First Annual UF OB-GYN Alumni Society Meeting a Huge Success

The first Annual OB-GYN Alumni Society Meeting of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Florida College of Medicine was held March 27-28, 2010, at the Gaylord Palms Resort in Orlando, FL. Fifty-two registrants from across the U.S. attended this inaugural event. An award was given to the alumnus who came from the farthest distance away, and this award went to Leslie Gray (Class of 1991) who came all the way from California. An award was also given to the class with the largest number of alumni in attendance, and that award went to the Class of 1998 (Ehab Sharawy, Helen Rogers, Jennifer Nixon) as well as the Class of 1995 (Judy Simms-Cendan, Amy Boardman, Anil Sood).

The meeting began with a marvelous reception at the Castillo Fort with hors d’oeuvres and cocktails. It was heartening to see everyone engaged in reminiscing about prior times and educational and social remembrances. Of course, there were the mandatory pictures of the children, and in some cases, grand-children! In the background, an on-screen photo collage was constantly displaying old photographs of residents, faculty and staff from years past as well as their spouses and children. Those were the days of more hair and less gray.

Debra Hope, still with the Department after 26 years, did a marvelous job of arranging the entire program for the weekend starting with the Friday evening reception and concluding with the last lecture and closing message from Dr. Stan Williams, Chair of the Department.

The educational highlights of the weekend were held on Saturday and Sunday with a number of excellent presentations. It was very gratifying to attend presentations from our former residents.

(Continued on page 2)

Notes from the Chair

This past year has been an exciting one for our Department. As I reflect back on my first year as Chair, I see many changes that have occurred at Shands, the College of Medicine and in our Department. In November of 2009, AGH closed and the South Tower at Shands UF opened. This increased the number of deliveries from 2900 to 3600, with a similar increase in triage visits on L&D. We now have private rooms for all ObGyn patients for the first time in the history of Shands. Our new Senior Vice President of Health Affairs and President of Shands, David Guzick, MD, (also a member of our Department) has led new efforts in aligning the COM and Shands missions, as well as aligning the missions and training in all of the Health Science Colleges. We are in the middle of major renovations of our academic offices and planning has begun for a new outpatient campus for specialty clinics on NW 39th Avenue. The concept of a Children and Women’s Hospital is starting to take place and will probably be reality within 5 years. New faculty have been recruited in the areas of oncology, urogynecology, minimally invasive surgery and general gynecology. Interviews are ongoing for more Maternal-Fetal Medicine specialists. Financially, we are in great shape and will be able to invest funds into the future development of our department. Finally, we had a great start to the formation of the ObGyn Alumni Society with our first meeting in Orlando this past March. I hope to see even more of you at the 2011 ObGyn Alumni Society meet-

R. Stan Williams, M.D.
Harry Prystowsky Professor of Reproductive Medicine
Chair, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Highlights of the First Alumni Society Meeting

Dr. John Davis (Class of 1990), Director of Gynecologic Surgery at the University of Florida, gave a wonderful presentation on complications of mid-urethral slings.

Shireen Madani Sims (Class of 2005), along with Dr. Sharon Byun, both Clinical Assistant Professors in the Division of Gynecology, gave an enlightening presentation on the role of robotics in gynecologic surgery.

Dr. Anil Sood (Class of 1995), Director of Ovarian Cancer Research at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, gave a thoughtful presentation on the effects of neuroendocrine pathways on ovarian cancer growth and progression.

Dr. Amy Boardman (Class of 1995), Director of Gynecology at the Carolinas Medical Center, gave a much needed update on HPV and Pap test screening. In addition to presentations given by alumni, Dr. Stan Williams, Professor and Chair, gave his presentation on “Menopause: What Do We Know?” Dr. Pat Duff, Professor of Maternal-Fetal Medicine and OB-GYN Residency Director, presented “Varicella and Parvovirus in Pregnancy.” Dr. Doug Richards, Professor and Director of Maternal-Fetal Medicine, gave a presentation on ultrasound findings with fetal anomalies. Word of Caution: If Dr. Richards gives that presentation again, it is given in quiz form but he is very lenient about the answers!

The first Alumni Society Business Meeting was held on Sunday morning, at which the decision was made to have the meeting next year held at the same location on March 18-20. In addition to confirming the date and location for next year’s meeting, Dr. Michael Lukowski (Class of 1981) was elected as the first President of the OB-GYN Alumni Society. Dr. Lukowski will serve as president for two years. Dr. Ehab Sharawy (Class of 1998) was named as President Elect. Dues will be set at $150 annually. Soon you will hear more about this from the new President of the OB-GYN Alumni Society.

Dr. Steve Allen, Maternal-Fetal Medicine Fellow from the Class of 1990, was in attendance. Steve is the newly designated Chair of OB-GYN at Scott & White in Texas. Dr. J. Lee Dockery, Professor Emeritus, was also present and has bequeathed the “J. Lee and Barbara Dockery Professorship” to the Department of OB-GYN.

Tiffany Doering and husband Chris were present. Tiffany is our newly appointed Director of Development and Alumni Affairs for the Department.

Dr. Lou Stalnacker, former Chair of the UF Dept of OB-GYN at Pensacola, was also in attendance. Dr. Stalnacker has donated the “Stalnacker Chair” to the Dept of OB-GYN.

Dr. Jack Masterson, Professor Emeritus and former Chair, told his intriguing account of becoming a rector for one of the major Chinese universities, from which he has just returned.

Bill Leach and his lovely wife, Ginger, were in attendance. Dr. Leach and his wife have bequeathed the “William Leach Professorship in OB-GYN.”

A special highlight of the Saturday program was the post Alumni Dinner talk given by Dr. Ken Kellner, Professor of Maternal-Fetal Medicine and Clerkship Director of OB-GYN. Ken gave a fabulous presentation in appropriate attire on “OB-GYN in Pharaonic Egypt.” There were times that we thought Ken was Yul Brenner, and times we thought he might have actually known Moses!
Dr. David Minton (Class of 1992) enjoyed an afternoon of golf with Dr. John Davis. Dr. Shireen Madani Sims’ father, Dr. Behrouz Madani, was present. Blaise Kovaz (Class of 1989) recounted stories of his intense interest in tropical fish filming. Dr. Cesar Rosa, a former MFM Fellow at UF, was as charming as ever. Dr. Brenda Shoup (Class of 2002) was present with her daughter. Dr. Wally McLean, Class of 1968, seems never to age, and I think he misses being with the residents and students here at the University. We all certainly miss him.

It was great seeing other members of the alumni, including: Rebecca Wagman (Class of 1989), Thom Tyler (Class of 1982), Helen Rogers (Class of 1998), Jennifer Nixon (Class of 1998), John Pugh (Class of 1986), Tony Messina (Class of 1975), Paul Leichter (Class of 1978), Brandly Kim (Class of 2002), Jesse Kane (Class of 1983), Paul Joslyn (Class of 1987), Richard Goldman (Class of 1980), Jeff Fowlkes (Class of 1979), Nicholas Fallieras (Class of 1976), Abby Eben (Class of 1996), and Niky Arunukul (Class of 2006).

Faculty in attendance but not previously mentioned were Nasser Chegini, Professor; Amelia Cruz, Professor Emeritus; Richard Kreiness, Clinical Associate Professor; David Stewart, Clinical Associate Professor; Alice Rhoton-Vlask, Associate Professor; and Xiaoping Luo, Research Assistant Professor. Support staff for the meeting included Debra Hope, Program Assistant to the Chair; Laura Wilson, Associate Director of OB-GYN; and Bill Scott, Department IT Expert.

Dr. Keith Stone also received two honors:
- College of Medicine’s Teacher of the Year Award for 2009-2010.
- Society of Teaching Scholar’s Award for Sustained Excellence in Medical Education, given to those individuals who have won multiple occasions either the COM or Senior Class Teacher of the Year Award.

**Welcome To Our Newest Residents**

Megan Lee Johnson, of Ocala, completed undergraduate studies at UCF with an outstanding academic record and consistently on the Dean’s List and President’s Honor Roll. Her BS degree was awarded summa cum laude. During medical school at UF she was a member of AMWA and Ob-Gyn Student Interest Group, and one of only 10 students selected as a junior to the AOA Medical Honor Society.

Lindsey Koss of Sarasota completed her undergraduate studies at UF as a member of the Dean’s List and selected to Alpha Epsilon Delta Pre-Health Honor Society. She was one of only 12 students chosen to Junior Honors Medical Program. She received a BS in Food Science and Human Nutrition. In medical school at UF, Lindsey was on her class Executive Board, was Fundraising Co-Chair, and participated in a health outreach trip to the Dominican Republic.

Analeta Peterson of Gainesville graduated magna cum laude with a BS in Biology from FAMU in 2005. Her academics at Meharry Medical College were exceptional. She was elected to AOA Honor Med Society her junior year. Graduating in the top 10% of her class, Analeta’s research projects focused on wellness and osteoporosis. For her global interest in women’s health, she earned the prestigious First Global Health Scholars Fellowship.

Samantha Winterrowd of Hollywood, FL, did her undergraduate studies at UF as a member of the Dean’s List and President’s Honor Roll. She was elected to National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Society of Agriculture, and Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. An Anderson Scholar for exceptionally high grade point average, she was awarded a BS cum laude. In med school at UF, she was Student Section of AMA, AMSA, AMWA, and ObGyn Interest Group.

**Spotlight on Research**

**Gregory Schultz, Ph.D.,** Professor and Director of the COM Medical Sciences Research Program, continues to investigate the molecular regulation of wound healing in several tissues including the eye, skin, and peritoneal cavity. His program is currently funded by two NIH grants and several grants from medical device companies. At the recent annual joint meeting of the Wound Healing Society and the Symposium on Advanced Wound Care, a poster reporting the first measurement of matrix metalloproteinase activities in wound fluids using a rapid point-of-care detector developed by Dr. Schultz’s lab and collaborators in the College of Nursing won *FIRST PLACE* for translational research. His group has also begun studying bacterial biofilms in chronic wounds.

- **Dr. Schultz** was awarded the UF Research Foundation Professorship Award for a distinguished record of research and scholarship that is expected to lead to continuing distinction in the field of wound healing for 2010-2012.

**Awards and Recognition**

- **Dr. Ken Kellner** has received the prestigious Society of Teaching Scholar’s Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. Kellner has been our Clerkship Director for 25 years. OB-GYN has consistently been voted by the Senior Class as the best clerkship at UF. APGO recognized our Clerkship as a model program in the country.
- **Dr. Keith Stone** also received two honors:
  - College of Medicine’s Teacher of the Year Award for 2009-2010.
  - Society of Teaching Scholar’s Award for Sustained Excellence in Medical Education, given to those individuals who have won multiple occasions either the COM or Senior Class Teacher of the Year Award.
SAVE THESE DATES!
The 2nd Annual
UF OB-GYN
Alumni Society Meeting
March 18-20, 2011
Gaylord Palms Resort
Orlando, Florida

To view additional photos from the 2010 OB-GYN Alumni Society Meeting, visit:
http://obgyn.ufl.edu/alumni/photo_gallery.php

For further information on the UF OB-GYN Alumni Society, please visit:
www.obgyn.ufl.edu
or email hoped@ufl.edu.

New Faculty Join Our Department!

Dr. Nash Moawad joins the department in July as Section Head of Minimally-Invasive Gynecologic Surgery. He was fellowship-trained at Magee-Womens Hospital of Univ Pittsburgh Med Center, with extensive training in state-of-the-art management of abnormal bleeding, ovarian pathology, chronic pelvic pain and endometriosis, and achieved a Masters in Clinical Research from Univ Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He completed residency in ObGyn at Univ Hospitals of Case Western Reserve Univ, Cleveland, graduated from Cairo Univ Med School and did residency in Family Medicine in Toledo, OH, pursuing a career in advanced gynecologic surgery. His research interests are endometriosis, new surgical technique and laparoscopic instrumentation.

Dr. Emily Weber LeBrun joins the Division of Gynecology in August as Section Head of Urogynecology. She graduated medical school at the University of Florida and completed her residency at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, MA, where she was recognized as Resident Teacher of the Year. She did a 3-year Fellowship at UMass Memorial Medical Hospital in Worcester, MA, with training in adult urogynecology, reconstructive pelvic surgery with management of urinary and fecal incontinence, pelvic floor dysfunction, prolapse, and minimally invasive surgery. Her research interests include surgical outcomes assessment, quality of care, effectiveness of surgical devices, and medical education strategies.

Dr. Jacqueline Castagno will join the Division of Gynecologic Oncology as Assistant Professor. She received her BA from Johns Hopkins, her MD from SUNY at Stony Brook School of Medicine and completed her residency at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York. She continued her education with Research and Clinical Fellowships in Gynecologic Oncology at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., then joined their faculty. Dr. Castagno’s special interests include cancer prevention in women, clinical trials, and treatment of vulvar and cervical cancer.

Dr. Margaret Mulvihill joins the Division of Gynecology in October after completing OB-GYN residency at the Univ of Buffalo-NY. She received her BA and MD from Trinity College in Ireland and continued training as a Junior Doctor at Rotunda Hospital in Dublin. She enjoys the challenges of high-risk obstetrics and has experience in both medical and surgical management of a wide diversity of complications.

Dr. Nash Moawad
Dr. Emily Weber LeBrun
Dr. Jacqueline Castagno
Dr. Margaret Mulvihill

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