



The GOC News

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Fall 2004

A Word from Dr. Provencher GOC PRESIDENT

Back to school! Here comes again a surge of energy fed by sunshine and vitamin D from the summer. Perhaps it was a bit chilly and rainy this year for some of us. On a positive note, instead of going wild, this vacation had at least the potential for resting.

The return to school is tainted this year by barbaric acts. I would like in this column to pay a special tribute to the mothers in Beslan, broken-hearted because terrorists took or hurt the lives of their children. My heart simply cries.

Back to school! It means for me "en route" to a two-year intense commitment to GOC, our Society. Allow me to be bold and express some of my personal goals. Other than the day to day

GOC business, I would like to implement on our GOC website a Sentinel Node Registry for cancer of the vulva, the cervix, the endometrium and why not the ovary (if someone finds the recipe!). I would love to see both components of KOALA running (case list and continuous education portfolio). Obviously, have every member of our Society involved in some form of research goes without saying but moreover, optimal care of women afflicted with any gynaecological cancer, especially ovarian cancer. And let's not forget our 25th anniversary. So many of you have contributed to the Canadian Gynecologic Oncology history that it is time for a celebration.

On a more humble note, I have to



admit at least one limitation on my part: language. Whether in writing or talking, I will make every effort to communicate clearly.

Let's have a great productive year. I know I will have a lot to do just following Hélène Soublière and Michael Fung Kee Fung.

My best regards,
Diane M. Provencher

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The GOC Presidential Medal

By Dr. Robert Lotocki, June 27, 2004

First Presidential Medal Awarded to Drs. DePetrillo and Krepert



"Despite the small numbers and being in busy clinical practices, the Society of Gynecologic Oncologists of Canada contains a disproportional number of clinical, academic and administrative leaders.

There have been University Deans like David Popkin; current University Deans like Gavin Stuart and Post-Graduate Deans like Jill Nation. There have been numerous Department Heads and Program Directors. There have been leaders in National and International Societies.

There are many Clydesdales in our Society. Mark Carey has brought a fun educational twist to CPD with Survivor, the Weakest Link and the Coach's Corner. He had enlisted Janice Kwon and Peter Bryson to co-host a successful annual component of CPD. For several years, John Mazurka has organized the fellowship orals which have created a friendly interchange and cross-pollination of ideas for our fellows with gynecologic oncologists from other centres. Pierre Drouin has promoted our subspecialty at the Royal College, positioning our specialty as a

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The Society of Gynecologic Oncologists of Canada/La société des gynécologues oncologues du Canada

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The GOC acknowledges the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada for their continued support.

President-Elect - Dr. Barry Rosen

The GOC Nominating Committee was pleased to have unanimous support from both the Executive Council and from the membership at the Annual Business meeting for its nomination of Dr. Barry Rosen to the position of President-Elect.

Dr. Rosen is currently the Head of Gynecologic Oncology and an Associate Professor at The University of Toronto. He obtained his MD degree from The University of Western Ontario and

completed his Obstetrics and Gynecology residency at McMaster. In 1985, Dr. Rosen completed a two year fellowship in gynecologic oncology in a combined McMaster and University of Toronto training program under the supervision of Dr. Denny DePetrillo. His clinical practice is primarily at Princess Margaret and Toronto General Hospitals in Toronto. He has also established an outreach gyn oncology program at Credit Valley Hospital. Dr. Rosen has been a member of the Cancer Care

Ontario board of directors since 2001.

He took an active role in the SOGC in the mid 90's where he became head of a CME committee. In that capacity he worked towards developing interactive learning for the SOGC CME events.

He has a research interest in hereditary ovarian cancer and is particularly interested in integrating basic science research into patient care. Dr. Rosen is also interested in evaluating and

establishing a systematic approach to quality of care for gynecologic oncology patients and in particular as it relates to ovarian cancer surgery.



We are very pleased that Dr. Rosen has accepted to take on the role of President in 2006. His leadership will be of great benefit to the Society.

Presidential Speech – Dr. Robert Lotocki

"As we enter our 25th year, we can reflect on our past 25 years and we need to plan the future 25 years.

Twenty-five years ago, a small group consisting of Drs. DePetrillo, Krepart, Anderson, Fraser, Gerulath and Roy met in a hotel room to explore the development of a society. Drs. DePetrillo, Anderson and Roy were charged with drawing up the by-laws and in February of 1980, the Society of Gynecologic Oncologists of Canada was incorporated.

The first annual meeting of the Society of Gynecologic Oncologists of Canada was held in June 1980 in Jasper, Alberta, in association with the annual meeting of the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada.

The strength of any organization lies in its members. Our Society has had a solid foundation developed through the energies of some of its early leaders. Individuals like John Carmichael of Kingston; Lou Benedict of Vancouver; Bob Fraser of Halifax; David Popkin of Saskatoon; Garry Krepart of Winnipeg; Denny DePetrillo of Hamilton/Toronto; Michel Roy of Québec; among others, had volunteered their time and energies to foster the development of a Society that aimed to meet the needs of all.

Virtually all gynecologic oncologists practicing in Canada are active members of GOC. Despite being busy in clinical practice, every GOC

member is a major player in his/her jurisdiction as an educator and clinical leader.

Our Society brings a multidisciplinary group to the table. It represents the only national forum and gathering point for all specialists trained in treating gynecological cancer. In 1998, the Society voted to increase its membership beyond gynecologic oncologists to include medical oncologists, radiation oncologists and pathologists who devote a significant amount of their time to the treatment and research of gynecological cancer. Our Society has had several significant contributors who have advanced our specialty as well as our Society in Canada. Medical oncologists like Ken Swenerton, Hal Hirte, Amit Oza and Elizabeth Eisenhower have an interest in gynecologic malignancy that has advanced GOC nationally and internationally. Radiotherapy oncologists like Bob Pearcy, Gillian Thomas, and the late Alan Dembo have similarly contributed to the development of a strong GOC reputation.

The Society of Gynecologic Oncologists of Canada gained its Canadian political relevance in 1976. The subspecialty of gynecologic oncology, its role within the gynecologic community, as well as the training required for gynecologic oncologists, was presented to APOG. Every academic department in Canada unanimously accepted our Society.

In 1986, gynecologic oncology became a subspecialty of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of

Canada. Five Royal College specialty-training programs in gynecologic oncology now provide Certification without Examination. These training programs have been responsible for the education of the vast majority of the gynecologic oncologists in Canada. In addition, these programs have trained individuals who practice in the United States or have returned to Chile, Saudi Arabia, Israel, Kuwait, spreading a Canadian influence.

GOC is developing a political relevance. In order to look after our patients, GOC needs to continue to be prominent on the Canadian scene. We are increasingly being seen as the voice for women with gynecologic cancers. GOC has developed relationships and have letters of understanding with patient advocacy groups such as the National Ovarian Cancer Association (NOCA) and Ovarian Cancer Canada (OCC). Invariably, other patient advocacy groups will develop. We shall need to continue to work with these groups to ensure there is a common message to women and their families that is pertinent and realistic and that we can all accept.

We are in an era of medical politics. This is not always easy given our Canadian geography and the mindset of 13 functioning countries within the boundaries of one we call Canada. We are a small Society stretched across a vast territory with a vast political and social diversity. We need to capture the expertise that several of our members have achieved – the likes of David Popkin, Josée Dubuc-Lissoir, Gavin Stuart,

and Mark Heywood. We need this expertise to develop strategies to have governments see GOC on the political radar scene which will give our members the clinical might to develop screening programs and needed money for research.

Although our vast territory limits the frequency of face to face meetings, our Society has succeeded in developing CMEs that are pertinent and relevant to its members.

The AGM, associated with the SOGC's Annual Clinical Meeting, is in its 25th year. It continues to provide pertinent gynecologic oncology education to generalists and also provides a forum for scientific presentations and symposia for our members.

We have completed our fourth successful CPD. The CPD has provided a balance of multi-disciplinary education with international leaders in gynecologic oncology, educational entertainment with Mark Carey and his co-hosts, and a social evening with some of Canada's inspiring leaders – Marc Garneau, Lt-General Roméo Dallaire and Sharon Wood.

This is an exciting time for our Society, with clinicians and scientists coming together. A number of centres are developing reputations for ovarian cancer research - Toronto, Ottawa, Montréal and Vancouver. Our Society played a role in the

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GOC's 3rd Annual Run for Her Life Another Success!

The 3rd Annual Run for Her Life event, held during the GOC's Annual Meeting and in conjunction with the SOGC's Annual Clinical Meeting was once again a resounding success. With over 85 registered participants, a total amount of \$2,510.31 was raised. As is the goal of this event, all proceeds are donated to a local organization and directly benefit female cancer patients. This year, the funds were turned over to the Royal Alexandra Hospital - Station 18 in Edmonton and will be used to purchase special chairs that turn into beds for the rooms occupied by oncology patients on the gyne ward.



Special thanks to everyone involved in this year's success - our Edmonton colleagues, Drs. Wylam Faught, Helen Steed, Val Capstick; the Running Room; Larry Mudge and GlaxoSmith-Kline for their support of this annual event; and all participants including GOC members, SOGC members, industry representatives, local gyne-onc staff and patients.

⇐ GOC presents donation to Royal Victoria Hospital

Congratulatory Speech to the New Presidential Medal Awardees

By Dr. Michael Fung Kee Fung

It is my pleasure to say a few words on behalf of the membership to our inaugural Presidential Medal recipients. It is clear that we, as a Society, are standing on the shoulders of these men who have created and set the stage for our specialty in Canada. I have had the pleasure of working closely with Garry as a fellow-in-training. He has been a mentor and sage to me. I have also had the benefit of working with Denny on a number of different surgical oncology projects at the provincial level. He has also been a mentor of mine.

On reflection, I am struck by the similarities and the differences of these two men. Both have a passion for gynaecological oncology (for the specialty and for the people). Both have exhibited a certain magnanimity of dealing with all interested parties. These attributes have resulted in

the development and the birth of the specialty of gynaecological oncology as well as the Society of Gynecologic Oncologists of Canada and its growth over the last 25 years. Both have always been willing and keen to be mentors and counselors to many of us at different times during our careers. Both are fundamentally responsible for expanding the status of gynaecological oncology within the departments of surgery in the domains of gastrointestinal and urological surgery. Both Denny and Garry were initially cross-appointed to their departments of surgery at a time when this would have been a very unique occurrence for a gynaecologist. This clearly expanded their peer group and Denny himself has gone on to lead surgical oncology initiatives within Ontario and the country.

Finally, both are responsible for impacting on the culture of gynaecological

oncology in Canada. They have been responsible for the patient-centered and empathetic approaches to gynaecological cancer patients. This has been the hallmark of our specialty.

When I reflect back on the differences, a lot of it depends on your individual relationship with these men. Personally, I was struck by Garry's commitment to always do the right thing. His principle centered leadership, regardless of what the challenges were, would always bring him to do what he thought was the right thing. You may not have agreed with what he thought, but he was unwavering in his principled approach.

For those of us who know Denny, he has a certain flair for taking risks. He has the ability to seize an opportunity ahead of everyone else and to just go

for it! His unique passion for horse racing was probably part of this intangible. Because of his ability to take risks, he has been fundamentally responsible for a number of groundbreaking initiatives against significant odds, including the establishment of surgical oncology in Ontario, the ICGS and many other projects.

When I look back at the state of the GOC, it is fitting that these two men be the first recipients of the GOC Presidential Medal. Their legacy of passion, mentorship and vision are now ours to inherit and to build on. Our reach has been made that much longer as we stand on the shoulders of these giants. The GOC Presidential Medal is just one small token of the appreciation and recognition from your peers and the women in Canada who appreciate your contributions.

Review of the 25th Annual Meeting, Edmonton, Alberta, June 27-28, 2004

There was once again an outstanding GOC meeting, held in Edmonton in June 2004. This represented the 25th annual meeting, leading to our 25th anniversary in 2005. This meeting had a record breaking number of abstract submissions (a total of 33). What was particularly impressive was the quality of these abstracts and the number of new domains which were discussed within the free communication sessions. These included:

1. Quality of life data
2. Evaluation of the gynaecological oncology Alternate Payment Plan
3. The use of a decision analysis tool in gynaecological cancer
4. Two systematic reviews (a) hormonal replacement therapy (b) coping with ovarian cancer
5. Alternative care modalities in gynaecological oncology
6. Population comparisons of outcomes

Congratulations to the winners: Dr. Al Covens (first place), Dr. Drew Barreth (second place) and Dr. Frédéric Goffin (best poster).

Dr. Alan Gordon gave us an in-depth review of the Role of Liposome-

Encapsulated Chemotherapy and discussed the issues surrounding the benefits of that mode of delivery. He also updated us on the long-term outcomes of Topotecan/Doxil Phase III Trial in Recurrent Ovarian Cancer.

As it is our commitment to SOGC, the International Symposium 7 was chaired by our President Dr. Diane Provencher and Course Director Dr. Janice Kwon. This involved an impressive lineup of specialists (Dr. Shailendra Verma, medical oncologist, Dr. Richard Boroditsky, gynaecologist and Dr. Janice Kwon, gynecologic oncologist) on the best cancer management and the role of oophorectomy both medical and surgical. The course was well attended and provided insight in the understanding of the role of prophylactic oophorectomy in the management of hormonal breast cancer, the different ways of accomplishing oophorectomy both medically and surgically and the advantages and disadvantages. Also addressed were the issues of management of menopausal symptoms in women having undergone oophorectomy. This year's Royal College speaker, Dr. Walley J. Temple, Chief of the Division of Surgical Oncology and Professor in the Departments of

Oncology and Surgery at the University of Calgary and Tom Baker Cancer Centre, gave an in-depth discussion on the role of different radical debulking techniques in pelvic exenteration, hemorrhage control and reconstructive surgery. It was definitely a call for all of us to continue to focus on the development of surgery within the specialty.

The meeting was further highlighted by the inaugural presentation of the GOC Presidential Medal to Dr. Garry Krepart and Dr. Denny DePetrillo. The GOC social event was hosted by Dr. and Mrs. Wylam Faught who welcomed us at their home for a reception, followed by dinner and entertainment at Fort Edmonton Park. We are extremely grateful to Dr. Faught and the team in Edmonton

for hosting us. An extraordinary time was had by all.

This meeting was probably one of our best attended and will continue to grow as we prepare for celebrations for the 25th anniversary beginning with the CPD meeting in April 2005.



Some of the GOC Women: L t R: L. Hopkins, S. Chambers, L. Brydon, V. Capstick, D. Provencher, J. Kwon, J. Murphy and J. Weberpals



Some of the GOC Men: L t R: J. Jeffrey, D. Kredentser, P. Bryson, A. Covens, J. Dodge, J. Bentley, M. Préfontaine and F. Guijon



GOC group

Our thanks go out to Aventis, Bristol Myers Squibb, GlaxoSmithKline, OrthoBiotech, Schering Canada and the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada for their support of this meeting.

3rd International Consensus Workshop on Ovarian Cancer in Baden-Baden, September 2-5, 2004

Drs. Gavin Stuart, Elizabeth Eisenhauer, Amit Oza, Diane Provencher and Ms. Monica Bacon, as NCIC representatives, participated in the 3rd International Consensus Workshop in Ovarian Cancer in Baden-Baden, Black Forest, Germany, from September 2-5, 2004. Professor Andreas du Bois, President of AGO-OVAR was the extraordinary host

of this event. This meeting, dedicated to ovarian cancer, reunited 13 different agencies and was an outstanding productive experience. The results of the Consensus Workshop were presented at the 10th Biennial International Gynaecologic Cancer Society Meeting (IGCS) in Edinburg, Scotland October 3-7, 2004.



Prof. Andreas du Bois,
President of AGO-OVAR



NCIC Representatives. From left to right:
Amit Oza MD, Elizabeth Eisenhauer MD,
Monica Bacon, Diane M. Provencher
MD and Gavin Stuart MD

Presidential Medal

(Continued from page 1)

model for other disciplines. Tien Le will be leading the GOC Website to another level of education for our Society. And.....

There are several others whose names are not mentioned here... this should not undermine their contribution. There are many deserving individuals who have made meritorious contributions to gynecologic oncology in Canada.

The first GOC Presidential Medal is being awarded to two individuals who have been leaders in their communities, nationally and internationally. These two individuals have contributed to patient care, creating gynecologic oncology programs in their jurisdictions that have been modeled across Canada and to the national scene with for-

mal training programs in gynecologic oncology. Between Denny and Garry, they have populated most of Canada with gynecologic oncologists. They have trained individuals who have returned to Chile, Saudi Arabia, Israel, Great Britain, and Kuwait.

At one time, Denny and Garry approached the American Board in an attempt to give clinical credibility to Canadian training in gynecologic oncology. Needing two board-certified gynecologic oncologists, they proposed to have a program based at two sites - one program, two sites. The American Board recognized that both sites had the clinical volume. However, the American Board did not want a training program in gynecologic oncology outside the United States.

Together, they have both authored and co-authored several books, book chapters and scientific papers. They have presented in 9 of 10 provinces, 17 U.S. states and 26 countries in 6 of

the world's 7 continents.

Denny and Garry have contributed to the national scene by fostering the NCIC gynecologic oncology site group and our Society. Both have been instrumental in giving GOC international credibility, not only by maintaining their connections with their parent training sites but also by developing new international ties.

I have had the honor of completing a fellowship in gynecologic oncology with both recipients of the GOC Presidential Medal. Although I had an opportunity to head south for a fellowship in gynecologic oncology, I elected to stay in Canada. Denny had recently returned from California and Garry from Texas. Their approaches were different and even their clinical practice differed. For me, it was a win win. Why go south when we have Great north of the 49th parallel. My only regret about my one-year in Hamilton was that it wasn't two. That is not to say that training with Garry was anything but great, but I have had the opportunity of training with Garry for the last 22 years in a partnership that has been a professional marriage."

Congratulatory messages

Please convey my sincere congratulations to both Denny and Garry on their receiving the Presidential Medal. They are both very deserving of this award. It has been long time since I have crossed paths with either of them but they both have played such huge roles in getting the GOC underway and over the years for being such excellent

examples of leadership and of role models for the subspecialty.
Sincerely: Bob Fraser

History: The GOC Presidential Medal is for the outstanding contributions in the discipline of GYNECOLOGIC ONCOLOGY. The medal is struck by Logo Works Inc. from the original die designed by Dale Moorhouse in 2004.

Criteria: The GOC Medal will be presented to any individual(s), group or organization that has made especially meritorious contributions to gynecologic oncology. The individual(s), group or organization will be recognized for their public service, leadership, academia, and research. The individual(s), group or organization must have spent the majority of their professional career in the discipline of gynecologic oncology.

Recommending

Procedure: Recipient(s) of the GOC Medal will be nominated and selected by the Nominating Committee of GOC.

Presentation: All awards will be presented by the current President at the business meeting of the Society of Gynecologic Oncologists of Canada (GOC), held in conjunction with the Annual Clinical Meeting.

Recording of awards: All awards will be recorded by entering the recipient's name in a database maintained by the Society of Gynecologic Oncologists of Canada.



Garry Victor Krepert, MD FRCSC



Amodio Denny DePetrillo, MD FRCSC

Presidential Speech

(Continued from page 2)

development of the Second Ovarian Cancer Research Conference - Dianne Miller co-chaired the planning committee with several GOC members. The quality of this meeting exceeded that of the previous meeting. The Ovarian Cancer Research Conference will continue biannually moving west to Vancouver in 2006 and back east to Montréal in 2008.

Our Society has Canadian pioneers developing surgical procedures. The Québec group of Marie Plante and Michel Roy and the Toronto group led by Al Covens have fostered fertility preservation in early cervical cancer. The Montréal group led by Diane Provencher is leading Sentinel Nodes research in Vulvar Cancer. These groups have provided significant contributions to world knowledge.

However, we need to go further. We need to harness our Canadian energies to complete trials, NCIC or industrial, even if we cannot achieve consensus with its science. We need to develop a mechanism to translate bench research into clinical trials.

Our Society partnered with Health Canada and the Cervical Cancer Prevention Network. We played an active role in the assessment of cervical screening technologies of liquid-based cytology and HPV testing. The resulting November meeting: Building on Success - A Pan-Canadian Forum on Cervical Screening will leave Canada's jurisdictions with the tools to embrace this technology. The process allowed us to develop a web-based consensus building tool that can be used for future studies, active journal clubs, and clinical practice cases.

Our Society faces several future challenges.

We need to embrace the youth of our Society and get them more actively involved. It is an exciting time for our young members to participate in GOC, advance new treatments and techniques, and create academic careers. They are

going abroad to bring home skills that will add a further dimension to our Society. The GOC's website allows the Society's youth to create professional networks that could facilitate education and develop web-based research projects.

We need to encourage nurses, pathologists, pharmacists and social workers to become active members. Our day to day activities need their input not just in our home institutions but also nationally.

We need to address manpower, training and an examination process. We need to find a balance to ensure an adequate quantity of quality physicians, giving them a place to practice

It has been an honour and a privilege to be your President.

gynecologic oncology.

This Society has evolved over the years from a social Society to a Society that is gaining political prominence. Other groups are coming to us recognizing that GOC is the voice for gynecologic oncology in Canada. However we need to develop mechanisms to respond on short notice.

The Society must continue to be relevant to its members by receiving their input. It can help its members by sharing clinical and political information. We need to find methods to share clinical guidelines that go beyond the jurisdictions that already have the infrastructure to develop them.

The Society of Gynecologic Oncologists of Canada has come along way since its inception in 1979. GOC is evolving and needs to evolve to remain relevant. Yet, our Society is still small enough to maintain a congenial social atmosphere.

I have been very fortunate to have a rich life both at home and work. I must thank Garry Krepert and the late Dr. Roulston for gently nudging me into gynecologic oncology. I have had great teachers and role models in my training with Denny DePetrillo and Garry Krepert.

I would like to thank my partners Garry and Mark. I have been extremely fortunate to have had an amicable professional partnership and to have been involved in the training of several individuals who have become Canadian leaders in gynecologic oncology.

I want to thank my wife Debbie and my boys (now men) for their unconditional support over the years of my professional career. They have been a strength, a sounding block and friends. Thank you.

Thank you to the executive council, the planning committees for the CPD and the ACM for your support, guidance and friendship.

I need to single out both Hélène and Michael.

We are extremely fortunate to have an individual like Hélène Soublière as part of our Society. She is a significant asset. Hélène has worked hard not only in the day to day management of activities, but in helping develop our Society. Thank you, Hélène.

Michael is a positive force in our Society. He appears to have an endless amount of energy. (He probably does most of his e-mails, memos at airports). Michael has given our Society an inspirational direction and vision. He has been extremely helpful and has provided guidance (maybe SHOVE!). He has helped improve the financial status of our Society, which has given us the opportunity to accomplish more. On behalf of our membership, I thank you. From myself: Thank You with my unconditional respect and admiration. Continue with your seeming endless energy to help develop our Society.

It has been an honour and a privilege to be your President. I thank you for allowing me to be your President."

Welcome New Members

The GOC extends a warm welcome to the following new members who were voted into the Society at the June 2004 Annual Business Meeting:

- Sherida Chambers, Nurse Specialist, Associate Member, Toronto
- Jason Dodge, Gynecologic Oncology Fellow, Associate Member, Toronto
- Marie Dolan, Nurse Specialist, Associate Member, Halifax
- Susan Ellard, Medical Oncologist, Associate Member, Kelowna
- Jacinthe Forget, Nurse Specialist, Associate Member, Ottawa
- Christopher Giede, Gynecologic Oncology Fellow, Associate Member, Toronto
- Walter H. Gotlieb, Gynecologic Oncologist, Active Member, Montréal
- Nathalie Grenier, Nurse Specialist, Associate Member, Montréal
- Ian Harley, Gynecologic Oncology Fellow, Associate Member, Toronto
- Heather Harris, Nurse Specialist, Associate Member, Hamilton
- Susie Lau, Gynecologic Oncologist, Active Member, Montréal
- Véronique Lebel, Nurse Specialist, Associate Member, Montréal
- Anne-Marie Mes-Masson, Pathologist, Associate Member, Montréal
- Shaundra Popowich, Gynecologic Oncology Fellow, Associate Member, Winnipeg
- Bernard Têtu, Pathologist, Associate Member, Québec
- Joann Toomath, Nurse Specialist, Associate Member, Mississauga

Call for Abstracts

GOC 26th Annual Scientific Meeting - June 17-19, 2005
Québec City, Québec

The deadline for submissions is
January 21, 2005

To submit electronically or for an application, visit the GOC website at www.g-o-c.org

Academic Corner

Publications

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GOC Member Successful in Master's Thesis in Clinical Epidemiology

Dr. Laura Hopkins was successful in defense of her Master's thesis on decision analysis in clinical epidemiology in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology at the University of Ottawa. This represents the successful completion of a two year program. Her thesis involved use of decision analysis for the role of CA-125 in following ovarian cancer patients. She joins a small cadre of physicians with the expertise in clinical epidemiology as well as in the knowledge of this particular innovative tool in health services

research. Dr. Hopkins performed extraordinarily well throughout her Master's program and has been offered a cross-appointment in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology at the University of Ottawa. She will be providing mentorship in that program for other graduate students and further consolidating her research career in health services research within that Department. The GOC is extremely proud of her and we look forward to her role within the Society in moving the research agenda forward.

Members Win Top Hospital Awards

It was an extraordinary evening at The Ottawa Hospital Nurses Award ceremony in October 2004. The Ottawa Hospital is one of the largest teaching hospitals in Canada. At the nursing awards ceremony, Mrs. Lynne Jolicoeur, GOC member and Head of the GOC's Gynecologic Oncology Nursing Professional Practice Committee (GONPPC), won the top professional award for the nurse that best represents the profession of nursing within The Ottawa Hospital.

The most Outstanding Nursing Team Award voted by families and patients within The Ottawa Hospital was awarded to the nurses in the Chemotherapy Day Care Unit within the Gynaecologic Oncology Program. All the nurses are members of the

GOC and the recognition of this top award in such a large institution is a true tribute to our nursing colleagues and positions gynaecologic oncology at the forefront of innovative and compassionate nursing care. Nurses involved in the team award include Kelly Anne Baines, Réjeanne Bergeron, Jacinthe Forget, Brenda Lagacé, and Karen Smithers.

These awards represent a formal recognition of our nursing members and indirectly the contributions of all of the nurses in gynaecologic oncology across the country. We look forward to the GONPPC to further develop in order to promote the sharing of best practices within various centers.

Congratulations to all.

News from the Centres

London

- The Division of Gynecologic Oncology in London is pleased to announce that it has received Royal College Accreditation for post-graduate subspecialty training in Gynecologic Oncology. This will be a 2 year funded clinical training program with a third year devoted to academic work such as a Masters in public health, clinical epidemiology, or research in basic sciences. The program was officially accredited in the summer of 2004 and is currently seeking applicants to start in July of 2005.
- In August 2004, we welcomed Dr. Monique Bertrand to the Division of Gynecologic Oncology at the London Health Sciences Centre. Dr. Bertrand has assumed the role of Head of the Division.

Montréal

- We have 2 new fellows in our program:
 - i) Dr. Patrick Petignat, from Switzerland who started his training on July 1st and
 - ii) Dr. Te Hsi Lin, from Taiwan
- We would like to welcome Dr. Philippe Sauthier who joined our team on September 1st, 2004
- Dr. Diane Provencher will be giving us her report of the GCIW Workshop in Baden Baden, Germany in the next edition
- Dr. Diane Provencher received 2 grants:
 1. Multimodality Breast Cancer Screening Program for High Risk Women 2004 – 2007 - Québec Breast Cancer Foundation (QBCF)
 - Total operating grant: \$200,000
 - Provencher DM, Foulkes WD, Lalonde L, Aldis A, Loutfi A, Mesurole B, Kasprzak L, Mayrand MH, Beaulieu MD, Proulx M, Fleischer D, Trop I, David J, Déry R, Wong N, Zaor S, Larouche N, Australie K, Robb L, Maugard C, Taillefer R, Dinelle F, Franco E.
 2. Applicability of Intraperitoneal Hyperthermic Chemotherapy (IPHC) in Epithelial Ovarian Cancer (EOC): from rats to human, a proof of principle 09/2004 - 08/2006 - Cancer Research Society Inc.
 - Total operating grant: \$61,500
 - Provencher DM, Dubé P.
- Wisdom after 65: Dr. Pierre Drouin was badly injured with second degree burns on his face and arms when he tried to light a camp fire this summer at his chalet. He is recovering very well.

Ottawa

- The joint paper of S. Kashyap, D. Moher, M. Fung Kee Fung and Z. Rosenwaks "Impact of Assisted Reproduction on the Incidence of Breast Cancer" won the 2004 In-Training Award of the American Society of Reproductive Medicine.
 - The creation of the Academic Cervical Screening/Diagnostic Program at The Ottawa Hospital is due to be launched in January 2005. All colposcopy will be centralized within new space with state-of-the-art equipment as part of the overall regional consolidation of colposcopy in the Ottawa area.
 - Dr. Zudi Nagshabandi has recently joined us for his fellowship training in gynecologic oncology. Dr. Nagshabandi is pursuing a two-year program with an additional year of clinical epidemiology, then plans to return home to Saudi Arabia to work in an academic centre with Dr. Hatim Al-Jifree.
- ### Winnipeg
- Pam Chu is in France obtaining a flavor for operative laparoscopy and European approaches to health care delivery.
 - Waleed Al-Jassar, our current fellow, will be spending the month of January at M.D. Anderson Tumor Institute in Houston on the gyn oncology service.

Mark Your Calendar!

Upcoming GOC meetings:

5th Annual Continuing Professional Development Meeting - in conjunction with the NCIC spring meeting, March 31 – April 2, 2005, Hotel TBC Montréal, Québec

Join us as we celebrate our 25th anniversary - **GOC Annual General Meeting** - in conjunction with the SOGC's Annual Clinical Meeting, June 18-19, 2005, Québec City, Québec

Note: The deadline for submitting abstracts is January 21, 2005

Other meetings of interest:

- GOG Semi-Annual Meeting – January 14-16, 2005 – San Diego, California
- SLS (Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons) InterAmerican Multispecialty Congress of Laparoscopy and Minimally Invasive Surgery – February 23-26, 2005 – Miami Beach, Florida
- SGO Annual Meeting – March 19-23, 2005, Miami Beach, Florida
- 22nd International Papillomavirus Conference and Clinical Workshop 2005 – April 29 – May 6, 2005 – Vancouver, BC
- 11th Biennial IGCS Meeting – October 14-18, 2006 – Santa Monica, California
- FIGO World Congress – November 5-10, 2006 – Kuala Lumpur

Have You Seen the New and Improved GOC Website?

By Ms. Arifa Abdulla, Knowledge Coordinator,
Division of Gynecologic Oncology, The Ottawa Hospital

If you have recently been on the GOC Website, you will have noticed the new look and feel, numerous innovative features and the updated, fresh content. You, the members, requested an improved website and we have delivered! Sections of the site are now password protected so that members can have access to a myriad of information that is not for the public eyes.

Want to get in touch with a colleague? Go to the Membership Directory and

search by name, location or profession.

Want to see a presentation you missed at the last GOC meeting? Go to the Speaker's Bureau and view the abstracts and power point presentations from the meeting.

Want to update your mailing address and email? Go to Edit my Profile and update your personal information. These updates will trigger an email to the National Office so that your GOC record can also be updated.

Along with these and many other modifications, you can now discuss cases and issues with fellow members, post questions and reply to others in our new Discussion Forum. There is a Member's Only section where you can communicate with other members nationally and internationally on current gynecologic oncology issues. You can also give feedback on conferences you have attended, make suggestions for the GOC website, and let others know about upcoming news and announcements at your centre.



So if you haven't logged onto the new GOC website, do it now and see what this fantastic new site can offer!

Go to www.g-o-c.org today!