

ACOG, DISTRICT IX  
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
10-27-05

- I. Call to order
  - a. The meeting was called to order at 2:30 by Dr Macer
  
- II. Roll Call
  - a. The following members were present:
    - Jim Macer
    - Frank Gamberdella
    - Jeanne Conry
    - Josephine Von Herzen
    - Laurie Gregg
    - Kelly McCue
    - Katherine Liniecki-Gregory
    - Gail Newel
    - Randy Winter
    - Jeffrey Richardson
    - Dan Lickness
    - E. Laurence Spencer-Smith
    - Sharon Winer
    - Bruce Flamm
    - Dennis Buchanan
    - Philip Diamond
    - Diana Hoppe
    - William Khieu
    - Ruth Haskins
    - Shannon Smith-Crowley
    - Colleen McNally
    - Malcolm Margolin
    - Dane Shipp
    - Susanne Ramos
    - Chai-Lin Hsu
    - Vivian Dickerson
    - Sterling Williams
    - May Blanchard
    - Kristen Cunningham
    - Leah Kaufman
    - Ezra Davidson
    - Chrysten Cunningham
    - Margaret Merritt
    - Elliot Main

- III. Approval of Minutes
  - a. The minutes were approved with the following corrections:
    - 2007 ADM: Victoria
    - 2008 ADM: possibly Santa Barbara
    - Strike Dr Diamonds comments on Boxer and Feinstein
    - Summarize comments on formal minutes
  
- IV. Chairman's Report: Dr Jim Macer
  - a. introduced national officers and new section officers and guests
  - b. new chairs introduced at council for district chairs
  - c. discussed issues of hotel contracts for conferences
  - d. compensation for district officers
  - e. SGO gave presentation at CDC on increased cancer awareness
  - f. Discussed Dr Levy's work with procedure reimbursement
  - g. Introduced 'pay for performance'
  - h. Discussed issue of health courts
  - i. Discussed Doctors for Medical Liability Reform campaign
  - j. Referred to intermediate sanctions and IRS
  - k. Financial report
  - l. Thanked audience for memorable time in office
  
- V. National ACOG Report
  - a. Dr Zinberg discussed:
    - 1. Pay for performance and the way it limits governmental spending and HR3617
    - 2. American College of Radiologist's push for all radiological interpretations/reimbursements
    - 3. Midwifery and Bill 911
    - 4. move of some fellows to do office practice only
    - 5. emphasis on patient safety issues
  
  - b. Dr Williams discussed:
    - 1. handed out CDs from ACM in San Fran
    - 2. completing ACOG membership survey
    - 3. ACCME meeting and keeping up with regulations
    - 4. Future ACM meetings:
      - 2006-Washington DC
      - 2007-San Diego
      - 2008-New Orleans
      - 2009-Chicago
    - 5. Experiment to place post grad course adjacent to ADM
    - 6. Encourage attendees to visit exhibitors

7. Availability of speaker from Task Force on Immunizations
8. Simulation Centers to help with training
9. CME units for state regulated CME mandates

c. Dr Dickerson discussed:

1. Appreciation for support of her past presidency
2. National vs. local liability reform and need for multiprong approach
3. complaints through the grievance committee
4. ACOG's strategic and operational plans
5. encouragement for advocacy
6. public comment on Plan B open until Nov 1
7. "Kudos" to Dr Macer for all his work and dedication to ACOG

VI. Junior Fellows Report

- a. Dr Moayeri unable to attend, see her report pgs 64-67
- b. Dr May Blanchard updated attendees on current issues
- c. Benefits and alternative to JF restructuring were discussed (66-67)

VII. Treasurer's Report: Dr Jeanne Conry:

- a. Intermediate sanctions (pages 33-42), approach with any questions
- b. Proposed 2006 Budget: changes discussed.  
**Motion** carried to pass 2006 proposed budget

The continuation of the meeting was called to order at 7:35 on 10-27-05 by Dr Macer

VIII. New Introductions:

- a. Leah Kaufman
- b. Ezra Davidson
- c. Ariana Carvajal and Rowena recognized for organizing meeting in absence of executive director
- d. Shannon Crowley-Smith recognized for organizing interviews for executive director
- e. Margaret Merritt was introduced and her background discussed. She looks forward to the position and establishing a partnership with each one of us

IX Legislative Report: Dr Ruth Haskins

Refer to handout that updates bill status. A number of bills were introduced requiring CME credits. The HIV bill that mandates offering HIV at each annual visit is a two year bill and is a one to watch. Updated copies of bills were passed out. Proposition 73 was discussed. If this passed the word of abortion would be in the California constitution 'conceived but not yet born'. It also puts an onerous task on physicians as the enforcers. Many other medical organizations are against this

proposition. Potential ramifications are disastrous. This bill does not keep the teenager safe. An e-mail blast will be sent. With regards to midwives, a lot of legislators feel patient should have the choice for a home birth. Midwifery is a form of alternative medicine. They may have their own board not under the medical board. Proposal now is to outlaw multiples, or breeches. A VBAC consent was developed. We are looking for a way to protect the physician in case of a transfer of patient care.

- IX. Program Chair : Jeanne Conry, announcements
  - a. Thanks to Dr Margolin for speaker assistance, Cathy Gregory for exhibitor recruitment. There is a raffle for completed exhibitor forms.
  - b. Tonight dinner at Sheraton for advisory councils (extra charge for spouse)
  - c. Friday night dinner reception at Westin, Buses to town on Sat night
  
- X. Business of Medicine Report: Bill Khieu  
Thank exhibitors for supporting the conference. He wants to serve the doctor with his committee. Happy to be able to offer on site to a practice evaluation, 1<sup>st</sup> one will be Dr Hoppe's practice in San Diego. Considering additional coding conferences. He gave a presentation on billing and coding correctly. There is a program EncoderPro.com that is helpful. He gave some helpful hints on specific operative coding, emphasized importance of pre-authorizing devices, and getting your money due to you.
  
- XI. Elliot Main, Chair Dept of OB/GYN California Pacific Medical Center  
Presentation on measuring quality of care in obstetrics (handout of slides given and attached). Would like a volunteer for the state committee for the maternity quality of care committee: Randy Winter and Kathy Gregory volunteered
  
- XII Section Reports
  - a. Section 1 : (Dr Gregg and McCue) VBAC issues, recertification/training issues, lack of OB/GYN physicians in some areas, lack of induction availability and private patient rooms in the city hospitals, decrease in quality medical students applying to residency, worry about further limitation on residency hours, and inability to retain/recruit REI doctors at academic settings. MICRA concerns were addressed with 2 legislators. Medical Student mixer being arranged.
  
  - b. Section 2 : (Dr. Gregory) surveyed SF OB/Gyn society about top three challenges of practice. Concerns were decreased reimbursement, MICRA, quality measures, EMR, and lack of respect. Kathy has been working with Senator Speirs about needing to go to pharmacy each month for contraception. Will make effort to get medical students mixer

- c. Section 3: (Dr Newel and Winter) New perinatologist in area and as chair at Fresno. UCSF medical students rotate through Fresno. St Agnes is starting to pay for ER coverage. Uncompensated ER coverage is an important issue.
- d. Section 4: (Dr Richardson and Lickness) ER coverage issues, increased overhead, difficulty in obtaining physician operative assistants. One hospital has restarted doing VBACs by hiring an in house OB anesthesiologists. There were questions about reimbursement for proctors. There seems to be a crisis in OB/GYN in central California (Santa Maria).
- e. Section 5 (Dr Spencer-Smith and Winer) Issues with King Drew Medical Center, some decline in VBAC rates and that some doctors not offering VBAC. Hospitals with in-house docs, VBACs work better. There is a decrease in funding for indigent patients. Medical student mixers being worked on. OB with Medicae having trouble finding a doctor. Trouble with ER coverage especially with legislative bill prohibiting balanced billing. Problem with privileging at hospitals
- f. Section 6 (Dr Flamm and Murray). VBAC still an issue at many hospitals. Educational bulletin on operative deliveries an issue for some fellows. ACOG dues an issue for some young fellows. ER letter from ACOG is helpful. Complaint about late fee for ABOG. Controversy about new subspecialty hospital opening.
- g. Section 7 (Dr York and Buchanan) Desire to have a laborist at the large hospitals. Some hospitals have closed and there is a problem getting labor and delivery nurses. There is an increase in medically restricted birth plans and doulas.
- h. Section 8 (Dr Diamond and Hoppe). Increasing overhead issues. Northern San Diego's population is growing and beds at hospitals are not available, also less induction and c-section availability. There is a nursing staff shortage. There are expert witness issues. Why are they AFP forms on two sides and only testing 3 hormones? ACOG will re-establish connection with department of health services. Issue about hospital offering or reoffering HIV results.
- i. MICRA Task Force  
Dr Diamond and group discussed importance of continued MICRA lobbying support

## XII. John Gibbons Award/Medical Student Mixers

Three medical students are funded to ADM with this. Dr Macer has proposed that funding go toward medical student mixers. Dr Macer went

through how to arrange a mixer and run a mixer. Each of the medical schools was assigned an advisory council member to run a mixer.

- XIII. Laborists/Hospitalists
- a. Dr Von Herzen discussed her hospitalist program. Hospitals have to put out capital but get returns in safety, reducing liability, enticing doctors to deliver there, giving doctors different employment opportunities.

- XIV. Elections
- Section Officer Elections
  - Section 2 chair and vice chair
  - Section 3 chair and vice Chair
  - Section 6 chair and vice chair

**Motion** was made to accept section 2 candidates, motion passed

**Motion** was made not to accept section 3 candidates, motion passed

**Motion** was make to accept section 6 candidates (Rick Murray and John King), motion passed

National Officer Elections were discussed

Nominating Committee members were decided: Jim Macer,  
1<sup>st</sup> alternate: Ruth Haskins  
2<sup>nd</sup> alternate: John Pfifer

- XV. Strategic planning meeting
- a. Come with ideas, dates are March 16-19 in Santa Barbara
- XVI. Awards
- a. Outstanding District Service Award: Betty Tu nominated by Jeanne Conry  
Moved and passed
  - b. Wyeth Section Award
  - c. ACOG Community Service Award: nominations taken and submitted
  - d. ACOG Distinguished Service
- XVII. Attendees to Congressional Leadership Conference (March 12-14<sup>th</sup>)  
Names were taken.
- XVIII. Burch Junior Fellow Travel Award/Shingo Junior Fellow Travel Award/McCain Fellowship  
Think of candidates
- XIX. New Treasurer(Jeff Richardson) and Secretary (Laurie Gregg) introduced

XX. Dates of upcoming meetings discussed

Meeting was adjourned at 1400.