In his first address as president of ACOG, Douglas W. Laube, MD, MEd, challenged Fellows to evaluate and improve medical education.

“Education must be relevant,” he said. “And to be sure education is relevant, we need to question the very nature of the given. If the given education is inadequate to meet future needs, we need to be willing to change it, even if that means changing its very nature.”

Dr. Laube was inaugurated as the 57th president of ACOG on May 10 at the Annual Clinical Meeting in Washington, DC. Dr. Laube is chair of the department of ob-gyn at the University of Wisconsin.

Afghanistan heartbreak
Dr. Laube began his inauguration speech with a short story: “A little over two years ago, I was in a busy maternity ward in Kabul, Afghanistan. We were discussing morning report with a group of Afghan faculty and residents not far from the labor ward when a heart-rending wailing began.

“I was told that the wailing was that of a mother and grandmother of a 17-year-old woman who had just died in childbirth. Soon I learned that this 17-year-old primigravida had become unresponsive after developing seizures the day before, in a small community outside Kabul.

“Not knowing what to do, the young woman’s mother and grandmother had taken her on a homemade litter to a local cleric. The cleric said that the young woman had been viewed by the ‘evil eye,’ and he prescribed a ritual cane beating, which he administered to drive out the evil spirits. Of course, the eclamptic seizures that this young woman was having did not stop. That evening, the mother and grandmother brought her to our hospital, moribund, in fulminating pulmonary edema and congestive failure. She died a few hours later, just before we had assembled for morning report.

“When I asked the residents who had attended her about the care she should have received, they said that contemporary management should have included electroconvulsive shock therapy, herbal tea, and immediate cesarean delivery of the dead baby.

“This tragedy serves to illustrate the differences in medical education in our two countries,” Dr. Laube said. “But don’t think that I believe that our medical education system is perfect or that we have all the answers. In fact, I believe we’ve become complacent, and our complacency, if left unchallenged, eventually will lead to mediocrity. Perhaps a title for my speech today could be ‘Medical Education: What’s Relevant, What’s Irrelevant, and What’s Missing.’”

A portrait of ob-gyn
Dr. Laube pointed out a few of the many factors that have had an impact on the ob-gyn specialty:

- A market-driven move toward primary care
- Declining numbers of traditional gynecologic surgery cases
- Resident work-hour restrictions
- A dramatic shift in the gender demographics
Successful ACM in Washington, DC

A S I WRITE THIS EXECUTIVE DESK, ACOG has just completed another successful Annual Clinical Meeting in Washington, DC. Douglas W. Laube, MD, MEd, has been inaugurated as our 57th president, and we are beginning our year of his leadership.

This was the first time in 13 years that ACOG has held the ACM in Washington, and the new convention center was very convenient and was outstanding in the way it supported our meeting. Our friends in industry had many excellent exhibits that were educational and informative.

Based on comments from attendees, the scientific program was one of the best. Attendance at all sessions was outstanding, and, in some sessions, there was standing room only. The Committee on Scientific Program did an extraordinary job, and it reflected our specialty and the changes we face.

Our efforts at recruiting medical students were successful. Thanks primarily to the efforts of our Junior Fellows, more than 330 medical students attended the ACM. There was a special lounge so we could communicate one-on-one with med students; there was a reception with more than 500 attendees, and there was a special course for medical students.

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Junior Fellow leaders Drs. Patrick S. Ramsey, Rajiv B. Gala, and May Hsieh Blanchard planned and developed the medical student program. We owe them our thanks and more thanks.

At this year’s meeting we instituted a new method to identify new inductees. A special lapel pin was given to each new fellow to enable our members to recognize and welcome them to our family, ACOG.

Next year, our ACM will be May 5–9 in San Diego. It will be hard to equal this year’s program, but the Committee on Scientific Program tells me that next year will be even better. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend.

Ralph W. Hale, MD, FACOG
Executive Vice President
New campaign aims to increase emergency contraception access

At a news conference at the Annual Clinical Meeting in May, ACOG launched a new national campaign, Ask me, aimed at educating women about emergency contraception and encouraging them to get an advance prescription from their ob-gyn.

ACOG developed the campaign to help eliminate the logistical and political barriers that currently exist and make EC largely inaccessible to women.

“ACOG is stepping up our efforts to address this country’s high rate of unintended pregnancy,” said then-ACOG President Michael T. Mennuti, MD. “Nearly half (49%) of the more than 6 million pregnancies that occur each year are unplanned. Family planning is an important issue for our specialty, and EC is an excellent contraceptive option for millions of women who want to prevent an unintended pregnancy.”

Dr. Mennuti was joined at the news conference by then-ACOG President Elect Douglas W. Laube, MD, MEd; Past President Vivian M. Dickerson, MD; and Iffath A. Hoskins, MD, representing ACOG’s Committee on Health Care for Underserved Women.

The theme of the Ask me campaign is “Accidents happen. Morning afters can be tough.” Campaign materials include posters for physicians’ examination and waiting rooms and the Ask me button—a key element designed to promote dialogue between the patient and her ob-gyn about emergency contraception.

More than half (53%) of the women who have unplanned pregnancies are using some method of contraception.

“Accidents happen. No form of contraception offers women 100% protection,” Dr. Mennuti said. “By getting women to ask about emergency contraception, and by ob-gyns giving them an advance prescription for it, we hope to make EC a forethought, not an afterthought. We want women to be prepared—well before a contraceptive failure or unprotected sex occurs. Afterward may be too late.”

The only dedicated EC product on the market, Barr Pharmaceuticals’ Plan B, has had its over-the-counter application denied and then stalled by the US Food and Drug Administration. ACOG supports OTC status for Plan B.

PAST ACOG PRESIDENT Vicki L. Seltzer, MD, gave reporters an update on breast cancer at a news briefing at the Annual Clinical Meeting in May. Dr. Seltzer is vice president for women’s health services at North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System and chair of ob-gyn at North Shore University Hospital and Long Island Jewish Medical Center, New Hyde Park, NY.

Dr. Seltzer provided recommendations on genetic counseling and testing for BRCA1 and BRCA2, as well as advice about regular screening with mammography, clinical breast exams, and self-exams. And, she stressed to the media: “It’s important to remember that 75% of women with breast cancer do not have identifiable risk factors.”
ACM participants reviewed research findings through dozens of poster sessions.

More than 350 exhibitors were available in the Exhibit Hall to answer questions and demonstrate new technology.

“Nuchal Translucency and First-Trimester Risk Assessment” was a special course offered at this year’s ACM. The half-day course allowed participants to begin the process to become credentialed in nuchal translucency.

A Medical Student Lounge gave medical students a place to relax and mingle, as well as the opportunity to ask Junior Fellow leaders about the ob-gyn specialty.

During an interactive session, an ACM attendee uses a keypad to respond to a question. Audience answers were tallied and displayed at the front of the room, allowing participants to compare options for management or diagnosis decisions.

ACM participants took advantage of several hands-on courses at the ACM, including this one on operative hysteroscopy.

“I enjoyed seeing the breadth and depth of the specialty and learning new things. It’s going to be an exciting and energizing year. So many things are helpful at this meeting, I learn something new at every session.”

Kenneth W. Merkitch Jr, MD, La Crosse, WI
Professors look stumped, make comeback

IT WASN’T LOOKING GOOD FOR THE DISTINGUISHED PANEL at the Stump the Professors session at the Annual Clinical Meeting in May. The professors were down in the count 0-and-2, but then Charles J. Lockwood, MD, dug it out, nailing the final two diagnoses.

Dr. Lockwood, Yale University School of Medicine, was joined on the panel by Dee E. Fenner, MD, University of Michigan; Frank W. Ling, MD, Vanderbilt University; and James W. Orr Jr, MD, of Florida Gynecologic Oncology, Fort Myers, FL.

Honeymoon in Jamaica
First up was District VII’s Kristopher J. Kimball, MD, a third-year resident at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Dr. Kimball’s case, “The Honeymoon is Over,” presented a 32-year-old patient who had consistent pain in her back and right flank during her honeymoon, causing her husband to encourage her to seek help. She had a tender nodule on her spine, was a half-pack-a-day smoker, and had a maternal aunt who had breast cancer. Dr. Ling asked about the source of the pain and whether or not there was more information, but Dr. Kimball informed him that the lab work had come from an outside lab and no other information was available.

“I’m not sure what the diagnosis is at this point, but I do think this lady was taken care of by Dr. Orr recently,” Dr. Ling joked.

Dr. Kimball said that by the third day of treatment the patient was still in constant pain, but no clear diagnosis had been made. New findings showed intracellular and extracellular yeast forms, which Dr. Kimball hinted had tipped his team off to the root issue.

“This one is way back to medical school here, folks,” Dr. Kimball said.

“OK, I’ll admit it, I didn’t go to medical school,” Dr. Ling said. “You folks got me.”

Dr. Kimball informed the panel that the final diagnosis was disseminated Cryptococcus, an infection carried in bird droppings that usually infects immunocompromised people.

“The lumbar biopsy is what helped us make the diagnosis,” Dr. Kimball said. “A chronic IV antifungal was the treatment used, and she cleared up within two weeks.”

Complex cyst
District VI Mayo Clinic chief resident Jamie N. Bakkum, MD, also stumped the panel with her case, “A Complex Ovarian Cyst.” Dr. Bakkum’s 40-year-old patient presented with sharp pain in her right upper abdominal area. Dr. Bakkum said everything else was normal and that the patient was not pregnant.

“What about a pelvic exam?” Dr. Ling asked.

“No pelvic was performed,” Dr. Bakkum said.

Dr. Fenner guessed at a kidney stone, but that was incorrect. The patient was released and then reported back 12 hours later, complaining about increased, consistent pain.

“Will someone do a pelvic? Please, please,” Dr. Orr said.

The professors were stumped. The diagnosis eventually turned out to be 30 cm of necrotic jejunum that had been bypassed in another operation.

Rash decision
Geoffrey Gill, MD, a District VIII third-year resident from the University of New Mexico, presented “Don’t Do Anything Rash!” Dr. Gill’s case involved a 41-year-old patient who delivered prematurely and lost the baby 13 days later. The woman developed a dry scaly rash 12 days post-op, but no biopsy was done at the time.

“She was diagnosed with an allergic reaction and treated,” Dr. Gill said.

Three days later, the patient was back after the rash spread up her back and all over her abdomen. After a phone consultation with a dermatologist, the patient was prescribed a cream and released.

She came back eight days later after the rash had spread to her arms, complete with boils. Dr. Lockwood hit the diagnosis—pemphigoid gestationis, also known as herpes gestationis.

“Her Pain?”
The 40-year-old pregnant patient came to the hospital with severe abdominal pain that showed up two hours prior to presentation.

After four days, the team induced labor, at which point the patient arrested, and the physicians decided on a cesarean delivery. Dr. Lockwood soon nailed the diagnosis, naming the issue as a ruptured endometrioma.

“I want to say that endometriomas should be considered in any pregnant patient presenting with abdominal pain,” Dr. Cichowski said.™
New JFCAC vice chair from District VII

**DISTRICT VII**

Junior Fellow Chair Rajiv B. Gala, MD, was elected vice chair of the Junior Fellow College Advisory Council at the Annual Clinical Meeting in May. Dr. Gala is an assistant professor at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. Dr. Gala plans to focus his term on promoting four areas:
- Recruitment
- Communication
- Outreach
- Public perception

“The JFCAC Task Force on Medical Student Initiatives has done a great job expanding the educational activities available for medical students at the ACM,” Dr. Gala said. “Everyone acknowledges the importance of attracting strong applicants into our field, and as the JFCAC vice chair, I would actively maintain and expand upon these efforts.”

**JFCAC Chair Patrick S. Ramsey, MD, MSPH.**

Dr. Gala helped create the District VII Residency Program Representative Initiative, in which one resident from each of the US residency programs in District VII serves as his or her program’s representative to the district. “This has been a great way to promote ACOG activities, groom future ACOG leaders, and track residency issues,” Dr. Gala said. “Bringing this initiative to the national level could help replace our key contacts program and foster grassroots activism.”

Dr. Gala is the chair of the JFCAC and District VII informatics task forces and wants to continue improving and expanding Junior Fellow district and national websites.

Dr. Gala said he witnessed the positive effect that outreach to other organizations can have when he was one of 10 Junior Fellows selected by ACOG last year to attend the annual scientific meeting of the Japan Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology in Kyoto, Japan. “That experience helped validate the power of collaboration and coalition building to globally promote women’s health.”

AT THE END OF THE JUNIOR Fellow College Advisory Council meeting at the Annual Clinical Meeting in May, the outgoing chair, May Hsieh Blanchard, MD, passed the gavel to the new chair, Patrick S. Ramsey, MD, MSPH. Dr. Ramsey, of District VII, then elaborated on his theme for this year, which is “Building Community, Communication, and Collegiality.”

“While we as the JFCAC have made great strides over the past several years to advance initiatives related to medical student recruitment and Junior Fellows in training—primarily residency training—we have just begun to focus efforts on a number of subsets of Junior Fellows in practice, Junior Fellows in subspecialty fellowship training, as well as the unique needs and interests of the Junior Fellows from Mexico and Canada, other international Junior Fellows, and our colleagues in the Armed Forces District,” Dr. Ramsey said.

As part of his initiative, two new JFCAC task forces have been established: The Junior Fellows in Practice and the International Junior Fellows task forces have been charged with assessing the needs of Junior Fellows in these diverse groups and developing innovative strategies to address the issues defined.

In addition, Dr. Ramsey wants to conduct a needs assessment to gain a better understanding of the needs of all Junior Fellows, as well as the specific groups he mentioned. He also plans on making the JFCAC Informatics Task Force a standing subcommittee of the JFCAC to explore ways of improving communication between the Council and all Junior Fellows in order to share information about opportunities, needs, and concerns. In addition, he wants to continue the JFCAC’s work addressing the issue of professionalism.

**Junior Fellow elections to be held online in August**

**WITH JUNIOR FELLOW district elections coming up in August, it’s not too early to review candidates’ names and CVs. Junior Fellow elections will be held online August 1–31. A list of candidates and their CVs are on the Junior Fellow section of the ACOG website.”

**Essay about doctor-patient relationship due August 31**

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The theme for this year’s Junior Fellow essay contest is “The Ob-Gyn Doctor-Patient Relationship … What It Means to Me.” The deadline for submitting essays is August 31.

The contest is open to all Junior Fellows. Essays should be between 500 and 750 words and should not name any patients. One winner will be selected from each district and will receive $500. A grand-prize winner will be selected from the district winners and will receive an additional $500 plus an expense-paid trip to the 2007 Annual Clinical Meeting in San Diego, May 5–9. **info**

- For election candidate CVs and more information on the essay contest, visit the ACOG website, www.acog.org, and click on “Junior Fellows” in the “Quick Links” box on the left side of the home page.
- Christine Himes, 800-673-8444, ext 2561, or chimes@acog.org.

Outgoing JFCAC Chair May Hsieh Blanchard, MD, passes the gavel to new JFCAC Chair Patrick S. Ramsey, MD, MSPH.
Outstanding District Service Award

Nine Outstanding District Service Awards were presented at the Annual Clinical Meeting in May to those individuals who have made notable contributions to their districts.

**DISTRICT II**

**Jeffrey C. King, MD**

In 2002, Dr. King collaborated with ACOG’s District II to establish an ongoing statewide maternal mortality surveillance program. He was a founding member of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/ACOG Maternal Mortality Study Group and serves as chair of the ACOG Maternal Mortality Special Interest Group. Dr. King is a member of the ACOG Committee on Practice Bulletins-Obstetrics and has served on the Clinical Document Review Panel-Obstetrics and the committees on Scientific Program and Course Coordination. He has received the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics Excellence in Teaching Award for undergraduate education and the Council on Resident Education in Obstetrics and Gynecology National Teaching Award.

Dr. King is the medical director for perinatal services at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus, OH.

**DISTRICT III**

**Vincent A. Pellegrini, MD**

Dr. Pellegrini’s ACOG activities began as a District III Junior Fellow vice chair and chair. He served as Pennsylvania Section chair and District III treasurer and chair. He was appointed to several presidential task forces, including the Task Force on Electronic Health Records, and has served on the ACOG committees on Finance, Insurance, and Credentials. In 1993, he received the ACOG Presidents Community Service Award. Dr. Pellegrini was president of the Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia and of the Philadelphia Area Reproductive Endocrine Society. He is on the Professional Advisory Board of PCO Strategies.

Dr. Pellegrini is the president of the Women’s Clinic Ltd, in Reading, PA, and clinical director of its In Vitro Fertilization Program.

**DISTRICT IV**

**Charles B. Hammond, MD**

Dr. Hammond served as the College president in 2002–03. Previously, he was chair, vice chair, and secretary of District IV. He has been president of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine and the American Gynecological and Obstetrical Society. He served as a director and vice president of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology and as a member of the Residency Review Committee for Obstetrics-Gynecology. He recently served as president of the American Gynecologic Club and has been recognized by election to the Institute of Medicine.

Dr. Hammond is the E. C. Hamblen Professor and Chair Emeritus of the ob-gyn department at Duke University in Durham, NC.

**DISTRICT V**

**Robert J. Sokol, MD**

Dr. Sokol currently serves as editor-in-chief of ACOG Update, the monthly audio continuing medical education series. He is a liaison member to the National Task Force on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome managed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. He has been president of the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine and the Central Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and serves as chair of the SMFM Foundation. Dr. Sokol received a Lifetime Achievement Award from SMFM.

Dr. Sokol is the director of the C.S. Mott Center for Human Growth and Development in the ob-gyn department at Wayne State University School of Medicine, Detroit.

**DISTRICT VI**

**Robert J. Jaeger, MD**

Dr. Jaeger has served as Wisconsin Section secretary-treasurer, vice chair, and chair. He was a member of the District VI Legislative Committee, Program Committee, and Nominating Committee and was the district junior Fellow advisor for nine years. He also served as District VI treasurer and chair and was chair of the ACOG Council of District Chairs. He served on the ACOG Task Force on Electronic Health Records and the committees on Credentials, Development, Government Relations, and Nominations. Dr. Jaeger has served for 20 years on the Wisconsin State Medical Society board of directors and is a member of the American Medical Association delegation. He helped lead the successful campaign to pass medical liability reform in Wisconsin.

Dr. Jaeger is assistant clinical professor in the ob-gyn department at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

**DISTRICT VII**

**Luis C. Uribe-Ramirez, MD**

Dr. Uribe has been vice chair and chair of the Mexico Section, and since 1988 has been a reference committee member in District VII. He initiated the joint courses between District VII members and Mexican ob-gyns to highlight the advantages of becoming a member.
of ACOG. This effort increased the size of the Mexico Section. In 1994, Dr. Uribe received the District VII Graham Walte Award. He is co-chair of the International Educational Activities Committee in District VII and serves as a liaison member to the Committee on Continuing Medical Education. He was recently appointed treasurer of the Mexican Board of Gynecology and Obstetrics.

Dr. Uribe is in private practice and is professor of postgraduate gynecologic courses at the University of Guadalajara.

**DISTRICT VIII**

**James T. Breeden, MD**

Dr. Breeden is ACOG treasurer. He has been vice chair and chair both of District VIII and the Nevada Section. He was treasurer of District VIII. He has been chair of the Council of District Chairs and a member of the Task Force on Strategic Planning. Dr. Breeden has been a member of the ACOG committees on Finance, Nominations, and Coding and Nomenclature. Dr. Breeden received the District VIII Junior Fellow Top Fellow Award in 2005.

Dr. Breeden is a founding partner, officer, and director of the Carson Ambulatory Surgical Center and Sierra Hospital and Imaging. He retired in 2005 as president of the Carson Medical Group, Carson City, NV.

**DISTRICT IX**

**Betty K. Tu, MD, MBA**

Dr. Tu has served on the ACOG committees on Health Care for Underserved Women, Coding and Nomenclature, and Nominations. In District IX, she served as secretary and on the Committee on State Legislature and the District Nominating Committee. She chaired the districts Business of Medicine Committee and was co-editor of the district newsletter. Dr. Tu has served on the Secretary's Advisory Council on Infant Mortality, the Quality Assurance Advisory Committee of Aetna-US Health, and the Advisory Board of the University of California at Irvine Susan Samueli Center of Integrative Medicine.

Dr. Tu is cofounder and senior vice president of Star Medical Group, Pinnacle Health Resources, and Pinnacle Resources International.

**ARMED FORCES DISTRICT**

**Thomas A. Klein, MD**

Dr. Klein has served as the Armed Forces District secretary-treasurer, vice chair, and chair. He was a member of the ACOG Health Care Commission and the Committee on Ethics. Dr. Klein held a variety of positions at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, DC, becoming chief of the ob-gyn department in 1985. During this time, he established the Combined Federal Fellowship in Reproductive Endocrinology.

His teaching awards include the General Claire Chennault Award, the Armed Forces District Junior Fellows' Professor of the Year Award, and the national faculty awards of APGO and CREOG. Dr. Klein is clinical professor and vice chair of the ob-gyn department at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, where he chairs the medical school's Committee on Student Promotion.

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**Distinguished Service Award**

The ACOG Distinguished Service Award is presented to outstanding individuals in obstetrics and gynecology who have made significant contributions to ACOG and/or the discipline of obstetrics and gynecology in government, research, teaching, or direct patient care. At the Annual Clinical Meeting in May, Robert C. Cefalo, MD, PhD, received this honor.

**Robert C. Cefalo, MD, PhD**

Dr. Cefalo is professor emeritus of obstetrics and gynecology and assistant dean, head of the Office of Graduate Medical Education, at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine. He received his medical degree from Tufts University and his doctorate from Georgetown University. He served in the US Navy Medical Corps for 24 years and received the Navy Commendation and Meritorious Service awards.

Dr. Cefalo has been a member of the ACOG Armed Forces District since its inception and has served on numerous committees. He chaired the committees on Obstetrics: Maternal-Fetal Medicine, Course Coordination, and Ethics. He was an ACOG liaison to the National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and served as a chair or member of numerous NIH committees and consensus conferences. Dr. Cefalo was co-director of the ACOG Women's Leadership Program in Women's Health Policy.

Dr. Cefalo has been an examiner for the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology and served as both its president and chair. He was president of the North Carolina Obstetrical and Gynecological Society and was honored by the North Carolina Governor's Commission on Reduction of Infant Mortality. He has received several Residents' Best Teacher awards in the UNC department of obstetrics and gynecology, and in 1997 this award was named in his honor.
### Candidates for national office

Candidate quotes are in response to: **What advice would you give to a medical student starting a career in ob-gyn?**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>President Elect</th>
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| **Veena B. Desai, MD**  
West Springfield, MA  
“New frontiers are unfolding in obstetrics-gynecology. Once again, it will be a highly rewarding and satisfying specialty. The storm of professional liability is a temporary phase. It will pass. ‘There is spring in the valley, so don’t despair.’”  
**Professional Position**  
Attending ob-gyn, Baystate Medical Center and Mercy Medical Center  
**Education**  
- MD: Seth G.S. Medical College, Bombay, India  
- RESIDENCY: teaching hospitals in Bombay recognized by the Hospitals of National Health Service in UK; and Dalhousie University, Canada  
**ACOG Activities**  
- NATIONAL: ACOG key contact |
| **Masood A. Khatamee, MD**  
New York City  
“Our specialty is unique and wonderful because you help a man and a woman bring a healthy child into this world. Be politically and professionally active because we face compelling challenges and the work we do is worth protecting.”  
**Professional Position**  
Clinical professor, New York University; executive director, Fertility Research Foundation  
**Education**  
- MD: Shiraz University, Shiraz, Iran  
- RESIDENCY: Queens Hospital Center and New York University Bellevue Hospital Center  
**ACOG Activities**  
- NATIONAL: Congressional Leadership Conference participant; ACM speaker |
| **Gerald F. Joseph Jr, MD**  
Springfield, MO  
“I would encourage someone to enjoy their years of training and to apply themselves as much as possible to learning, while being ever conscious of exploring all of the different career tracks, in both private and academic medicine, that are available in our wonderful specialty of obstetrics and gynecology.”  
**Professional Position**  
Medical director for women’s services, St. John’s Regional Health Center  
**Education**  
- MD: Tulane University, New Orleans  
- RESIDENCY: Louisiana State University  
**ACOG Activities**  
- NATIONAL: member, Council of District Chairs; chair, Committee on Scientific Program; member, committees on Gynecologic Practice, Nominations, Long-Range Planning, Credentials, Continuing Education; chair, task forces on Enhancing Practice Satisfaction and District and Section Contributions; member, task forces on Abortion, Nominations Process (2), Scope of Practice, Medical Student Recruitment, Committees; Executive Board liaison to Society of Maternal-Fetal Medicine board; member, editorial advisory board for Managing Menopause/pause  
- DISTRICT VII: chair; vice chair; secretary-treasurer; scientific program chair; chair, vice chair, secretary-treasurer, Louisiana Section; member, Advisory Council, Missouri Section |
| **Douglas H. Kirkpatrick, MD**  
Denver  
“One of the great pleasures for ob-gyns is our ability to care for women throughout their lifetime. No other specialty allows the combination of practicing ambulatory medicine, pregnancy care, and surgery, which will keep one energized and challenged for a professional lifetime.”  
**Professional Position**  
Private practice; assistant clinical professor of ob-gyn, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center  
**Education**  
- MD: University of Iowa Medical Center  
- RESIDENCY: University of Michigan Medical Center  
**ACOG Activities**  
- NATIONAL: vice president; chair, Council of District Chairs; chair, Grievance Committee; member, committees on Nominations, Credentials, Health Care for Underserved Women, Professional Liability  
- DISTRICT VIII: chair; vice chair; secretary; recipient, Outstanding District Service Award; recipient, Wyeth Pharmaceuticals Section Award; chair, vice chair, secretary, Colorado Section |
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<td><strong>Peter A. Schwartz, MD</strong>&lt;br&gt;Reading, PA</td>
<td><strong>Iffath Abbasi Hoskins, MD</strong>&lt;br&gt;Brooklyn, NY</td>
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<td>“Great choice! Approach your career with enthusiasm. You can make it what you want it to be. Always respect and enjoy your patients, your families, and yourself.”</td>
<td>“You will be challenged in many ways because ours is a unique specialty whereby we provide care during all phases of women’s lives. Additionally, these are exciting times for our specialty because of the new technologies and tests available nowadays.”</td>
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<td><strong>Professional Position</strong>&lt;br&gt;Clinical professor of ob-gyn, Drexel University School of Medicine</td>
<td><strong>Professional Position</strong>&lt;br&gt;Chair and residency director, Lutheran Medical Center</td>
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<td><strong>Education</strong>&lt;br&gt;- MD: Boston University&lt;br&gt;- RESIDENCY: Yale-New Haven Hospital, CT</td>
<td><strong>Education</strong>&lt;br&gt;- MD: Dow Medical College, Karachi, Pakistan&lt;br&gt;- RESIDENCY: National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, MD</td>
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<td><strong>ACOG Activities</strong>&lt;br&gt;- NATIONAL: assistant secretary; chair and vice chair, Committee on Ethics; member, Committee on Government Relations; member, Task Force on Residency Issues; ACOG delegate to AMA; member, Residency Review Committee; CREOG Region II program director representative&lt;br&gt;- DISTRICT III: member, Advisory Council; recipient, Outstanding District Service Award; chair, vice chair, Pennsylvania Section</td>
<td><strong>ACOG Activities</strong>&lt;br&gt;- NATIONAL: member, committees on Obstetric Practice, Health Care for Underserved Women; member, Task Force on Governance; member, PROLOG Task Force on Obstetrics-fourth edition; member, Clinical Document Review Panel; liaison to American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Drugs; liaison to Society for Perinatal Obstetricians; delegate to AMA&lt;br&gt;- DISTRICT II: secretary; chair, scientific program for Annual District Meeting; chair, Committee for Underserved Women; member, committees on Professional Liability, Legislative, Nominations; Junior Fellow advisor</td>
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<td><strong>Paul A. Gluck, MD</strong>&lt;br&gt;Miami</td>
<td><strong>Barbara S. Levy, MD</strong>&lt;br&gt;Federal Way, WA</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Ob-gyn encompasses elements of surgery, medicine, primary care, and the unique joy of obstetrics. Let your passion, not economics, guide your career path. Let professionalism, thinking of the patient first, guide your daily activities. Then contentment will surely follow.”</td>
<td>“Ob-gyn gives us a unique opportunity to address the medical, surgical, and preventive health needs of women. Never let the business of managed care, malpractice insurance, or HIPAA guidelines eclipse your passion for taking care of women.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Professional Position</strong>&lt;br&gt;Private group practice</td>
<td><strong>Professional Position</strong>&lt;br&gt;Medical director, Women’s Health &amp; Breast Center, Franciscan Health Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong>&lt;br&gt;- MD: New York University&lt;br&gt;- RESIDENCY: University of Miami-Jackson Memorial Hospital</td>
<td><strong>Education</strong>&lt;br&gt;- MD: University of California, San Diego&lt;br&gt;- RESIDENCY: Oregon Health Sciences University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ACOG Activities</strong>&lt;br&gt;- NATIONAL: director, Voluntary Review for Quality of Care program; chair, Committee on Quality Improvement and Patient Safety; member, committees on Course Coordination, Nominations; chair, Subcommittee on Patient Safety; ex officio member of Committee on Professional Liability; participant, ACOG Patient Safety Summit; ACOG alternate delegate to AMA&lt;br&gt;- DISTRICT IV: member, Advisory Council; member, Professional Liability Committee chair, local arrangements for Annual District Meeting; recipient, Wyeth Pharmaceuticals Section Award; recipient, ACOG President’s Community Service Award; Junior Fellow chair, vice chair, secretary-treasurer; chair, vice chair, Junior Fellow vice chair; Florida Section; chair, Florida Section Professional Liability Committee</td>
<td><strong>ACOG Activities</strong>&lt;br&gt;- NATIONAL: member, RBRVS Update Advisory Committee; member, Committee on Quality Assessment; liaison and ex officio member, Committee on Coding and Nomenclature&lt;br&gt;- DISTRICT VIII: Junior Fellow chair, Washington Section</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Vice President Candidates continued on Page 12**
### Officer Nominations

**Vice President continued**

- **Vincent A. Pellegrini, MD**  
  West Reading, PA  
  “As an obstetrician-gynecologist, you have chosen a very intimate specialty. Helping your patients conceive and delivering their babies will place you in their memories for years to come. I urge you to treasure this very special honor.”

  **Professional Position**  
  President; private group practice, director of IVF program; immediate past chief of gynecology and coordinator of reproductive endocrinology and infertility residency training, Reading Hospital and Medical Center

  **Education**  
  - **MD:** Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia  
  - **Residency:** Lankenau Hospital, Philadelphia

  **ACOG Activities**  
  - **National:** member, Council of District Chairs; member, committees on Compensation, Finance, Credentials; member, Task Force on Electronic Health Records; chair, Subcommittee on Insurance  
  - **District III:** chair; vice chair; treasurer; recipient, Outstanding District Service Award; recipient, ACOG President’s Community Service Award; chair, vice chair, Pennsylvania Section; Junior Fellow chair, vice chair

- **Peter A. Schwartz, MD**  
  **SEE INFORMATION ON PAGE 11.**

- **Michael R. Tesoro, MD**  
  Sharon, CT  
  “During your training always remember to be an empathetic listener and communicator. Make the most of clinical and research opportunities in obstetrics and gynecology. Remember, never delay in asking for assistance when needed, reserve time for your well-being.”

  **Professional Position**  
  Associate attending, St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Hartford, CT; assistant clinical professor of ob-gyn, University of Connecticut

  **Education**  
  - **MD:** New York Medical College  
  - **Residency:** St. Clare’s Hospital & Medical Center, New York City

  **ACOG Activities**  
  - **National:** member, Council of District Chairs; chair, Committee on Quality Assessment; member, committees on Credentials, Course Coordination; member, Subcommittee on Development; director and reviewer, Voluntary Review for Quality of Care program; program chair, postgraduate courses; ACOG key contact  
  - **District I:** chair; vice chair; chair, committees on Meetings, Quality Assessment; general program chair for Annual District Meeting; member, Committee on Quality Assessment and Practice; ex officio member of committees on Legislative, and Quality Assessment and Practice; recipient, Wyeth Pharmaceuticals Section Award; chair, vice chair, Connecticut Section

**Secretary**

- **James N. Martin Jr, MD**  
  Jackson, MS  
  “Experience is a great teacher. Benefit from it. Seek a mentor, someone with considerable experience in the specialty who also has the respect of his or her colleagues and challenge that person to be a sounding board and guide for your career development.”

  **Professional Position**  
  Professor of ob-gyn, University of Mississippi; director, division of maternal-fetal medicine and obstetric services, Winfred Wiser Hospital for Women and Infants

  **Education**  
  - **MD:** University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
  - **Residency:** UNC-North Carolina Memorial Hospital

  **ACOG Activities**  
  - **National:** secretary; Junior Fellow advisor; member, Council of District Chairs; chair, Public Member Subcommittee; chair, Task Force on Committees; member, committees on Credentials, Obstetric Practice, Course Coordination, Nominations, Government Relations, ACOG-SMFM Joint Leadership; member, task forces on 501(c)(6), Meetings Management, Study of Grievance Committee Complaints on Expert Witness Testimony  
  - **District VII:** chair; vice chair; secretary-treasurer; program chair, Annual District Meetings

- **Sharon T. Phelan, MD**  
  Albuquerque, NM  
  “Do what you love. Enjoy making a difference for women and their families. Opportunities are varied, extensive, and creativity valued. Focus on the positive and work to change the negatives. You will then stay ‘young’ and engaged in the specialty.”

  **Professional Position**  
  Medical director, Maternity and Infant Care Project; professor of ob-gyn and director of career advisement, University of New Mexico

  **Education**  
  - **MD:** University of New Mexico  
  - **Residency:** University of New Mexico

  **ACOG Activities**  
  - **National:** assistant secretary; vice chair, Committee on Obstetric Practice; member, committees on Grievance, Practice Bulletins; member, ABOG/ACOG Competency Task Force; member, Task Force on Women and Younger Fellows in ACOG Leadership; member, Family Violence Work Group; representative to Council of Academic Societies; member, editorial task force for Primus: Primary and Preventive Care, third edition; member, editorial board for Obstetrics & Gynecology; helped develop smoking cessation material for membership  
  - **District VII:** chair, State Maternal Mortality Review Committee, Alabama Section
Louis Weinstein, MD
Philadelphia

"To be successful in joining the greatest of medical professions, you must do the following:
• Be a student always
• Respect the patient at all times
• Care for yourself and your family
• Always know your limitations"

Professional Position
Chair, department of ob-gyn, Thomas Jefferson University

Education
■ MD: Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC
■ RESIDENCY: University of Colorado

ACOG Activities
■ NATIONAL: Chair, PROLOG Advisory Committee; Committee on Course Coordination; member, Committee on Quality Improvement and Patient Safety; member, PROLOG writing task force first, second, third, fourth, and fifth editions; chair, Subcommittee on Accreditation Activities; member, Task Force on Neonatal Encephalopathy & Cerebral Palsy; member, PROLOG Task Force for Patient Management in the Office; reviewer, Indian Health Service postgraduate course; course coordinator, postgraduate courses

Assistant Secretary

Camille A. Clare, MD
Bronxville, NY

“My advice to medical students starting a career in obstetrics and gynecology would be to maintain your passion for the field, to remain sensitive and empathetic to your patients, and to always be a voice for your patients.”

Professional Position
Assistant professor of ob-gyn, New York Medical College, Metropolitan Hospital

Education
■ MD: Albert Einstein College of Medicine, NY
■ RESIDENCY: Catholic Medical Center, Queens, NY; State University of New York at Buffalo

ACOG Activities
■ NATIONAL: member, Committee on Adolescent Health Care
■ DISTRICT II: member, Committee on Cultural Competency, Women and Heart Disease Physician Education Committee, and District II/AAP Breastfeeding Committee; Junior Fellow chair, vice chair; Junior Fellow member, Committee on Quality Improvement and Patient Safety; Section 6 Junior Fellow chair; Section 3 Junior Fellow vice chair

Fellows are encouraged to discuss candidates with Committee on Nominations members.

Chair: John M. Gibbons Jr, MD
District I: Fredric D. Frigoletto Jr, MD
District II: William P. Dillon, MD
District III: Owen C. Montgomery, MD
District IV: Thomas W. Hepfer, MD
District V: John R. Musich, MD
District VI: Robert J. Jaeger, MD
District VII: Ted L. Anderson, MD, PhD
District VIII: J. Joshua Kopelman, MD
District IX: James A. Macer, MD
Armed Forces: Paul R. Ziaya, MD
District: At-Large Fellows: Stella M. Dantas, MD
Past Presidents: Vivian M. Dickerson, MD
Charles B. Hammond, MD
Dr. Laube calls for changes in medical education

A profound change in attitude in the new generation of learners
A stifling medical-legal climate

These factors have led to confusion among medical students and residents, as well as practitioners and patients.

“What picture of obstetrics and gynecology are we ourselves portraying to those considering careers in women’s health?” Dr. Laube asked. “How many of us have told medical students that the obstetrician-gynecologist in many countries, including ours, has the highest social profile of any medical specialty?”

Dr. Laube said he believes that medical schools, residencies, licensing authorities, accrediting bodies, and certification entities have worked passably well in the past, but he questioned whether they accommodate today’s learner and future practitioner.

Noticeably missing in most medical schools is the appreciation of the differences in gender biology at an early stage in the preclinical years, he said. “Genetic, molecular, and cellular differences could be taught to freshman medical students. This approach would create an early awareness of issues peculiar to women’s health, and also, by extension, create more interest among first-year students in women’s health careers.”

In addition, Dr. Laube said medical school clerkships need to be analyzed. “Traditional hospital-based inpatient clerkships are losing their appeal to today’s medical student because they represent very work-intensive experiences associated with considerable wasted time, scut work, and lost learning opportunities. … The hospital-based clerkship should be blended with more efficient learning opportunities.”

Residency selection, education
Regarding the residency selection system, Dr. Laube noted that predictors of cognitive achievement do not provide information about a person’s values, communication skills, professionalism, and other humanistic qualities that define good doctors.

“As part of my presidential initiative,” he said, “I will create a task force to assess whether our specialty should adapt behavioral assessment techniques to evaluate candidates’ suitability as women’s health care providers.”

As for residency education, Dr. Laube said, “The cookie-cutter system that has been in place for the better part of the past 50 years is beginning to come apart. My second new task force will focus on primary care education in ob-gyn residency. I think we should take a new look at the primary care requirements in our residencies and consider putting them into the context of reproductive and post-reproductive women’s health care,” he said.

“We could incorporate the main components of preconception care and redefine them as primary care for the obstetrician and gynecologist. This would involve what the College has already defined as core preconception care, including pre-existing medical conditions, immunization, genetic risk, nutrition, social risk, and mental health. These categories, in fact, contain most aspects of our current primary care requirements.”

Dr. Laube believes it may be time to consider an alternative for future practitioners interested only in ambulatory women’s health: a “gynecology medicine” residency that integrates medicine with gynecologic ambulatory care.

“How not discuss a four-year blend? … Developing a gyn-med residency could also strengthen the surgical and obstetric training of our residencies.”

Patient safety, medical liability
Patient safety is another important concept to address. “Over the next few years, Congress and regulators will place increasing importance on teaching and implementing patient safety measures. And as medical liability reform will remain a top priority for the College, this will give us yet another strategy—one which we ourselves control.”

“What picture of obstetrics and gynecology are we ourselves portraying to those considering careers in women’s health?”

Dr. Laube pointed out that the College has already taken the patient safety mission seriously by establishing a new Department of Patient Safety and Quality Improvement.

“Patient safety can be brought into residency education in many ways, including use of simulations, team training, and teaching communication skills,” Dr. Laube said. “In the coming year, I will appoint a task force to ensure that patient safety is a priority during resident education.”

Change is necessary
“I am suggesting changing what and how we teach our medical students to give them an early awareness of gender-based biology; to give them career counseling that includes a realistic description of the requirements for being an ob-gyn; and to give them a more contemporary and relevant obstetrics and gynecology core clerkship in the third year,” Dr. Laube said.

“I am suggesting we engage in a more thoughtful process of selecting our residents and a careful assessment of our residency curriculum to determine if they meet the needs of the women we care for rather than the needs of our well-entrenched institutions.

“Change in education is necessary,” Dr. Laube concluded. “It is necessary to provide appropriate care to America’s women. And it is necessary for those in other parts of the world so that they don’t have to watch their daughters and granddaughters die in pregnancy and childbirth.”
### 2006 Calendar

#### July

- **ACOG Webcast**: Pay-for-Performance  
  1-2:30 pm ET  
  800-673-8444, ext 2498
- **ACOG District II Annual Meeting**: New York City
  800-673-8444, ext 2546
- **ACOG District V Annual Meeting**: Louisville, KY
  800-673-8444, ext 2574
- **ACOG Webcast**: Neonatal Encephalopathy and Cerebral Palsy
  1-2:30 pm ET  
  800-673-8444, ext 2498
- **ACOG District IX Annual Meeting**: Kohala Coast, HI
  800-673-8444, ext 2574 or 2556
- **ACOG District III Annual Meeting**: Kohala Coast, HI
  800-673-8444, ext 2574 or 2556

#### August

- **Infectious Diseases Society for Obstetrics and Gynecology 33rd Annual Scientific Meeting and Symposium**: Monterey, CA
  800-673-8444, ext 2570
- **ACOG Webcast**: Changing Physician Behavior: Issues and Approaches
  1-2:30 pm ET  
  800-673-8444, ext 2498

#### September

- **Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons Annual Meeting**: Boston
  800-673-8444, ext 2498
- **American Urogynecologic Society 27th Annual Scientific Meeting**: Palm Springs, CA
  800-673-8444, ext 2574 or 2556

#### October

- **American Association for Reproductive Medicine 62nd Annual Meeting**: New Orleans
  205-978-5000
- **ACOG District VIII Annual Meeting**: Kohala Coast, HI
  800-673-8444, ext 2574 or 2556
- **ACOG District IX Annual Meeting**: Kohala Coast, HI
  800-673-8444, ext 2574 or 2556

#### November

- **International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO) World Congress**
  Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
  800-3-4252-9100
- **American Association for Gynecologic Laparoscopists**: Las Vegas
  800-554-2245
- **ACOG District VII Annual Meeting**: White Sulphur Springs, WV
  800-673-8444, 2542

#### December

- **CPT and ICD-9-CM Coding Workshop**: Chicago
  800-673-8444, ext 2498

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**ACOG Courses**

1. For Postgraduate Courses, call 800-673-8444, ext 2540/2541, weekdays 9 am-4:45 pm ET or visit www.acog.org and click on “Postgraduate Courses and CPT Coding Workshops” under “Meetings.”
2. For Coding Workshops, visit www.acog.org and click on “Postgraduate Courses and CPT Coding Workshops” under “Meetings.” Telephone registration is not accepted for Coding Workshops. Registration must be received one week before the course. On-site registration subject to availability.

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Please contact the individual organizations for additional information.
SEXUALITY EDUCATION AND information website developed by the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada has been recognized as one of the top five ehealth projects in the world. The “sexualityandu” website was honored at the World Summit Awards, presented as part of the United Nations Summit on the Information Society.

The website, which is administered by SOGC’s Contraception Awareness Project, was launched in 2001 in response to high rates of unplanned pregnancy and an increasing number of STDs in Canada, particularly among teenagers. The site offers comprehensive sexual health information provided by a team of experts and includes tailored portals for health professionals, teens, adults, parents, and teachers. The interactive site uses a wide range of games, quizzes, videos, and animation to educate people on subjects such as contraception, STDs, and sexual health.