By the time this report is published, I will have seen many of my SOAP friends at what will no doubt have been another successful Sol Shnider OB Anesthesia meeting in San Francisco. Thanks to Cally Hoyt and our management team –Jane Svinicki, Jenni Kilpatrick and Beth Riefe – for all the work that goes into coordinating a meeting like the Sol Shnider.

Next, we are looking forward to our Annual Meeting taking place May 14-18 at the Sheraton Centre in Toronto. Our scientific chair Bob Gaiser has put together a meeting that revolves around the theme “New Approaches to Old Problems in OB Anesthesia.” He has lined up great workshops, speakers and panels, and we will have plenty of scientific abstracts too. Our host, Jose Carvalho, has a great time planned for us. Our opening reception will be in the Hockey Hall of Fame! I hope to see everyone there. I have served as both scientific chair and meeting host in the past and I can tell you that each involves a lot of work, and so, thanks to both Bob and Jose.

Earlier this year the leadership at the ASA made a renewed commitment to the subspecialty societies. The Chair of the ASA’s Committee on Subspecialty Societies, Amr Abouleish, and the Chair of the Steering Committee for Subspecialty Societies, Beverly Philip, sought input from the subspecialty societies, including SOAP, to determine our needs. As a result, the ASA is helping us obtain CME for our educational meetings – the Sol Shnider and the Annual Meeting – at a discounted price. They have agreed to distribute our Newsletter to the wider ASA membership and to publicize our meetings and other activities. The ASA staff is also coordinating with SOAP management concerning activities at the ASA Annual Meeting. In addition, the ASA has now formalized a process for gaining input from the subspecialty societies regarding ASA appointments considered important to that subspecialty. I am encouraged at the furthering of the

Continued on page 2
PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Continued from page 1

relationship between SOAP and ASA. Our missions are aligned and we can accomplish more for our members and our patients together than either can accomplish alone.

Did you know the Legacy Committee has been producing videotapes of some of the pioneers of obstetric anesthesia? So far they have interviewed Brad Smith, Richard Clark, Sally Weeks, and Brett Gutsche. More are planned. These videos will be housed at the ASA’s Wood Library Museum and will be available for member-only viewing on our web site (www.SOAP.org). Thanks to the Legacy Committee for preserving SOAP history!

Hoping to survive the rest of this winter – it was -17°F earlier this week in Chicago! – and to see everyone in Toronto in the spring!

Sincerely,

Barbara Scavone
President, SOAP

EDITOR’S CORNER

Michael Froelich, MD, MS
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Birmingham, AL

Dear Fellow Obstetric Anesthesiologists:

This Edition of the newsletter is dedicated to our upcoming meeting. It compliments other announcements that may come your way. You can find a background article from your meeting hosts, Dr. Robert Gaiser and Jose Carvalho, who describe what thoughts they put into planning the scientific content of the meeting. You will find all the information in this newsletter to get you excited about yet another educational and fun meeting.

The upcoming meeting is in Toronto, the city that prides itself of diversity. This topic is fresh on my mind as it relates to the interesting history of the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), my place of work. Here we are celebrating the “50 Years Forward”, a year of tribute to the start of the civil rights movement in Alabama and the march on Washington led by Dr. Martin Luther King. While we remember the courageous acts of civil rights leader in the past, we now look forward to the positive things we can do in the next 50 years to come. At UAB, we are up to a great start as the student and faculty population of UAB has become one of the most diverse in the US and we are proud of that fact.

It took thoughtfulness, forward thinking and courage to create an innovative and diverse place of higher education. I believe that the same ideas and concepts can work to advance SOAP into the 21st century. As I have been editing the reports of our committees and SOAP members, I note that we are a diverse society, a society that operates without prejudice. As subspecialty we focus on a high standard of education, clinical practice and research and it is not by change that our fellowship requirements are probably the most stringent with respect to academic milestones. Ultimately, these goals will increase the value that we bring to our patients in terms of clinical care and discovery of new forms of treatment. As you make plans to visit Toronto, share your thoughts with your colleagues on how you would like to see the future of Obstetric Anesthesiology.

See you soon! Greetings,

Michael Froelich
2014 SOAP Meeting Update

Dear SOAP Members,

What most people want today is value. You want value for the money you spend, and perhaps even more, you want value for the time you invest. Accordingly, we would like to outline how the registration fee for SOAP 2014 ($595 through April 15th; $695 through April 30th; and $745 onsite), and the four or five days you will spend to come to the meeting will add up to one of best investments you will ever make.

Overall, our goal is to provide you with new approaches to familiar and recurring problems in obstetric anesthesia. This meeting will have the familiar sessions you have come to know and rely on, as well as new and exciting programs. But there’s much, much more.

Let’s start with the meeting location. The host city is Toronto – TO (tee-oh) as it is known to Canadians -- the largest city in Canada. The civic motto of Toronto is ‘Diversity is Our Strength’ – it’s one of the most multicultural cities in the world. Those travelling from the United States will NEED TO BRING A PASSPORT; those travelling from other countries will most likely need a VISA as well. But wherever you are from, don’t be surprised if you hear your country’s language spoken on the streets of Toronto.

The meeting venue is the Sheraton Centre Toronto, centrally located and accessible by limousine, cab or bus from the airport. Complimentary WiFi will be provided in your room if you book through SOAP.

When you can combine meeting time with family time, it’s always a bonus, and there is so much for family members to do in TO. The hotel has a great restaurant, but it is also within walking distance of any cuisine you could wish for. As well, you can easily walk to many feature attractions such as the CN Tower, the recently opened Ripley’s Aquarium, the Art Gallery of Ontario, the Royal Ontario Museum, and the Rogers Centre, home of Major League Baseball’s Toronto Blue Jays.

The hotel is also just steps from the Eaton Centre, one of the largest shopping malls in the city, with more than 230 stores and services including the Hudson Bay Trading Company, a very contemporary store with a long history (340+ years!)

More great places to visit: Harbourfront, the Distillery District, the Toronto Zoo (featuring visiting pandas from Beijing), the Ontario Science Centre, and Casa Loma, the original home of Canadian financier Sir Henry Pellatt. This majestic castle is a prime example of European elegance, complete with decorated suites, secret passages, an 800-foot tunnel, towers, and beautiful 5-acre estate gardens. Toronto is also just a short drive (approximately 30 minutes) from Canada’s Wonderland (Canada’s premier amusement park), and only two hours from Niagara Falls, the Niagara wine region and the Shaw Theatre Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Located on the shores of Lake Ontario (one of the largest freshwater lakes on the planet), Toronto is intersected by rivers, creeks and ravines -- great places to walk or run. While virtually all sports are played in Canada, the country is known for HOCKEY, which is a national passion. Fittingly, the Hockey Hall of Fame is located in Toronto -- it’s just a five-minute walk from the hotel and will be the venue for the Opening Reception. You will find everything you always wanted to know about hockey at the Hall of Fame, and you’ll also be able to admire the Stanley Cup, the championship trophy of the National Hockey League. You can even try playing some hockey yourself . . . while you are savoring distinctive Canadian dishes and award winning wines from some of the country’s many wine-producing regions.

The concept of value has not been overlooked when it comes to the meeting itself. The program includes four pre-meeting workshops on diverse and highly relevant topics such as ‘The State of the Art of Education in Obstetric Anesthesia.’ While you might think this workshop is for junior faculty, anyone who has to instruct colleagues, obstetricians, nurses, or patients will find it extremely valuable. Topics addressed in this workshop include: the Milestone Project by the ACGME; preparing the best lecture possible; using your iPad for teaching; and bedside teaching. Although it focuses on procedure, this workshop will also help improve to your communication skills.

Once again, Dr. Jose Carvalho will be hosting his widely acclaimed Ultrasound for Obstetric Anesthesia workshop. You will become skilled in the use of ultrasound for neuraxial anesthesia, as well as many other applications including the novel assessment of gastric contents. Yet another workshop is designed to assess and improve your epidural technique and explain why epidural catheters sometimes fail to provide adequate anesthesia for cesarean delivery. Upon completion of the post-workshop evaluation of practice, you will have satisfied Part IV. Practice Performance Assessment and Improvement of MOCA®. The final workshop will teach the use of transthoracic echocardiography...
in the management of the parturient. All of these workshops promise to provide superb educational opportunities in small group, ‘hands-on’ settings.

Following tradition, the meeting proper starts on Thursday, May 15th with the Gertie Marx Research Competition in which fellows present their work. Given the requirement for research in obstetric anesthesia fellowships, this session promises to deliver leading-edge findings. And speaking of research fellowships, the accreditation by the ACGME is just one of the many accomplishments of Dr. Alan C. Santos, who will be receiving the Distinguished Service Award.

There will be a new lecture this year, presented by Eleni Tsigas. Ms. Tsigas is not a physician; she is the Executive Director of the Preeclampsia Foundation and has served as a technical advisor to the World Health Organization. As a preeclampsia survivor herself, Eleni is a relentless champion for the improvement of patient and provider education and practices, and for better patient outcomes. Next, Dr. Brian Bateman will be informing us on the use of Big Data applied to obstetric anesthesia research. His topic, combined with the expertise of Dr. Alexander Butwick, will be a guide to the interpretation of literature from Big Data.

Finally, following oral presentations and poster reviews, the first SOAP American Idol will be held. Junior members of the Society, mentored by senior faculty, will present short topics. The audience chooses the best presentation, and the winner gets to speak at the Sol Shnider Meeting.

Friday, May 16th - more oral presentations and poster reviews of up-to-the-minute investigations in obstetric anesthesia. There will also be a panel on caring for our own, approved for a patient safety credit from MOCA®, in which the importance of communication will be addressed. You will learn how to help a colleague who has experienced a bad outcome in the labor suite, as well as how to interact with one who is disruptive. Following these important sessions, a truly once-in-a-lifetime lecture will take place. Dr. John Kingdom, a world leader in the investigation of preeclampsia, will be updating us on the pathogenesis, prevention and management of severe preeclampsia. And then, a free afternoon to catch up with friends and family members and explore some of Toronto’s outstanding attractions.

The superlative educational opportunities continue on Saturday, May 17th. Dr. David Wlody, Chairman of the Department of Anesthesiology and Interim CMO and VP for Medical Affairs at Long Island College Hospital in Brooklyn, New York, will be delivering the Fred Hrehre Lecture. This eminent presentation will be followed by the ever popular Gerard W. Ostheimer Lecture: What’s New in OB Anesthesia. Our lecturer this year is Dr. Lisa Leffert, Vice Chair for Faculty Development and Chief of the Division of Obstetric Anesthesia at Massachusetts General Hospital, whose unique and thought-provoking views are also informed by her background in healthcare management consulting.

New to the meeting this year is the Host’s Panel. Dr. Jose Carvalho has assembled an international lineup to discuss ‘the postpartum period’: quality of recovery; hemoglobin levels; mood issues; and the risk of infection. Next, short presentations by the recipients of the Gertie Marx Grants, followed by a debate concerning the use of remifentanil for labor analgesia. Led by Dr. McCallum Hoyt, with Dr. David Bogod as Pro and Dr. Mark Zakowski arguing Con, you can bet on this being a lively discussion.

While you may be tempted to sleep in on Sunday, May 18th, you won’t want to miss the chance to attend one of three optional breakfast panels. The first panel will be a tribute to individuals spoken of but not present – the pioneers of obstetric anesthesia. Attendees at this panel will be asked to consider an optional donation to the SOAP Endowment Fund for the advancement of the specialty. A second breakfast panel will help junior investigators understand the process of furthering scientific knowledge, from idea to publication. Anyone considering undertaking research in obstetric anesthesia should attend this panel. The third panel will focus on career opportunities in obstetric anesthesia beyond placing epidurals – opportunities in education, administration and advocacy.

At the conclusion of the breakfast panels, there will be a MOCA®-credited panel on improving patient safety in the labor suite. ‘What’s New in Neonatology?’ has been ‘reborn’ and will be presented by Dr. Jeff Perlman, who will be focusing on the significant downstream neonatal benefits of avoiding hypothermia/hyperthermia in the delivery room. The meeting will conclude with a poster review by Dr. Manuel Vallejo, the Scientific Chair for the 2015 SOAP meeting.

If you’re still not convinced, we’ve got more. Dr. Jose Carvalho has arranged Yoga classes on Thursday and Saturday. These sessions will be designed to accommodate practitioners at all levels, from beginner to experienced. And finally the SOAP Banquet will be right onsite at the hotel -- your chance to wind up your meeting experience and catch up with old friends.

Why go to the Annual Meeting in 2014? Because it will be an outstanding learning opportunity in an exciting, accessible and welcoming location. Many, many exceptional social and educational activities await you. Challenging new sessions, with the same warmth and friendliness that makes SOAP so special. And above all else, you have our commitment – we will provide you with value – SOAP 2014 will be money and time well spent.

We look forward to seeing you in Toronto!

Robert Gaiser, MD, Chair, 2014 SOAP Annual Meeting
Jose Carvalho, MD, PhD, FANZCA, FRCPC, Meeting Host, 2014 SOAP Annual Meeting
### PROGRAM SCHEDULE

#### Wednesday, May 14, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Registration Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Teaching Obstetric Anesthesia in 2014 Workshop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Course Directors: William R. Camann, M.D.; Regina Y. Fragneto, M.D.; Richard C. Month, M.D.; Manuel C. Vallejo, Jr., M.D., D.M.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>The Use of Ultrasound in Obstetric Anesthesia: Vascular Access, Neuraxial Anesthesia, TAP Block and Gastric Assessment Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Course Director: Jose C.A. Carvalho, M.D., Ph.D., FANZCA, FRCPC</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Use of the Transthoracic Echocardiogram in the Management of the High Risk Parturient Workshop</td>
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<td>Course Directors: Brendan Carvalho, M.B.B.Ch., FRCA, M.D.C.H.; John T. Sullivan, M.D., M.B.A.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Management of the Failed Epidural Workshop</td>
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<td>Course Directors: Regina Y. Fragneto, M.D.; Robert R. Gaiser, M.D.; Vernon H. Ross, M.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Welcome Reception at the Hockey Hall of Fame</td>
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#### Thursday, May 15, 2014

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Registration Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Yoga Class (Optional)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 a.m. - 7:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Continental Breakfast &amp; Poster Viewing - Exhibits Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:15 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Welcome to the 46th Annual Meeting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jose C.A. Carvalho, M.D., Ph.D., FANZCA, FRCPC; Robert R. Gaiser, M.D., Barbara M. Scavone, M.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Gertie Marx Research Competition</td>
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<td>Moderator: Gerard M. Bassell, M.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Distinguished Service Award</td>
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<td>Recipient: Alan C. Santos, M.D., M.P.H.</td>
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<td>Presenter: David J. Wlody, M.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Coffee Break, Exhibits &amp; Poster Viewing</td>
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#### Friday, May 16, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Registration Hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 a.m. - 7:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Continental Breakfast &amp; Poster Viewing - Exhibits Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:45 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Best Paper Session</td>
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<td>Moderator: Paloma Toledo, M.D., M.P.H.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Caring for Our Own: Focusing on the Care Provider to Optimize Safety for Our Patients</td>
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<td>• Teaching Effective Communication on Labor &amp; Delivery</td>
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<td>Speaker: May C.M. Pian-Smith, M.D., M.S.</td>
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<td>• The Second Victim</td>
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<td>Speaker: Stephen Pratt, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Motivating the Rat: Managing the Disruptive Co-Worker</td>
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<td>Speaker: Lawrence C. Tsen, M.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Coffee Break, Exhibits and Poster Viewing</td>
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</table>
Friday, May 16, 2014 continued

11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.  
**What's New in Obstetrics?**  
**Pathogenesis, Prevention & Management of Severe Preeclampsia**  
*Introduction:* Jose C.A. Carvalho, M.D., Ph.D., FANZCA, FRCPA  
*Speaker:* John Kingdom, M.D.

12:15 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.  
**Poster Session 2**  
*Moderator:* Richard C. Month, M.D.

1:15 p.m.  
**Open Afternoon**  
Exhibits & Poster Viewing

Saturday, May 17, 2014

6:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
**Registration Hours**

6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.  
**Yoga Class (Optional)**

6:30 a.m. - 7:45 a.m.  
**Continental Breakfast & Poster Viewing**

7:45 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  
**Oral Presentation 2**  
*Moderator:* Klaus Kjaer, M.D.

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
**Fred Hehre Lecture**  
*Introduction:* Barbara M. Scavone, M.D.  
*Speaker:* David J. Wilody, M.D.

10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.  
**Coffee Break & Poster Viewing**

10:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.  
**Gerard W. Ostheimer Lecture:**  
**What's New in OB Anesthesia?**  
*Introduction:* Arvind Palanisamy, M.D., FRCA  
*Speaker:* Lisa R. Leffert, M.D.

11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.  
**Lunch On Your Own & Poster Viewing**

12:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
**Host's Panel – Getting New Moms Ready to Rock in the Post-Partum: Obstetric Anesthesia Beyond Labor and Delivery**  
*Moderator:* Jose C.A. Carvalho, M.D., Ph.D., FANZCA, FRCPA  
- **Quality of Recovery in the Postpartum**  
  *Speaker:* Jose C.A. Carvalho, M.D., Ph.D., FANZCA, FRCPA
- **Hemoglobin Issues**  
  *Speaker:* Robin Russell, M.D.
- **Mood Issues**  
  *Speaker:* Beverly Young, M.D., FRCPC
- **Infection Issues**  
  *Speaker:* Allison McGeer, M.D., M.Sc., FRCPA

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
**Poster Session 3**  
*Moderator:* Michaela K. Farber, M.D., M.S.

3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
**Coffee Break & Poster Viewing**

3:30 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.  
**Gertie Marx Recipients**  
*2012 Recipient:* Mrinalini Balki, M.B., B.S., M.D.  
*2013 Recipient:* Terrence K. Allen, M.B., B.S.

3:50 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
**Pro-Con Debate: Remifentanil Should Be Routinely Offered for Labor Analgesia**  
*Moderator:* McCallum R. Hoyt, M.D., M.B.A.  
*Pro:* David Bogod, M.B., B.S., FRCA, LLM  
*Con:* Mark I. Zakowski, M.D.

6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.  
**SOAP Banquet at the Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel**

Sunday, May 18, 2014

6:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
**Registration Hours**

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.  
**Continental Breakfast**

7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.  
**Breakfast Panels**  
**Legends Remembered**  
*Speakers:* Gerard M. Bassell, M.D.; Brenda A. Bucklin, M.D.; Patricia A. Dailey, M.D.; Robert R. Gaier, M.D.; Richard M. Smiley, M.D., Ph.D.; Lawrence C. Tsen, M.D.

**Publication in Obstetric Anesthesia**  
*Speakers:* Pamela Flood, M.D.; Robin Russell, M.D.; Cynthia A. Wong, M.D.

**A Career in Obstetric Anesthesia**  
*Speakers:* Craig Palmer, M.D., Senior Career Member Perspective; Edward A. Yaghmour, M.D., Mid Career Member Perspective; Paloma Toledo, M.D., M.P.H., Junior Career Member Perspective

8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
**Practical Suggestions for Improving Safety in Your Unit**  
**Safety Rounds Beyond Board Sign Out**  
*Speaker:* Yaakov Beilin, M.D.

**Team Training: Emergency Manuals Implementation, Crisis Simulation & Critical Event Debriefing**  
*Speaker:* David L. Hepner, M.D., M.P.H.

**Equipment Rounds: Ways to Be Sure the Suction Works When You Need It**  
*Speaker:* Edward McGonigal, M.D.

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
**What's New in Neonatology?**  
**Avoiding Hypothermia/Hyperthermia in the Delivery Room in the Newly Born Infant has Significant Beneficial Downstream Consequences**  
*Introduction:* Klaus Kjaer, M.D.  
*Speaker:* Jeff Perlman, M.B., Ch. B.

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
**Best Case Reports Review**  
*Moderator:* Manuel C. Vallejo, Jr., M.D., D.M.D.
PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES
2014 Annual Business Meeting

The Bylaws of our Society require prior notification of our membership before any amendments to the Bylaws can be considered at our business meeting. The following changes have been considered and approved by our Board of Directors, and will be submitted to the membership in Toronto.

New language is in **boldface**, deleted language is indicated by strikethrough.

**Disbursement Committee**

The role of the Disbursement Committee has been somewhat ambiguous since its inception. The proposed changes will define a purely advisory role for the Committee, with ultimate responsibility for the disbursement of funds to be retained by the Board of Directors. Additionally, our First Vice President is now established as a member of the Committee, allowing a more direct connection between Society leadership and the Committee. Finally, the terms of the positions appointed by the President are defined in such a way to stagger these terms and limit the number of departures from the Committee that occur in a single year.

8.1.2.1 All requests for research and education funding (including but not limited to the SOAP/Gertie Marx Education and Research Grant and the SOAP/Kybele International Outreach Grant) will be evaluated by the Disbursement Committee. The Committee will supply these evaluations to the Board of Directors, which will make all decisions regarding disbursement of funds to support research and educational activities.

10.10.1 **DISBURSEMENT COMMITTEE** Chair is appointed by the president with approval of the Board for a three year term. Other members are the Treasurer, Chair of the Education Committee, Chair of the Research Committee, **1st Vice President** and **three (3) two (2)** active members appointed by the President who have a history of significant service to the Society and are approved by the Board. **The Presidential appointments will begin at the conclusion of the 2014 Business Meeting of this SOCIETY. One position will have a term of one year, ending at the conclusion of the Business Meeting in 2015. One position** will have a term of two years, ending at the conclusion of the Business Meeting in 2016. Subsequent appointments to each of the Presidential appointed positions will have a term of two years.

10.10.2 **Duties:** To review research and education applications for funding and disburse monies to those projects with merit. The amount available for disbursement shall be determined by the Finance Committee and noted in the annual budget. This committee shall not exceed the budgeted amount without approval from 75% of the Board. **To evaluate applications for research and education funding and make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding such funding.**

**Obstetric Anesthesia Fellowship Committee**

An ad hoc Committee on obstetric anesthesia fellowships has existed for a number of years. The proposed Bylaws change will establish this as a standing committee, and will define its responsibilities and composition.

10.16 Obstetric Anesthesia Fellowship Committee

10.16.1 **Chair**: Appointed by the President, with the approval of the Board of Directors. The Chair will be a Director of an ACGME-approved obstetric anesthesia fellowship and will serve a term of three years, renewable by the President.

10.16.2 **Members**: as appointed; to reflect a wide range of Obstetric Anesthesia fellowship programs.

10.16.3 **Duties**: provide guidance and support to Obstetric Anesthesia fellowship programs and to sustain and enhance the value of fellowship training in OB Anesthesia.

**Parliamentary Authority**

The parliamentary authority governing our Society, particularly the activities of our business meeting, has not previously been defined. This proposed change will establish the AIP Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure (formerly known as Sturgis’ Standard Code) as our authority, aligning our policy with that of the ASA.

11.4 **Parliamentary and Procedural Authority**

The official parliamentary authority of this Society shall be the latest edition of the American Institute of Parliamentarians Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure.
Thank You to the 2014 SOAP Meeting Exhibitors!

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A Tribute to Geraldine O’Sullivan

Obstetric anesthesia has lost a friend
Those who knew her will remember Geraldine with fondness
Those who read her scientific endeavors or heard her lecture
Will remember Geraldine with gratitude
Geraldine was bright
Not only luminescent
But well educated, with a lively wit
She had that Erin attractiveness
And an Irish sparkle mingled with some English sensibilities
Time spent with her was good craic
Geraldine was able to connect to people with ease
She had a natural spirit of generosity
I enjoyed her hospitality last year in London near St James Park
I sat at the family table and now I still remember
The warmth, humor, wit and laughter
Good craic
Like many of you, I will miss seeing Geraldine again
Like all of you I grieve for her husband and daughters
Countless friends, colleagues and countrymen will mourn
But it will be an invisible loss to a multitude of her patients from time past
Geraldine sparkled like fine champagne
I toast her memory, but that bottle was drunk far too soon
The bells of St Thomas’s will ring out
In a solemn memory of
An earth-based angel, now heaven bound

Dr. Geraldine O’Sullivan, lead clinician for obstetric anesthesia, Guy’s and St Thomas’ NHS Foundation Trust, London, UK, passed away on Sunday, December 1st, 2013 from a rapidly progressive form of GI cancer. Her passing falls into the realm of unbelief for many of us, particularly those who have been with her in the past few months, where her energy and enthusiasm did not yield the slightest hint of the burden she was carrying.

Geraldine made many contributions to our specialty, including a spirited academic interest in aspiration risks, prophylaxis and treatment. As OAA President, and in many other leadership roles, she was a wonderful and visible ambassador for obstetric anesthesia. We appreciated her quick wit and intelligence, which made her an absolutely delightful dinner companion. Our global obstetric anesthesia community has lost an important family member.

As a tribute to Geraldine, we share this remembrance by her friend and colleague, obstetric anesthesiologist David Gambling.
EDUCATION: PREECLAMPSIA UPDATE
Practice Alert - Preeclampsia Update – the CMQCC Toolkit.

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Even old diseases like preeclampsia have major updates. The California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative (CMQCC) recently released the Preeclampsia Toolkit (www.cmqcc.org/preeclampsia_toolkit) - 158 pages of useful information, guidelines, algorithms, clinical pearls, and even an educational slide set. When CMQCC released their OB Hemorrhage Toolkit in 2010, the essence, if not the exact wording, spread nationally and led to new standards of practice and improved patient outcomes. Likely the same will occur with the Preeclampsia Toolkit, so you are advised to review the user-friendly materials.

I had the privilege of being a member of The Preeclampsia Task Force that developed the information and guidelines within the toolkit, a collaborative project of the CMQCC with the California Department of Public Health and Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Division of the Center For Family Health over an extensive 2-year period.

The maternal death rate in California nearly doubled to 14/100,000 live births in 2008. The spectrum of Hypertensive disorders of pregnancy remains a leading cause of maternal mortality, accounting for 17% of maternal mortality nationally. Preeclampsia also leads to premature birth with concomitant neonatal morbidity and mortality. The CMQCC toolkit was developed to help clinicians improve outcomes via early recognition, prompt treatment with guidelines on best practices, easy to use algorithm, and clinical pearls. As well, the Toolkit draws upon and educates on recent changes on national and international recommendations for the diagnosis and treatment of preeclampsia. The management of severe preeclampsia at less then 34 weeks gestation has particular significance due to more often being severe.

While the ultimate treatment of preeclampsia is delivery of the fetus and placenta, the timing of delivery, occurrence of symptoms after delivery, and medical therapy are very important. The term 'mild preeclampsia’ has been discontinued, being substituted by "preeclampsia without severe features". The prevention and treatment of seizures with magnesium has been advocated for many years, yet the administration of magnesium in milder forms then severe preeclampsia remains controversial. Magnesium sulfate is considered first line for treatment of an eclamptic seizure!

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All clinicians need a high index of suspicion in women with new onset hypertension, with or without proteinuria. Especially prior to 34 weeks gestation, the presentation may be atypical. Symptoms of headache, abdominal pain, shortness of breath or generalized edema should be considered possible atypical presentations of preeclampsia with severe features. New onset hypertension alone will progress to preeclampsia in 40% of parturients. A Preeclampsia Early Recognition Tool flowchart is provided in Appendix D.

A new emphasis has been placed on reducing maternal morbidity and mortality by trying to prevent hypertensive cerebrovascular accidents via early and prompt treatment with anti-hypertensives. Changing from the old diagnosis of preeclampsia by elevated blood pressures six hours apart, the new guidelines are to re-check an elevated BP after 15 minutes and treat within 60 minutes of first elevated BP. Elevated BPs requiring treatment are SBP >160 mmHg or DBP >105-110 mmHg. The ‘first line’ anti-hypertensive medications, labetalol or hydralazine, are now given within the 60 minutes timeline to try to prevent hemorrhagic stroke. The calcium channel blocker nifedepine may be added if no intravenous access or as a second line agent. Extreme hypertension or resistance to therapy warrants a consultation with an anesthesiologist for help lowering the blood pressure with other agents e.g. esmolol or propofol.

The recommendations include early follow-up after discharge from the hospital, within 3-7 days for those requiring antihypertensive medications during hospitalization to make sure that the blood pressure remains controlled. Hypertensive disorders of pregnancy have been associated with an increased risk of future cardiovascular disease.

The toolkit also covers late onset preeclampsia, which may present up to six weeks postpartum. Tools for ER physicians have been emphasized to help with the prompt and correct diagnosis and transfer to an obstetrical unit. Posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome (PRES) may appear similar to preeclampsia and occur in the postpartum period.

In summary, the CMQCC Toolkit contains a vast array of useful, clinical and educational materials. All anesthesiologists, nurses, and obstetricians should become familiar with these guidelines, which will undoubtedly reach national acceptance and utilization.

References:
1. Druzin ML, Shields LE, Peterson NL, Cape V, editors. Preeclampsia Toolkit: Improving Health Care Response to Preeclampsia (California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative Toolkit to Transform Maternity Care) Developed under contract #11-10006 with the California Department of Public Health; Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Division; Published by the California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative, November 2013.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOMINATIONS

Call For Nominations: Teacher Of The Year, Media Award

The deadline for nominations for SOAP Teacher of the Year and SOAP Media Award is fast approaching (March 15th, 2014). Don’t miss out on your chance to acknowledge someone special who has given to the world of Obstetric Anesthesia. The categories and criteria are:

SOAP Teacher of the Year Award

The SOAP Teacher of the Year Award was created to recognize outstanding practitioners of obstetric anesthesiology who have demonstrated superior teaching primarily of anesthesiology residents and fellows, and secondarily of obstetricians, nurses, midwives, and the lay public.

The SOAP Education Awards Subcommittee is charged with the task of evaluating candidates and would like nominators to consider the following attributes of the candidates: clinical teaching, mentoring, and the advancement of obstetric anesthesia outside of our own community. Any SOAP member may nominate a candidate. Please forward your nominations to May Pian-Smith at mpiansmith@mgh.harvard.edu.

SOAP Media Award

The goal of the SOAP Media Award is to acknowledge the contribution of a member of the media in furthering public awareness of the important role obstetric anesthesiology plays in the care of the parturient.

Journalists, photographers, producers, directors and any other media professionals involved in the development and advancement of the above content will be considered. All relevant media genres including but not limited to print, radio, television and the internet are eligible. The award is given for merit, and may not be awarded every year. Any SOAP member wishing to submit a candidate for consideration should send relevant information to May Pian-Smith at mpiansmith@mgh.harvard.edu.

Nominations

SOAP is calling for nominations for the elected positions of: 2nd Vice President, Secretary, ASA Delegate, Alternate ASA Delegate and Director At Large. Interested members should send a short statement and picture to tierney@soap.org for posting on the SOAP website.

Practice Alert - Preeclampsia Update – the CMQCC Toolkit.

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