



SOGC News

THE SOCIETY OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS OF CANADA

FEBRUARY 2002

EDITORIAL

UPDATE

Contraception Awareness Project

Dr. Robert Reid, Chair, Contraception Awareness Project

Since the launch of the SOGC's Web site, www.sexualityandu.ca on November 8th of last year, we have been receiving very positive feedback. In the first six days of launching, the site received over 20,000 hits and generated nationwide interest with multiple radio interviews and newspaper articles.

The Core Working Group for the Contraception Awareness Project (CAP), consisting of Drs. Édith Guilbert (Québec City); Bill Fisher (University of Western Ontario); Dr. André Lalonde (SOGC Executive Vice-President); Michael Barrett (Sex Information and Education Council of Canada, or SIECCAN); Carol McConnery (Canadian College of Family Physicians or CFPC), and Ms. Christiane Ménard (SOGC Director of Communications and Government Relations), is pleased with what has been accomplished in such a short time. It now wants to expand and improve all aspects of the site to make it the most used and user friendly resource for sexual and reproductive health. The Core Working Group has been expanded to include reps from Canadian health educators (Mr. Doug McCall –Canadian Association of School Health) and a lay representative (Ms. Erin Connell) from the Planned Parenthood Federation of Canada (PPFC).

Among other improvements, the content on the Health Care Professional Site will be dramatically increased with more useful tools such as quizzes (to test your knowledge on STIs, contraception and issues related to coercion and sexual dysfunction) and self-assessment questionnaires (to allow you to assess your attitudes and "askability" as a reproductive health care provider).

There has also been a feedback survey added to the site so that users can tell us what they enjoyed on the site, as well as what they'd like to see modified or added. Feedback in this area has been very positive and echoes most of the changes that the SOGC will make to the site in the coming months.

To increase the unique characteristics of this Web-based tool, as well as target more accurately our audiences, we have put together five sub working groups comprised of key organizations relating to those audiences. These groups are:

1. Teachers Working Group, chaired by Mr. Doug McCall (CASH) and Dr. Alex McKay (SIECCAN);
2. Adult Working Group, chaired by Dr. François Beaudoin (Ob/Gyn) and Dr. Nathalie Fleming (Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario);
3. Parent Working Group, chaired by Dr. Normand Ayotte (Ob/Gyn) and Ms. Laura Wershler (PPFC);
4. Teen Working Group, chaired by Dr. Amanda Black (Contraception Advice Research and Education (CARE) Fellow) and Dr. Carol McConnery (CFPC);
5. Health Care Professional Working Group, chaired by Dr. William Fisher and myself.

These new working groups will help the SOGC to better deliver to those targeted audiences the three key "pillars" upon which the Web site is based : that all Canadians should be free from 1) unintended pregnancy, 2) free from sexually transmitted infection, and 3) free from coercive sex.

A second work-in-progress for the CAP initiative has been the promotion of a the "Contraception and reproductive health communications skills workshop". This workshop has proven extremely popular and will continue to be provided at all regional and national programs of SOGC. The College of Family Physicians of Canada is working with SOGC to adapt this program into The Practice Based Small Groups, a learning initiative by the Foundation for Medical Practice Education. The Association of Professors of Obstetrics and Gynecology (APOG) has agreed to try to incorporate

The mouse pad enclosed in this issue highlights the project Web site www.sexualityandu.ca.

this workshop into graduate and undergraduate curricula in the coming years. This year a "Challenges in Contraceptive Counselling" component has been added which will provide basic and advanced training in the provision of advice on contraception to enhance the effectiveness of everyday contraception counselling and to assist clinicians who encounter frustrating and/or complex contraception cases in their practices. We intend to make resources and self study materials for these two workshops available on the Health Care Professionals Web site in the months ahead.

Your constructive criticism is always welcome.

COMPASSIONATE OC PROGRAMME

An information sheet is included in this issue in order to inform physicians of the programme and its parameters. You will find a request form for the programme on the back of the information sheet.

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FROM THE EVP'S DESK

Membership Renewal

André B. Lalonde, MD, FRCSC, FSOGC, FACOG, Msc

At this time in the year, we are asking you to renew your membership with the SOGC. The lifeline of the SOGC is its members and their contribution to committees. We now have over 2,700 members of which the majority are obstetricians and gynaecologists, plus a large number of family physicians, nurses, midwives, residents and medical students from across Canada.

We are at the crossroads of very important strategic directions in terms of women's health, promotion of the specialty, international women's health and continuing professional development.

More than 150 physicians participate in the work of our committees and the presentation of our programmes across Canada. You, our members, have earned the SOGC's enviable reputation of providing optimal women's healthcare through the development of clinical practice guidelines, quality assurance programmes and continuing medical education to health professionals across Canada.

The certificate in your office is a working statement to your patients that you are part of the best organization that promotes excellence in women's health in Canada. It also tells the public that you participate in a teaching organization that is involved in

public education and international women's health.

Our International Women's Health Programme has expanded tremendously in the last five years due to the extensive collaboration, cooperation and devotion of individual members across Canada. Many of you would like to participate in the international programme but cannot for various reasons. You may still participate by making a donation. There are many needs to fulfill: developing women's health clinics in several developing countries, putting running water in a hospital in Uganda and upgrading the university hospital, nursing and obstetrical care for Guatemala's Indian population, and ensuring adequate hospital supplies in many hospitals in Haïti. These are some of the areas where we need your financial support and your contribution in terms of programmes and commitment to international health.

Of all the memberships that I hold in my professional life, I have always cherished my SOGC membership which allows me to meet colleagues with the common objective of wanting to do something extra in their professional and personal lives for the welfare of women, children and their families.

Come join us and work with us.

Clinical Practice Guidelines

Denise Massey, Clinical Practice Guideline Coordinator

Guidelines for the Safe Use of Diagnostic Ultrasound - 2001

This document is now available in English and French from Health Canada. To order a printed pocket size copy, contact Chantal Cayer at (613) 957-6343 or by e-mail at Chantal_Cayer@hc-sc.gc.ca. The printed document is free and there are no mailing costs to the customer. The document will also be available shortly in pdf format from Health Canada's Website.

This document has been endorsed by the Diagnostic Imaging Committee of the SOGC.

Consensus Conference on Menopause and Osteoporosis

Last December 2001, the final three chapters of the Consensus Conference were published in JOGC. Reprints of this document are now available in English, in limited quantities, from our publisher. The French version will be available in the next few weeks. The cost is \$23.50 per copy and you can request them from Bebe Jardine, Rogers Publishing, 777 Bay Street, 5th Floor, Toronto ON M5W 1A7. Tel: (416) 596-5000 e-mail: bjardine@rmpublishing.com.

DID YOU KNOW??

The SOGC Web site at www.sogc.org has gained in popularity in the past year. In fact, the Clinical Practice Guidelines section of our web site is the most popular attraction with over 61,530 hits in 2001. This represents an increase of 117% over the year 2000. We are very pleased that this is so attractive to our membership and our Webmaster, Debra Leduc, is continually improving our site to make it interesting for you.

ALARMing IN ETHIOPIA AND YEMEN

Dr. Jean Chamberlain, Chair, International Women's Health Committee

ALARM International has expanded to Ethiopia and Yemen – countries which boast close to the worst maternal mortality ratios in the world. The lifetime risk of a woman dying from a pregnancy-related complication in Ethiopia is one in nine and in Yemen it is one in eight (WHO, 1997, Maternal Health Around the World).

ALARM International was held in Addis Ababa on November 23rd to 24th, 2001 as a pre-congress workshop before the Annual Meeting of the East Central Southern African Association of Obstetrical and Gynecological Societies (ECSAOGS). There were 35 participants including two midwives. The faculty for the course included three Ugandan physicians from the Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Uganda (Dr. Josephat Byamugisha, Dr. Christine Biryabarema and Dr. Romano Byaruhanga) and five Canadian faculty (Dr. John Smith, Dr. Margaret Trump, Dr. André Lalonde, Dr. Jean Chamberlain and Dr. George Carson (director)). Participants included not only Ethiopian physicians and midwives but others from Malawi and Kenya. A representative from the World Health Organization also attended the course – it is hoped that the WHO may officially endorse the ALARM course in the future.

In Yemen, the course was held in late May, 2001. The course was held twice, back to back (the faculty suggested that they need a day off in between!). Eighty-five participants took the course with a mixture of midwives and obstetricians. Four Canadian obstetricians were the facilitators (Dr. Bernd Whittmann, Dr. Glenn Gill, Dr. Hani Akoury and Dr. Jean Chamberlain). The co-directors of the Yemeni course were Dr. Arwa El Rabee (Director of the largest maternity hospital in Sana'a As'Sabeen Hospital) and Dr. Jean Chamberlain (McMaster University, on special leave to Yemen). The course was partially funded by World Bank in Yemen and was held in cooperation with the Ministry of Health of Yemen (Dr. Nageeba Abdulghani and Dr. Abdullah Alosaimi). Participants' comments included "the course was very interesting and useful to us as doctors and midwives. It would be interesting to have more courses in Yemen". "The OSCE examination was excellent". "It was a good review which was needed". Participants would prefer a longer course and arrangements are being made to lengthen ALARM International as this has been a recommendation from several courses.

ALARM International has been warmly welcomed in Ethiopia and Yemen – the potential for training instructors and expanding the programme is vast. For many rural physicians and midwives, they have had no continuing medical education since graduation. The model of having midwives

and obstetricians studying together is a new idea for many but encourages a greater sense of working together to advocate for and participate in the reduction of maternal mortality.

ALARM International emphasizes the monitoring of labour (obstructive labour is a major cause of maternal mortality and the use of the Partograph is promoted). Infection prevention is also an addition to ALARM International – it is also a leading cause of maternal mortality and there is a great need to decrease the transmission of HIV. For many participants, the OSCE examination format can be somewhat threatening but most proceed with the examination and find it to be a very helpful process.



The value of ALARM International is to assist in the establishment of life-saving protocols in maternity centres and hospitals. It provides a learning opportunity to enhance obstetrical skills for all maternity health care workers; a chance which is otherwise unavailable in many places.

The SOGC is pleased to announce the

2002 Millennium Fellowships

The **Junior Member Electives in International Women's Health** fellowship is to assist residents who would like to pursue elective training in international women's health. The general objectives are to allow interested residents to develop a better understanding of women's health issues and the practice of obstetrics and gynaecology in a developing country. This fellowship grant support is \$5,000.

The **SOGC/APOG Professional Development** fellowship is to support obstetricians/gynaecologists who are currently geographic full-time faculty, and wish to improve their research or increase their clinical surgical expertise through a visit to a centre of recognized excellence in the area of interest. This fellowship grant support is \$5,000.

The **Clinical Professional Development** fellowship is to support members who are currently not geographic full-time faculty, and would like to receive a fellowship enabling them to meet specific learning needs and to better meet the needs of their community. The clinical professional development may involve, but is not restricted to, the acquisition of technical knowledge or skills in the areas of obstetrics/gynaecology, and/or sexual and reproductive health. This fellowship grant support is \$7,500 up to a maximum of \$15,000.

For further details about these great fellowship opportunities, please visit our Website at www.sogc.org or contact:

MillenniumFellowship Coordinator
The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada
780 Echo Drive
Ottawa, Ontario K1S 5R7
Tel: 1-800-561-2416 or 613-730-4192
Fax: 613-730-4314
Web: www.sogc.org

"Deadline extended to February 28, 2002!!!"

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 28, 2002.

It's not too late!
BOOK NOW

15th International CME

Grand & Club Marival Nuevo Vallarta
Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico
March 3 - 7, 2002

Check out our Website for programme updates and watch for the Preliminary Programme in the mail soon.

Carlson Wagonlit Travel (Verdun)
Montreal, QC

ICME line: (514) 287-1144

Toll Free: 1-800-280-9967

Fax: (514) 843-5680

Toll Free: 1-877-426-1100

e-mail: ICME@carlson-vv.com

Website: www.carlson-vv.com/sogc

2002 Annual Clinical Meeting

Marla Landers, CPD Administrative Assistant

Whether you're seeking a break from your practice or simply feel your heartstrings straining West, chances are the SOGC can provide the required fix. Our Annual Clinical Meeting kicks off in Winnipeg June 20th, and offers six days of fun, food and camaraderie in an educational context.

But don't be alarmed by that imposing "educational" bit. Past participants can attest that the ACM Scientific Programme provides a relevant, interactive curriculum on a wide variety of topics related to obstetrics and gynaecology. Especially popular are the post graduate and best practice sessions, which team expert lectures with challenging cases and lively discussions. Subspecialties also play a prominent role in the Scientific Programme – this year's includes sessions on gynaecologic oncology, urogynaecology and REI. Between lectures, participants can browse commercial exhibitors' booths to explore the latest in medical technology.

Additional sessions help to round out the educational picture. The preconference ALARM (Advanced Labour and Risk Management) course is almost fully booked, so reserve a spot now if you'd like to attend. International Women's Health Day, June 20, offers a series of lectures with current perspectives on the global status of women's health. Stump the Professor gives lucky ob/gyn residents the opportunity to challenge their mentors with the carefully constructed case study of their choice. The expert panel must suggest diagnosis, treatment and outcome for the mythical



patient or admit defeat.

June 24th is the popular Abstract Day, a meeting of the minds on no small scale. Over 100 oral, poster and in-progress abstracts vie for the distinction of best in their categories, while allowing physicians to acquaint themselves with their colleagues' latest research.

Once the daily learning quota has been met, conference participants are free to indulge in sightseeing, golf or good old fashioned food and drink. A spectacular array of social activities has been organized, including visits to an art gallery, local nightspots, a bison sanctuary and North America's oldest trading post. A special daytime leisure program has been designed specifically for accompanying spouses, and includes a visit to Winnipeg's French quarter and a water bus tour of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers. The ACM also coincides with the last two days of the Winnipeg Jazz Festival, giving conference participants a chance to take in some of the music world's renowned and up-and-coming talents.

As in years past, the SOGC will also provide a daycare service for the young'uns, with one important difference this year. Rather than cancelling the service should registration be minimal, the SOGC has opted to forgo the minimum requirement and accommodate any number of children, however large or small.

Last but not least, the ACM makes earning Mainpro and CME credits a painless and enlightening experience. If you'd like to pad your portfolio while challenging your mind, attending the ACM is an effective way to accomplish both.

Be sure to take advantage of reduced fees by preregistering for the conference. The preliminary program has been mailed; if you haven't yet received yours, expect to see it soon. For more information on the ACM or any of the SOGC's programs, please visit our Website at www.sogc.org.

**URGENTLY
REQUIRED**

**ATTENTION
ALL MEMBERS:**

The International Women's Health Program is currently seeking the assistance of members who are fluent in Albanian (written, comprehension and spoken). If you are fluent in Albanian, please contact Victoria Howe, International Women's Health Program Assistant, at 613-730-4192 x 236 or via e-mail at vhowe@sogc.com. Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.



The SOGC News is published on a monthly basis. Comments and contributions are welcome and should be forwarded to:

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Tel: (613) 730-4192 or

1-800-561-2416

Fax: (613) 730-4314

E-mail: lbray-levac@sogc.com



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S HEALTH

Mulago Hospital Support the Mothers Fund

Dr. Jan Christilaw, SOGC President and Dr. Florence Mirembe, AOGU President

As you know, the SOGC works closely with the Association of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Uganda (AOGU) with the common goal of reducing maternal morbidity and mortality. Our FIGO Save the Mothers Uganda-Canada project is yielding positive results and our efforts are ongoing. The SOGC is proud to lend its support to the Mulago Hospital Support the Mothers Fund, which was set up by the Department of Ob/Gyn at Makerere University. Its goal is to raise \$ 6,000 US (10 million shillings) for essential equipment on the general labour ward and its theatre.

Half of the targeted amount will be used to buy an emergency supply of drugs, sutures and life support equipment. The stock will be retained for use as back-up when shortages occur, ensuring an uninterrupted supply to the labour ward and theatre. The other half will be spent on linen for the theatre, as present stocks of operating drapes, surgeons' gowns and theatre clothing are in short supply and in poor condition. Operations are frequently delayed or even cancelled due to a shortage of clean and sterile linen.

The nature of obstetrical care in Uganda is such that Mulago Hospital treats mostly complicated patients. Approximately 22,000 deliveries are conducted annually, of which 5,000 are caesarian sections, and about 1,500 women are seen weekly in the antenatal clinic. On average, 2 women with severe pre-eclampsia, 2 with severe post-partum haemorrhage and 1 with septic abortion are seen each day at Mulago. 40 deliveries are conducted daily, of which 10 are caesareans. With this high volume, shortages are all too common.

Please give generously.

Donations

You may forward a cheque to the SOGC, payable to the Canada-Uganda Fund. Charitable donation tax receipts will be issued and the moneys received will be forwarded monthly to the AOGU in Kampala, Uganda.

For more information about this important appeal, please contact: Professor

Florence Mirembe, Head of Ob/Gyn Department at aogu@africaonline.org

THE COST OF SAVING A LIFE...

of a woman with severe pre-eclampsia US\$ 11

of a woman with severe post-partum haemorrhage US\$ 6

of a woman with a septic abortion US\$ 6

by providing a safe delivery US\$ 4

by conducting a caesarean section US\$ 21



Endoscopic Skills Workshop: A Risk Management Program

Programs for 2002

Program designed for specialists who want to improve their surgical knowledge and risk management skills

Upcoming program dates:

Toronto, April 19 & 20

Vancouver, May 24 & 25

Montreal, October 25 & 26
(french)

Toronto, November 22 & 23

Benefits of the Program

- ≍ A two-day hands-on course structured on adult learning principles
- ≍ Basic and complex procedures with surgical approaches
- ≍ A pre-course and post-session test
- ≍ Clinical skill-testing demonstration stations
- ≍ 1 faculty per 2 participants
- ≍ A maximum of 12 participants per course
- ≍ Eligible for CME credits under Sections 1, 3 and 4 of the Continuing Professional Development Framework, under The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada's Maintenance of Certification Program

For more information, please contact Lyne Chrétien at SOGC at (613) 730-4192, or 1-800-561-2416 ext. 248, or visit our Website at www.sogc.org

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www.sogc.org

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

10th Annual Symposium: New Developments in Prenatal Diagnosis and Medical Genetics
 May 15, 2002
 Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto, Ontario
 Credits: MAINPRO-MI, CFPC Maintenance of Certification Program, RCPC Cat. I credits, AMA + CSDMS Information and Registration: Continuing Education, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto
 Tel.: 416-978-2719 / 1-888-512-8173
 Fax: 416-971-2200
 E-mail: ce.med@utoronto.ca
 Website: www.cme.utoronto.ca

11th World Congress on Human Reproduction June 1-4, 2002, Montreal
 Fairmont Queen Elizabeth Hotel, 19 CME credits
 Congress Secretariat:
 687 Pine Ave. West, Room F4.29
 Montreal, QC H3A 1A1
 Tel: 514-843-1729 Fax: 514-843-1673
www.HumanRep2002.com
info@HumanRep2002.com

13th World Congress: International Society for the Study of Hypertension in Pregnancy
 June 2-5, 2002
 Westin Harbour Castle, Toronto
 For Information and Call for Papers:
 Tel: 416-978-2719 Fax: 416-971-2200
 e-mail: kristin.parsonson@utoronto.ca
www.cme.utoronto.ca/PDF/ISSHHP.pdf

MEMBERS' CORNER:

Expanding our Membership Benefit Program

Danielle Bélanger, Membership Coordinator

The SOGC is pleased to advise you that we have entered into an agreement with Johnson Incorporated to provide a Home and Automobile Insurance Plan to our Members. Johnson is a 120-year old Canadian company and a leader in providing voluntary group insurance plans to organizations such as ours.

We are also pleased to announce that Johnson will donate \$20 to SOGC for every member who calls and obtains a free, no-obligation quotation on their home and/or auto insurance. These funds will be used to further the professional goals and development of your Society, to the benefit of all SOGC Members.

We encourage you to support the plan that supports YOUR Society by calling Johnson to test the competitiveness of your current home and/or auto insurance policies.

Watch for the mailing that will be sent to you within the next few weeks.

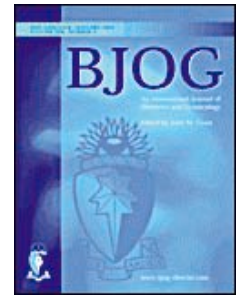
Special Subscription Rate

Leontine Treur

The BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology is the official journal of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. The Journal publishes original, peer reviewed work in all areas of obstetrics and gynaecology, including contraception, uro-gynaecology, fertility, oncology and clinical practice.

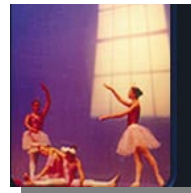
The BJOG is available for members of SOGC at the special rate of only US\$ 118. The regular rates are US\$ 157 for a personal subscription and US\$ 341 for an institutional subscription.

Further information about the BJOG and an online order form can be found at: www.elsevier.com/locate/bjog



Advances in Labour and Risk Management

Come and see the Royal Winnipeg Ballet or the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra or come explore some of the other attractions, including a variety of restaurants that offer international cuisine.
 For more information, visit www.tourism.winnipeg.mb.



Edmonton has many attractions such as the West Edmonton Mall, Odyssey, Fort Edmonton Park, the Water Park as well as galleries, museums, zoos and historical sites.
 For more information, visit www.tourism.ede.org.

Toronto is an ethnically diverse, cosmopolitan city, and is the business centre of Canada. It has wonderful parks, recreational and cultural facilities and is the home of four professional sports teams.
 For more information, visit www.math.toronto.edu.



2002 COURSES

REGINA, SK - February 9-10

VANCOUVER, BC - April 5-6
+ INSTRUCTORS' COURSE
 April 7

MONTREAL, QC - April 20-21

TORONTO, ON - May 3-4

WINNIPEG, MB - June 19-20

EDMONTON, AB - September 28-29

TORONTO, ON - November 17-18

TORONTO, ON - December 8-9



Three SOGC members honoured

Chantal Lacasse, KOALA Programme Coordinator

The inaugural Ted Freedman Award for Innovation in Education in health, health services and health management has been awarded to the KOALA Team, consisting of Drs. Michael Fung Kee Fung, Karen Fung Kee Fung, Mark Walker, Sergio Miguel, Programmer and Chantal Lacasse, Project Coordinator.

This annual national award, made possible by a grant from Agilent Technologies Canada, recognizes those individuals or organizations who inspire, advocate and enable education in healthcare.

The KOALA program provides quick access to recognized cases and published material that can be assembled into an evidence-based self-directed learning program. It has been implemented in universities across the country. The team received the prize on November 4, 2001.

Our sincere congratulations on a job well done!

New Groupwise Platform

Michael Hopkinson, Information Systems Manager



After much planning and anticipation, the SOGC has rolled out our new email platform. The system in use is Novell Groupwise 6 running on Novell NetWare 6.

This great new operating system has allowed us to work more effectively while maintaining communication with our membership. It uses native Internet email addresses and includes a Calendar/Scheduling application as well as the capability to share documents on a worldwide scale. For our members we have also updated the corporate Website www.sogc.com to act as a portal for useful information. There is access to the e-mail system for our internal staff as well as many links to items such as low cost travel www.travelocity.ca, for looking up postal codes www.canadapost.ca, or to find a long lost friend canada411.sympatico.ca. There are links to these and many more items available online today. This site is not affiliated with the SOGCnet which can be found at www.sogc.org it is simply a small portal to timely and useful information.

So check it out today, you may find something quite useful!

Draw

“Travel Destinations”

Lynn Bray-Levac, Translator/Communications Specialist

Don't forget our monthly draw... a forum for SOGC members seeking suggestions on potential travel destinations. You could win \$50! Submit destinations you have visited which fit the following criteria:

Best environment to travel that includes at least two of the following:

- pleasant and comfortable
- affordable
- high cost/benefit ratio
- romantic, once in a lifetime trip
- offers cultural activities
- is family-oriented with activities for children
- conducive to education and learning

Tell us in 150 words or less what makes this destination so special. Send pictures (optional) which we will return to you.

Entries will be received by the SOGC Management Committee who will conduct a draw. The individual who submits the winning entry will be awarded \$50! Winning entries will be announced in the Members' Corner page of the *SOGC News*.

Stay tuned and don't delay... send your submission to: lbray-levac@sogc.com



FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY

C.A.R.E. Fellowship, Queen's University,
Kingston, Ontario
July 1, 2002 (negotiable)
1 year (option for a 2nd year)

Salaried position as Clinical Fellow & Associate Staff in the Dept. of OB/GYN

Clinical activities will involve:

- 1) specially structured clinics for challenging contraceptive cases,
- 2) clinics dealing with management of contraceptive failure and/or STIs,
- 3) ORs for provision of surgical sterilization,
- 4) a multidisciplinary Adolescent Obstetrics Clinic (optional),
- 5) teaching rounds and visiting professorships in this area - i.e. launch an academic career.

Opportunity will exist to further develop expertise in pediatric & adolescent gynaecology. Academic & scholarly work will focus on clinical research as it pertains to family planning and the development of innovative educational programs for patients, parents and physicians such as the Internet-based "Contraceptive FAQ Hotline" for physician queries and content for the recently launched www.sexualityandu.ca Website, both in conjunction with the SOGC and the National Contraception Awareness Program.

For further information or to submit an application, contact Dr. Mary Anne Jamieson (maj3@post.queensu.ca) or Dr. Robert Reid (reidr@post.queensu.ca). Candidate selection will likely conclude by March 1, 2002.

SOGC JUNIOR MEMBER NEWS



Message from the Chair

Dr. Kevin Wiebe



Happy New Year from Saskatchewan. The Junior Member Committee is excited to join the SOGC News with a section of the monthly newsletter. We hope to contribute to the newsletter with resident news and articles for everyone to enjoy.

The Junior Member Committee met in Toronto at the Ontario CME in December. There was representation from ten programs across the country. Our meeting was long but fun and there was participation and interaction from everyone present. It was great to see everyone get involved in various committees and contribute to projects which will make our specialty and residency better.

At the meeting we welcomed Dr. Jean-Pierre Gennaoui as Vice-Chair of the Junior Member Committee. He will also be contributing to this newsletter. I am looking forward to working with him more this year.

Junior member projects include promotion of the specialty, specifically career nights at individual universities as well as a medical student symposium at the ACM in Winnipeg. The professors are set for Stump the Professor at the ACM and the cases are about to be reviewed. We are also in the process of updating the catalogue for fellowship opportunities in Canada. We are excited about the many elective grants available to any junior member. More information is available at the SOGC website.

With the assistance of Dr. Milne, junior member representation can now be found on various committees including the sub-specialty committees, International Women's Health Committee, and the ALARM Committee. We look forward to working with other committee members within these areas.

This is the time of year for medical student interviews and choices regarding residency spots. The preliminary applicant numbers are promising and we will have to see how things work out. It is exciting and good to see a little resurgence of interest in our specialty. Perhaps some of the attitude changes and smiles from all of us have made a difference already.

For now, take care, keep warm and remember those New Year's resolutions.

Junior Member University Corner

Dr. Melody Rajasingham, McMaster University

Happy New Year to one and all,

As we venture forth into the second year of the 21st century, new changes have swept across the face of McMaster University. Dr. A.M. Chen and Dr. C. Sciarra have opened a new practice and swiftly made the transition from resident to staff. On the MFM front we welcome Dr. V. Mueller, our new fellow and Dr. B. DeFrance & Dr. S. Winsor, our new staff members. We wish all the best to our departing perinatologist, Dr. John Smith and his family as they start a new life in U.A.E.

On the maternal front, we wish belated congratulations to Dr. K. Rogers and Dr. S. Causey on their respective bundles of joy. On the resident front, we welcome Dr. D. Campeau and Dr. G. Zevallos to the McMaster residency program. Sadly we bid farewell to Dr. E. Raymond as she moves to Toronto for the completion her training.

Braving post-September 11th travel conditions, Dr. D. Pascali returned safely from Zimbabwe. We look forward to reading about his experiences as a bush doctor in a forthcoming fellowship report. Dr. L. Elit also recently travelled to the Roof of the world and the land of Genghis Khan. She recounted many touching and terrifying tales of the Far East in a recent rounds presentation.

Several new enterprises launched in the past year include Dr. R. Cepeda's Hamilton Assisted Reproductive Technologies center and Dr. A. Cullimore's menopause clinic. In addition, our REI department is preparing to move off site to a new home. Our fearless leader, Dr. R. Kalbfleisch has also initiated a new evaluation system for the residency program. Both the evaluation forms as well as the logbook run on the palm OS. As with all things new, it is experiencing the usual growing pains.

Hamilton's Royal Botanical Gardens were also host to the 3rd annual International Women's Health day. This year's focus was on women's rights with a range of dynamic speakers from Kowser Omer-Hashi on female genital mutilation, to Dr. S. Nutt, founder of War Child Canada. Thanks to the I.W.H. Planning Committee for a great day.

Finally, congratulations to Dr. G. Hunter on receiving the top prize at R.T. Weaver Day, the annual day of resident's research. His presentation titled Scar Trek was a study in a women's decision-making process in choosing to undergo a trial of VBAC. We looked forward to seeing similar research projects going forth where no resident has gone before.

For or Against?

Dr. Jean-Pierre Gennaoui, Junior Member Vice-Chair, Laval University

What event brought together more ob/gyn residents in Canada in 2001? The SOGC ACM in Newfoundland? The Royal College exams? No! It was the 11th Québec Inter-University Debate! What exactly is an inter-university debate, you ask?

It is a unique opportunity for residents of Québec's four universities (McGill, Montréal, Sherbrooke and Laval) to network, have a bit of fun and fiercely debate various controversies in obstetrics & gynaecology.

Usually, two R4s from each university are asked to prepare a 15-20 min. presentation. One team must present the position IN FAVOUR of a given subject, while the other team must defend the AGAINST position. Following the presentations, participants must answer questions from the audience. Then, a jury chooses a winner for each debate, who receives a prize compliments of a pharmaceutical company.

This year, the event was held in Montréal and for the first time, there were three

debates. In fact, teams from Dalhousie University (Nova Scotia) and Memorial U (Newfoundland) had been invited to take part.

Opposing teams and debated subjects were as follows:

Montréal vs Dalhousie: *For or Against VBAC*

Laval vs McGill: *For or Against the use of HPV typing in evaluating cervical dysplasias*


Sherbrooke vs Memorial: *For or Against continuous use of oral contraceptives*

This event has been a tradition for over 10 years. Next year, it will take place in Sherbrooke. We are already looking forward to it!

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FALL 2001 RESEARCH GRANT RECIPIENTS

2001



Robyn Harris, Executive Director

At a presentation during the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada annual Ontario Continuing Medical Education Meeting, the Foundation was proud to award \$215,478 to eight Canadian researchers.

The eight recipients are from across the country and the results of their research projects will make significant contributions to women's health from birth to post-menopause. Congratulations to each of you!

Dr. Wee-Shian Chan from Women's College Campus at Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Sciences Centre in Toronto received \$40,000 for a study entitled, *PENCIL: Pediatric Neuro-development Following In-Utero Exposure to Labetolol*. From this study, the researchers hope to provide clinically important information regarding the treatment of hypertension for expectant mothers.

Dr. Colin Donald MacCalman, Associate Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of British Columbia received \$35,439 for a new study into the effect of cellular mechanisms underlying the development and/or progression of ovarian cancer. The study is a collaborative effort between the Department of Pathology and the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of British Columbia.

Another researcher at the University of British Columbia, Dr. Catherine Allaire, Clinical Assistant Professor in the Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility, was awarded \$30,734. Dr. Allaire will evaluate the effectiveness of a levonorgestrel-releasing intrauterine device for the treatment of pelvic pain in patients with endometriosis.

A team of Canadian researchers have partnered with researchers in Ghana to improve the management of obstetrical care in developing countries. \$26,445 was awarded to Dr. Robert Walley from the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Memorial University of Newfoundland to complete the second phase of a four-phased evaluation of Misoprostol for

the management of the third stage of labour. Other investigators include Dr. J. Crane and Mrs. D. Hutchens in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Professor Kay Matthews from the School of Nursing and Dr. J. Wilson and Mrs. E. Sawyer from the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology University of Ghana Medical School in Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital, Accra, Ghana.

Dr. Frances V. Abbott, Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at McGill University, received \$34,062 for a project entitled *Somatosensory Sensitivity and Psychological Function in Women Suffering from Headache*. This study includes a group of experts in pain measurement and assessment, mood disorders, endocrinology and histochemistry, all of which play a role in the research project.

A PhD student in the Department of Psychology at McGill University, Sandra Jittler, was awarded \$23,418 to explore the relationship between estrogen, chronic stress and cognitive ability in postmenopausal women. The researcher believes that estrogen may benefit chronically stressed elderly women who are vulnerable to a greater number of cognitive health complaints.

Dr. Dan Grisaru, principal investigator of a multi-centre, multidisciplinary team of experts, received \$15,520 to study the molecular predictors for recurrence of IA2-IBI/2 cervical cancer after radical surgery. The research team include researchers from



Pictured here with Lynn Krepart are Terry Davidson of Wyeth-Ayerst Canada Inc., Keith Aiken of Janssen-Ortho Inc., Nora Madian of Pharmacia Canada Inc., and Jean-Robert Marcotte of Berlex Canada Inc. Missing is Robin Jinchereau of Organon Canada Ltd.

the Division of Gynaecological Oncology and the Departments of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Medical Oncology and Pathology at the University of Toronto as well as from the Centre for Cancer Therapeutics at the University of Ottawa.

Dr. Rachel Kupets, from the Division of Gynaecologic Oncology from the Toronto Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre, received \$9,860 to establish whether the proven efficacy of COX-2 inhibitors in the regression of colonic adenomas in patients with familial polyposis is clinically relevant in the eradication of vulvar intra-epithelial neoplasia.



Accepting their awards from Foundation President Lynn Krepart are Dr. Rachel Kupets, Dr. Wee-Shian Chan, and accepting on behalf of Dr. Dan Grisaru is his colleague Dr. Amit Oza.

NOTICE

The Canadian Foundation for Women's Health and Duchesnay Inc. announce their joint decision not to proceed with the organization of the recently announced Chair for Better Pharmacotherapy During Pregnancy and Lactation. This regrettable decision, resulting from an inability to agree on the long-term scope of the initiative, was taken amicably by both partners, who will continue to work together on other initiatives.

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