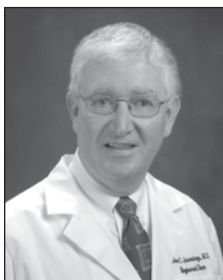




Texas Two Step

Serving ACOG members in Texas

July 2009



Chair's report

John C. Jennings, MD

Those of you who attended the District XI and Texas Association of Ob-Gyn Meeting in Austin in April were witness to the efforts being made to attract interest in ob-gyn among medical students and young physicians. We had a record number of medical students present at the meeting, representing all the medical schools in Texas.

The 17th Annual Resident Research Day was again an overwhelming success and a demonstration of the high quality work being done by our residency training programs in the state. The future of our specialty lies in being able to develop medical student interest early and sustain that interest throughout residency training and into practice.

ACOG's advocacy efforts in Texas continue to be effective. Tort reform issues continue to be addressed, and no serious erosion of the 2003 reform mea-

asures has occurred to date. Many bills relative to health care have been filed, and ob-gyns have been able to influence opinions on the issues most relevant to our patients. Many of our Fellows have been quick to respond to the progression of legislation by attending committee sessions and communicating directly with legislators or sending cards, letters, and emails.

At the national level, ACOG has prioritized elements of the College's strategic plan by targeting the improvement of women's health care through our practice. The plan provides a focus of advocacy that includes the concept of medical homes for women and universal health care for women as components of overall reform.

ACOG has taken the lead in bringing together representatives from other professional groups providing women's health care, with the idea of presenting a unified front on major issues of common interest. Rest assured that ACOG has the

best interest of patients and Fellows at the forefront of its national advocacy.

Significant progress has been made in making functional The American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, which will have an Internal Revenue Service 501(c)(6) designation. The creation of this organization will allow ACOG to more actively operate as a business advocate for our Fellows and better direct resources in confronting the challenges of women's health care at the local, state, and national levels.

The ACOG website and the *ACOG Today* newsletter will continue to provide information related to this transition. Also, feel free to ask your section or district officers for details on this structural change.

Finally, I hope to see all of you at our Annual District Meeting in San Antonio, October 9–11. This will be a joint meeting with our friends from District VII, and I am certain the meeting will be educational and enjoyable for all who attend. ♦

2009 Annual District Meeting in San Antonio

October 9–11
Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort and Spa
San Antonio

Save the date for the 2009 Annual District Meeting. The Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort and Spa is a beautiful venue for our meeting, featuring a relaxing four-acre water park, championship golf course, tennis courts, spa services, and much more. It is also just a short trip to the SeaWorld San Antonio Park, the Six Flags Fiesta Texas Park, and the beautiful San Antonio River Walk. It is a destination not to be missed!

Program details (including 16 hours of CME) and registration and hotel information are available on the District XI website at

www.acog.org/acog_districts. Click on "District XI" and then the ADM link. You can also visit the Texas Association of Ob-Gyn website at www.txobgyn.org/p633.html. We look forward to seeing you all here in the Lone Star State!

Donated items for ADM fundraiser needed

Items are needed for the silent auction and raffle for the Casino Night fundraiser at the ADM on Saturday, October 10. The fundraiser is to support the Pete and Weesie Hollis Educational Endowment Fund and The John Jennings Fund. For more information, please contact Carl "Tony" Dunn, MD, District XI program chair, at cdunn@swmail.sw.org or Karen O'Briant, Texas Association of Ob-Gyn and District XI executive director, at distxi@hotmail.com. Donated items are tax-deductible. ♦



Junior Fellows news

Christina Frome, MD, District XI, Junior Fellow chair

Greetings from the Junior Fellows of Texas! With the recent conclusion of the ACOG Annual Clinical Meeting and the beginning of a new cycle of national officers, Junior Fellows across the country are embarking on an extremely interesting time. There is a huge national push for increased global health care involvement, as well as the development of new opportunities for physicians to travel abroad and provide health care in developing countries. Medical students are now seeking out residency programs that offer international experience as part of their residency curriculum, bringing about a new dynamic to programs across the country.

Junior Fellows across Texas are focusing their energy on identifying barriers to health care within our state and health issues specific to our patient population. With changes anticipated in health care, we are also in the beginning stages of organizing a lobby day at the Texas State Capitol in Austin

that will allow Junior Fellows to meet their local representatives and learn how to lobby for issues affecting on our field.

The 2009 District VII and XI Annual District Meeting will be held October 9–11 at the Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort and Spa in San Antonio. The Junior Fellow program will break away from traditional didactic lectures as we showcase our First Annual Junior Fellow Hands-On Symposium. At the symposium, Junior Fellows will be able to simulate various procedures used in both hospitals and office settings as they rotate through several stations.

We will also debut the First Annual Junior Fellow Game Show in which Junior Fellows and medical students will compete against each other for prizes. In addition to the Junior Fellow activities, we are planning several medical student functions, including a residency fair and a hands-on symposium dedicated specifically to medical students. We are always in need of volunteers. Don't miss out on all the fun!

As always, we cannot thank the Fellows across our district enough for their continued support of the Junior Fellows. ♦



Your District XI Junior Fellow officers: Ivvanee E. Martinez, MD, secretary-treasurer; Kristy Ward, MD, vice chair; Christina Frome, MD, chair; and George D. Wendel, MD, advisor

Posters and presentations needed for ADM

Calling all Junior Fellows and Fellows in training! We had 18 outstanding papers at the 17th Annual Resident Research Day in Austin—wouldn't you love to share these again with both District VII and XI members or present another paper at the ADM? The best paper presented will be chosen and sent to the ACOG national office to be considered for the 2009–10 Donald F. Richardson Memorial Prize Paper Awards.

Let's show District VII what amazing research we are doing in Texas! Additional information is available at www.acog.org/district-abstract-submission.

Medical student funding for ADM

District XI is providing funding in the amount of \$1,000 per medical school for medical students who are student members of ACOG to attend the Annual District Meeting in San Antonio, October 9–11. Special medical student events are planned this year for the meeting, so don't miss out!

To apply for funding, you must be a student member of ACOG, be able to attend the entire meeting, Friday through Sunday, and report back to your student interest group. Submit a letter of interest and short cover letter to the District XI Executive Office at 141 Idlewild Creek Road, Sweetwater, TX 79556, or email distxi@hotmail.com.

The deadline for applications is September 1.



Texas Two Step

Amy E. Young, MD, District Vice Chair and Editor
Jill Hindenach, Editorial Manager

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Send letters to:
Amy E. Young, MD at ayoung@bcm.tmc.edu

Japan Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology Exchange

Kristy Ward, MD, District XI Junior Fellow vice chair

Konnichiwa! Thank you to everyone for giving me the opportunity to be the first District XI Japan Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology Exchange delegate. This program allowed one Junior Fellow from each district to attend the international session of the 61st Annual JSOG meeting, and it was very exciting and interesting.

I presented a brief talk on ovarian cancer screening that was well received. My group included doctors from California, Korea, and Japan. It was a unique experience discussing differences in management from our respective countries. Kyoto was a beautiful city with cherry blossoms blooming around the many ancient temples and castles.

I again want to say thank you for this experience and hope that many Junior Fellows will get to participate in this great program. ♦

ACOG Leadership Institute

Amy E. Young, MD, District XI vice chair

On the weekend of April 16–19, I had the good fortune of being one of three District XI members chosen to attend the ACOG Leadership Institute. This was a great opportunity, and I think one of the many benefits of increased representation since Texas became its own district. The conference was excellent, and I would recommend it to any ACOG leader or any member that hopes to assume a leadership role someday.

Preparation for the course required a significant amount of work, introspection, and reflection. Upon arrival in Chapel Hill, NC, with my colleagues Eugene C. Toy, MD, Section 4 chair, and Francisco J. Orejuela, MD, we were greeted warmly by ACOG staff and course directors. Throughout the weekend we worked to identify our leadership styles, preferences, strengths, and weaknesses. Furthermore, we gained insight into the receptivity of others toward our own leadership styles and learned to adapt ourselves to those around us.

It was a privilege to have the opportunity to attend, and I would highly recommend it to members of our district in the future. Three slots are available each year. If you are interested, please send a letter of interest to John C. Jennings, District XI chair, at john.jennings@ttuhsc.edu. ♦

Legislative report

The 81st Texas legislative session is over, and medicine was a winner in many areas. To read a full report on the session by our legislative advocate, Mignon McGarry, visit the District XI website at www.acog.org/districts by clicking on “District XI” or at www.txobgyn.org/p9.html. ♦

Outstanding District Service Award winner: Dr. Norman F. Gant

Norman F. Gant, MD, was awarded an Outstanding District Service Award at this year’s Annual Clinical Meeting in Chicago in May. The award is given to those individuals who have made notable contributions to their districts.

Dr. Gant is the executive director of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology and chair emeritus of the ob-gyn department at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. He remains a professor at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas. Dr. Gant received his medical degree from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School and completed his ob-gyn residency at Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas. He completed a reproductive physiology fellowship at the same institution, followed by additional postdoctoral training in reproductive endocrinology. He rose through the academic ranks to become professor and chair of the ob-gyn department at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in 1977.

For ACOG, Dr. Gant has served on the Council on Resident Education in Obstetrics and Gynecology and the ABOG/ACOG Liaison Committee through his role with ABOG.

Dr. Gant is a member of several honorary and academic societies, including Alpha Omega Alpha. He served as a director of the American Board of Family Practice and is a member of the American Gynecological and Obstetrical Society. He is past president of the Society for Gynecologic Investigation.

Dr. Gant received the Career Achievement Award of the Society of Maternal-Fetal Medicine and the Leon Chesley Award of the International Society for the Study of Hypertension in Pregnancy. He is a Fellow *ad eundem* of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and was elected to the Institute of Medicine in October 2001.

Dr. Gant’s research interests have centered around the study of the endocrinology of pregnancy and its relationship with the development of pregnancy-induced hypertension. Dr. Gant is the author of numerous articles and scientific papers in this area and has received several awards for his work. He also has served for more than 20 years as an author of the textbook *Williams Obstetrics*. ♦

New ACOG Mentor Award

The newly established ACOG Mentor Award is in honor of individuals who have mentored a young physician in practice. The award requires a nomination by a Junior Fellow in Practice and must be related to the mentoring in the early years of practice. The first awards will be selected by the ACOG Committee on Honors and Recognitions at its May 2010 meeting. To see more details or fill out a nomination form, visit www.acog.org and click on the “ACOG Has Established a New Mentor Award” link.

Contact us

Contact information for all district and section officers and Junior Fellows can be found on the District XI websites:

- ▶ Current news and information on women's health care in Texas can be found on the District XI website at www.acog.org/acog_districts. Click on "District XI"
- ▶ Junior Fellow website: www.acog.org/acog_districts. Click on "District XI Junior Fellows"
- ▶ Further news and information can also be found on the Texas Association of Ob-Gyn website at www.txobgyn.org

Please remember to use electronic correspondence to help your district save on postage costs.

Email us at distxi@hotmail.com or taog@hotmail.com.

District XI Membership Survey

Please visit the website below and click on the membership survey link to take a short survey District XI has developed.

This information will be used to help District XI (Texas) be in better contact with its members and provide appropriate and timely services to you based on your individual information. Please remember that ACOG and the Texas Association of Ob-Gyn have been important in helping accomplish direct patient access for ob-gyns in Texas and have worked closely with the Texas Medical Association in securing tort reform in Texas. We recognize that certain issues surround our ability to promote women's health care in Texas, and we want to be able to be an effective voice in women's health care delivery. One of our biggest limitations is our ability to communicate with members efficiently to disseminate and collect information. Correct data entry will help ensure that your voice is heard.

www.txobgyn.org/p633.html

Calendar of Events

2009

August

- 29 Section 4/Houston Gynecologic Obstetric Society Scientific Meeting
8:45 am–1:30 pm
Methodist Hospital
Rio Grande Conference Room
Houston

Cost is free! Featuring up to three hours of CME, including updates in obstetrics, gynecologic oncology, urogynecology, and immunization; breakout sessions for Fellows, Junior Fellows, residents, and medical students; and a social hour to meet other ob-gyns of Section 4

For more information, please contact Chantel Hayden at chayden@tmhs.org or 713-441-3208

October

- 9–11 Annual District Meeting (Districts VII and XI)
Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort and Spa
San Antonio

2010

April

- 16–18 District XI and Texas Association of Ob-Gyn Joint Meeting
Moody Gardens Hotel and Spa Resort
Galveston, TX

May

- 15–19 ACOG Annual Clinical Meeting
San Francisco