The first quarter of 2018 has been full of activity. We have been closing up long term projects like Survive and Thrive, maintaining our current projects, such as the ESOG-ACOG collaboration, implementing new projects including the refreshed surgical operative trainings in Uganda, and we have been vetting new projects with potential new partners. We have travelled, recorded webinars in multiple languages, built new curricula, developed detailed workplans and forecasts, and hosted a security training for our ACOG team. We have a wealth of updates on each project in the following pages. I am also pleased to introduce a new team member to OGWH, Faisa Ali. Faisa is a Program Administrator focusing on the surgical training programs, and a piece of the ESOG-ACOG collaboration. Faisa comes with a good deal of international experience, and excellent communications and training experience. Please read more about her and our whole staff at https://goo.gl/RNiG2Q.

As you know, we like to take the opportunity to inform you of the goings on at the Office of Global Women’s Health, and this newsletter will focus on the Q1 activities for 2018. Please visit our website at www.acog.org/ogwh to review previous newsletters, and be sure to sign up for our weekly listserv to stay abreast of future events in global health. To sign up for the listserv please email Fiona Clem at fclem@acog.org.

I was excited to see and read the postings on the Global Health listserv in March and April when Fellows were discussing what global and clinical activities you are involved in. I hope that we can continue the discussion during the Annual Clinical Meeting (ACM) at the University Partners breakfast on Friday, April 27, from 10:15am—11:30am. During the ACM program, we are pleased to present the second International Service Award to Dr. Siri Fiebiger (page 5).

While you are in Austin, come visit us at the Partner Pavilion in the Exhibit Hall and learn more about the activities of the Office of Global Women’s Health. We have a list of our OGWH events listed below, we hope to see you at these events in a few short weeks.

We look forward to seeing you at ACM in Austin, Texas.

Warm regards,
Carla Eckhardt

**UPCOMING EVENTS WHERE OGWH WILL BE PARTICIPATING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>World Health Assembly</td>
<td>May 21-26, Switzerland</td>
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<tr>
<td>World Preeclampsia Day</td>
<td>May 22, awareness day</td>
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<td>Intl’ Day to End Obstetric Fistula</td>
<td>May 23, awareness day</td>
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<td>GOAG Meeting</td>
<td>June 4-5, Washington, DC</td>
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<td>HVO Steering Committee Meeting</td>
<td>June 5, Washington, DC</td>
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<td>FIGO 2018</td>
<td>Oct 14-19, Brazil</td>
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<tr>
<td>GOAG Meeting</td>
<td>Dec 6-7, Washington, DC</td>
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**ACM, APRIL 27—30, 2018, AUSTIN, TX**

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>University Partners Program Breakfast</td>
<td>Park View A, Fairmont</td>
<td>April 27, 10:15am—11:30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Celebrating Fellows in Global Health Reception</td>
<td>Invitation Only</td>
<td>April 29, 5:00pm—6:30pm</td>
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<td>Clinical Seminar: Complicated Labor Management</td>
<td>CS56</td>
<td>April 29, 1:00pm—1:50pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latin American/District/Section Chairs Meeting</td>
<td>Invitation Only</td>
<td>April 30, 9:00am—10:30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>HVO Exhibitor Booth</td>
<td>Booth 24012</td>
<td>April 28—30</td>
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In keeping with the ambitious goals of the ESOG-ACOG Collaboration, it has been a very busy first quarter. In February, the Ethiopian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ESOG) held their 26th Annual Conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Lisa M. Hollier, MD, M.P.H, incoming president of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, led a cadre of 10 ACOG Fellows to the Conference.

One of the highlights of the conference was the launch of two new volumes of the Ethiopian Journal of Reproductive Health (EJRH), and a new website. In a keynote address Dr. Barbara Levy, Vice President of Health Policy at ACOG, highlighted the ESOG-ACOG collaborative project achievements including launching of a harmonized curriculum and minimum standards for residency programs, and the development of a draft Code of Ethics.

The conference also included the election of a new Executive Board. ACOG congratulates the new leaders of ESOG including Dr. Delayehu Bekele, President of ESOG, Dr. Mahlet Yigeremu, Vice President, and Dr. Mekdes Daba, Honorary Secretary.

Continuing medical education and hands-on trainings were held the day before the conference to offer realistic practice settings and more robust simulations. Topics included Basic Obstetric Ultrasound, and a new session taught by Dr. Hollier and Dr. Sclafani on Critical Obstetric Care and Emergency Management that had drills and scenarios. We want to thank the Fellows who came to Ethiopia to participate in the meeting. Their participation embodies the collegial and bi-directional benefits of this collaboration. Each presenter, an expert in their field, were able to tailor their educational material to low resource settings, and were mindful of offering plenty of time for questions and discussions. In addition they participated in a number of cultural exchanges in Addis to learn a bit more about Ethiopia’s rich history and culture.

“The ACOG team and physician participants are wonderful,” said ACOG Fellow Amy Rosenman, MD, who presented on gyneco-pelvic reconstructive surgery. “I am grateful to be associated with this project and will happily serve any chance I am given.”

Not only did ESOG hold their annual meeting, but additionally in these few months ESOG also held a Leadership Training and a Pedagogy Workshop in March. The Pedagogy Workshop was attended by 20 members of ESOG representing both junior faculty and senior residents. ACOG Fellows Eve Espey, MD, MPH; Tony Ogburn, MD, MPH; Doug Laube, MD, M.Ed., facilitated the workshop.

Subject matter included topics related to daily clinical teaching methods, evaluation, feedback and institutional climate related issues. Other material was introduced to provide insights related to leadership development and institu-
tional team building. At least half of each session was devoted to group discussions and dialog with the faculty facilitators as well as dialog among the attendees themselves from different residency programs.

In general, there was much enthusiasm for the further development of the residency component of the ESOG-ACOG partnership and repeated suggestions that the residents themselves be represented in some fashion on what is hoped to be a residency education organization within ESOG, similar to CREOG.

Seven ESOG members attend the APGO/CREOG meeting this year to learn first hand from the leaders in the field on how we support and engage our residency programs.

ACOG Fellows Eve Espey, MD, MPH; Tony Ogburn, MD, MPH; Doug Laube, MD, M.Ed.

For the second year, two ESOG members, Dr. Muhidin Banko Abdo and Dr. Rahel Demissew Gebreyohannes, attended the Robert C. Cefalo National Leadership Institute in North Carolina in April.

As we do twice a year, a leadership meeting will be held in April at ACOG. In addition, a group of 20 ESOG members will be attending the ACM this year in Austin. Please take a moment to greet them if you see them in your sessions in Austin.

Dr. Muhidin Dr. Rahel
ESOG Cefalo Leadership Fellows

WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING GOAG MEMBERS
The Office of Global Women’s Health is advised by the Global Operations Advisory Group, GOAG

Herbert B Peterson, MD  Luis B. Curet, MD  Scott M. Petersen, MD, COL, MC
GOAG Chair  Douglas Laube, MD, M.ED  Susan Patricia Raine, MD, JD, LLM
Haywood L. Brown, MD  Urania Magriples, MD  Nawal Nour, MD*
Thomas Gellhaus, MD  James N. Martin Jr., MD  Arpana Sridhar, MD, MPH*
Lisa Hollier, MD, MPH  Owen C. Montgomery, MD  Grace Chen, MD*
Frank W. Anderson, MD  Mark Woodland, MS, MD
Amy (Meg) Autry, MD  Tony Ogburn, MD
Jeanne Ann Conry, MD, PhD

* new member
UPDATES FROM THE OFFICE OF GLOBAL WOMEN’S HEALTH

Coming Soon... Complicated Labor Module

ACOG is proud to have worked collaboratively with Dr. Nuryia Robinson to finalize the Complicated Labor and Birth modules, as part of JHPIEGO’s Helping Mothers Survive (HMS) training series.

HMS is a suite of hands-on, simulation-based learning modules designed to build the capacity of the health workforce. HMS modules are for maternity and newborn care providers to change provider-performance and to improve clinical outcomes.

Modules include an Action Plan, Provider Guide, and Flipbook. The Action Plan guides providers through the assessment and management of women in labor with the following conditions: prolonged and obstructed labor, intrauterine infection, and malpresentation. The Action Plan is used during the training sessions to review vital steps for management of these conditions and as a job aide after training. Training implementation of the modules includes low-dose, high-frequency training with periodic follow-up for retention.

More information can be found at: https://hms.jhpiego.org/training-materials/.

Come see a demonstration at the ACM session:

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Clinical Seminar: April 29, 1:15-1:50 PM

Complicated Labor Management in Low Resource Settings
Scott Petersen, MD
Susan Raine, MD, JD

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GE India

The Office of Global Women’s Health has been working alongside ACOG’s Office of Education to prepare for the launch of the first eModules sales in India. In late February 2018, the GE Healthcare Institute in collaboration with ACOG launched the eModules on the GE platform and have received many positive responses. Over 40 users in India have ordered eModules on topics such as Genetics, Infertility and Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome.

A highlight of the GE India collaboration will be featured at the Leadership breakfast that GE will be hosting at the World Health Assembly meetings next month in Geneva.

Latin American District/Section Chairs Meeting (LATAM)

The Latin American Technical Working Group has finalized and delivered the results of the survey. There will be a Latin American Districts & Section Chair Meeting held during the Annual Clinical and Scientific meeting in Austin, TX where more details will be discussed about the findings and the updates of the region.

CAFA, the Accreditation Committee of the FECASOG-ACOG

CAFA will hold their first meeting of the year in Panama City in April. This will be the first meeting after the approved programmatic changes. The meeting in Panama will be dedicated to the presentation of the exam which will be held in October 2018. Additionally, Dr. Tersh McCracken submitted a nomination to the District VIII, and CAFA was awarded $5,000 USD by the District for their hard work in the past 15 years. During the meeting in Panama, CAFA members will be proposing ideas to the Section VIII Chair, Dr. Floridalma Rivas, to develop an initiative that will be funded by the award.

US State Department’s Boldline

ACOG’s Carla Eckhardt and Elizabeth O’Connell, and ACOG Fellow Dr. Levi Downs, took part in Boldline: the P3 Accelerator, in support of Pierre Theodore, Vice President Global External Innovation Johnson and Johnson. Boldline is an accelerator for public-private partnerships (P3s) that was launched by the U.S. Department of State in March of this year. Dr. Theodore presented on Cervical Cancer Mortality Reduction in Low and Middle Income Countries, providing information on available solutions. ACOG would work as an implementing partner in conjunction with Johnson & Johnson and the Ministries of Health in three target regions, Duke University, and 3rd Stone Design, to develop a long-term sustainable model to purchase equipment and train health care workers in a new, innovative cervical cancer diagnostic technology.
INTERNATIONAL SERVICE AWARDEE, SIRI FIBIEGER, MD

Congratulations to Siri Fiebiger, MD, the second recipient of the International Service Award.

ACOG’s International Service Award for Maternal Health, Empowerment, and Gender Equality recognizes and extends sincere gratitude to an ACOG Fellow who has worked for the betterment of maternal and child health, women’s empowerment, and gender equality in an international setting.

For the past 20 years, Dr. Fiebiger has worked to improve access to women’s health care in Haiti, recruiting volunteers, collecting medical supplies, and personally attending medical mission trips. Fiebiger, also, helped implement an effective office cervical cancer screening process that helps to identify and, therefore, treat women at risk for cervical cancer.

Dr. Stephanie Dahl, who nominated Dr. Fiebiger, called her “a tireless advocate for women’s health,” whose “work has saved the lives of hundreds of women and babies.” Fiebiger, also, established Project HERO (HealthCare Equipment Recycling Organization) and serves as the Minnesota Section ACOG Legislative chair and on the Global Operations Advisory Group (GOAG).

Dr. Fiebiger will be given the Award during the Global Health Reception at ACOG Annual Clinical Meeting.
FIGO NEWS

Dr. Jeanne Conry helps to establish a global working group on RDEH

Reducing the disease burden of toxic environmental exposures from food, air, water, and other sources of pollution will contribute importantly to improving women’s health and ensuring environmental sustainability.

“This is a gender equity issue. It’s a reproductive health issue, and it is also a maternal and child health issue,” said Jeanne A. Conry, MD, PhD., a past president of ACOG.

In 2015, Dr. Conry was a co-author of the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO) 2015 report on the reproductive health impacts of exposure to toxic environmental chemicals. The report, Reproductive Health Impacts of Exposure to Toxic Environmental Chemicals, analyzed the impact of exposure to toxic environmental chemicals, and provided recommendations for physicians.

According to the report, “exposure to toxic chemicals during pregnancy and lactation is ubiquitous.”

After the release of the 2015 report, FIGO established a global Working Group on Reproductive and Developmental Environmental Health (RDEH).

“We are making great strides, but to be successful we need the collaboration of and integration with FIGO’s 130 membership organizations,” said Dr. Conry. “Our success will come when information about environmental toxic exposure is understood, and women, men, and children are protected from such exposures.”

FIGO Upcoming Elections

We are happy to announce that Dr. Jeanne Conry and Dr. Ralph Hale are running for Executive Board seats of FIGO.

Will we see you in Rio?

ACOG will be a fine force in Rio at the 2018 FIGO world Congress. Please let us know if you are attending too so we can coordinate any ACOG events with your schedule.
LEADING WOMEN’S HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS OBSERVE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY

Washington, DC — The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), AAGL (formerly known as the American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists), the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM), the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM), the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics (APGO), the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN), the American Urogynecologic Society (AUGS), the National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women’s Health (NPWH), the Society of Gynecologic Oncology (SGO) and the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM) released the following statement for International Women’s Day 2018:

“As the leading groups of professionals providing health care for women in the United States, we join together to observe International Women’s Day 2018 and pledge to continue our efforts, both domestic and abroad, to create a world where health care disparities will one day no longer exist and gender parity is achieved.

‘Women account for nearly 50 percent of the global population and, currently, there are 81 countries where women make up the majority. Yet women continue to be one of the most marginalized groups in many regions of the world, particularly when it comes to access to reproductive health care. Family planning offers women options as to when she will begin or expand her family. Pregnancies that are planned are less likely to have adverse outcomes, including perinatal and maternal morbidity and mortality.

“This year’s theme is #PressforProgress. It recognizes global activism for women’s equality—fueled by movements like #MeToo and #TimesUp—and the need to keep the momentum going in what has become a growing global movement. Women are vital to their communities and their economies and should have access to the proper education and services in order to make informed decisions about their reproductive health—free from coercion.

“All providers must work together to create an equitable health care system that serves everyone and, as women’s health care providers, we will continue to use our platform and status in society to share our knowledge, time and resources to improve women’s health around the world. It is our responsibility to stand up against acts and policies that harm and disadvantage women and challenge gender inequity whenever we are confronted with it.

To sign the pledge to “#PressforProgress,” visit https://www.internationalwomensday.com/PressforProgress.

At the Office of Global Women’s Health we work every day to better the circumstances, the environment, and the health care outcomes for women everywhere. Our programs are designed to be results-driven, sustainable, and expandable. We have created programs that train health care workers in surgical skills and operative obstetrics, collaborate on association strengthening, and implement AIM protocols to help reduce maternal mortality due to postpartum hemorrhage.

For more information about the Office of Global Women’s Health, visit our webpage: http://www.acog.org/ogwh.
In March, ACOG and Drexel University convened the 2018 Stakeholder Meeting and Curriculum Review Forum in Kampala, Uganda. ACOG staff and Fellows, Uganda university staff, and health officials were brought together to share findings from Uganda’s surgical obstetric training, and to develop a plan for sustainable integration of the training into medical education in Uganda.

Carla Eckhardt and Faisa Ali from ACOG facilitated the meetings. ACOG Fellows Owen Montgomery, MD; Dipak Delvadia, MD; and Greg Alleyne, MD, from Drexel University, led discussions on program improvement, innovations in technology, and sustainability.

Stakeholder participants included representatives from the Uganda Ministry of Health, Makerere University, Mbarara University of Science and Technology, Busitema University, Engender Health Fistula Care Plus, and the Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Uganda.

The agenda included an overview of the SOO course, lessons learned from 2017, monitoring and evaluation data analysis, innovations in technology, and a discussion on the sustainability of the program.

Dr. Annette Nakimuli, Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Makerere University, led discussions on sustainability requirements and trainee benefits of the surgical obstetrics program.

Discussions included interest for a new and innovative curriculum that is tailored to the needs of the trainers and trainees. Also discussed was the demand for standardized testing methods and the integration of the training into the medical education curriculum. The consensus of the meeting was that a new curriculum would be ideal to the sustainability of the program.

The new training program will be called “Essential Training in Operative Obstetrics”, or ETOO.

The next steps for the newly named ETOO program is to implement and conduct trainings at Busitema University May 7-11, and to finalize a new curriculum that will comprise of all the requirements and needs discussed at the Curriculum Review Forum by mid-July.

ACOG anticipates a number of new doctors that will be trained as master trainers, subsequently training more providers. The monitoring and evaluation plan with Fistula Care Plus will synthesize the commentary and suggestions from the Surgical Education Forum. There was a unanimous consensus that the course has significantly improved since it was first introduced in 2015 and the stakeholders greatly valued the outcome of the meeting.