



SOGC News

The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada

Summer 2003

SOGC President's Inaugural Address

David C. Young, MD, MSc, FRCSC

It is a privilege to accept the responsibility and challenge to serve as President of an organization whose mission is to promote optimal women's health through leadership, collaboration, education, research, and advocacy in the practice of obstetrics and gynaecology. The SOGC's 5 strategic directions for 2002 to 2005 are continuing professional development, international health, practice environment, promotion of the specialty, and women's health issues. I wish to concentrate my thoughts and comments in this address on practice environment and promotion of the specialty, which will serve as a focal point for my efforts in the coming year.

There is a need to maintain and increase the interest and number of health professionals providing care in ob/gyn. Although the birth rate is falling, the demographics of prospective mothers are changing and a greater proportion of women are now in the mature and perimenopausal ages. Our colleagues from family practice, midwifery, and nursing play an integral role in meeting this demand, but we must also train more ob/gyns.

We must have a satisfactory practice environment in order to promote the interest in our discipline. Surveys indicate a balanced family/work lifestyle is an increasingly important consideration. The demographics of those choosing medicine as a profession have changed sub-

stantially. Graduating female medical students became the majority in 1996 in Canada for the first time. Research has indicated that female physicians work about 20% to 25% fewer hours per week and that they retire at younger ages. These factors must be taken into account when establishing annual numbers of postgraduate education positions needed for our specialty. In the midst of all this, in 2001, there were 9 residency positions in obstetrics and gynaecology vacant on the first round of the CARMS match, and in 2002, this number increased to 11.

The SOGC, particularly through our resident and junior members' efforts, along with university departments and APOG, have actively campaigned to raise the profile of our specialty and increase the interest of medical students in postgraduate training in ob/gyn. This may have played a role in the apparent greater interest in the 2003 CARMS match, in which the number of vacant positions was reduced to 1.

To achieve the "right number" of ob/gyns in a regional or community hospital will require experimenting with new approaches such as alternative funding and payment plans (AFPs), and collaborative practice approaches. How-



Dr. Donna Fedorkow presents the President's Pendant to Dr. David Young

ever, this new "Big C" approach will involve formalizing our multidisciplinary teams, with ob/gyns, family physicians, midwives, nurse practitioners, nurses, and other health professionals having input into the development and function of these teams. No single model will fit all circumstances and communities.

There may be a need to increase the number of year-one postgraduate training positions in ob/gyn posts by as much as 50%. Do we have the resources to cope with this in our university training programmes? Some centres may, others don't. More faculty and space will be required, as will innovative approaches involv-

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Thank You

The SOGC would like to acknowledge Duchesnay Inc. for their donation of essential medications to the Association of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Uganda (AOGU) for the FIGO Save the Mothers Project. Many thanks for their generous contribution!



FIGO project volunteers accept a donation of essential medications from Duchesnay. From left: Midwife Mildred Kabasonga and the CEO of AOGU, Dr. Jolly Beyeza

SCOPE

September 26-27
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Surgical Skills Centre
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Long hot summer days! From the EVP's Desk

*Dr. André B. Lalonde,
SOGC Executive Vice-President*

As you get this summer issue of the SOGC News, many of you will be taking some holidays with family and traveling throughout Canada and outside of the country. It is time to recharge our batteries, get some sunshine and prepare for our daily task of providing excellence in reproductive health care in Canada.



Dr. Dorothy Shaw

The fall season will bring many events including our Regional Educational Programme, the deployment of the MORE Programme in a number of hospitals across Canada and, not the least, the FIGO Meeting (November 2-7) in Santiago, Chile.

The SOGC is pleased to promote Dr. Dorothy Shaw as a candidate for the position of President-Elect of FIGO. At this time in the history of the developing world, it is very important to nominate dedicated people to our international organizations. Maternal mortality and mortality from cervical cancer in developing countries are very high and indeed, we need leadership to address these issues. Together with UN agencies such as the WHO, UNFPA, UNICEF and the World Bank, FIGO must be at the forefront of the battle to reduce maternal mortality and to bring new simple technology for the prevention and treatment of cervical cancer.

Sexual and reproductive health issues and rights are core issues that must be addressed. If we are to free women in developing countries from the burden of disease and death we must act now. Canada needs to commit funds and expertise to these issues. It cannot continue to forget the women of the world and their health needs. Education without health is a cop-out!

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of our members who have volunteered for international health work and those who have contributed financially to our programmes in developing countries. Together, we can make a difference!

Notice ■ Notice ■ Notice

Important revisions by the Ontario Drug Benefit Program to the limited use clinical criteria for reimbursement of Fosamax® (alendronate sodium) 70 mg tablet, once weekly.

Fosamax® 70 mg tablet once weekly

For the treatment of osteoporosis in patients who have:

Reason for Use Code	Clinical Criteria
369	Two out of the following three criteria: BMD at least 3.0 standard deviations below the young adult mean, age of 75 or greater, prior osteoporosis-related fracture‡
- OR -	
370	Failed* or, experienced intractable side effects, or have a contraindication to cyclical etidronate‡ therapy.

* Failure is defined as: continued loss of bone mineral density (loss of more than 3%) after two years of therapy; or a new osteoporosis-related fracture after one year of therapy.

‡ The anti-fracture efficacy of FOSAMAX® 70 mg tablet once weekly is based upon changes in bone mineral density (BMD). Fracture incidence has not been investigated as a primary endpoint in clinical trials to date with FOSAMAX® 70 mg tablet once weekly.

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‡ Please refer to Ontario Drug Benefit Formulary.

For additional information, please call the Customer Information Centre at 1-800-567-2594.

PROGRAMMES

16th Quebec CME (offered in French)

Fairmont Manoir Richelieu
La Malbaie, Québec
September 25-27, 2003

22nd Ontario CME

Marriott Eaton Centre
Toronto, Ontario
December 4-6, 2003

17th International CME

Maliá Caribe Tropical, Punta Cana
Dominican Republic
March 1-5, 2004

14th West/Central CME

The Rimrock Resort Hotel
Banff, Alberta
April 1-3, 2004

60th Annual Clinical Meeting

Edmonton, Alberta
June 24-29, 2004

COURSES

SCOPE - 2003

Vancouver, B.C. - October 24-25
University of BC, Centre of
Excellence for Surgical Education

Toronto, Ont. - November 14-15
Mount Sinai Hospital
Surgical Skills Centre

ALARM - 2003

Woodstock, N.B. - September 12-13

Yellowknife, NWT - October 3-4

Ottawa, Ont. - October 24-25

Victoria, B.C. - November 21-22

Toronto, Ont. - December 7-8

RCPSC Annual Medals and Awards

Annually, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada holds competitions for medals and awards among young physicians and surgeons to provide an opportunity for national recognition of their research in specialty medicine, surgery or biomedical ethics. Since 2001, the Royal College no longer offers specialty-specific programmes at its Annual Conference. It hopes to create a new opportunity to join with a number of national specialty

societies each year to recognize the excellence of these award winners by incorporating them into specialty meeting programs.

Those interested in finding out how to apply to this recognition process are referred to the Royal College Web site at www.rcpsc.medical.org where the information can be found in the Awards and Grants section.

Labour doesn't harm infant's outcome: study

From The Medical Post, March 18, 2003

Infants subjected to labour do not have poorer outcomes than those born by caesarean section and may have a reduced risk of respiratory problems, say researchers from the University of Western Ontario. They sought to determine the impact of labour on neonatal outcomes compared to elective C-section with no labour.

Babies born to labouring patients had a lower incidence of transient tachypnea of the newborn and respiratory distress syndrome. "Our conclusion is that infants who are other-

wise healthy who are subjected to labour show no measurable increase in neonatal morbidity. Those delivered by elective caesarean section are at increased risk for respiratory problems and the need for neonatal intensive care resources" says Dr. Bryan Richardson, head of the research team. According to Dr. Richardson, several biological reasons may explain the findings. First, patients who go through labour are likely to have their baby at a later gestational age than those who have an elective C-section. There are also hormonal changes associated with labour which may have a beneficial effect in clearing fluid from the infant's lungs, he said.

SOGC Staff Members Recognized



3 years

From L to R:
- Debra Leduc
- Linda Kollesh
- Danielle Bélanger



4 years

From L to R:
- Sylvie Séguin
- Liette Perron



5 years

- Sylvie Paquette

**Thank you for
your dedication!**



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SOGC News

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ACM 2003, Charlottetown, PEI – A Delightful Experience...

Chantale Wall, Director, Events Management, CPD Division

As the dust settles on our desks at the SOGC office, the 59th Annual Clinical Meeting of June 25-30 is now but a pleasant memory. The attendance exceeded our expectations. We welcomed over 850 attendees including delegates (physicians, specialists, nurses and midwives), national and international presenters of the highest caliber, as well as sponsors and exhibitors.

Six properties with SOGC room blocks accommodated the majority of ACM delegates. Of the 6 hotels, the Delta Prince Edward Hotel (main conference and exhibit hall functions) and Rodd-The Charlottetown Hotel (conjoint and committee meetings) were classed by SOGC as “excellent”, accommodating over 300 functions within a 9-day time period, including a total of 52 committee meetings. They were met with daily challenges, but were never too busy to accommodate our logistics and changes. The staff at both hotels offered excellent service, friendly smiles and most important, deadlines were always met. It was rewarding to be congratulated over and over again with such comments as “This was the best ACM ever!” Of course, PEI’s warm Atlantic weather and daily sunshine generated smiles and laughter from our delegates.

The six-day meeting consisted of a Scientific Programme, Social and Leisure Activities. This was the 3rd year of the International Women’s Health Symposium and speakers were invited to present on international obstetrics and gynaecology. New this year were the Sub-Specialty (SS) Meetings to include CSURPS, Maternal Fetal Medicine, SCC, Pediatric and Adolescent Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Endoscopy, Nursing, and SIOGC.

As we all know, Prince Edward Island is especially beautiful in the summer...rolling countryside, miles of sandy beaches and mouth-watering seafood which provided ACM participants with much to see and do. We received a warm welcome from the friendly Islanders. This Atlantic hospitality was conducive to the harmony and enjoyment shared by all our delegates attending the Social and Leisure Activities, including the Craft Tour, Visiting Canada’s Birthplace, Golf and Dinner, Seal Watching, and Anne of Green Gables Musical, to name a few.

Opening Reception

On Day 2 of the ACM, the Charlottetown police, the Fathers of Confederation and Pipers and the SOGC national staff led the SOGC delegates in a parade to Memorial Hall where the Opening Reception took place. All were officially welcomed by the SOGC President, Dr. Donna Fedorkow. Following the Opening Reception, volunteers escorted delegates who had registered for the “Dining Out Experi-

ence” to the 4 restaurants chosen for this exquisite culinary experience. On two occasions, champagne was served for the International Symposium breakfasts (IS 5 and IS 9). Truly a “bubbly” experience!

Paper/Poster Sessions

Sunday, June 29th, Day 5, was named Abstract Day and Poster Viewing. There was an even flow of attendance throughout the day. Scientific Paper Presentations for Obstetrics and Gynaecology took place concurrently. The posters were viewed and authors discussed their research with the delegates.

New for 2003

New this year was the Cyber Café on the Mezzanine Level of the Delta Prince Edward where three computers with Internet access were available for conference delegates. A complementary international coffee station was offered daily to the Cyber Café Internet users.

The passport system, also new this year, was designed to provide delegates with an opportunity to visit all the exhibit booths and learn about the latest pharmaceutical innovations, products and services. Passport booklets had to be stamped by all the exhibitors and submitted to the Registration Desk to be eligible for a prize. The 1st Prize was a \$2,000 travel voucher for anywhere in North America (within a year), and the 2nd Prize was a complementary registration certificate for the 2004 ACM in Edmonton. Congratulations to our winners: 1st Prize: V.S. Malliah (Kamloops, BC), 2nd Prize: Amel El Sayed (Saudi Arabia). The continuous interaction between sponsors, exhibitors and delegates made way for meaningful interaction and networking.

2003 SOGC President’s Award

Dr. Robert Reid is the recipient for this year’s award of excellence. The award was presented to him at the Awards Luncheon on June 30th for his contributions and dedication to SOGC. Congratulations!



Dr. Robert Reid receives his award from Dr. Donna Fedorkow, accompanied by Dr. David Young and Dr. André Lalonde.



The new corporate team: Drs. André Lalonde, Vyta Senikas and Kenneth Milne.

Royal College Award

This year’s recipient selected to receive the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) Speaker’s Award was Dr. Serge Belisle. The RCPSC has contributed to the sponsorship of the ACM through a National Specialty Society Annual Meeting Grant.

Resident Reporter Programme

This year marked an astounding attendance of 103 Junior Members! A complete programme was designed and executed by Denise Desautels, Associate Director, Corporate Affairs, which consisted of an Icebreaker Reception, Resident Reporter Breakfast, CFWH Gala/Lobster Feast, Stress Management Workshop, Medical Student Symposium, Resident “Fun” Night as well as ACM Programme activities. All the residents/junior members who attended were well cared for by Denise and have promised to attend the next ACM!

SOGC Awards Presentation

The Awards Ceremony, marking the last function of the ACM on Sunday, June 30th was well-attended. The following abstract presentation prizes were awarded. Please see p. 8 for a list of elective grant fellowship winners. Congratulations to all our winners:

- Best Obstetrics Paper (P-OBS-014) Oral Misoprostol for Labour Induction with Term Pre-Labour Membrane Rupture (Dr. Joan Crane)
- Best Obstetrics Paper - Junior Member (O-OBS-JM-014) Effectiveness of Cervical Cerclage for a Sonographically Shortened Cervix (Dr. Timea Belej-Rak)
- Best Obstetrics Paper - Junior Member runner-up (O-OBS-JM-025) Second Trimester Maternal Serum Screen (MSS) Biochemical Markers in Relation to Subsequent Size at Birth (Dr. Aaron Jackson)
- Best Obstetrics Poster (P-OBS-003) Maternal and Infant Mortality and Morbidity Associated with Elective Caesarean Section vs. Attempted Vaginal Birth (Dr. Victoria Allen)
- Best Obstetrics Poster - Junior Member (tie) (P-OBS-JM-004) The Mechanisms Involved in Co-Induced Vasodilation of Human Placental Blood Vessels (Dr. Shannon Bainbridge)
- Best Obstetrics Poster - Junior Member (tie)

- (P-OBS-JM-005) Factors Associated with Adverse Perinatal Outcome in the Term Breech Trial (Dr. Min Su)
- Best Gynaecology Paper (O-GYN-011) Follicular Development is Initiated During the Pill-Free Interval in Women Using Oral Contraception (Dr. Roger Pierson)
 - Best Gynaecology Paper - Junior Member (O-GYN-JM-002) Correlates of Repeat Pregnancy Termination: A Cross-Sectional Study of 1145 Women (Dr. Sukbhir Singh)
 - Best Gynaecology Paper - Runner-up (O-CSURPS-007) A Randomized Control Trial Comparing Modified TVT Using Reusable Pubovaginal Sling Device in Treatment of Urinary Stress Incontinence: A Pilot Project (Dr. Atamjit Gill)
 - Best Gynaecology Poster (P-GYN-003) A Study of Litigation from Urinary Tract Injuries at Benign Gynaecological Surgery in Canada (Dr. Donna Gilmour)
 - Best Gynaecology Poster - Junior Member (P-GYN-JM-002) Uterine Artery Embolization for Fibroids Review of 50 Cases (Dr. Stephanie Palerme)
 - Best Gynaecology Poster - Junior Member runner-up (P-GYN-JM-001) Differential Diagnosis of Cystic Adnexal Masses in Peri and Postmenopausal Women (Dr. Huse Kamencic)
 - Best International Women's Health Poster - A Safe Motherhood Initiative: Teaching Traditional Birth Attendants In San Lucas Toliman, Guatemala - A Pilot Project (Dr. Ruth Brighthouse)
 - Best International Women's Health Poster - Junior Member - The Relationship Between Placental Thickness and HIV Status in a Rural Population in Zimbabwe (Dr. Melodye Rajasingham)
 - Stump the Professor – Obstetrics: Dr. Malukah Alfarag and Dr. Haim Abenheim, McGill University
 - Stump the Professor – Gynaecology: Dr. Sarah Halleran, University of Alberta



International Women's Health Programme's committee members, symposium keynote speakers and distinguished guests from left: Drs. Pauls (SOGC); Chamberlain (SOGC); Lalonde (SOGC); Guthrie (SOGC); Boruah (India); Wellfens-Ekra (Ivory Coast); Rosenfield (U.S.A.); Guple (India); Okong (Uganda); Das (India); and Cooke (SOGC)

Transfer of Title

Dr. Donna Fedorkow introduced Dr. David Young as the new SOGC President and passed the President's Pendant to Dr. Young. In return, she was presented with a crystal gavel as a token of SOGC's gratitude for her excellent work and commitment this past year.

Council Dinner

The following individuals received an honorary membership to the Society: Prof. William Dunlop, President of the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (U.K.), Dr. Allan Rosenfield, Dean, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, Dr. Pius Okong, Senior Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, Ministry of Health in Uganda and President of the Association of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Uganda since August 2002, and Christiane Wellfens-Ekra, President, African Society of Gynaecology and Obstetrics, Ivory Coast

Past Presidents in attendance this year: Dr. Tom Baskett and his wife Yvette, Dr. John Bean and Maureen, Dr. Douglas Cudmore and Frances, Dr. Robert Gauthier and his wife Johanne, Dr. Garry Krepart, Dr. Robert Lea and his wife Anne Marie, Dr. Rudophe Maheux and Marie Lacroix, Dr. Robert Reid and his wife Judy, Dr. Stuart Robinson and Barbara Butchard, Dr. Nan Schuurmans, Dr. Dorothy Shaw, Dr. Thirza Smith and her husband Michael Cavanaugh, Dr. Jacques Vigeant and Marie-Paule, Dr. John Cecil Whetham, Dr. Richard Winter and Lynn Winter.

Thank you!

In this issue we extend our sincere appreciation to the following companies who have contributed financial support in the form of unrestricted educational grants:

Diamond

- Berlex Canada Inc.
- Wyeth Pharmaceuticals

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- Eli Lilly Canada Inc.
- Janssen-Ortho
- Organon Canada Ltd.

Gold

- Duchesnay Inc.
- Pharmacia Canada Inc. and Pfizer Canada Inc.

Bronze

- Paladin Labs Inc.

Friends

- Avant-Garde Video Inc.
- Diane A. Gagné Financial Services
- Digene Corporation
- Karl Storz Endoscopy Canada Ltd.



Dr. Allan Rosenfield, currently Dean, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University spoke at this years' International Women's Health Symposium regarding Global Maternal Mortality: Update, 2003 and Unsafe Abortions: Legal, Religious and Moral Issues. Dr. Rosenfield was awarded an Honorary Membership to the SOGC at this years' ACM.

Behind the scenes

From the beginning to the end of the ACM, we were blessed with an incredible number of people who not only committed their time and ideas but who followed the SOGC staff through the planning and logistics of this ACM. These dedicated people are the ACM Scientific Programme Planning Committee, the Host Committee and the volunteers. The ACM has been branded as "successful" thanks to each and every one of you!



Outgoing president Dr. Donna Fedorkow presenting an award to past president Dr. Jan Christilaw

Continued on page 7

SCC Meeting

Dr. Peter Bryson Secretary/Treasurer
 Dr. Jim Bentley, Scientific Programme Director

The Society of Canadian Colposcopists held its 17th Annual Postgraduate Course (PG1) entitled "Comprehensive Colposcopy – Back to the Basics and Beyond" at the SOGC's ACM in Charlottetown. Over 90 registrants attended the course. Dr. Laurette Geldenhuis of Halifax discussed the "Bethesda Guidelines" and their implications for the Canadian scene and Dr. Terry Colgan of Toronto presented proposed interim guidelines. SCC members Drs. Monique Bertrand, Fernando Guijon, Laurie Elit, Michael Shier and Peter Bryson presented talks on clinical and management issues related to lower genital tract dysplasia.

Our guest this year was Dr. Henry Kitchener, Professor of Gyn Oncology, University of Manchester, England. Dr. Kitchener is currently the Chair of the NHS pilot trials in the use of liquid based cytology and HPV testing being

conducted in England. His address to the Society was on "Follow-up of Pre-invasive lesions after treatment, discharge criteria and utility of HPV testing at discharge from Colpo Clinic". His wealth of experience in this area gave the meeting depth and an international perspective on these issues.

On Sunday, June 29th the SCC held its first Subspecialty Meeting concurrent with the other Subspecialty Meetings. Dr. Kitchener started off by reviewing the UK experience with the implementation of liquid based cytology and HPV testing in the ongoing "ARTISTIC" trial of these new technologies. Dr. Monique Bertrand presented a fascinating account of "Optical Methods for Cervical Screening" that may change completely how we manage cervical dysplasia in the future. Marie Dolan RN, of Halifax, presented "Challenges in Patient Education – The Nursing Perspective". A lively debate then took place mainly between Dr. Peter Bethune of Charlottetown and Dr. Jim Bentley of Halifax. The issue of debate was whether colposcopy should be performed by the generalist in addition to



SCC Executive Group - Back Row (L to R) Drs. Fernando Guijon, Jim Bentley, Mike Shier, Terry Colgan, Peter Bryson - Front Row (L to R) Hélène Soublière, Drs. Susan McFaul, Monique Bertrand, Laurie Elit.

the highly trained Colposcopists. Colposcopy training guidelines were also discussed.

The Society now looks forward to participating with other societies and groups in a national consensus workshop to be held in Ottawa in November to try to bring recommendations to provincial governments for implementation of the newer technologies on cervical cancer screening. In addition, the SCC will be putting on a Colposcopy course at the Toronto SOGC Regional Meeting on December 6, 2003.

The SCC programme committee welcomes ideas for our next SOGC Postgraduate course planned for next June in Edmonton. To submit suggestions or thoughts for future SCC clinical meetings please contact the SCC National Coordinator, Hélène Soublière, in Ottawa: hsoubliere@sogc.com

GOC Meeting

Dr. Peter Bryson,
 GOC Scientific Programme Director

The 24th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gynecologic Oncologists of Canada took place at the Charlottetown Delta Hotel, June 28-29, 2003. Thanks to all the hard work by the Programme Committee Members, the meeting was once again a success. On Saturday June 28, the Scientific Sessions started off with the International Symposium on Surgical Management of Early Cervical Cancer. Dr. Dianne Miller from Vancouver, Dr. John Jeffrey from Kingston and Dr. Marie Plante, IS7 Course Director from Québec City, presented information on current treatment and outstanding data on the Québec series of Radical Trachelectomy. Our Royal College Guest Speaker and GOC member, Dr. Larry Copeland, from Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, then presented a discussion and critique.



(L to R) Drs. Laurie Elit, Bob Lotocki, (GOC President), Diane Provencher and Marie Plante.

In the afternoon, a GOC Symposium on "Complaints, Litigation and Risk Management in Gynaecologic Oncology" took place. Dr. Copeland very eloquently and with humour presented some of the current problems in the USA, coupled with some practical advice on risk management. Dr. Doug Bell from Ottawa then reviewed the CMPA experience with Gyn Oncology litigation in Canada.

Other GOC events included the annual members' supper on the shores of beautiful Charlottetown harbour and the now annual

early Sunday morning "Run for her Life", an event to raise awareness about gynaecologic cancers, specifically ovarian cancer. Details of the success of this event will be published in the September issue of SOGC News. The Abstracts were adjudicated and awards handed out at the conclusion of the meeting. The winners were:

- 1st Prize: Dr. Diane Provencher: Stratification of malignancy established by microarray analysis between low and high malignant epithelial ovarian cancer.
- 2nd Prize: Dr. Marie Plante: The feasibility and accuracy of sentinel node mapping in cervical cancer.
- 3rd Prize: Dr. Laurie Elit: Evaluation of post-operative pain control for women undergoing gynecologic oncology surgery.

Thanks go to Glaxo-SmithKline, Shering Canada, Eli Lilly and Ortho Biotech for their support.

Next year's annual meeting will be in Edmonton, June 24-29. Abstract submissions are due on November 28th, 2003. Our host regional members (Drs. Faust, Shepansky and Capstick) have volunteered to help with the plans.

The SOGC – GOC core-planning committee will meet in Ottawa in September 2003 to begin plans for the 2004 conference. Ideas and suggestions for the GOC Meeting in Edmonton are welcome and may be forwarded to Hélène Soublière, National Coordinator in Ottawa at: hsoubliere@sogc.com

Finally, I will now be handing the major portion of the planning duties over to our new GOC Scientific Programme Director, Dr. Mark Heywood.

Continued from page 1

ing regional centres.

Not to be forgotten is the issue of litigation and the stress that it places on ob/gyns. The SOGC introduced the ALARM and SCOPE programmes in part in response to this. The MORE Programme has been developed and is being introduced. We are human. We make errors. But most medical errors are system-related rather than due to knowledge deficiency. We must create a culture where to identify and acknowledge our errors leads to changes that reduce occurrence and recurrence but is nonpunitive to the care provider. The SOGC continues to dialogue with the CMPA on behalf of us all.

We practice in a discipline with wonderful diversity, both medically and surgically. There are endless clinical and ethical questions and challenges, and tremendous rewards. We must promote these strengths. However, there must also be a healthy practice environment that allows a balance of family, personal interests, opportunities for professional development and academic goals, or we will not recruit and retain the future medical graduate. This SOGC strategic direction is my key agenda focus as I begin this year as SOGC president. It is critical to our mission.

Changing Management of Cervical Dysplasia and Early Endometrial Cancer: Achieving a Consensus

The Old Mill
Toronto, Ont. - September 26, 2003
Tel: (416) 978-2719
Fax: (416) 971-2200
Toll-free: (888) 512-8173
E-mail: ce.med@utoronto.ca
Web Site: www.cme.utoronto.ca

Cervical Neoplasia: Evolving Concepts in Diagnosis and Management

Ramada Hotel & Convention Centre
Regina, SK - September 26-27, 2003
Info: (306) 766-4016
E-mail: sherry.roberts@rqhealth.ca

Canadian Association of Midwives - 3rd Annual Meeting & Convention

Montreal, QC - October 1-3, 2003
E-mail: admin@canadianmidwives.org
Web Site: www.canadianmidwives.org

AWHONN 14th National Conference Building Brighter Futures

Delta Meadowvale
Mississauga, Ont. - October 16-18, 2003
Info: 905-521-2100 x 75969;
dore@hhsc.ca
Registration: 519-685-8500 x 52142;
nancy.watts@lhsc.on.ca

Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society 49th Annual Meeting

Fairmont Empress Hotel, Victoria, BC
November 5-8, 2003
Info: (514) 524-9009
Fax: (514) 524-2163
E-mail: info@cfas.ca
Web site: www.cfas.ca

MIRU Conference - Pregnancy and Birth: What Is Best for Mothers and Babies?

Centre for Research in Women's Health,
Toronto, Ont. - November 28, 2003
Info: Judy Cardwell, 416-323-6501,
ext.3781
E-mail: miru@sw.ca.
Web site: www.utoronto.ca/miru

Nordic Federation of Societies of Obstetrics and Gynecology XXXIV Congress

Helsinki, Finland - June 12-15, 2004
Info : www.nfog2004.com
Congress office:
Tel.: + 358 9 5840 9344
Fax : + 358 9 5840 9555
E-mail: nfog2004@congreszon.fi

Congratulations Dr. Chamberlain!



Dr. Jean Chamberlain had a baby girl on June 6, 2003. The new arrival weighed in at 8 lbs., 3 oz. Those of you who attended the ACM had a chance to meet Elizabeth Catherine!



Best wishes from the SOGC.

Women's Advanced Maternity Fellowship for Rural Practitioners

From Perspectives, a publication of the British Columbia Reproductive Care Program, Spring/Summer '03

This fellowship was established to assist in the creation of a sustainable network of maternity care providers. It provides funds for new graduates or currently practicing family physicians, registered nurses, midwives or other health care providers in the maternity field who reside in rural and small urban B.C. communities to engage in advanced train-

ing in maternity care skills. The Fellowship complements and enhances funds offered by existing educational programs and can cover the cost of course registration fees, wage replacement and compensation for travel and accommodation where incurred. For more information, contact Patty Keith at BCRCP: 604-875-3763 or via e-mail: pkeith@interchange.ubc.ca. Information and applications can be found at www.womensfoundation.ca.

Celebrating Success!

Autumn 2002/Spring 2003 Millennium Fellowship Winners

Daniel Morier, Public Education Coordinator

The SOGC wishes to congratulate its recent Millennium Fellowship recipients!

The following members have obtained grants designed to financially assist them with the acquisition of technical knowledge or skills in the areas of obstetrics/gynaecology or sexual and reproductive health. The amount awarded ranges from \$3,000 to \$15,000 depending on the fellowship and its duration, with an additional \$1,000 allocated to the host institution for its assistance in making these traineeships such a success.

- **2002 SOGC/APOG Millennium Fellowships (for Geographic Full Time Faculty)**
 - Dr. Erica Eason
- **2002 Physicians' Millennium Fellowships**
 - Dr. Angus Gardner ⁽¹⁾
 - Dr. David Caloia
- **2003 Nurses' Millennium Fellowships**
 - Louise McIntosh
 - Chantal Gagné ⁽²⁾



- Maureen Mears, Monica Poole, Nancy Watts *
- * Joint application
- **2003 Physicians' Millennium Fellowships (Spring Edition)**
 - Dr. Jeffrey Dempster ⁽³⁾
 - Dr. Beverly Brodie



Those wishing to obtain further details regarding the next deadline should visit www.sogc.org or contact the Millennium Fellowship Coordinator at the National Office.

Funding is provided through the Foundation for the Promotion of Reproductive and Sexual Health (FPRSH) and made possible through unrestricted educational grants from Janssen-Ortho Inc., Berlex Canada Inc., Wyeth Pharmaceuticals Inc., Organon Canada Ltd., Pharmacia Canada and Pfizer Canada



CANADIAN FOUNDATION FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH

SUPPORTING RESEARCH FOR THE HEALTH OF WOMEN

Huge Success for Maritime Lobster Feast and Silent Auction at ACM

Robyn Harris, Executive Director

The Canadian Foundation for Women's Health held a successful fundraising evening at the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada's ACM in Charlottetown. The Foundation's annual fundraising dinner to support women's health research drew more than 350 attendees. Adding fun to the evening was a silent auction where guests bid on six fabulous paintings generously donated by five Canadian women artists, as well as trips, artwork, gift certificates and handcrafted items donated by generous Prince Edward Island merchants. The evening was topped off with a dynamic performance by the critically acclaimed Acadian musical group Barachois.

Many thanks go out to all who attended and a special thank you goes to the corporate spon-

sors, Gifts & Gallery, Confederation Centre of the Arts and Gaudreau Fine Woodworking.

This event gets bigger and better every year, so plan now for an exciting time in Edmonton in 2004.

Furthering Women's Health Research

Also taking place during the evening was the Foundation's research grant awards. A total of \$30,563 was distributed to researchers. Receiving a grant from the Duchesnay Fund for a better use of drugs during pregnancy and lactation was David Knoppert from the University of Western Ontario for his research titled "Effect of domperidone on milk production in mothers of premature newborns: a comparison of 2 dosages." Receiving the University Support Fund grant was Dr. Denis Crankshaw of McMaster University for his research titled "The reproductive consequences of chronic elevation of cytochrome P450 1A1."

A total of 17 proposals were received for the 2003 competition. The Foundation would like to fund all worthwhile proposals, but only a small portion of those submitted can receive funding. With your continued support, the number and amount of grants distributed will grow. Thank you to all the generous individual donors and to the corporate sponsors who have invested in women's health research: Duchesnay Inc., Berlex Canada Inc., Janssen-Ortho Inc., Organon Canada Inc., Pfizer Canada Inc., Rogers

Media, Wyeth-Ayerst Canada Inc., Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada, Foundation for the Promotion of Sexual and Reproductive Health.

Sincere appreciation to this year's reviewers who assessed and scored the proposals and whose valuable time was volunteered to provide an unbiased search for the most outstanding research projects: Serge Belisle, George Carson, David Cumming, Don Davis, Dan Farine, John Kingdom, Delani Kotarba, Robert Lea, Pierre Lessard, Jean-Marie Moutquin, Henry Muggah, Nicole Racette, Nan Schuurmans and Albert Yuzpe.



Accepting on behalf of David Knoppert from the University of Western Ontario is Andrea Page (second from the left) accompanied by Dr. Robert Gauthier, Carole Boyer - Director - Administration, Corporate Affairs and Eric Gervais - Executive Vice-President of Duchesnay Inc. Photo: Barrett & MacKay



Dr. Robert Gauthier, Dr. Denis Crankshaw of McMaster University and Robyn Harris. Photo: Barrett & MacKay

Cannell Lecture Well Received

The main plenary room was filled to capacity in anticipation of this year's Cannell Lecturer, Dr. John Collins. Dr. Collins spoke on the subject of Assisted Reproductive Technology: Progress and Pitfalls. His lecture left the audience with a richer perspective on the benefits and controversies inherent in ART. The Cannell Committee was unanimous in selecting Dr. Collins and thanks him for his informative lecture.



Dr. Robert Gauthier and Dr. John Collins. Photo: Clair Perry



Barachois delighted the audience with their dynamic performance and even got some up on stage. Photo: Barrett & MacKay

sors who continue to support this special event: Berlex Canada Inc. and Eli Lilly Canada Inc. A heartfelt thanks also goes to Caprice, Jean Harris, Sharlene McLearn, Pauline Paquin and Jill Segal who donated their exquisite works of art for the campaign Women Artists for Women's Health, to Polar Foods Limited, who donated a portion of the seafood for the evening, and to Atlas Wines, for their wine donation. Thanks also to the silent auction sponsors for the generous donations: Carlson Wagonlit Travel, The Quilt Gallery, VIA Rail Canada Inc., Pinette Studios, Cavendish Figurines Ltd., Delta Prince Edward, Gallery 18 Ltd., Stanley Bridge An-



The **MORE^{OB}** Program
TAKING CARE OF LIFE

- **Patient Safety**

- **Quality Care**

- **Professional Education**

SOGC would like to announce the opening of a satellite office in London Ontario (204-700 Richmond Street, London ON, N6A 5C7).

If your hospital is interested in participating in the MORE^{OB} program please contact Dr. Kenneth Milne, Associate Executive Vice-President, SOGC, 1-800-766-8301 or 519-640-7333 or e-mail at kmilne@sogc.com