. Sarto achieved the rank of Professor in 1975. Exercising her leadership skills, Dr. Sarto initially served as Associate Chair while in Wisconsin, further refining those skills in her subsequent appointment with Northwestern University in Chicago. An appointment to the Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Milwaukee Clinical Campus of the University of Wisconsin followed in 1983. In 1986, Dr. Sarto assumed the Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine in Albuquerque, a position she held through 1996. At the time of this writing, Dr. Sarto is back, yet again, at her alma mater, serving as Acting Director of the Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine, Co-Director of the University of Wisconsin

Center for Women's Health and Women's Health Research, Co-Director of the University of Wisconsin National Center of Excellence in Women's Health, and Special Assistant to the Dean for Gender Issues. As if this was not enough, Dr. Sarto is also the adoptive mother of Brittany (14), who is from Calcutta, Brooke (12), who is from Peru, and Breeze (8) and Brighton (7), both from China.

As might be expected, Dr. Sarto has been the recipient of multiple honors and awards. An Alpha Omega Alpha graduate of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine, Dr. Sarto is the recipient of the Association of Women Surgeons Distinguished Member Award, AMWA Lila A. Wallis Woman's Health Award for lifetime achievement in women's health care and research, and the University of Wisconsin Medical Alumni Citation Award. Dr. Sarto was a member of The National Academies, Institute of Medicine, Board on Health Sciences Policy wherein she served on the Committee on Understanding and Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care, the Committee on Lesbian Health Research Priorities and the Committee on Creating a Vision for Space Medicine During Travel Beyond Earth Orbit. Dr. Sarto also served on the Committee on Research Capabilities of Academic Departments of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Above and beyond these multiple contributions, Dr. Sarto has served the National Institutes of Health and its Office of Research on Women's Health in multiple capacities. Significant contributions were also made with the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, the American College of Surgeons, the Society for the Advancement for Women's Health Research (President, Board of Directors and Member, Executive Committee) and the Residency Review Committee for Obstetrics and Gynecology (Chair). Although more can clearly be said, the record of accomplishments is crystal clear. It goes without saying that Dr. Sarto is extensively published and that she remains federally funded at the time of this writing.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Gloria Elizabeth Sarto, a distinguished member of our discipline and our President-Elect, who will be assuming the reins at the conclusion of our upcoming annual meeting.

Best wishes,

Eli Y. Adashi
President, AGOS

AGOS FINANCIAL UPDATE

Treasurer John G. Boyce, M.D.

At the end of last fiscal year, December 31, 2002, the reserve funds for the Society was \$59,000.00. The moderate increase in reserve funds can be attributed to the cost reduction initiatives of the Society. The stability in the finances of the Society are dependent on the following:

- a. AGOS is awaiting dues payments from 18 members as of May 30, 2003.
- b. The AGOS Executive Committee is recommending that each member attend the 2003 meeting at the Silverado and bring at least one guest, although, current bylaws permit members to bring as many guests as he/she wishes. The registration fees for both members and guests will be the same as last year, \$450. Last year we had an attendance of approximately 200 including guests and 20 excused absences. We wish to significantly increase the attendance at the 2003 Annual Meeting.
- c. The move of the administrative office to Washington, D.C. (which is going exceptionally well) is a factor. We have already experienced and plan to continue financial gains from the transition.

On behalf of the entire Council, I wish to thank each and every member for their financial support and for their support of the Society as a whole.



Sherman Elias, M.D.

AAOGF PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The American Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Foundation (AAOGF) has a long history of identifying potential future academic leaders and stimulating their development through the support of advanced scientific scholarships. The scholarship award is to be used in an academic Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology in the United States or Canada to provide research training and experience for a candidate of proven ability who exhibits significant evidence of talent and dedication to an academic career. Research training may be either laboratory-based or clinical, and focus on fundamentals of biology, disease mechanisms, interventions, epidemiology, or translational research. Scholars are selected through the AAOGF Endowment Fund Committee which is chaired by Charles Lockwood, M.D.

The 2003 AAOGF Scholarship Awards are proudly presented to the following recipients:

Charles L. Caperton, II, M.D.

- **Designation:** American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology/American Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Foundation Scholar
- **Institution:** The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
- **Project:** Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) and effects on mutant frequency and mutation spectra in transgenic mice.
- **Mentor:** Dr. John McCarrey, University of Texas Health Sciences Center

Michael House, M.D.

- **Designation:** Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine/American Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Foundation Scholar
- **Institution:** Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Tufts-New England Medical Center
- **Project:** The Biomechanics of Cervical Incompetence: A Quantitative Model of Cervical Dilation.
- **Mentor:** Dr. Simona Socrate, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

The 2003 Scholars Retreat will be held on July 24-26, 2003 at the University of Pennsylvania. The purpose of this retreat is to share the progress of each Scholar's research activities and receive feedback from other Scholars and guest faculty. The retreat also fosters camaraderie and networking between our Scholars.

The financial position of the AAOGF is solid considering recent market performance in the state of the economy. The AAOGF wishes to express its appreciation to the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine for co-sponsoring our scholarship awards. Also, we thank the members of the American Gynecological and Obstetrical Society who have generously contributed to the AAOGF to support its important programs.

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The AAOGF Travel Award is a new program for individuals who demonstrate a substantial promise to membership in AGOS. Applicants must be nominated by a member and must be supported by their Department Chair to provide supplemental support that is not covered by the award. The awards are named after individuals who have provided significant support to the Foundation which enables us to provide these awards. This year, four travel awards in the amount of \$1,500 and an AGOS meeting registration fee waiver were proudly awarded to the following recipients:

Walter T. Danreuther Award

Samuel I. Parry, M.D.

University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine
Philadelphia, PA

Henry L. Darner Award

Lisa Marie Halvorson, M.D.

University of Texas Southwestern
Medical Center, Dallas, TX

J. Bay Jacobs Award

Donna D. Johnson, M.D.

Medical University of South Carolina
Charleston, SC

James W. Kennedy Award

Judith K. Wolf, M.D.

The University of Texas, Houston, Texas

There are certainly opportunities to establish future support to this new endeavor. If you are interested in establishing a named award, please contact Secretary-Treasurer Michael T. Mennuti, M.D. at (215) 662-3234 or mmennuti@mail.obgyn.upenn.edu.

In closing, as we quickly approach another annual meeting, I need not forget to mention that the Foundation will celebrate its 75th Anniversary in 2004. Truly this is a milestone year for the Foundation and our plan is to recognize this mark at the 2004 Annual Meeting.

In the meantime, AAOGF will convene on September 16, 2003, at the Silverado Resort in Napa Valley. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you there.

Sincerely,



Sherman Elias, M.D.
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. Jockwood, MD, Chairman, EFC