Think Anew! Upon reflection, I am reminded of one evening in Jackson, MS, when I was a first year fellow. It was a Friday, and most of us were in a hurry to get home. While I waited for the elevator, Dr. Bryan D. Cowan walked towards me. I complimented him on his recent publication in AJOG 1992;166:1729-1737 and how much I enjoyed it, even though it was not on an MFM topic! He barely smiled when he nodded his head. Inexplicably, I added, “I would like to learn how you did the analysis.” Now I had his attention. His response was, “I am on call tonight. Let’s talk.” And so we did until 23:00.

That conversation was one of the most important and impactful events of my career. It also turned out to be my introduction to the Central Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (CAOG). Dr. Cowan won a major CAOG award for his presentation that “discriminatory progesterone concentration could be established that confidently predicted abnormal early gestations.” There was department pride and truly palpable excitement over this award winning paper.

From it I learned about the discriminatory threshold, test efficiency, and area under the receiver-operating characteristic curve – all of which had a downstream influence, which is still challenging to comprehend and convey.

I soon joined the CAOG because of Dr. Cowan and I attend the annual meetings. Recalling his pithy comments, I continue to grow, and because of him, I am especially proud to follow in his footsteps as the new CAOG President.

On that note please reserve your dates now for the 87th Annual Meeting in Napa, CA: OCTOBER 28 – 31, 2020

Almost thirty years after absorbing Dr. Cowan’s publication, my message is simple: Find a central figure during your training who propels you to think anew, listen and learn from that person, emulate that individual, and, above all, persevere because of your mentor. Who is your hero?

Suneet P. Chauhan, M.D., President
Report of the Secretary-Treasurer  Andrew Wagner, M.D. – Chicago, IL

During 2019 the CAOG elected 5 new provisional active members (1 was previously adjunct) and 2 new adjunct members. In addition, 4 provisional members advanced to active status by attending the Annual Meeting. There were 0 reinstatements. There were 10 requests for transfers, 2 active members to life, 3 active to emeritus, 4 life to emeritus, and 1 nonresident to emeritus. Dropped for persistent nonpayment of dues were 8 active, 6 provisional active and 1 adjunct. There were another 17 resignations, 15 active, 1 life and 1 emeritus. Finally, the CAOG office was notified of the deaths of 22 members during the year, 21 emeritus and 1 life. As of December 31, 2019 the CAOG membership roster included 208 active members, 33 provisional active members, 82 life members, 203 emeritus members, 22 adjunct members, 4 nonresident members and 14 honorary members for a total of **566**.

### 2019 – 2020 CAOG Committees

#### Bylaws Committee
Robert J. Carpenter, Jr., M.D., J.D., Chair
Thomas F. Arnold, M.D., Vice Chair
James F. Kirby, M.D.
Fran Popper, M.D.
Suneet P. Chauhan, M.D., Hon. D.Sc.*
Elliot M. Levine, M.D.*
J. Coffy Pieternelle, M.D.*
James W. Van Hook, M.D.*
Andrew F. Wagner, M.D.*
Vanessa M. Barnabei, M.D., PhD.*
Dennis J. Lutz, M.D. (COMPS)*

#### Program Committee
Andrew F. Wagner, M.D., Chair
Robert A. Wild, M.D., MPH, PhD. Vice Chair
Brent W. Bost, M.D.
Angelina K. Gangestad, M.D.
James B. Hill, M.D.
Emmet Hirsch, M.D.
Curtis L. Lowery, Jr., M.D.
Tacoma A. McKnight, M.D.
Joseph M. Miller, Jr., M.D.
Susan M. Mou, M.D.
Roger P. Smith, M.D.
Suneet P. Chauhan, M.D., Hon. D.Sc.*
James W. Van Hook, M.D.*
Dennis J. Lutz, M.D. (COMPS)*

**Ex officio members**

#### Exhibits/Industry Committee
J. Coffy Pieternelle, M.D., Chair
James W. Van Hook, M.D., Vice Chair
Andrew F. Wagner, M.D.
Suneet P. Chauhan, M.D., Hon. D.Sc.*
Elliot M. Levine, M.D.*
Dennis J. Lutz, M.D. (COMPS)*

#### Membership Committee
Catherine L. Van Hook, M.D., Chair
William M. Lowe, II, M.D. Vice Chair
Deporah A. Boyle, M.D.
Joanie Y. Hare, M.D.
Margaret E. Long, M.D.
Hector Mendez-Figueroa, M.D.
Suneet P. Chauhan, M.D., Hon. D.Sc.*
J. Coffy Pieternelle, M.D.*
Andrew F. Wagner, M.D.*
Dennis J. Lutz, M.D. (COMPS)*

#### Nominating Committee
Suneet P. Chauhan, M.D., Hon. D.Sc.*, Chair
J. Coffy Pieternelle, M.D.
Vanessa M. Barnabei, M.D.
Lee P. Shulman, M.D.
(plus 3 at large members to be appointed later)

#### FAR Research Network
2020 News Update

FAR research projects under collaborative investigation:

**None Currently Available**

To suggest a new topic please email or better yet, call either:

Dr. Suneet Chauhan
or Dr. David Lewis
or Dr. Emily DeFranco

Any ideas for collaborative investigation are urgently requested and all inquiries are welcomed!!

#### All Provisional Active Members

As a provisional active member, you are encouraged to attend at least one of the two Annual Meetings following election to enjoy full CAOG privileges. This means that anyone elected in 2019 should try to attend and those elected in 2018 or before who were not in Cancun must try to attend the Napa meeting. Please reserve these dates now. Membership certificates are only awarded after attendance requirements have been met. The Central has always been a great place to network, renew friendships and enjoy science.
THE CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF

OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNECOLOGISTS

87TH ANNUAL MEETING
OCTOBER 28 – 31, 2020
(WEDNESDAY – SATURDAY)

THE MERITAGE RESORT
NAPA, CALIFORNIA

CONFERENCE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

MERITAGE RESORT: Welcome to Napa Valley Wine Country
# The Meritage Resort, Napa, California  
October 28 – 31, 2020

**ATTENDEE INFORMATION (Please Print or Type) Deadline Friday, September 11, 2020**

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| City: | State: | Zip: |

| Telephone: | Email: | |

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<th>Cost Per Person</th>
<th># of Persons</th>
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| **Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2020**  
Welcome Reception | 6:00-9:00 p.m. | Covered in Registration Fee | | *** |
| **Thursday, Oct. 29, 2020**  
Spouse/Guest Event | 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. | Covered in Registration Fee | | *** |
| **Friday, Oct. 30, 2020**  
Reception/Dinner | 6:00 – 10:00 p.m. | Covered in Registration Fee | | *** |

| REGISTRATION FEE | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| CAOG Member | $675 |
| CAOG Adjunct-Member | $500 |
| CAOG Life Member | $500 |
| Residents/Nurses | $450 |
| Non-Member (MD/DO) | $800 |
| Spouse/Guests ** (includes teenagers) | $295 |

*NOTE: All Fees in U.S. Dollars

**“PLEASE MAKE A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR FILES”**

Grand Total Enclosed
**Spouse/Guests Registration Fee:**
The $295 spouse/guests/teenager registration fee includes Welcome Reception (Wednesday), Spouse/Guest Event (Thursday) and the Reception and Farewell Dinner (Friday). Registered spouse/guests/teenagers will receive a CAOG name badge. Children 12 years and under are not required to pay a fee but will receive a CAOG name badge. Parents will be responsible for children at all times.

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<th>Names of Children 12 and Under</th>
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**Payment Information**
Payment must be received in full to process your registration. Payment can only be in the form of a check, Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover. For questions regarding registration please call 701-838-8323 (Rochelle)

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<th>□ Check (payable to CAOG)</th>
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**Cut-Off Date:**
Your registration form must be received by CAOG no later than Friday, September 11, 2020. Please call if you experience any last minute problems.

**Cancellation Policy:**
Written cancellation must be received prior to Friday, September 18, 2020. A $50 administrative fee will be assessed. No refunds will be issued after the September 18, 2020 cancellation date.

**Confirmation:**
Registrants will receive written confirmation with final details 3 weeks prior to the meeting.

To Register **by Mail**, Return Completed Form with Payment to:
Rochelle Hickel
CAOG Executive Director
P.O. Box 3010
Minot, ND 58702-3010

To Register **by Fax**, Return Completed Form with Payment to:
Rochelle Hickel
Executive Director
701-852-8733 (fax)

*Remember to please check with the bellman for complimentary luggage storage on the day you depart so you don’t need to leave the scientific meetings early!!*
Arrive via Interstate 80 from either San Francisco or Sacramento
The 2020 Central Association Meeting will be held at The Meritage Resort in Napa, California, from October 28-31, 2020 (Wednesday thru Saturday). The Program Chair is Andrew F. Wagner, M.D., from Chicago, Illinois. Plans are underway for at least 20 oral presentations, multiple hot topics, and a poster session. The Annual Meeting is our primary scientific function and attracts a national audience.

**Abstract Submission**

Enhance your participation in the CAOG by submitting your original research this year. All submissions are to be electronic. No paper submissions will be accepted. The deadline for 2020 abstract submissions will be **Monday, April 27, 2020 11:59 CST**. To submit your abstract online, please use the CAOG website link:

http://www.caog.org/submit-abstract2.cfm

Authors are cautioned that the content of your abstract should not have been, nor will be presented at any international, national or district meeting and that no paper arising from it will be published prior to the CAOG meeting. The length cannot exceed 800 words, with at least 500-600 words devoted to **methods and results**.

**Awards** — The Program Committee will select papers and posters for the following awards:

**Central Prize Award — President’s Certificate of Merit Award — Central Poster Awards**

These awards will be given for outstanding investigative or clinical work in the field of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Those eligible to compete are accredited physicians, faculty, researchers, and medical students whose work was done within the CAOG geographic confines. The recipient of the Central Prize Award will receive $2,000; the President’s Certificate of Merit Award $1,500; Judges’ and Peoples’ Choice Poster Awards $500 each.

**Community Hospital Award**

For research in the field of Obstetrics and Gynecology by CAOG area members located in a community hospital that is not a full-time medical school. The recipient of this award will receive $1,000.

**Young Investigator Award**

For research in the field of Obstetrics and Gynecology performed by CAOG area fellows, residents, medical students and new practitioners (less than three years). The award winner will receive $750.

For research in the field of Obstetrics and Gynecology performed as part of the CAOG “Far Research Network.” The award winner will receive $1,000.

For more information on the 2020 Annual Meeting, contact CAOG Executive Director Rochelle Hickel at any of the addresses shown below. Thank you in advance for your willingness to participate.

CAOG Office
P.O. Box 3010
Minot, ND 58702
Telephone: 701-838-8323
Fax: 701-852-8733
E-mail: rhickel@caog.org

**Candidates for Membership**

The deadline for membership applications this year is **July 1, 2020**. Please help identify those in your area who would be qualified for either active or adjunct membership in the Central Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and encourage them to apply now! **Board certified Adjunct members must upgrade**. The application forms can be viewed online.

If you need additional application forms anytime, please contact the CAOG office at 701-838-8323.
As we begin our sixteenth year of management for the CAOG, everything seems to be going smoothly. Our staff remains committed to responding promptly to all inquiries and requests. The CAOG Newsletter is e-published quarterly. Please refer to it frequently. The CAOG website has been expanded and is continuously updated. Also don’t forget to check your e-mail regularly for priority communications.

A second dues notice has just been emailed to all members unpaid for 2020 and a few who are still owing for 2019. The CAOG needs your membership dues support. Thank you in advance for your prompt payment. It makes my job easier.

Please don’t delay in submitting your abstracts and papers for the 2020 Annual Meeting in Napa. The deadline is fast approaching. We need your active participation. Prize awards are substantial so the more abstracts, the better the meeting.

The Interim Meeting of the CAOG Officers and Trustees will be held in late May. If you have any issues to be considered, let me know as soon as possible so that they can be added to the agenda. Oral presentations, posters and awards are selected at this meeting.

Finally, I appreciate all the address and e-mail updates. If you need Napa registration forms they are now on the website. Inquiries are always welcome. Have a great spring!

It’s been 7 years since our first and only meeting in Northern California. A great time was enjoyed by all. Come in October to bask in wine country at its best.

Please remember to promptly notify the CAOG office of any member deaths. All names will appear in the Annual Meeting program book and will be read at the Annual Business Meeting.