

**PACIFIC COAST OBSTETRICAL AND GYNECOLOGICAL SOCIETY
INTERIM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WESTIN SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT
SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2009**

ATTENDANCE

Board of Directors

Jodell Boyle, Member at Large
Andrew Combs, San Francisco Caucus
Jack Enbom, Secretary Treasurer
Martha Goetsch, Portland Caucus
J. Bill Parer, President Elect
Robert Prins, Assistant Secretary
Lyman Rust, President
Jerry Shefren, Past President

Invited Guests

Kathleen Bradley, Los Angeles Caucus (attending for Art Segal)
Dean Coonrod, Program Chairman 2009
Robert Israel, Industry Liaison
Michael Kettel, Arrangements Chairman 2009
Russell Laros, Arrangements Chairman 2010
Phil Patton, Ed. Scientific Proceedings (attending for Linda Eckert)
Dena Towner, Program Chairman 2010 & ACOG CME 2009

Absent with Notice to the Board

Robin Cole, Seattle Caucus
Linda Eckert, Ed. Scientific Proceedings
Marilyn Laughead, San Diego/Arizona Caucus

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Lyman Rust. Dr. Rust thanked the members present for their attendance and willingness to volunteer their time and efforts on behalf of the members of the Pacific Coast Obstetrical and Gynecological Society (PCOGS).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes contained in the Interim Board of Directors book included the March 1, 2008 Interim Board Meeting, the First Business Meeting, October 16, 2008, and Second Business Meeting, October 18, 2008, and the Second Board of Directors Meeting, October 18, 2008. The October 15, 2008 First Board of Directors Meeting minutes were not distributed with the meeting packet and will be sent out for approval following this meeting. (The minutes were sent via email March 12, 2009 with no corrections or additions were received)

A typographical error was noted on page 10 of the March 1, 2008 Interim Board minutes regarding Article IV, Section 2 and Article IV, Section 3 references. **This should refer to Bylaws Article VI rather than Article IV.** The First and Second Business Meeting and Second Board of Directors Meeting minutes were approved as distributed and corrected.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

The seventy-fifth annual meeting of the Society was held at the Fairmont Empress in Victoria, B.C., Canada, with the Seattle Caucus as host. Bob & Beth Prins and their arrangements committee provided an excellent social program and local arrangements. Kirk Shy and his program committee produced an outstanding scientific program. There were 17 scientific papers presented by Fellows and Society guests. A panel discussion was led by Kelly Freyer-Edwards, PhD and Attorney Thomas Fain on "Shared Decision Making and Informed Consent". Dr. Linda Eckert gave a 45 minute presentation on Ob/Gyn's as vaccinators. Dr. Christina Jahncke, a resident from UCSF, was given the opportunity to give an oral presentation on a randomized trial of sublingual versus vaginal misoprostol for medical treatment of early pregnancy failure and Anjali Kaimal, last year's Frank Lynch Memorial Essayist, presented "Cost-Effectiveness of Antenatal Steroids for Preterm Labor at 34 Weeks". Poster presentations were presented by seven residents/fellows, which made up the Ted Adams Scholarship poster presentations. Two Society Fellows also presented posters. Tania Esakoff, San Francisco, was awarded the Charles Kimball Poster Award. The Frank Lynch Memorial Essay, "Manual rotation versus expectant management in persistent occiput posterior or transverse position", was presented by Brian Shaffer, San Francisco, California. Registration fees were \$585 for Fellows and Guests and \$375 for companions generating an income of \$98,630. Robert Israel out did himself receiving \$75,500 for educational support from 23 grants! We should have a positive balance of over \$30,000 from the Victoria meeting. Our ACOG Joint Partnership Program (CME) billing was \$3,725 for the 2008 meeting which includes the \$500 application fee paid to ACOG in the spring of 2008.

The Society 2008 year end net worth was \$492,769 which included credit card payments of \$1,900 made through the website in late 2008 for 2009 Dues and Memorial Fund payments. Other checks for 2009 payments were held for deposit on January 2, 2009. Please refer to the following financial statements and information for historical details enclosed in the agenda book. Our financial reserves are currently held in a CD (\$100,000) and Treas. Note (\$102,389 @ maturity) through the Bank of America and two CDs in the Washington Federal Savings (\$100,000 & \$125,000) and just over \$63,000 in B of A Business Checking and Maximizer Savings Account. The FDIC limits are currently at \$250,000 through temporary emergency legislation.

With market dynamics the Memorial Funds suffered significant set backs with the year end total of \$244,151, down \$55,530 or 18.5%. Individual

accounts were as follows: Adams \$165,960 (down \$37,737), Lynch \$43,623 (down \$9,899), and Kimball \$34,567 (down \$7,893). Members were generous in 2008 with donations totaling \$9,825 to the scholarship funds. Forty-four members honored 20 members with contributions to the following funds: Ted Adams (\$4233), Frank Lynch (\$2,970.50), and Charles Kimball (\$2,621.50). The 2008 scholarships (Frank Lynch, 7 Ted Adams, and Charles Kimball) were paid out of general funds for total awards of \$16,129 which also reflected non-traditional charges against the Victoria budget. Due to market conditions the board made similar decisions in 2004 and 2005. To date members have contributed \$5,175 to the 2009 Memorial Funds. Our Memorial Fund continues to be deposited with and invested by the California Medical Association Foundation through Smith Barney/Citigroup Global Markets, Inc. The travel costs for the scholarship awards continue to increase. Victoria was a more expensive air travel destination and hopefully connections and travel to San Diego will be less expensive. We should be able to host the Frank Lynch and 5 or 6 Ted Adams awards at the 2009 La Jolla meeting.

Eight 2008 Society Guests who presented in Victoria received favorable membership votes: Richard Ellsworth (LA), Shaun Grady (LA), Katherine Gregory (SF), Jan Lanouette (SF), Catherine LeClair (Portland), Frederica Lofquist (SF), Jamie McGregor (LA), and Keith Ogasawara (SF). Our current membership is now 277 with 196 Fellows, 71 Retired Fellows, 8 Non-Resident Fellows, and 2 Honorary Fellows. One Fellow, Edith Cheng (Seattle), failed to respond to multiple billings for 2008 dues and requests for information regarding her status and was dropped from the Society registration per our Bylaws on January 1, 2009. The Secretary has not been notified of any other changes in status or deaths since the last board meeting.

Plans for the September 30-October 4, 2009 La Jolla Hilton at Torrey Pines are taking shape under the leadership of Michael and Faith Kettel and the SD/AZ Caucus. Russell Laros will serve as the SF Arrangements Chairman for the 2010 Meeting at the Hapuna Prince Hotel, Kohala Coast, Hawaii September 29-October 3, 2010. Michael Collins has accepted the arrangements position for the Portland Caucus. A contract has been signed with the Sunriver Resort, Sunriver, Oregon for September 14-18, 2011.

Our membership continues to grow and with the significant support of educational grants and income from reserve funds we have a reserve of approximately 2 to 2.5 times anticipated annual costs for the near future. Reserve income will be lower secondary to economic factors and interest rates in 2009 and it will be interesting to see industry's response to requests for educational grants in 2009 and future years. Regardless our organization has a very sound financial base and with any reasonable support from industry and improvement in reserve income we should be able to sustain our activities and mission without significant increases in dues or registrations costs while maintaining adequate reserves.

Secretary Enbom gave an update on Linda Hinrichsen, Society Administrator. Linda's hourly reimbursement was increased in 2006 to \$24.00/hour and in March 2008 was increased to \$25.20/hour. Linda will be invited as a Guest of the Board of Directors to the Annual Scientific Meeting every other year. She attended the 2008 Victoria meeting and the First Board of Directors Meeting and will be invited to Hawaii in 2010. Linda's work for PCOGS is excellent and greatly appreciated by all! Considering how essential her work is for the Society and to allow the Board of Directors and the Program Committee to better understand the administrative actions that are carried out during the year by our Society Administrator the Board recommends that a copy of the protocols and annual schedules maintained by the Society Administrator be included in the Interim Board of Directors Agenda/Board Book each year and to be available on request through the Secretary/Treasurer.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Transactions of the Society:

Transactions from 2001 through 2006 are completed and posted on the PCOGS Website. Our Society Administrator, Linda Hinrichsen is currently finalizing the 2007 and hopefully will be completed by June 2009.

Website:

Website is functioning well. Modifications have been made to allow registration, dues payment and charitable giving by credit card. Many members are currently taking advantage of this option. The current registration page awaits decisions made at the March Board Meeting with regards to the meeting charge but otherwise is up to date.

The membership application form along with an overview of PCOGS history are now included on the site under Membership.

All meeting minutes of the Society and each of its caucuses are current and posted on the Website.

The section "Instructions for Authors" has undergone several revisions and is currently up to date for the 2009 meeting.

The By-Laws have been updated with amendments from the Victoria Meeting.

Portland Caucus Meeting of 2011 awaits decisions at March Board Meeting before posting on the site.

All new members of the Society are now included on the site and logins and passwords distributed.

Your Assistant Secretary continues to post information on the Bulletin Board, though no one but he has taken advantage of this function to date.

Information about the La Jolla meeting will soon be posted under Society News. Travel to the meeting, venues, sporting activities and restaurants will be covered in detail with phone numbers, websites and email addresses provided.

The Assistant Secretary will also work with the Website hosts and the Secretary to implement a PCOGS Guest logon, registration and credit card charge system through the PCOGS.org site.

Newsletters:

Spring, Winter and Personal Newsletters have all been sent by Snail Mail as well as currently posted on the PCOGS Web site.

Many thanks are given to Linda Hinrichsen, Society Administrator, for all of her help this year.

Application for Membership, Caucus Guest Application

A Board discussion of the membership application process followed. There was concern that applicants are sometimes inadequately informed about PCOGS, our mission, and our process for membership. The Board approved a motion with second to add the Goetsch PCOGS Information/History to the Application Form given out to each applicant. It was also noted that the order of pages for the Enbom and Goetsch histories is incorrect in the 2009 Interim Board Meeting Agenda/Board Book (pages 15-19 of Agenda/Board book). Linda Hinrichsen will send the correct histories to the members attending the meeting.

REPORT OF EDITOR OF SCIENTIFIC PROCEEDINGS

The following report was submitted by Phil Patton:

Dr. Patton stepped in as the Editor of Scientific Proceedings for the period of January 01, 2009 to August 31, 2009, while Dr. Eckert is on a sabbatical.

18 manuscripts are submitted to the American Journal of **Obstetrics & Gynecology** of which:

- 10 are Fellow
- 3 are Society Guest
- 5 are Resident, which includes the Frank Lynch Memorial Prize Essay by **Dr. Brian Shaffer, San Francisco.**

Per Sandra Perrine, AJOG Managing Editor:

CAUCUS	ACCEPTED for Publication			DECLINED for Publication			OTHER INFORMATION
	F	SG	R	F	SG	R	
Los Angeles	1			1			* Esakoff TF et al. 1 SG, Los Angeles, 2-presentations (1-oral, 1 poster) Oral not completed, deleted. Poster – presented? 1 SG, San Francisco, withdrew. <i>Not known is did the following elect to submit to another journal instead of AJOG, or not at all:</i> Los Angeles – 2 SG; 2 R ♦ Portland – 1 F ♦ San Francisco – 1 F; 2 SG ♦ Seattle – 1 F; 1 R
Portland	1				1		
San Diego/Arizona	1			1			
San Francisco	1	1	1*	2	1	3	
Seattle	2					1	

“EDITORS’ CHOICE”

Initiated in 2002, denotes a key article(s) that will appear in the issue of the American Journal of **Obstetrics & Gynecology** devoted to the proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the PCOGS. The **Commentary** is written by the Editor of Scientific Proceedings for each manuscript recommended for this designation and sent to the AJOG Editor for a final decision.

Dr. Patton and others reviewed the manuscripts accepted for publication and the following was recommended for Editors’ Choice:

The association between birthweight \geq 4000 grams and perinatal outcomes in patients with and without gestational diabetes mellitus.
 Tania F. ESAKOFF,¹ MD; Yvonne W. CHENG,¹ MD, MPH; Teresa N SPARKS,¹;
 Aaron B. CAUGHEY,¹ MD, PhD

Commentary:
 Considerable data exists that macrosomia is associated with adverse perinatal outcomes. What is less clear is whether these risks are modified by the presence of other risk factors. In this retrospective cohort study of over 36,000 singleton pregnancies, the analysis indicates that not only does a birthweight of > 4,000 gm increase the risk of perinatal morbidity, but that the risk is further increased in a setting of gestational diabetes. These results confirm previous suspicions of an increased risk of fetal morbidity in complicated pregnancies and serves as a resource to practicing obstetricians, and neonatologist.

PEP

Previous Editors’ Choice articles:

- **2007 Annual Meeting** -- NONE
- **2006 Annual Meeting – Gavin Jacobson.** Changes in rates of hysterectomy and uterine conserving procedures for treatment of uterine leiomyoma. Am J Obstet Gynecol 2007;196:601.e1-601.e6.
- **2005 Annual Meeting – Elliott K. Main.** Is there a useful cesarean birth measure? Assessment of the nulliparous term singleton vertex (NTSV) cesarean birth (CB) rate as a tool for obstetric quality

improvement. Am J Obstet Gynecol 2006;194:1644-51; discussion 1651-2.

- **2004 Annual Meeting – Emmett F. Branigan.** Use of micro-dose human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG) after clomiphene citrate (CC) to complete folliculogenesis in previous CC-resistant anovulation. Am J Obstet Gynecol 2005;192:1890-4; discussion 1894-6.
- **2003 Annual Meeting – John A. Enbom.** A follow-up evaluation of sexual misconduct complaints: the Oregon Board of Medical Examiners, 1998 through 2002. Am J Obstet Gynecol 2004;190:1642-50; discussion 1650-3.
- **2002 Annual Meeting – Emmett F. Branigan.** A randomized clinical trial of treatment of clomiphene citrate-resistant anovulation with the use of oral contraceptive pill suppression and repeat clomiphene citrate treatment. Am J Obstet Gynecol 2003;188:1424-8; discussion 1429-30.

MEETING TRANSACTIONS

Taken from the Minutes of the American Journal of **Obstetrics and Gynecology** Advisory Committee on Policy Meeting, May 2008: **INITIATIVE** - "Discussions and closing statements will no longer be published by AJOG".

PEER REVIEWERS

Taken from the Minutes of the American Journal of **Obstetrics and Gynecology** Advisory Committee on Policy Meeting, May 2008: **INITIATIVE** - "All society papers are to be reviewed by at least two AJOG appointed reviewers, and a third reviewer may be selected by the Society if they choose to do so".

The names of individuals who peer review that year's manuscripts will appear in the Annual Consultants Listing in the American Journal of **Obstetrics & Gynecology**.

"SOCIETY INFORMATION PAGE"

Its appearance precedes the Society's published papers and consists of the following:

- The Society's LOGO
- The Society's contact information and website address
- The date and location of the next year's Annual Meeting
- The Society's officers

Each year, Linda Hinrichsen is asked to scan the next year's Society's letterhead and send electronically to Sandy Perrine so that the "Society Information Page" can be updated.



NO CHANGES IN THE FOLLOWING:

- Authors submit their manuscript and other required documents directly to the Journal electronically via <http://ees.elsevier.com/ajog> and assign the article type as: **PCOG**. Authors are to also provide their manuscript to the Editor of Scientific Proceedings electronically.
- Authors must understand that the AJOG Editor cannot proceed unless all required documents are submitted.
- If authors have any questions regarding the online manuscript submission process, they can e-mail or phone Sandra Perrine at perrine@ajog.phxcoxmail.com or (480) 812-9261.
- A Formal Discussant will receive the manuscript via the Editor of Scientific Proceedings.
- **Deadlines per the Journal's Editorial Office:**
 - September 15 – ALL manuscript submissions to the Journal
 - October 15 – Manuscript peer review completion.
 - January 01 (of the New Year) – Accepted/revise manuscript submissions to the Journal.
 - February 01 (of the New Year) – AJOG submission of manuscripts to the Publisher.
- **Manuscript Pre-review, OPTIONAL**

Fellows & Society Guests: The competition for publication in the American Journal of **Obstetrics & Gynecology** is intense; thus, the Editor of Scientific Proceedings and Chair of the Program Committee continue to offer this. The pre-review process should denote any recommended revisions before the author submits their manuscript to the Journal; thus, a more favorable journal review. Only if an author requests a pre-review when forwarding their manuscript to the Editor of Scientific Proceedings, will it be done.

NEW:

- Per Dr. Eckert, a question was raised: Can authors submit to journals other than the American Journal of **Obstetrics & Gynecology**? The answer: Yes.



PCOGS MENTORSHIP GUIDELINES (02/14/2007, Paul Kaplan)

Introduction

The role of the PCOGS mentor is a vital position in the recruitment of new members to our society. Many of our invited guests have not had extensive experience with the authorship process, and will require your help in designing and conducting their research, writing their abstract and manuscript, preparing their PowerPoint presentation, and meeting the PCOGS and AJOG submission deadlines.

Duties of the PCOGS Mentor

Once you have volunteered to become a mentor for an assigned guest, your name will be given to the Program Chair and Recording Secretary. You

will receive a copy of all email communications with your mentee. You should introduce yourself as an assigned mentor and discuss your role with your guest at an early stage in the process. You should review your mentee's research project and help them with ideas and timelines. You may suggest other experts in their research field or consultants for data analysis and statistics expertise. Some mentees will require assistance with writing and/or editing their abstracts (both initial and final) and almost all will benefit from your review of their manuscript. We recommend that you contact your mentee several weeks before each deadline (listed below) to make sure that they are on track at each step. All authors are required to submit a manuscript (regardless of their desire for AJOG submission) for review by their formal discussant.

Time Table for PCOGS Mentor Activities:

1. ***Fall-Winter Caucus Meeting:***
Nomination of Caucus Guests.
2. ***Annual Meeting of Caucus:***
Discussion of Caucus Guests attending Annual Meeting and assignment of mentors (with mentor's approval) for prospective Society Guests by Caucus Chair.
3. ***At Annual Meeting or shortly thereafter:***
Mentor meets with prospective Society Guest to discuss guidelines for research project including topic, protocol, IRB requirements, data collection and analysis, abstract preparation, manuscript requirements, and PowerPoint presentation.
4. ***Initial Abstract Due:*** January _____
5. ***Final Abstract Due:*** May _____
6. ***Manuscript Due:*** July _____



The following is taken from the Minutes of the American Journal of **Obstetrics and Gynecology** Advisory Committee on Policy Meeting, May 2008, which Dr. Gamberdella attended as a substitute for the Editor of Scientific Proceedings:

- ***INITIATIVE:*** The expected acceptance rate of all society papers is to be 25-29%.
- ***INITIATIVE:*** The same criteria utilized for non-society papers with regard to acceptance/rejection will be applied to society papers.
- ***INITIATIVE:*** Papers resulting from poster presentation at annual society meetings are to be acknowledged with a footnote.
- ***REMAINING A PRIORITY:*** A signature card from each society member needs to be obtained for postage purposes. Mrs. Pamela Poppalardo (Elsevier) will ensure that each society receives the required signature card for distribution.

- It was reported that formal, floor discussion and closing statements have negatively affected the impact factor of AJOG; each is counted as a separate article in the impact factor calculations.
- Dr. Kim reassured that AJOG would work closely with societies, and welcomed feedback from all societies on how to improve the quality of society papers for publication.
- In 2007, AJOG was the most highly cited journal amongst all OB-GYN journals.
- Circulation of the Journal has increased by 5,000.
- In a recent survey of AJOG readers, authors and reviewers, conducted by an outside firm:
 - New journal format was either very acceptable or acceptable amongst 85% of readers.
 - On a scale of 1-5, readers' interest in society articles ranged from 2.5-3.7, depending on the society.
- 2007 stats:
 - Number of papers submitted to AJOG continues to increase.
 - Society papers: Average acceptance rate averages 51% (ranging from 23-79% per society).
 - Non-society papers: Average acceptance rate is 29%.

Of all original research articles published in 2007, 54% non-society; 46% society

Following the presentation of the report by Dr. Patton a discussion followed regarding oral presentations at the Annual Meeting and submission for publication. With many of our members in subspecialties it is increasingly likely that future presentations will be better suited for other journals while many will still prefer to submit their manuscripts to the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology. If manuscripts are submitted to other journals they should not be published before the PCOGS presentation. It is recommended that a statement be added to the authors stating that if their manuscript has been or will be submitted to an alternative journal it will not be published before the oral presentation at the PCOGS Scientific Meeting.

Manuscript production and publication were also discussed during the following agenda item.

(a) Task Force: Manuscript Preparation and Publication

A historical review of the Task Force and related discussions were presented to the Board by Secretary Enbom and is available in **Attachment A** following the minutes.

Following the presentation of the historical summary a discussion followed including: requirements for membership, manuscript preparation and submission, how to define original work or original publication (are some journals not considered national or "official" publications?), original oral presentation and acceptable alternative venues for oral presentation of

material subsequently presented at a PCOGS Annual Scientific Meeting. It was stated that most journals, including the American Journal of Ob Gyn (AJOG), have their own guidelines and requirements for use of materials from submitted manuscripts. Submission to and publication in other journals is acceptable and should be encouraged but the members present didn't consider editorial review to be the responsibility of the Program Committee or Editor of Scientific Proceedings for manuscripts submitted to journals other than the AJOG.

The matters discussed above are considered very important to the Board and the Society. A motion with second was approved to continue the Ad Hoc Committee process with the following title change, Ad Hoc Committee on Guidelines for Presentation and Manuscript Publication with the following Members: Phil Patton (Chair), Kathleen Bradley, Linda Eckert, Dean Coonrod, David Lagrew.

Martha Goetsch stated that she has a manuscript in production that she plans to submit to the AJOG and present at the 2009 PCOGS Annual Scientific Meeting. Martha has also been invited to present the material at a European meeting of a national society devoted to vulvar disorders a week before the fall PCOGS meeting. During the discussion it appeared that the material presented was extremely unlikely to be presented to physicians attending our annual meeting or conflict with subsequent presentation or publication. A motion with second was passed recommending the inclusion of Martha Goetsch's paper in the 2009 PCOGS program and submission to the AJOG.

REPORT OF INDUSTRY LIAISON

The Industry Liaison Report was presented in two parts, the first by Secretary Enbom and the second by Bob Israel. Secretary Enbom reported on a November 2008 meeting held at ACOG, Washington, D.C., with Sterling Williams, MD, and Christina Brooks. Dr. Williams is in charge of ACOG Education and Christina Brooks works with the CME certification and ACOG Joint Partnership Program. All Educational Grants awarded to PCOGS must have a signed Letter of Agreement (LOA) with signature from the industry contributor, PCOGS Treasurer or Industry Liaison, and finally Sterling Williams, MD, at ACOG. ACOG is extremely strict about the process now and will not certify the meeting CME until all requirements have been met. Dr. Williams also indicated that PCOGS must separate educational grants from exhibitor fees. ACOG has set guidelines for exhibitor fees. \$1300 is recommended for our meeting attendance. The meeting was very helpful and since meeting with Dr. Williams and Christina the secretary has had much better interaction and communication with ACOG.

PCOGS just finished the 2007 LOA signatures in the late fall of 2008 and received our 2007 CME certification and meeting data submitted following ACOG analysis. We have now one outstanding grant from 2008, Ferring,

which is a problem. The 2008 Ferring grant was submitted by a regional representative and was paid from Ferring's marketing and sales department rather than from the division that awards educational grants. Secretary-Treasurer Enbom and Chairman of Industry Liaison Israel were not aware that the funds were from marketing and sales and not identified as such on the Ferring check received. The Society's request for Ferring's signature on the 2008 LOA was refused by their legal and educational grant departments. Ferring is in the process of bringing their educational grant process in line with current requirements and guidelines and are in the process of reorganization within the company. The grant was fortunately only \$1,000. The Secretary-Treasurer has sent a letter to Sterling Williams, MD, asking for guidance. It may be necessary to refund the 2008 Ferring money.

ACOG now also requests a copy of PCOGS's guidelines for commercial support and honoraria with our application for CME certification. A draft is presented by Secretary Enbom, *Program Committee Guidelines: Commercial Support and Honoraria for Speakers at Annual Scientific Meetings*.

A motion with second to adopt the guidelines was passed (see Attachment B following minutes)

Bob Israel reported that there have been significant changes in the pharmaceutical industry. He has submitted over 45 requests and to date we have received a \$5,000 educational grant and a \$1,300 exhibitor fee with another \$6,300 in educational grants promised. Several rejections have been received from companies that have historically supported PCOGS and there have been mergers and acquisitions as well.

Dr. Israel indicated that he will continue in this position for the foreseeable future but would like to work with additional members to learn the process as well as provide help. Kathleen Bradley offered to work with Bob Israel.

The Board commended Bob Israel for his devotion to PCOGS and long standing support through his work with industry in support of our Annual Scientific Meetings.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Program Committee

Dean Coonrod outlined the current Program. No abstract has been received from Dan Veljovich, Fellow, and that paper has been removed from the program. Typically the Society has 22-23 papers presented at the Annual Meeting. Currently there are 26 presentations as well as the Frank Lynch Memorial Essayist and a presentation by Ted Quilligan on Maternal Fetal Medicine Past Present and Future. If all 26 presentations remain on the program 9 will be give a 20 minute presentation assignment (10 min.

presentation, 5 minute formal discussion, and 5 minute informal discussion) and 16 will be assigned a traditional 30 minute presentation time assignments (15 min., 5 min., & 5 min.). Time adjustments, presentations by society members, panel discussions or debates could also be utilized if an unexpected void/s should occur. Bill Parer suggested subjects for debates such as use of MgSO₄ or ultrasound and Anita Nelson has offered to give a discussion on the California Task Force on Cervical Cancer and HPV Prevention.

As per our discussions at the 2008 Annual Meeting the format will be changed to the following: presentation, formal discussion, answers to formal discussant followed by informal discussion. The questions raised by the informal discussants will be answered after each is asked.

The funds supporting the 2008 Ted Adams (7) and Frank Lynch Memorial Essayist were paid out of general operating funds rather than from the Memorial Funds due to the substantial drop on the net worth of our Memorial Funds in late 2008. It is likely that in 2009 the same market issues will be present.

The following two part motion with second was approved: (a) the number of Ted Adams scholarships will be determined by the Program Committee in coordination with the Secretary-Treasurer and (b) the 2009 scholarships will be paid out of PCOGS general operating funds if the Memorial funds remain depressed by 2009 market factors.

Past President Shefren also suggested that the Secretary-Treasurer ask the California Medical Association Foundation if there is a possibility of deferring a request for funds for scholarship support to a future year when the Memorial Funds have improved.

The ACOG CME application form will be submitted by Dena Towner.

In 2008 an honorarium was paid to Ralph Hale, Exec. VP, ACOG, for his special presentation. Dr. Hale is a Non-Resident Fellow of the Society. Dr. Quilligan, a Retired Fellow, is scheduled to present at the 2009 Annual Meeting and has been offered an honorarium, room, and registration. Dr. Quilligan has indicated that the honorarium is not essential and would be willing to contribute it to the Memorial Funds. A request will be made by Secretary Enbom to ask Dr. Quilligan to defer the honorarium if he is willing as we anticipate paying for the Memorial scholarships out of operating capital this year anyway.

The members present discussed the concept of payment of honoraria to members of the Society. Following the discussion the following motion with second was approved by the Board: Members of the Society are expected to contribute to the PCOGS program and shall not receive an honorarium or direct financial support from PCOGS for their participation.

Kirk Shy, Program Chairman 2008, asked that the subject of conflict of interest be discussed and whether there should be a signed conflict of interest statement with submission of abstracts. A discussion followed. The Board recommended that PCOGS wait and reconsider this subject at the Annual Meeting. Dr. Shy could present his concerns in person or place a written request with more supplemental information in the 2009 First Board of Directors Meeting Agenda/Board book.

Arrangements 2009

Michael and Faith Kettel are the arrangements Chairs for the Hilton La Jolla Hilton Torrey Pines, La Jolla, California September 30-October 4, 2009 meeting. Michael indicated that the arrangements are well underway. We will have one evening out at the Birch Aquarium (Scripps) with dinner. The setting is beautiful and overlooks the South Torrey Pines Golf Course and the Pacific Ocean. The chairs for activities are in place. Lyman and Beth Rust, Jack and Kay Enbom, and Michael and Faith Kettel carried out a site visit last November. The facility is large and should accommodate the meeting very well.

Past President Shefren expressed concern about the cost of attendance with the depressed economy both this year and the following year. After discussion a motion with second authorizing the Secretary-Treasurer to establish the 2009 registration fee at a reduced value after considering the latest draft budget including costs and estimates for income from grants and exhibitor fees and considering additional meeting support from capital reserves was approved. The recommended registration fee will be submitted to the Board for their review and approval. The registration fees for Fellows and Guests, Companions, and Children (over 11 years) have been \$585, \$375, and \$225 respectively the last two years. The motion was approved.

Program Chairman 2010

Dena Towner had no report at this early phase but expressed concern about number of 2010 Society Guests. This issue was discussed in greater detail later in the Agenda under New Business, Amendments of Bylaws and Rules.

Arrangements Chairman 2010

Russ Laros is the 2010 Arrangements Chair for the host Caucus San Francisco. The meeting will be held at the Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel, Kohala Coast, HI, September 29-October 3, 2010. PCOGS met here in 2000. The Big Island setting is beautiful and the hotel has undergone renovation since the previous meeting. A site visit will be arranged for President-Elect Parer, Secretary Enbom, and Arrangements Chairman Laros in late 2009 or early 2010.

Arrangements 2011

Secretary Enbom announced that the Portland Caucus will host the 2011 meeting at the Sunriver Resort, Sunriver, Oregon September 14-18, 2011. Michael Collins is the Oregon Arrangements Chairman.

GUESTS

After discussion of the Society Guests, the Board approved a motion to accept Drs. Berek, Burlingame, Garrett, Grade, Khieu, Kim, Manriquez, Simpson, Valenzuela, and Vargas (see list below). In a separate vote the Board approved with second a motion to accept Marc Incerpi (LA Caucus) as a "fast track" Society Guest for 2009.

Society Guests 2009

1	Jonathan S. Berek	San Francisco Caucus
2	Janet Burlingame	San Francisco Caucus
3	Audrey Garrett*	Portland Caucus
4	Patricia Grade*	San Diego/Arizona Caucus
5	Marc Incerpi**	Los Angeles Caucus
6	William Khieu	San Francisco Caucus
7	Mathew Kim	San Diego/Arizona Caucus
8	Maria Manriquez	San Diego/Arizona Caucus
9	Terri Simpson	Portland Caucus
10	Guillermo J. Valenzuela	Los Angeles Caucus
11	Juan Vargas	San Francisco Caucus

Deferred Society Guests from 2008* Caucus Guest 2008 approved for "fast track" Society Guest 2009**
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Margaret Ellison, Karen Noblett, E. Laurence Spencer-Smith, and Kenneth Ward were removed from the 2009 Society Guest list by personal request or for failure to respond to invitation.

The Board approved a motion to invite the following as Caucus Guests 2009.

Caucus Guest 2009

1	Darcy Carr	Seattle Caucus
2	Connie Mao	Seattle Caucus
3	Elizabeth Grosen	Seattle Caucus
4	David Lee	Portland Caucus
5	Mike Traynor	Portland Caucus
6	Lee Mukul	Portland Caucus
7	Paul Qualtere-Burcher	Portland Caucus
8	Per Sandberg	San Francisco Caucus
9	Paula Adams-Hillard	San Francisco Caucus

10	Yvonne Cheng	San Francisco Caucus
11	Deirdre Lyell	San Francisco Caucus
12	Jeffrey Broberg	San Francisco Caucus
13	Jennifer Israel	Los Angeles Caucus
14	Laila Muderspach	Los Angeles Caucus
15	Richard Lee	Los Angeles Caucus
16	Patrick Mullin	Los Angeles Caucus
17	Ricardo Azziz	Los Angeles Caucus
18	Elizabeth Silverman	San Diego/Arizona Caucus
19	Michael Hibner	San Diego/Arizona Caucus
20	Karrie Francois	San Diego/Arizona Caucus
21	M. Bradley Silverman	San Diego/Arizona Caucus
22	Thomas Zheng	San Diego/Arizona Caucus
23	Douglas Fenton	San Diego/Arizona Caucus
24	Dana Porter	San Diego/Arizona Caucus
25	Carmen Brown	San Diego/Arizona Caucus
26	Afshin Bahador	San Diego/Arizona Caucus
27	Bridgette Duggan	San Diego/Arizona Caucus

Jane Diemer and Judy Kimmelman (Seattle Caucus) withdrew due to meeting conflict. **Anna Conomitos (Los Angeles Caucus)** was removed when it was reported that she had not completed and submitted a Caucus Guest Application to the Los Angeles Caucus Chair.

The Board approved a motion to invite the following as Society Guests in 2010.

Society Guest 2010

1	Meg O'Reilly	Portland Caucus
2	Judy Marvin	Portland Caucus
3	Paul Schroeder	Portland Caucus
4	Robert Wallace	Los Angeles Caucus
5	Karen Maples	Los Angeles Caucus

The Board approved a motion to defer Peter Chandler as a Society Guest to 2010 pending receipt of a personal letter of request for deferral from Dr. Chandler.*

*** Following the Interim Board of Directors Meeting: Special insertion by Secretary Treasurer Enbom (March 31, 2009)**

After review of submitted Caucus records for 2007-2009 and after confirmation with Linda Hinrichsen, Society Administrator, Secretary Enbom informed the Board by email that the Society had not received Dr. Chandler's name in nomination as a Society Guest approved by the San Francisco Caucus. **The above motion was therefore out of order.**

An electronic special ballot was submitted to the San Francisco Caucus Members with returns counted March 23, 2009 showing 18 affirmative votes and 0 negative votes to invite Dr. Chandler as a 2010 Society Guest.

A motion by Andrew Combs, SF Caucus Chair, and seconded by Secretary Enbom recommending approval of Peter Chandler as an additional Society Guest 2010 was submitted electronically to the Board of Directors on March 25, 2009 and was approved. See Minutes Special Board Meeting March 25, 2009.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Photography

Hedric Hanson was photographer for the last two meetings. The photo albums from the 2007 meeting were commercially created with an Apple Computer format and turned out very well. Dr. Shefren has not received a presidential copy from the 2008 meeting to date. President Rust will inquire about Dr. Hanson's willingness to continue as photographer for the 2009 meeting.

New Member Survey

Jodell Boyle, Board Member at Large, was granted Board approval to conduct a survey of newer Society Fellows (last five years). The survey questions were also approved but Dr. Boyle hasn't been able to implement release of the survey to date.

Andy Combs indicated that there were commercial organizations that will help with surveys and may not charge if the survey population is smaller.

Secretary Enbom indicated that he would work with Linda Hinrichsen in setting up a mailing and/or an emailing of the survey and aid Dr. Boyle if she desired additional help. He was sure that the data was included in the Society master registration list and could be readily sorted by date of membership, name, etc.

NEW BUSINESS

Bylaws and Rules Amendments

Article I, Section 3 (d)

(d) **Nomination for Society Guest.** Each Caucus shall annually review the list of their previous Caucus Guests and select those to be voted upon as nominees for Society Guest at a subsequent Annual Meeting of the Society. The Caucus members shall thereafter vote on the proposed nominees by ~~secret~~ **electronic or** mail ballot, ranking them in order of preference. Any candidate receiving an adverse vote exceeding ten (10) percent of the ballots cast shall not be acceptable for consideration as a Society Guest for that year. Such individuals as well as any previous Caucus Guest not selected to be voted upon as a nominee for Society Guest for any two (2) consecutive years shall thereafter be eligible for nomination only after repeating the entire sequence described in this Section. The Caucus Chairman shall inform the Caucus of the results of the vote and shall submit the list of nominees in order of preference, together with their curricula vitae, to the Secretary at least four (4) weeks prior to the Interim Meeting of the Board of Directors.

This will allow the Society members to vote by the same method for both Caucus Guests (Article I, Section 3 (b) as amended at 2008 Victoria First Business Meeting) and Society Guests. This amendment was omitted in those recommended following the March 1, 2008 Interim Board Meeting.

The above amendment to Article I, Section 3 (d) was unanimously approved by the Board, will be forwarded to the Membership, and will be presented for Membership approval at the First Business Meeting of the 2009 Annual Meeting.

Article VI, Section 2

Arrangements Committee: The President-Elect, ~~upon assuming office~~ **following election and in collaboration with the host caucus,** shall appoint a committee on arrangements for the ~~next~~ Annual Meeting **over which the President-Elect shall preside** ~~for the next Annual Meeting.~~

A previous amendment to Article VI, Section 2 was tabled at the March 1, 2008 Interim Board Meeting with the suggestion that it be reconsidered at the 2009 Interim Board of Directors Meeting. The amendment proposed at the 2008 meeting read as follows:

The President-Elect, *upon election as President-Elect*, shall ~~appoint~~ *approve an arrangements committee recommended by the host caucus* for the Annual Meeting *over which the President-Elect shall preside*.

The Board Members and Guests discussed the above amendment and reviewed the history of the relationship between the President-Elect and the Arrangements Chair. The general consensus was that the arrangements were essentially a function of the host caucus and the host caucus had typically selected their choice for the Arrangements Chair well before the President-Elect was nominated and elected. It is more efficient for the Arrangements Chair to be from the same region as the meeting facility. Following the discussion the Board approved a motion with second directing the Secretary to draft an amendment to Article VI, Section 2 placing the responsibility for selection of the Arrangements Chairman and Committee with the host Caucus of the Annual Meeting. The amendment should be submitted to the Board for review and available for review by the membership prior to the 2009 Annual Meeting in accordance with the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VI

Committee and executive offices

Section 1. Nominating Committee. *Every three years* each Caucus shall ~~annually~~ elect an individual, other than the Caucus Chairman, to serve on the Nominating Committee. If that individual is unable to attend the annual meeting, the Caucus Chair will choose a replacement for that meeting. The current President will serve as Chairman and a nonvoting member of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee will consider in selecting nominees; prior positions held with the Society, participation in the scientific programs, geographical and caucus membership, and the length of time as a fellow. The members of the Nominating Committee will serve staggered terms so that members of the committee will not be replaced at the same time. The committee shall nominate candidates for President-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, and Assistant Secretary annually and a Member at Large every three years or if a vacancy exists. The Nominating Committee shall make its report at the final Business Session. Nominations may also be made from the floor. The election of officers will follow immediately thereafter.

This amendment will codify the term of office for the members of the nominating committee.

The above amendment to Article VI, Section 1 was unanimously approved by the Board, will be forwarded to the Membership, and will be presented for Membership approval at the First Business Meeting of the 2009 Annual Meeting.

New Business, Other: Bylaws and Nomination for Society Guest
Bylaws reference: Article I, Section 3 (d & e)

The Board continued the discussion of Society Guests and track to membership initiated during the earlier agenda item Program Committee Chairman's Report 2010. Traditionally Caucus Guests have been provided two years between their invitation as a Caucus Guest and subsequent delivery of a paper as a Society Guest. It is also possible, especially regarding potential members in academic medicine, for guests to present a paper the year following their attendance as a Caucus Guest; a so called "fast track" to invitation as a Society Guest and to membership. Hopefully most years the Program Committee would have adequate numbers of Society Guests and fast tracking membership would not offer an advantage to the Society. However other years, such as 2010 when only 5 Society Guests are listed with the potential for a 6th (Peter Chandler), it would be advantageous to have the option of additional Society Guest presentations.

It doesn't appear that the Bylaws preclude the invitation of a Guest to present a paper after attending as a Caucus Guest but prior to approval as a Society Guest by their Caucus and the Board. Following the invitation to present early, there would be time for the Guest to be subsequently presented to the host Caucus membership for vote and for the Board to pass on the fast track Society Guest at the Interim Board Meeting before their presentation at the following Annual Scientific Meeting. Marc Incerpi was approved earlier in this meeting to present as a Society Guest through the "fast track" in 2009. It does, however, create potential confusion and misunderstanding if two routes are chosen for potential members between their attendance as a Caucus Guest and their subsequent presentation of a paper/poster as a Society Guest and under what circumstances the fast track process would serve as an advantage to the Program Committee and the Society.

The Bylaws require the following steps for membership: approval and ranking by the host Caucus for any recommended Caucus Guest Society Guest, a favorable vote by the PCOGS Board of Directors for approved Caucus Guests and Society Guests, and finally submission to all Society Fellows by Ballot for Membership approval following their scientific presentation at an Annual Meeting. Fast tracking a physician shouldn't remove the historical and essential steps for the Caucus, Board, and PCOGS Membership to have their proper say in the selection of new members. It does, however, potentially place a Guest on the program prior to approval by the entire sponsoring Caucus and could lead to an unlikely but awkward situation should the person not gain approval through submission to the Caucus or a subsequent unfavorable vote by the Board of Directors.

If requested by the Program Committee fast track candidates could be recommended to present papers at the subsequent meeting by the Caucus Members present at Annual Scientific Meeting and the Board at their Second

Board of Directors Meeting. The fast track candidates would not be eligible for membership unless subsequently submitted to, favorably approved, and ranked by the entire sponsoring Caucus membership and Board of Directors at the following spring Interim Board meeting.

Considering the low number of candidates eligible to present as Society Guests in 2010 the Board approved a motion with second to ask the Caucuses to put forward 2009 Caucus Guests identified as more likely to prepare and present a paper at the 2010 Annual Meeting and propose those to the 2010 Program Committee and Board of Directors at the conclusion of the 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting for approval.

A second motion with second was approved asking the Secretary to propose language for an amendment to the Bylaws that would accommodate the potential for the Program Committee and Board to solicit Society Guests on a fast track for the year following attendance as a Caucus Guest if considered to be for the good of the Society.

New Business: Proposed Study submitted by Andrew Combs

Andrew Combs, San Francisco Caucus, presented a Proposal for Research Study New Guidelines for FHR Interpretation: Less Interobserver Disagreement? See **Attachment C** following minutes.

Dr. Combs requests Board permission to send a voluntary and anonymous survey to members of the Society asking for FHR interpretation of 5 fetal monitor strips using a one-page summary of definitions of FHR Categories.

A discussion followed. It was recommended that even though live subjects are not involved in the study the research study should be submitted for IRB review.

The Board approved a motion with second to allow Andrew Combs research study *New Guidelines for FHR Interpretation: Less Interobserver Disagreement* to the membership following submission to the appropriate Institutional Review Board.

CORRESPONDENCE

The enclosed correspondence was reviewed. There were no questions or actions taken on the correspondence.

FUTURE MEETINGS

2009

Hilton La Jolla Torrey Pines, La Jolla, CA

September 30-October 4, 2009

SD/AZ Caucus: Michael Kettel Arrangements Chairman

2010

Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel, Kohala Coast, HI

September 29-October 3, 2010

SF Caucus: Russell K. Laros, Jr., Arrangements Chairman

2011

Sunriver Resort, Sunriver, OR

September 14-18, 2011

Portland Caucus: Michael Collins, Arrangements Chairman

There being no additional business a motion to adjourn was passed at 2:30 p.m.*

Submitted by John A. Enbom, Secretary Treasurer

*Refer to Special Board of Directors Meeting March 25, 2009 minutes regarding vote to invite Peter Chandler, SF Caucus, Society Guest 2010.

ATTACHMENT A

Historical Discussions and Actions regarding Task Force: Manuscript Preparation and Publication

Phil Patton suggested that a more structured outline be given to presenters for manuscript preparation. A discussion followed outlining the historical relationship with the American Journal of Ob Gyn and PCOG. Is it reasonable to expect that all presentations will be offered to the American Journal. Some subject matter may be more suitable for sub-specialty journals. It appears currently that our Bylaws, Article VI, Section 7, and Rule 4 and 12 in our Standing Rules should regarding members and guests who present at our Annual Scientific Meetings may need to be revised. A Task Force made up of Phil Patton, David Lagrew, and Mike Medchill was appointed to evaluate these issues and report back to the Board of Directors.
(First Board of Directors Meeting Annual Meeting 2007, Oct. 10, 2007)

The committee has been in communication since appointment at the 2007 Las Vegas meeting. The committee recommends that the relationship with the American Journal of Ob Gyn be clarified so that the Society has a clear understanding of our standing with the Am. Journal. Is there a 'right of first refusal'? There is a concern that if we change our historical focus there could be a tendency for stronger papers to go to other journals rather than the American Journal. On the other hand many of our presented papers may be more suited for sub-specialty journals. The committee will continue to clarify the relationship with and requirements for publication in the AJOG before the Annual Scientific Meeting and discuss their findings and recommendations at the First Business meeting in Victoria, B.C *(Interim Board Meeting March 1, 2008, M. Medchill, Task Force Report)*

Linda Eckert reported that eighteen manuscripts were submitted to the American Journal following the 2008 Annual Scientific Meeting: 10 Fellow manuscripts, 4 Society Guest manuscripts, and 4 Resident/Fellow manuscripts including the Frank Lynch Memorial Prize Essay by Brian Schaffer (UCSF). Fifteen or 83% of the submitted manuscripts were accepted by AJOG. This is the highest acceptance rate of any society (range 23-79% acceptance for other societies).

Frank Gamberdella attended the AJOG Advisory Meeting in May 2008 on behalf of PCOGS. Moon Kim (editor of AJOG) outlined the historical acceptance rates and the peer review process currently in place. All society papers will have two AJOG appointed reviewers and a third reviewer may be selected by the society if the society chooses. Discussions and closing remarks will no longer be included in the published manuscript.

The general rules for submission will not change for the following year but the 2008 and beyond deadlines dates are as follows:

- September 15- All manuscript submissions to the Journal
- October 15- Manuscript peer review completion
- January 1- Accepted/Revised manuscript submissions to the Journal
- February 1- AJOG submission of manuscripts to the publisher

Due to the strict deadlines and review process the PCOGS Editor of Scientific Proceedings and Chair of the Program Committee strongly recommend that any

PCOGS pre-review should take place in time to allow for recommended revisions before a manuscript is submitted to AJOG.

A PCOGS Mentorship Guidelines Form is presented including an Introduction, Duties of the PCOGS Mentor, and Time Table for PCOGS Mentor Activities with timelines.

It is recommended that a discussion follow at the First Business Meeting to obtain a sense of the Society regarding whether the Am. J. of Ob Gyn should be the only acceptable journal for submission of Society manuscripts. This will also be brought up at the Second Board of Directors Meeting.

(First Board of Directors Meeting October 15, 2008, Report of Editor of Scientific Proceedings)

No Report

(First Board of Directors Meeting October 15, 2008, M. Medchill, Task Force Report)

The preparation and submission of manuscripts has historically followed the AJOG guidelines, our official journal per our Bylaws. The Board and Program Committee is interested to know if the membership would support the consideration of allowing primary submission to other journals as well as to the AJOG for submitted manuscripts. Quality manuscript production would continue as priority. This matter will be discussed at the Friday Caucus Meetings and brought back to the Second Business Meeting.

(First Business Meeting October 16, 2008, Editor of Scientific Proceedings Report)

AJOG: The American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology has diminished interest in the regional Society's they have historically supported. There are also more members who are interested in submitting their manuscripts to subspecialty journals. While the relationship with the AJOG needs to be considered carefully there was general support for the Program Committee and the Society to consider other options for primary submission and publication of manuscripts.

(Second Business Meeting October 18, 2008, Report of the Caucus Chairs)

The Board discussed the Society's relationship with the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology. The AJOG is dropping their longstanding relationship with regional societies like PCOGS and the editors have indicated that they expect a much lower acceptance rate for submitted manuscripts. PCOGS has historically achieved a much higher publication acceptance rate of submitted manuscripts than other regional societies and may continue to have a higher acceptance rate due to the higher quality of submitted papers. However there is concern and frustration with the changing relationship with the AJOG and their managing editors. There was general consensus that the Program Committee allow submission of manuscripts for Fellows and Guests to alternative journals. Manuscript submissions and publication rates will continue to be tracked for all submissions by the Society whether to AJOG or other journals by the Editor of Scientific Proceedings.

Past President Shefren suggested that the Society establish a set of principles that would be applicable to Fellow and Guest manuscript submissions. These principles might include for example: manuscript format, the allowance of submission to alternative journals, strict timelines, mentorship, goal for submission of all manuscripts to a journal. The Editor of Scientific Proceedings (Linda Eckert & Phil Patton) will work on principles with Board input.

PCOGS Bylaws don't exclude submission to others journals but the AJOG is listed in the Bylaws as "the official journal of the Society" (Article VI, Section 7). Before any action is considered regarding our relationship with the AJOG Bob Israel suggested that he talk with Philip Disaia, an AJOG editor and PCOGS Fellow. The Board also asked Linda Eckert to see if our accepted AJOG manuscripts will be published in one journal edition (historically June) or spread out over different journal publications. (Email October 27, 2008 indicated that AJOG plans to continue publication in the June 2009 issue per Linda Eckert)

The Program Committee will continue to use the current AJOG deadlines for the Society's manuscript submissions for the 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting.
(Second Board of Directors Meeting October 18, 2008, Report of the Editor of Scientific Proceedings)

ATTACHMENT B

PACIFIC COAST OBSTETRICAL AND GYNECOLOGICAL SOCIETY

PROGRAM COMMITTEE GUIDELINES: COMMERCIAL SUPPORT AND HONORARIA FOR SPEAKERS AT ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

Purpose:

To describe authorized industry support for educational activities at the Pacific Coast Obstetrical and Gynecological Society (PCOGS) annual scientific meetings.

To describe the honoraria policy for invited resident/fellow guests and invited guest speakers at PCOGS Annual Scientific Meetings.

Definition:

Educational grants are unrestricted financial support from the health care industry used to cover costs of educational activities of the annual meetings including, but not limited to, speaker fees, resident/fellow attendance and participation, printing costs, food and beverage costs, audio-visual support, and facilities' charges directly related to the conduct of the scientific meeting.

An honorarium is a payment granted to residents, fellows, Guest Speaker/s or other guests invited by the PCOGS Program Committee to present a specific topic which will supplement the presentation of scientific papers, posters, and the general program of the Annual Scientific Meetings.

References:

1. American Medical Association. Gifts to physicians from industry. In: Code of medical ethics of the American Medical Association: current opinions with annotations. 2006-2007 ed. Chicago (IL.) AMA; 2006.p.212-16
2. American Medical Association. Clarification of opinion 8.061 "gifts to physicians from industry." In: Code of medical ethics of the American Medical Association: current opinions and annotations. 2006-2007 ed. Chicago (IL.): AMA; 2006. p.216-24
3. Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) Standards for Commercial Support, sections 3.7-3.10, expenditures for an individual providing CME.
4. American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG) Committee Opinion 401, March 2008

Guidelines:

General: ACOG, states, "The health care industry has promoted its products to individual physicians and groups, including specialty societies, hospitals, and medical schools through the support of educational activities, awards, and development contracts. Support of educational programs and the provision of awards, grants and contracts should follow, in principle, the guidelines of the American Medical Association (1,2) and the Accreditation Council for Continuing Education (3) which are adopted in ACOG by the Committee on Ethics", which were adopted in 2008 ACOG Committee Opinion 401 (4).

Guest speakers may be members of the Society or non-members and who, by reputation and knowledge of the topic chosen for presentation, have been selected by the PCOGS Program Committee to present a lecture or participate in a panel discussion. The Program Committee shall articulate to the PCOGS membership and guests their reasons for selecting the topic of presentation and the Guest Speaker/s. Resident/Fellow submissions for the Frank Lynch Memorial Essay and the Ted Adams Poster Awards shall be submitted to the Program Committee in coordination with residency and fellowship programs in the Society's caucus regions.

1. Educational grants will be received by way of a formal Letter of Agreement between ACOG, PCOGS, and the commercial sponsor when applicable. Grant application shall be solicited and coordinated by the PCOGS Industry Liaison Committee.
2. Commercial exhibitors at annual meetings will be granted space at annual scientific meetings by application and when space is available. Exhibitors' fees shall be determined by the Secretary-Treasurer and the Chairman of the Industry Liaison Committee and in accordance with ACOG recommendations for commercial exhibitors' fees at scientific meetings. Exhibitor's fee accounting shall be segregated as to source of payment (educational grant or exhibitor's fee).
3. Money from commercial sponsors must be designated as an unrestricted grant for the annual scientific meeting and not designated for specific presenters or guest speakers. Grants from all industry sources shall be processed by the PCOGS Secretary-Treasurer and used for support of the annual scientific meeting and its educational mission.
4. Payment of educational grants and exhibitor's fees shall be deposited in the PCOGS general account and shall be differentiated by donor source and amount for educational grants and payment source and amount for payment of exhibitor fees.
5. Honoraria will be paid following the completion of the Annual Scientific Meeting.
6. Honoraria will be paid from the PCOGS general account; payment (category, the applicable annual scientific meeting).
7. The honoraria shall reflect the current market rate of payment and shall not exceed \$1,000 unless approved by the Secretary-Treasurer.

8. In addition to the honoraria the guest speaker/s may receive reimbursement for travel, hotel room, and registration fee for the applicable Annual Scientific Meeting with Board approval.
9. In order to avoid conflicts of interest careful attention shall be paid to the ACCME Standards for Commercial Support (2007) and the ACOG Committee Opinion 401, Relationships with Industry (2008) as noted in the reference section above. This policy shall be amended if updated applicable standards become available.
10. PCOGS continuing medical education (CME) shall be coordinated by the Program Committee through the ACOG Joint Sponsorship Program.
11. Resident/Fellow papers (Frank Lynch) and Posters (Ted Adams) shall be selected independently by the members of the Program Committee following submission. Payment of honoraria and expense reimbursement shall be paid from the general PCOGS account. Educational grant funds may not be used to directly fund specific resident or fellow honoraria or expenses but may be applied to shared and approved educational meeting expenses.

ATTACHMENT C

Proposal for Research Study

New Guidelines for FHR Interpretation: Less Interobserver Disagreement?

Background

In September 2008, a report was issued summarizing a workshop held jointly among representatives of NICHHD, SMFM, & ACOG recommending new definitions and guidelines for interpretation of fetal heart rate (FHR) monitoring strips (Obstet Gynecol 2008; 112:661-6). It has not been tested whether practitioners using the new definitions will agree on the interpretation of monitoring strips more than using the older definitions. The proposed study will compare the interobserver variability in interpretation using new & old definitions. A side-benefit of the study is that it will help to educate participating clinicians about the new guidelines and will give them practice in applying them.

Hypothesis

Both obstetricians & maternal-fetal medicine specialists will have more agreement in interpreting fetal heart rate (FHR) monitor strips (less interobserver variability) using the guidelines recently proposed by the NICHHD workshop compared to using the older ACOG guidelines.

Methods, Survey-Type Study

A. Materials will be sent to all active fellows of the Pacific Coast Ob-Gyn Society (PCOGS) via e-mail and to all perinatologists in Obstetrix Medical Group (OBX) via Perinatology DDX or e-mail. The e-mail will introduce the study and will request voluntary, anonymous participation in a survey exercise expected to take less than 15 minutes.

B. Materials will consist of a PDF file containing (a) one-page summary of definitions of FHR Categories from the workshop and the description of “reassuring” from ACOG practice bulletin and (b) 5 fetal monitoring strips, one each of the following:

1. normal baseline, moderate variability, no decelerations, no accelerations
2. normal baseline, moderate variability, early decelerations, accelerations
3. normal baseline, moderate variability, recurrent late decelerations
4. normal baseline, moderate variability, prolonged decel (duration 2-10 minutes)
5. absent variability, recurrent late decelerations

C. For each monitor strip, respondents will be asked to answer 6 multiple choice questions:

1. What is the baseline? (120’s, 130’s, 140’s, 150’s, 160’s)
2. What is the variability? (absent, minimal, moderate, marked)
3. Are accelerations present? (yes, no)
4. Describe decelerations? (none, early, late, variable, prolonged)
5. Is the tracing reassuring? (reassuring, nonreassuring, other)
6. What interpretation category fits? (category I, category II, category III, other)

D. Answers will be submitted online using surveymonkey.com or similar data-gathering tool.

E. Hope to have at least 30% participation by practicing members of each group (roughly $200 \times 0.3 = 60$ PCOG fellows & $100 \times 0.3 = 30$ OBX MFMs).

F. Main hypothesis is that there will be less interobserver variability in responses to question 6 (category assignment) compared to question 5 (reassuring or not).

Tentative Timetable

Spring 2009:

- Seek approval for study by board of PCOGS Board of Directors
- Seek approval by Research & Education Division of OBX.
- Should not require IRB approval – no human subjects – request IRB waiver
- Obtain 5 representative monitor tracings
- Prepare PDF file with monitor tracings & definitions
- Prepare survey materials

Summer 2009:

- Send e-mail to participants requesting participation
- Send followup e-mail reiterating request
- Send final email begging for responses. Deadline for responses 12-1-09

Jan 2010: Data analysis, abstract submission for PCOGS meeting.

July 2010: Manuscript submission

Sept 2010: Presentation at PCOGS meeting

Budget:

- Surveymonkey.com, 8 months at \$20/month = \$160 total cost
- Will request from OBX

Submitted by Andrew Combs MD