



THE AMERICAN GYNECOLOGICAL & OBSTETRICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



Vol. I, No. 4

March, 2007

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Fellows:

First let me welcome our newly elected AGOS fellows:

Ronald D. Alvarez, MD	Geoffrey Cundiff, MD	Kimberly K. Leslie, MD
Ricardo Azziz, MD, MBA, MPH	Jeffrey L. Ecker, MD	George R. Saade, MD
Paul D. Blumenthal, MD, MPH	W. Allen Hogge, MD	Harriet O. Smith, MD
Sedar E. Bulun, MD, PhD	Scott W. Kauma, MD	Carolyn L. Westhoff, MD
Honorary Member: Prof. Dr. med. Dr. h.c. mult. Wolfgang Holzgreve, MS	Richard S. Legro, MD	



Jennifer R. Niebyl,
M.D., President

Our 2006 Annual Meeting at the Kingsmill Resort in Williamsburg, VA was a great success. Immediate Past-President, Eberhard Mueller-Heubach, M.D., presented his excellent talk on “The Pursuit of Evidence”, most suitable for this era of evidence-based medicine. Wolfgang Holzgreve gave a very interesting Joseph Price Oration on genetic communication between fetus and mother, short and long-term consequences. Duane Alexander, Director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, was the Presidential Guest Lecturer. He described opportunities and challenges for NICHD and Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Errol Norwitz presented the Charles A. Hunter, Jr., Prize Thesis Award entitled “Progestin Inhibits and Thrombin Stimulates the Plasminogen Activator/Inhibitor System in Term Decidual Stromal Cells: Implications for Parturition”, a timely review of this topic. Dr. Michael House gave the AAOGF Endowment Scholar Lecture on “The Cervix as a Biomechanical Structure” with striking audiovisual effects.

The council discussed at great length the criteria for membership, and the requirement for presenting an academic paper. It was decided that candidates for membership would be required to participate in the meeting in an academic fashion, but would not need to present original research. This potential change will be presented to the Fellows for consideration of a By-laws change.

Our next AGOS Annual Meeting will be held September 26-29, 2007 at the Renaissance Chicago Hotel. Dr. Gautam Chaudhuri from the University of California, Los Angeles will be the Joseph Price Orator. His topic will be “Hormone Therapy in Cardiovascular Disease: The Estrogen Paradox,” combining basic science and clinical applications. We will also have two panel discussions on topics important to our specialty.

AGOS Officers

Jennifer R. Niebyl, M.D., President
William Droegemueller M.D., President-Elect
James E. Ferguson, II, M.D., Secretary
Mary E. D’Alton, M.D., Assistant Secretary
Robert Resnik, M.D., Treasurer

AGOS & AAOGF Headquarters

409 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20024-2188
Cassandra Larkins, Administrative Director, AGOS & AAOGF
202-863-1648, 202-554-0453 (F) clarkins@acog.org

AGOS Council

Eberhard Mueller-Heubach, M.D., AGOS Past President
Sherman Elias, M.D., AAOGF President
E. Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D, MBA (2004-2007),
Member-At-Large
Joanna M. Cain, M.D. (2005-2008), Member-At-Large
Abbey B. Berenson, M.D. (2006-2009), Member-At-Large

Ex-Officio Members

James Roberts, M.D., Vice President, AAOGF
Thomas Moore, M.D., Secretary-Treasurer, AAOGF
Charles J. Lockwood, M.D., Chairman, AAOGF
Endowment Fund Committee

2006 ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

Membership as of September 1, 2006

Active:	212
Life:	141
Honorary:	<u>42</u>
Total:	395

ANNUAL MEETING, September 14 – 16, 2006 Kingsmill Resort, Williamsburg, Virginia

The twenty-fifth annual meeting of the American Gynecological and Obstetrical Society was held at the Kingsmill Resort, Williamsburg, Virginia, September 14-16, 2006. Physician registrants (members and guests) numbered 199. The total number of attendees including members, guests, and spouses was 286. The over-arching theme of the meeting pertained to research in Obstetrics and Gynecology. On Friday, September 15, 2006 President Eberhard Mueller-Heubach delivered his presidential address titled "The Pursuit of Evidence." The presidential address provided important insights and suggested actions to be taken to strengthen investigation in academic departments of obstetrics and gynecology. Another highlight of the meeting was the Joseph Price Oration of Prof. Dr. med. Dr. h.c. mult. Wolfgang Holzgreve, M.S., from the University of Basel, Switzerland. His topic was "Genetic Communication between Fetus and Mother: Short and Long-Term Consequences." The program also featured the following special presentations:

President's Guest Lecture

Obstetrics and Gynecology – Opportunities and Challenges
Duane Alexander, MD
National Institute of Child Health & Human Development

AAOGF Endowment Scholar Lecture

The Cervix as a Biomechanical Structure
Michael House, MD
American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology/AAOGF Scholar
at Tufts-New England Medical Center, Boston, MA

Charles A. Hunter, Jr. Prize Thesis Award

Progestin Inhibits and Thrombin Stimulates the Plasminogen Activator/Inhibitor System in Term

Decidual Stromal Cells: Implications for Parturition
Errol R. Norwitz, MD, PhD
Associate Professor, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences
Yale University School of Medicine

September 14, 2006 Assembly and Welcome

President Eberhard Mueller-Heubach called the meeting to order on September 14th at 7:45 am. He welcomed the members and guests and thanked the individuals who were instrumental in organizing the meeting. President Mueller-Heubach then introduced the newly elected members of the Society. He welcomed the recipients of the travel awards to the meeting:

ACOG/AAOGF Presidential Travel Awards

Tina Raine-Bennett, MD, MPH
University of California, San Francisco
Dept of Ob/Gyn
San Francisco, CA

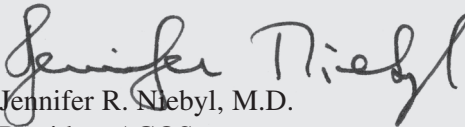
A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

continued from page 1

Chicago will be an easily accessible venue for our meeting. Please put the dates on your travel schedule and plan to join us. We urge you to stay at the Chicago Renaissance Hotel, as we are penalized if we do not fill our allocation of rooms, and they are offering us an attractive rate of \$199 per night.

I wish to thank the officers of the society, the council of AGOS, and our staff. My special thanks to our very thorough secretary, Jef Ferguson, and tireless administrative director, Cassandra Larkins.

Sincerely,


Jennifer R. Niebyl, M.D.
President AGOS

NEWS FROM COUNCIL

Laura Goetzl, MD, MPH
Assistant Professor
Medical University of South Carolina
Dept of Ob/Gyn
Div of Maternal-Fetal Med
Charleston, SC

AAOGF Travel Awards

Walter T. Danreuther Award

Cheryl Christine Saenz, MD
Associate Clinical Professor
University of California, San Diego
School of Medicine
San Diego, CA

Henry L. Darner Award

Bertha Chen, MD
Assistant Professor
Stanford University School of Medicine
Dept of Ob/Gyn
Stanford, CA

J. Bay Jacobs Award

Matthew Powell, MD
Assistant Professor
Washington University
Div Gyn. Oncology
Dept of Ob/Gyn
St. Louis, MO

James W. Kennedy Award

S. Paige Hertweck, MD
Associate Professor
University of Louisville School of Medicine
Ob/Gyn & Women's Health
Co-Director, Pediatric & Adolescent Gynecology
Louisville, KY

A moment of silence was observed in memory of the fellows who died during the past year:

Carl J. Pauerstein, MD
Roy Holly, MD
Sir John Peel
Lawrence Lamar Hester, Jr., MD
Alan E. Beer, MD

Secretary Ferguson also provided a personal welcome and overview of the meeting and associated events.

- Council had concluded at the Interim Council Meeting to reduce the registration fees to \$300 however due to financial considerations the amount was unchanged for this year's meeting at \$350 for members and \$450 for non-members. Moreover although an increase in the amount of dues charged to each member (\$600) had been approved by the Council at the Interim Meeting, the Executive Committee felt that it should remain unchanged at \$425.
- Secretary Ferguson reviewed the application for a Michigan License to solicit contributions. The legal counsel, Clark-Hill, suggested application in the state of Michigan, which they have been requested to do. The general consensus was that it would not be necessary for the Society to apply in the other 49 states however that there may be consideration for applying in Washington, DC as that is the Society's headquarters.
- It was felt that the Society should simultaneously phase out membership papers (assuming ratification by the general membership) as the other types of programs such as state of the art, burning issues, panel discussions, and the like are "phased in." Ultimately it was decided there would not be individual "pathways" and that all members would be evaluated on their merits and accomplishments; specifically the totality of their academic accomplishments and leadership responsibilities. Further that all candidates for membership would be expected to participate in a scholarly fashion at the annual meeting. These ideas were unanimously approved by Council.
- Retreat on Research Funding was held on May 15, 2006 in Washington, DC. It was attended by representatives of the Foundation, ABOG, ACOG, AGOS, ASRM, CUCOG, RSDP, SGI, SGO, SMFM, and SREI.
- Upcoming annual meetings are scheduled for September 26 – 29, 2007 at the Renaissance Hotel in Chicago, Illinois and September 10 – 13, 2008 at the La Costa Resort in Carlsbad, California.
- The newly elected fellows in 2005 were Drs. Mark Johnson, Sarah Kilpatrick, Charles Levenbach, John Malone, Brian Mercer, Laurel Rice, Yoel Sadovsky, David Seifer, Catherine Spong, Hugh Taylor, and Louis Weinstein. Elected to honorary fellowship was Dr. Giorgio Pardi.
- It was noted that the requests of Daniel Riddick and Mary Lake Polan for life membership had been approved on May 7, 2006. Since the date of the Interim Council Richard Schwarz, MD also applied and was approved.

NEWS FROM THE BUSINESS MEETING ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2007

- President Eberhard Mueller-Heubach welcomed the fellows to the Business Meeting and thanked the officers and Committee Members for their hard work on behalf of the Society.
- President Mueller-Heubach gave the President's Report. He showed slides from data obtained in the survey of the members. There were 25 questions on the survey and it was sent to the general membership. It included demographic questions such as age, gender, and years in the organization. All of the data were presented with a total number and a subdivision of "Fellows over the age of 65." The majority of questions dealt with the annual meeting such as the number of annual meetings attended in the last five years and whether a spouse or significant other also attended. When asked about preferences on the length of the meeting the majority (88) preferred to leave the current three morning format, the second preference being for 2 full days (60). Individual meeting offerings were rated by value: the Price Oration was considered High/Average (53/54); 136 members wanted to keep the Presidential Address, 126 wanted a panel or workshop and 86 would like an additional guest lecture. The highest numbers of votes for potential additions were for Scientific Reviews (state-of-the-art), Keynote Lectures on topical subjects by respected members, and Workshops to arrive at consensus views on major topics facing academic Ob/Gyn. Members favored a mid-priced resort for the meeting but would also like to rotate between resorts and urban sites. Most members were willing to commit to paying the "AGOS rates" at a host hotel rather than seeking lower-priced accommodations and favored an additional registration fee of \$150 if travel and hotel costs were reduced by a substantial amount. Members suggested many future venues, the top 5 being: Chicago (20), San Francisco (17), Homestead (10), New York City (9), and Boston (7). The final four questions of the survey asked for suggestions from the membership on a number of topics: 1) improving attendance for the Saturday session; 2) increasing revenues for AGOS; 3) the value and benefit of membership in AGOS; and 4) the mission of AGOS.
- Past-President Ronald Gibbs, Chair of the President's Special *Ad Hoc* Committee, reported that in May President Eberhard Mueller-Heubach appointed the committee to evaluate the pathways to membership. The committee was composed of Drs. Mueller-Heubach, Ferguson, Niebyl, Resnik, Droegemueller, DeCherney and Gibbs as Chair. He further noted that the committee met by conference call in mid-July 2006. By way of background Dr. Gibbs reiterated that AGOS is the senior academic and leadership society in the specialty. Council embraced two concepts: 1) inclusion in AGOS of qualified members of the specialty with scholarly and leadership achievements as required, and 2) the opportunity to revitalize the program by developing a more pertinent, interactive and innovative format that would be possible with lessened emphasis on membership papers. The effect would be to enhance the ability of AGOS to become a more vibrant force in resolving the burning issues facing the Society in the areas of education, clinical care and research in academic Obstetrics and Gynecology.
- Treasurer Resnik gave a report on the finances of the Society. He indicated that the Society ended the 2005 calendar year with -\$5,761. He indicated that he anticipated the Society would meet its negotiated room block during this meeting and that at the end of this calendar year the Society should be \$1,000 to the black although there was the potential for some variation but that overall the Society should be very close to a neutral cash balance. Further that the Council recommended a modest increase in dues from \$425 to \$475 annually that will include the cost of living increase approved last year which was in concert with recommendations from many in the survey. He further noted that the Society was working with the Foundation to identify appropriate opportunities of support for the Society.
- Dr. Cowan reported that the 2007 CREOG exam would have 4 versions in order to reduce the likelihood of an "exception." If a program does have an exception it cannot give the exam for 2 years. CREOG is working on simulations to aid residency training.
- Dr. Copeland gave the Report from the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. The new officers are: Frank Ling, MD, President, Phillip J. DiSaia, Chair, Nannette F. Santoro, MD, Treasurer and a new member for the Gynecologic Oncology Division, Laurel Rice, MD. Dr. David Gershenson replaces Dr. Nannette Santoro as AGOS Corporate Representative to ABOG and Dr. George Wendel replaces Dr. Valeri Parisi as APGO Corporate Representative to ABOG. The Board is moving forward with due diligence necessary to formalize the creation of a Division of "Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery." After a national search was conducted Dr. Larry C. Gilstrap, III was offered the position as "Director of Evaluation" as Dr. Droegemueller will be retiring. Dr. Gilstrap assumed the position in January of 2007.
- Dr. Ferguson reported from the Liaison Committee for Obstetrics and Gynecology. He indicated that the liaison committee is made up of a variety of different organizations and that we had only heard the reports

NEWS FROM THE BUSINESS MEETING

from two: specifically CREOG and ABOG. The most recent LCOG meeting was in March 2006 in Orlando. The NCI completed a report suggesting that a combination of intravenous and intraperitoneal chemotherapy should be strongly considered for chemotherapy for ovarian cancer based on phase III clinical trials. Further that the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine was very involved through their foundation in Nuchal Translucency Education and Quality Report. He indicated that the SGI was becoming a more international organization and important issues for the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists for this year included the reasonable implementation of pay for performance, continuing work on liability reform, continued lobbying for high quality imaging as well as for reasonable Medicare reimbursement for physicians. The RRC provided data recently which indicated that there was a suggestion that 20 hours of a Program Director's time be supported by "the institution" and there is a 20% turn over annually in Program Directors. The average tenure of a Program Director is currently three years.

- President Mueller-Heubach introduced new President Jennifer R. Niebyl. President Niebyl thanked Past President Mueller-Heubach for his many years of service to the Society and his excellent leadership. He was presented with a plaque and several other gifts of appreciation for his leadership of the Society.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT:

The Nominating Committee consisted of Ronald S. Gibbs, Past President as Chair along with Patrick M. Catalano, Mark Phillippe, Harold E. Fox, and James M. Roberts. The Committee presented the following slate:

William Droegemueller: President-Elect
 James Ferguson, II: Secretary
 Mary D'Alton: Assistant Secretary
 Robert Resnik: Treasurer
 Abbey Berenson: Council Member
 Philip Darney: Program Advisory Committee

There were no new nominations from the floor. The slate was approved unanimously by the membership.

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 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. The mentor/sponsor should review the paper well in advance to provide suggestions, and should review the candidate's presentation and slides to help him/her anticipate potential questions or problems before his/her final presentation to fellows of the American Gynecological and Obstetrical Society. Finally, the mentor/sponsor should not submit a candidate's name for consideration if 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.
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.

CANDIDATE GUIDELINES AND MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION

FELLOWSHIP CANDIDATE GUIDELINES

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

- Two AGOS Fellows must propose an applicant, write letters of support and act as mentors/sponsors.
- Scholarly contributions (quality and quantity of publications, especially first-authored publications in peer-reviewed journals) 55 points
- National prominence (holding membership in prestigious and selective societies, committee membership or office in national or regional organizations, independence) 35 points.
- Letters of Evaluation (letters from two mentors describing in detail the strengths of the candidate) 5 points.
- Comments from two 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 exclusive of comments from general membership.

CRITERIA FOR MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION

- 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.



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNECOLOGISTS FOUNDATION PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

Sherman Elias, M.D.



Sherman Elias, M.D.

The American Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Foundation (AAOGF) continues to carry out its missions of enhancing and transmitting knowledge in Obstetrics and Gynecology and the recruitment of talented individuals to our specialty. The AAOGF is also committed to supporting the educational activities of the American Gynecological and Obstetrical Society (AGOS) through funding of special programs, the Joseph Price Oration, the Hunter Prize Paper Award, and Travel Awards.

This year the AAOGF will develop and distribute to members of AGOS information on how they can make bequests in their wills to AAOGF and name AAOGF as a beneficiary of an IRA. In addition, Life Members who are age 70-1/2 or older will be provided information about a unique opportunity that exists through 2007 for a charitable IRA rollover of up to \$100,000 from an IRA to a public charity (i.e., AAOGF) without incurring any tax liability. We encourage members of AGOS to consider these options as their legacy to the future of our specialty.

In partnership with the Foundation of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ABOG), Inc., and the Foundation for the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM), we proudly announce our current AAOGF Scholars as follows:

Donna M. Neale, M.D. – 2004-2007

Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine/AAOGF Scholar
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Virginia D. Winn, M.D., Ph.D. – 2004-2007

American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology/AAOGF Scholar
University of Colorado Health Science Center

Janet Andrews, M.D. – 2005-2008

Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine/AAOGF Scholar
University of Iowa

Laura J. Havrilesky, M.D. – 2006-2009

American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology/AAOGF Scholar
Duke University Medical Center

Francine H. Einstein, M.D. – 2006-2009

Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine/AAOGF Scholar
Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Montefiore Medicine Center

Emily J. Su, M.D. – 2007-2010

Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine/AAOGF Scholar
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

Satu Kuokkanen, M.D., Ph.D. – 2007-2010

American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology/AAOGF Scholar
Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Montefiore Medicine Center

The 2007 Scholars Retreat will be hosted by the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Duke University.

It is my great honor to have been elected to a second term as President of the AAOGF at the last annual business meeting held in Williamsburg, Virginia. I wish to express my thanks to the following individuals for their hard work and dedication to the AAOGF:

James M. Roberts, M.D. (Vice President), Thomas R. Moore, M.D. Secretary/Treasurer), Charles J. Lockwood, M.D. (Chair, AAOGF Endowment Fund Committee), and ex-officio members: Jennifer R. Niebyl, M.D. (President, AGOS), and William Droegemueller, M.D. (President-Elect, AGOS). In addition, I wish to thank the members of the AAOGF Endowment Fund Committee, Donald J. Dudley, M.D., Michelle Follen, M.D., Ph.D., Norman F. Gant, Jr., M.D., John E. Buster, M.D., Setsuko K. Chambers, M.D. and Nanette F. Santoro, M.D. A special thanks to our Administrative Director, Ms. Cassandra Larkins.

It is a privilege for me to serve as President of the AAOGF, and I look forward to greater opportunities and achievements for our Foundation in the future.

Sincerely,

Sherman Elias, M.D.
President, AAOGF

LETTER FROM THE AGOS SECRETARY

James E. Ferguson, II, M. D.

Our annual scientific meeting at the Kingsmill Resort and Conference Center in Williamsburg, VA was a great success. My thanks go to all officers, Council members, fellows, presenters, discussants, panelists and the AAOGF fellow for their presentations and contributions to this success. I would also like to extend my special thanks to members of two very important committees: the Program Advisory Committee and the Fellowship Committee. The Program Advisory Committee spent a significant amount of time in reviewing the candidate papers submitted for the meetings. The group included Drs. Mueller-Heubach, Ferguson, D'Alton, Goldenberg, Runowicz, Wenstrom and Roberts. Additionally the Fellowship Committee carefully reviewed applicants and the wealth of material that accompanied each application. The committee included Drs. Gibbs, Ferguson, Ramin, D'Alton, Follen, Berga, Peterson, and Cain. Further, I am especially indebted to our staff who contributed so much to this meeting: Cassandra Larkins, Margaret Lyle, my new assistant who did not realize what she was getting herself into when she signed on with me and Marion Johnson all deserve our appreciation. There were thirteen candidate paper presentations. Following the meeting the council approved them and I am happy to report that all candidates were approved by the membership and notified, along with their sponsors.

We would like to ask the fellows of AGOS to carefully review the enclosed guidelines for mentor/sponsors for AGOS fellowship as well as the fellowship candidate guidelines as an effort is made to identify potential candidates. Please request and submit electronic applications by May 1, 2007 to our administrative office (clarkins@acog.org). Also, please note that an age of less than fifty is no longer required for candidates. There are important guidelines for manuscripts which now include a "state-of-the-art" review on a focused topic as an alternative to the traditional manuscript submission. Specific guidelines for preparation of a "state-of-the-art" review are enclosed.

Enclosed with this mailing is an announcement for 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 for the AAOGF Travel Awards for the 2006 AGOS Annual Meeting. These Awards are designed to support the attendance at our annual meeting of promising young academicians in our specialty.

Finally, I would like to ask that as many fellows as possible make plans to attend the annual meeting scheduled for September 26-29 at the Renaissance Hotel, Chicago, Illinois. Please invite your young faculty members and colleagues so that they might be exposed to the important role our society plays in furthering academic obstetrics and gynecology and also that they might have an opportunity to enjoy the warm collegiality of our membership.

Respectfully Submitted,



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

AAOGF TRUSTEES

Sherman Elias, M.D., President
James M. Roberts, M.D., Vice-President
Thomas R. Moore, M.D., Secretary-Treasurer

Jennifer R. Niebyl, M.D, M.D., AGOS President
William Droegemueller, MD, AGOS President-Elect
Charles J. Lockwood, M.D., Chairman, EFC

Staff

Cassandra Larkins, Administrative Director

SAVE THE DATE!

The 2007 AGOS Annual Meeting will be held at the Renaissance Chicago Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, September 26-29, 2007!

The Renaissance Chicago Hotel is located at the corner of State Street and Wacker Drive, right between the Loop and Magnificent Mile in the heart of downtown Chicago. The hotel offers 553 newly renovated hotel rooms and the ambience of a uniquely upscale hotel. This luxury hotel has an indoor pool and health club, a spa treatment room and a Lobby Lounge that offers live music. The Hotel's guest room and suites are beautifully appointed, including exceptional amenities such as remote-control color television and in-room refreshment centers, two direct-dial telephones with voice mail, A/M F/M radio, comfortable sitting areas and spacious bathrooms.

Only 18 miles from O'Hare Airport and 12 miles from Midway Airport, the hotel offers a location convenient to world-class shopping, dining and entertainment. The hotel affords unique views of the city, including the towers along Michigan Avenue, Lake Michigan, and

the Chicago River. The hotel's convenient location provides easy access to many exciting Chicago attractions. Sights to see include the Sears Tower and Navy Pier, Millennium Park, Macy's (the original Marshall Fields) on State Street, and of course the shops along the Magnificent Mile. The Sears Tower boasts the world's highest observation deck. From here one can see all of Chicago. Looking across Lake Michigan, one can see Indiana, and Michigan, or turn north and see Wisconsin. Other attractions include the Art Institute of Chicago and the Museum Campus, the Shedd Aquarium, the Field Museum, and the Adler Planetarium.

For theater lovers, there are the Historic Chicago Theater, the Oriental Theater, The Cadillac Palace Theater, and the Auditorium Theater. Chicago's vibrant music scene includes the Original House of Blues, the Red Head Piano Bar, and the Lyric Opera House, where the world famous Chicago Symphony Orchestra performs.

Registration packets and more information on the 2007 meeting will be mailed in early June. We look forward to seeing you at the Renaissance Chicago Hotel!

CALL FOR PAPERS

The American Gynecological And Obstetrical Society

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, 2007

The winner will be recognized at the 2007 AGOS Annual Meeting to be held at Renaissance Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, September 26 – 29, 2007

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

Instructions for manuscript preparation can be found at
<http://www.agosonline.org> > announcements > Hunter Prize Thesis Award

Please submit the completed manuscript by email or disk to:

James E. Ferguson, II, MD, Secretary, AGOS

John W. Greene, Jr. Professor and Chair

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology • University of Kentucky College of Medicine

800 Rose Street, Room C375 • Lexington, Kentucky 40536-0293

james.ferguson@uky.edu

AAOGF TRAVEL AWARDS TO 2007 MEETING OF AGOS

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 up to \$2000.00 each to be used for the AGOS Annual Meeting to be held at The Renaissance Chicago Hotel, Chicago, Illinois September 26-29, 2007. The home Department of each recipient must agree to provide the balance of support required for attendance.

Guidelines For Eligibility:

- Full-time academic faculty position for at least 3 years. Fellowship years are not counted toward the 3 year requirement.
- 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:

May 1, 2007

Mail or email to:

Ms. Cassandra Larkins
Administrative Director, AGOS & AAOGF
409 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024-2188
Clarkins@acog.org