



THE AMERICAN GYNECOLOGICAL & OBSTETRICAL SOCIETY

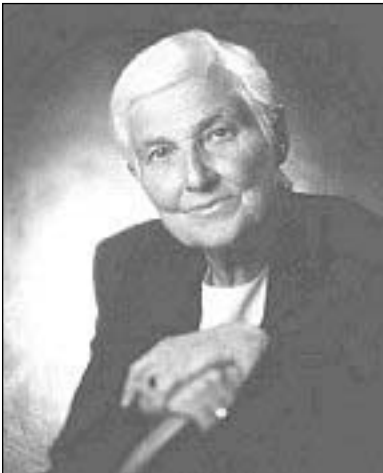


Vol. III, No. 1

NEWSLETTER

February, 2004

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



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

Greetings! As I enter this new venture as President of the American Gynecological and Obstetrical Society, I certainly could not go any further without recognizing the strides that AGOS achieved in 2003.

I would like to congratulate our Immediate Past President, Eli Adashi MD, on a job well done. I believe all of you would agree that our 2003 annual meeting was a huge success.

Congratulations also are in order for our 17 newly approved AGOS members:

Eleven active members (Andrew Berchuck, Michael P. Diamond, David G. Mutch, William D. Schlaff, Susan M. Ramin, Karin J. Blakemore, Setsuko K. Chambers, Michael S. Hoffman, Manuel A. Penalver, Daniel V. Landers, L. Lewis Wall - 2003 presenters), 4 honorary members (Allan Templeton - 2003 Price Orator, Philip A. Pizzo, A. Lorris Betz, Jordan J. Cohen - 2003 guest speakers), and 2 alternate pathway members (Ponjola Coney, Henry W. Foster).

Our next AGOS Annual Meeting will be held September 9-11, 2004 at the beautiful Sagamore Resort in Lake George, NY. Our Executive Committee and our Administrative Director are hard at work to ensure another very successful meeting.

During this year's meeting, I intend to highlight several issues of importance to our discipline, including diversity and disparities in health care and health outcomes among diverse populations of women.

Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland has accepted our invitation to be the 2004 Price Orator. Dr. Brundtland served as Director-General of the World Health Organization from 1998 to 2003. During her tenure as Director-General, she emphasized the role of W.H.O in promoting equitable health systems in all countries in an effort to combat disease and illness among all peoples of the world. I have asked her to speak about women's health from a global perspective.

Our Secretary, Eberhard Mueller-Heubach has informed me that we will have a greater number of candidate papers this year. The increased number is the result of our canceling the annual meeting in 2001, which resulted in a need to process a number of candidates who had been nominated earlier for membership, but were delayed. As a consequence, the format for the meeting may be altered slightly to accommodate the increased number of presentations. The success of this endeavor would not be possible without the sincere dedication and commitment of our Secretary, Eberhard Mueller-Heubach.

Continued on page 2

AGOS Executive Council

Gloria E. Sarto, MD, PhD, President
Ronald S. Gibbs, MD, President-Elect
Eberhard Mueller-Heubach, MD, Secretary
James E. Ferguson, II, MD, Assistant Secretary
Robert Resnik, 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

Eli Y. Adashi, 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, Chairman (AAOGF EFC)
Steve N. Caritis, MD (2001-2004)
Beth Y. Karlan, MD (2003-2005)
Mark Phillippe, MD (2003-2006)

I call your attention to the newly launched AGOS website (<http://www.agosonline.org>). This project has been under way for quite some time and a great deal of hard work has been dedicated to its release. Our Assistant Secretary, James (JEF) E. Ferguson, did an outstanding job in making sure the website is representative of AGOS goals and objectives. By now you should have received your username and password in order to access the "members only" features of the website. If you have not received this information, please contact our Administrative Director, Ericka A. Jones at (202) 863-1647 or ejones@acog.org. On that note, I would like to thank Ericka Jones, for her hard work and commitment to our Society.

On behalf of all of the Officers and Staff of the American Gynecological and Obstetrical Society, I thank you for your commitment and loyalty to this Society. Please do not hesitate to call on any of us if we can assist you in any way.

Warm Regards,



Gloria E. Sarto, M.D., Ph.D.
President, AGOS

2003 Annual Meeting Report

Membership after Council Action in September 2003

Active	193
Life	137
Honorary	39 (Foreign: 20 U.S. and Canada: 19)
Total	369

Annual Meeting, September 18, 19, 20, 2003 Silverado, Napa, California

The twenty-second annual meeting of the American Gynecological and Obstetrical Society was held at Silverado, Napa, California, September 18-20, 2003. Physician registrants (members and guests) numbered 233. The total number of attendees including members, guests and spouses was 359. The theme for the presentations of three distinguished guest speakers was the future of the academic health center. On Thursday, September 18, 2003, Dr. A. Lorris Betz, Senior Vice President for Health Sciences and Dean, University of Utah School of Medicine, gave a presentation entitled "What One Academic Health Center Is Doing to Prepare for the Future: The University of Utah Health Sciences Center." On Friday, September 19, 2003, Dr. Philip A. Pizzo, Dean, Stanford University School of Medicine, addressed the topic "Academic Medicine in the 21st Century: The Importance of Interdisciplinary and Translational Research and Education." On Saturday, September 20, 2003, Dr. Jordan J. Cohen, President, Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), spoke on "21st Century Challenges to Medical Education." His presentation was followed by a roundtable discussion "The Future of the Academic Health Center: A Very Personal View" in which Drs. Betz and Cohen were joined by this year's Joseph Price Orator Alan Templeton, University of Aberdeen, and Steven G. Gabbe, Dean, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. This roundtable discussion with very lively audience participation was moderated by President Eli Y. Adashi. On Friday, September 19, 2003, President Adashi delivered his presidential address titled "On the Discharge of Hippocratic Obligations: Challenges and Opportunities." Eleven scientific candi-

dates were presented. The program also featured the following special presentations:

Joseph Price Oration

"The Multiple Gestation Epidemic: The Role of the Assisted Reproductive Technologies"

Alan Templeton, M.D.

University of Aberdeen
Aberdeen, Scotland

Charles Hunter Award Paper

"Functional Role of Matrix Metalloproteinases in Ovarian Tumor Cell Plasticity"

Anil K. Sood, M.D.

M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, University of Texas
Houston, TX

AAOGF Endowment Scholar Lectures

"Development of Novel Adenovirus Based Gene Transfer Vectors for Long Term Transgene Expression"

Oliver Dorigo, M.D.

AAOGF - Burroughs Wellcome Scholar, University of California-Los Angeles
Los Angeles, CA

"Impact of Antitumor Immune Response on Outcome in Ovarian Cancer"

George Coukos, M.D., Ph.D.

AAOGF - American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology Scholar, University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA

"Selection of Potential Markers for Epithelial Ovarian Cancer with Gene Expression Array and Recursive Descent Partition Analysis"

Karin H. Lu, M.D.

AAOGF - Burroughs Wellcome Scholar, M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, University of Texas-Houston
Houston, TX

September 18, 2003 Opening Meeting

President Eli Y. Adashi called the meeting to order on September 18th at 7:45 a.m. He welcomed the members and guests and thanked those who have been instrumental in the organization of the meeting. He welcomed the recipients of the newly established travel award program to the meeting: Samuel I. Parry, M.D. (Walter T. Danreuther Award), University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA; Lisa Marie Halvorson, M.D. (Henry L. Darner Award), University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX; Donna D. Johnson, M.D. (J. Bay Jacobs Award), Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC; Judith K. Wolf, M.D. (James W. Kennedy Award), University of Texas, Houston, TX. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Fellows who died during the past year:

Sir E. A. J. Alment	Roy T. Parker
Elsie Reid Carrington	Humbert L. Riva
Thomas F. Dillon	John E. Savage
Roy Hertz	Howard J. Tatum
Frederic J. Montz	Dyre Trolle
Jack A. Pritchard	

Significant News from Council:

An operational executive group consisting of present and future AGOS officers was identified:

AGOS President (Eli Y. Adashi, M.D.-Gloria E. Sarto, M.D., Ph.D.)

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

AGOS Assistant Secretary (James E. Ferguson, II, M.D.)

AGOS Treasurer (John G. Boyce, M.D.-Robert Resnik, M.D.)

AGOS/AAOGF Administrative Director (Ericka A. Jones)

AGOS Consultant (Nora P. Smith until September 2003)

AGOS President-Elect (Gloria E. Sarto, M.D., Ph.D.-Ronald S. Gibbs, M.D.)

- Regular conference calls of the above executive group were held to discuss and make decisions regarding AGOS operational issues.
- A website for AGOS was launched (www.agosonline.org). Tremendous efforts were made by Assistant Secretary Ferguson to get this website established.
- Extensive efforts were made to update the AGOS membership listing. A particular concern was the listing of e-mail addresses to allow timely communication with AGOS Fellows.
- E-mail communication of the passing of AGOS Fellows with obituaries and other relevant information was established and received favorable comments from the fellowship.

- The possible transition of AGOS from an Unincorporated Association to a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Corporation was explored with Assistant Secretary Ferguson and the AGOS attorney and ACOG attorney. This possible change was presented at the Business Meeting.
- An AGOS initiative titled "Sustaining Investigative Careers in Academic Obstetrics and Gynecology" was communicated by President Adashi to the leadership of the discipline of Obstetrics and Gynecology, most notably Ralph M. Hale, M.D., Executive Director, ACOG, John R. G. Challis, Ph.D., D.Sc., President, SGI, and Norman F. Gant, M.D., Executive Director, ABOG.
- The recommendation of the Strategic Planning and Advisory Committee to accept Henry W. Foster, Jr., M.D. and Ponjola Coney, M.D. for fellowship via the alternate route was approved by Council.
- A reception dedicated to Past-Presidents of AGOS was held for the first time.
- Officers of ACOG, CUCOG, SGI, SMFM, ASRM and SGO were invited to attend the annual scientific meeting at their own expense.
- The twenty-third annual meeting of AGOS will be held September 9-11, 2004 at Sagamore on Lake George, Bolton Landing, NY.
- The following dates and future locations are confirmed:
 - 2005 - September 29-October 1
The Empress Hotel, Victoria, British Columbia
 - 2006 - September 14-16
The Kingsmill Resort and Conference Center, Williamsburg, VA
 Council and the fellowship at the 2002 Business Meeting decided to alternate resorts and big cities as annual meeting locations. For 2007 New York City is being considered.
- The following members requested transfer to Life Fellowship and were approved by Council:

Robert K. Creasy	Mary G. Hammond
John I. Fishburne, Jr.	Arthur L. Herbst
Fredric D. Frigoletto, Jr.	Atef H. Moawad

NEWS FROM THE BUSINESS MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2003

- The Fellowship Committee Chair, Steven G. Gabbe, reported that the Committee had approved 15 candidates at its meeting on September 17, 2003. These candidates will be invited to submit papers for the 2004 Annual Meeting.

- The Nominating Committee Chair, Steven G. Gabbe, submitted the slate of officers, council and committee members (see separate report from the Nominating Committee). The membership approved the slate as submitted.
- The Secretary, Eberhard Mueller-Heubach reported that specific guidelines for the submission of “state-of-the-art” reviews as candidate papers have been developed and approved by Council. These guidelines are contained in the Criteria for Manuscript Submission for Membership elsewhere in the newsletter.
- Assistant Secretary, James E. Ferguson, II reported on proposed changes in the corporate status of AGOS from an Unincorporated Association to a Non-Profit Corporation. This requires an amendment of article VII of the Constitution of AGOS with written notice of the proposed amendment given at an Annual Meeting and vote by the Fellows at the subsequent Annual Meeting. A Notice of Proposed Amendment to Constitution and Bylaws of the American Gynecological and Obstetrical Society was given to all AGOS fellows. This notice outlined the proposed amendment and the reasons why Council recommends that the Society pursue a merger of the unincorporated association into a new non-profit corporation.
- The Chair of the Strategic Planning and Advisory Committee, Paul B. Underwood, Jr., reported that the Committee had considered the proposal of Henry W. Foster, Jr. and Ponjola Coney for active fellowship by the alternative mechanism and recommended their acceptance to Council.
- Gloria E. Sarto, M.D., Ph.D. was installed as 2003-2004 President of AGOS.

By-Laws Changes:

The membership voted in favor of the following by-laws changes at the Business Meeting on September 19, 2003:

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 Chair of the Finance Committee, an At-Large Member and other individuals selected by 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 prior to each Council meeting. In addition, the Finance Committee will evaluate the reserve funds and the investments of the Society, all of which should 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 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.

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. When one of the mentors is from the candidate’s parent institution, then the other mentor should be from a different institution.
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 consid-

eration 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 1st 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 points 100. Candidates should, in general, have at least 75 points.

CRITERIA FOR MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION FOR MEMBERSHIP

- Candidates for fellowship in the American Gynecological and Obstetrical Society must submit an original scientific paper.
- 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 a clinical or basic science research topic 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.
- Candidates selecting a "state-of-the-art" review should provide a detailed historical review of their own work with a description of their specific research questions, their research methodologies and the specific outcomes that were assessed.
- A comprehensive scholarly review of the literature describing the work of others in the area of study with a description of sources should place the candidate's own work into context.
- Criteria and quality assessment of studies included in the review should be clearly described.
- Results of studies should be presented objectively with assessment of study quality. Study results should be related to each other to provide a current understanding of the body of work under review.
- Implications for future investigation should be delineated.

Occasionally, candidates may consider submission of papers that do not fit these guidelines (e.g. ethical or historical topics). In such rare instances the candidate should send a letter outlining the project to the Secretary who will submit it to the Program Advisory Committee for review. The Secretary will then provide feedback from the Program Advisory Committee to the candidate regarding the suitability of the intended submission.

Also On the Web . . .

- AAOGF Travel Awards
- AGOS Call for Papers

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT:

The Nominating Committee consisted of Dr. Steven G. Gabbe as Chair, along with Drs. Donald J. Dudley, Fredric D. Frigoletto, Jr., Holly H. Gallion and Kathryn L. Reed as members. The nominees were unanimously approved.

AGOS Officers, Council and Committees:

President-Elect: Ronald S. Gibbs, M.D.

Secretary: Eberhard Mueller-Heubach, M.D.

Assistant Secretary: James E. Ferguson, II, M.D.

Treasurer: Robert Resnik, M.D.

Council Members: Beth Y. Karlan (2003-2005)
Mark Phillippe (2003-2006)

Program Advisory Committee:

Kenneth L. Noller (2003-2005)

Carolyn D. Runowicz (2003-2006)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR 2004 AGOS DUES NOTICES

The 2004 Membership Dues Notices were mailed in December 2003. We sent a second mailing on January 5, 2004 when we realized some members received notices with the incorrect name. We sincerely apologize for this error.

The deadline to submit your membership dues was January 31, 2004. We will send follow-up notices on March 1, 2004 to those members who have not submitted payment.

SPECIAL NOTE: If you are submitting your dues payment by credit card, be sure to sign the dues statement. Also, if you are making a contribution to the Foundation (AAOGF) please pay the contribution portion by **CHECK ONLY**.

Questions?

Contact Ericka A. Jones, Administrative Director at: 202-863-1647 or ejones@acog.org.

LETTER FROM THE AGOS SECRETARY

Eberhard Mueller-Heubach, M.D.

Our annual scientific meeting at the Silverado in Napa, California was a tremendous success. My thanks to all officers, Council members, fellows, discussants, panelists and AAOGF fellows for their contributions to this success. Special thanks to our staff for their hard work: Ericka Jones, Robin Shoaf, Cassandra Larkins, Marion Johnson and Marian Rossi. Council approved all eleven candidate papers presented at the meeting. AGOS leadership has been interested in shortening the time interval between nomination of candidates and final approval. Previously the membership vote was approved by Council at the mid-year Council meeting in May following the annual meeting. Actually AGOS by-laws do not require approval of the membership vote by Council but announcement of the results of the vote at the mid-year Council meeting. As a result, Council decided to send ballots to the membership shortly after the annual meeting and inform candidates and their mentors after the votes are counted. We are happy to report that all eleven candidates who presented papers at the annual meeting were approved by membership. Candidates and their mentors were notified before the holidays of this vote. In addition, Henry W. Foster, Jr. and Ponjola Coney were elected by the alternate route. The Joseph Price Orator Alan Templeton as well as the three distinguished guest speakers, A. Lorris Betz, Jordan J. Cohen and Philip A. Pizzo were elected to honorary membership.

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, 2004. 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. Specific guidelines for preparation of a "state-of-the-art" review were approved at the 2003 Business Meeting and are enclosed.

Enclosed with this mailing is an announcement of the Charles Hunter Award Paper. Please post this announcement in a prominent location in your department and encourage as many young investigators as possible to compete for this prestigious award. Also enclosed, is an announcement of the AAOGF Travel Awards for the 2004 AGOS Annual Meeting. These Awards are designed to support the attendance of promising academicians in our specialty at our annual meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,



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

AGOS Launches Website

Jeffrey E. Ferguson, II, Assistant Secretary, AGOS

The AGOS website (www.agosonline.org) was officially launched on February 10, 2004 via an electronic postal mailing to all AGOS members. The website was presented at the 2003 Annual Meeting of the American Gynecological and Obstetrical Society. The officers and council of AGOS believe that you will find the web site to be both interesting and useful. The home page has information about governance of the American Gynecological and Obstetrical Society as well as material about upcoming annual meetings and photographs from the 2003 meeting. There are also sections on council officers, committees and AGOS staff in which members can find information pertaining to those topics. A "links" section is provided as well as an abstracts section. On the abstracts section, all of the abstracts presented at the 2003 and 2002 annual meetings are posted. The American Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Foundation also has a link and further there is a link to a variety of different organizations and references provided. Of particular interest to the members may be the members profile link in which members can locate other active, life and honorary fellows as well as review information about deceased fellows and review current "in memoriam" statements. In fact, a listing of all members of the American Gynecological Society and the American Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists from 1876 and 1888 respectively is available. Finally, the history link provides interesting information about our parent organizations as generously provided to us for usage by E. Stewart Taylor in his book "History of AGS 1876-1981 and AAOG 1888-1981."

As with any undertaking of this magnitude, there is the potential for error. If you recognize any errors or alternatively have suggestions as to how we can enhance the web page, please provide them to Assistant Secretary Ferguson at jef@uky.edu.

Website Username & Password (Members Only)

If you have e-mail and did not receive your AGOS Username and Password, please contact Almudena Alscazar, Program Specialist, at the AGOS Headquarters. Phone: (202) 863-1646 **E-mail: aalcazar@acog.org**



Sherman Elias, M.D.

AAOGF PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

Sherman Elias, M.D.

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the American Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Foundation (AAOGF). The Foundation was incorporated in 1929 to serve as a mechanism to support the annual Joseph Price Oration and then to establish an annual prize for a manuscript presented at the meeting. The resources of the Foundation were enhanced significantly by bequests from the estates of Dr. James Kennedy in 1966, Dr. Walter Dannreuther in 1969, Dr. K. Bay Jacobs in 1989, and Dr. Henry R. Darner in 1996. The primary focus of the AAOGF is to support research training scholarships for individuals pursuing an academic career in obstetrics and gynecology. The AAOGF jointly sponsors one new scholar per year with the Foundation of American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the Foundation of the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine. Since 1984, 49 scholars have completed their mentored training programs. Many of today's leading investigators in our specialty began their academic careers with funding by the AAOGF and its partners.

As we celebrate our diamond anniversary, the Board of Trustees of the AAOGF urges the membership to consider funding or endowing a travel award in the name of an individual or department (see announcement in this issue of the AGOS Newsletter). We also urge the membership to continue to support the important missions of the AAOGF by making a contribution at the time of payment of the annual AGOS dues.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the Board of Trustees of the AAOGF for their hard work and dedication: James M. Roberts, M.D., Vice-President; Michael T. Mennuti, M.D., Secretary-Treasurer; Gloria E. Sarto, M.D., Ph.D., AGOS President; Ronald S. Gibbs, M.D., AGOS President-Elect; and Charles J. Lockwood, M.D., Chairman, Endowment Fund.

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Dr. Charles Lockwood, Chair of the AAOGF Endowment Fund, has done a superb job in overseeing our scholarship program. This year's incoming scholars are as follows:

Virginia D. Winn, M.D., Ph.D.

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences, University of California, San Francisco.

Mentor: Susan J. Fisher, Ph.D.

Project Title: PG Effector Functions During Human Cytotrophoblast Differentiation.

Donna M. Neale, M.D.

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Yale University School of Medicine

Mentor: Gil Mor, M.D., Ph.D.

Project Title: Trophoblast Viability: Can It Be Used As a Predictor of Preeclampsia?

The Annual AAOGF Scholars Retreat was held at the University of Pennsylvania on July 24-26, 2003. Dr. John F. Finerty, Chief of Cellular Immunology at the National Cancer Institute and Dr. Jerome F. Strauss, Director of the Center for Research in Reproduction and Women's Health at the University of Pennsylvania, were guest lecturers. Drs. Robert Sokol and Norman Gant attended as representatives of the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine and the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology respectively. Drs. Michael Mennuti and Charles Lockwood as representatives of the AAOGF.

One past and two graduating scholars made outstanding presentations at this year's AAOGF Endowment Fund Scholars Lectures during the AGOS Meeting. They included:

- Oliver Dorigo, M.D., Ph.D., whose presentation was entitled "Development of novel adenovirus based gene transfer vectors for long term transgene expression."
- George Coukos, M.D., Ph.D., whose presentation was entitled "Impact of antitumor immune response on outcome in ovarian cancer."
- Karin H. Lu, whose presentation was entitled "Section of potential markers for epithelial ovarian cancer with gene expression array and recursive descent partition analysis."



Sherman Elias, MD, President, AAOGF

SAVE THE DATE!

The 2004 AGOS Annual Meeting is Near.

September 9-11, 2004

The 2004 AGOS meeting location will be at the Sagamore in beautiful Lake George, NY. More information to come in your meeting registration packets that will be mailed in May.

About the Sagamore.....



The Sagamore is situated in the Adirondack Mountains on a private island on Lake George. Here the common pressures of everyday life give way to the welcome pleasures of a tranquil and beautiful setting. Restored and updated, this historic island resort combines the activities and comforts you desire today with luxury and service reminiscent of the past. Some of the features of the Sagamore include:

- 350 guest rooms and suites
- Donald Ross designed golf course
- European style spa and fitness center
- Tennis and racquetball (indoor and outdoor)
- Boating, sailing and fishing charters
- Marina and Private Beach
- Swimming Pool (indoor)
- Six restaurants
- Cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, sledding and ice skating

AAOGF Trustees

Sherman Elias, MD, President

James M. Roberts, MD, Vice-President

Michael T. Mennuti, MD, Secretary-Treasurer

Gloria Sarto, MD, PhD, President (AGOS)

Ronald S. Gibbs, MD, President-Elect (AGOS)

Charles J. Jockwood, MD, Chairman, EFC

The American Gynecological And Obstetrical Society

CALL FOR PAPERS

For the

Charles A. Hunter, Jr., Prize
THESIS AWARD

Of

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF OBSTETRICIANS AND
GYNECOLOGISTS FOUNDATION

Any Obstetrician-Gynecologist, other than a
Candidate for Fellowship in the American Gynecological and Obstetrical Society
(AGOS) is eligible for the Award.

Fellowship in AGOS is not required.

The work must be exceptional in basic or clinical research, not previously presented or published, and make a major contribution to our discipline. If accepted by Council, the paper **must** be published in the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology. The paper cannot be submitted to any other journal for publication.

The **deadline** to submit Papers is April 15, 2004

The winner will be recognized at the 2004 AGOS Annual Meeting
to be held at The Sagamore on Lake George, Bolton Landing, New York
September 9-11, 2004

The winning author will receive an
Honorarium of \$2,000 plus travel expenses.

Please return the completed manuscript to:

Eberhard Mueller-Heubach, MD
Secretary, AGOS
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Winston-Salem, NC 27157

**CALL
FOR
PAPERS**

**CALL
FOR
PAPERS**

AAOGF TRAVEL AWARDS TO 2004 AGOS MEETING

The American Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Foundation (AAOGF) and The American Gynecological and Obstetrical Society (AGOS) are pleased to announce that AAOGF will provide four travel awards of \$2000.00 each to be used for the 2004 Annual Meeting of AGOS to be held at The Sagamore at Lake George, New York, September 9-11, 2004. The Home Department of each recipient must agree to provide the balance of support required for attendance.

Guidelines For Eligibility:

- Full-time academic position for at least 6 years.
- Primary appointment in a Medical School Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology in North America.
- Assistant or Associate Professor level.
- Not an active candidate for membership in AGOS.
- CV indicating progressive scholarly productivity, substantial promise for future academic/scholarly contributions, and potential for membership in AGOS.
- Recipients must commit to attend the entire meeting including all of the scientific sessions.

Application Packet MUST Include:

- Letter of proposal by a member of AGOS.
- Accompanying letter from the candidate's Department Chair indicating that the balance of support will be provided by the Department.
- Three copies of current CV (including any prior and current grant support).

Applicants must register for the meeting in advance. Registration fees will be deducted from the award and the balance of the award will be sent to the recipient prior to the meeting.

**Final Deadline for Application Submission:
April 1, 2004**

**Mail to:
Ms. Ericka A. Jones
Administrative Director, AGOS & AAOGF
409 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024-2188**