



# Ob/Gyn Inside Story

## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

The economic downturn that has had such an impact on not-for-profit organizations is serious. But it is moments such as this that test the true fortitude of successful organizations. We will not be hosting a cocktail party at our Annual ACOG Convention this year. This decision was made out of respect for those individuals who have made financial sacrifices as we move to right-side our financial base. We have, however, begun several important initiatives which will position our Department to grow as the economy improves.

A major initiative was to develop a generalist group of Ob/Gyn faculty under Sireesha Reddy, MD, as Division Head, to restore basic gynecology to our core teaching model.

Discussions are underway to establish an outpatient Women's Ob/Gyn Health Center close to the center of Rochester to improve access to care for underserved women.

A major new initiative is to create a Center for Women's Health and the Environment, led by Shanna Swan, PhD and Eva Pressman, MD, to research the negative impact that environmental chemical exposures are having on reproduction.

Finally, we continue to have one of the finest Ob/Gyn residencies in the U.S., thanks to the individual effort of Residency Director, Ruth Anne Queenan, MD, but also the collective efforts of our current faculty and the important help of our graduates who are distributed throughout the U.S.

## DIVISION SETS NEW TONE IN OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

The Division of General Gynecology and Obstetrics, under the leadership of Dr. Sireesha Reddy, is setting high standards for patient care and resident education. Recognizing that Obstetrics and Gynecology begins by building on the strengths of a general program, Dr. Reddy has established high expectations for our newest division. Members include Drs. Sarah Betstadt, Adrienne Bohnam, Jennifer Droz, Christine Greves, Colby Previte, and Nancy Stanwood. The division shares resident teaching in continuity clinics in the Women's Health practice, covers the gynecology and general obstetrics inpatient program, covers Highland Hospital, and each member also have private and hospital-based clinics.

Dr. Reddy notes, "We are very excited to be a part of this new Generalist division. I am privileged to be working with an enthusiastic, highly intelligent, and dynamic group that is thoroughly committed in setting and meeting high standards in both patient care and resident and medical student education."



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Resident Research Day .....	2
RYMS Study .....	2
Congratulations .....	2
ORA Flash: ARRA Funding.....	3
Education Corner.....	3
Community News.....	4
Meet the New Residents.....	5

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- The next issue of *Ob/Gyn Inside Story* will be published in July. If you have something to include, please email Rebecca Rowley at [rebecca\\_rowley@urmc.rochester.edu](mailto:rebecca_rowley@urmc.rochester.edu)
- Resident Research Day is Thursday, May 14. See you there!

## RESIDENT RESEARCH DAY

The Resident Research Day will be held on Thursday, May 14 in the Class of 1962 Auditorium in the Arthur Kornberg Medical Research Building.

The Research Day will begin with a continental breakfast at 7:15 a.m. followed by the Jerome H. Rudolph Memorial Lecture at 8:00 a.m. with guest speaker, John F. Steege, MD, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Director, Division of Advanced Laparoscopy & Pelvic Pain at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Steege's lecture is entitled, "Surgery and Gynecologic Pain: Causing it; Treating it."

Resident research presentations will follow.

## ROCHESTER YOUNG MEN'S STUDY (RYMS)

Conducted in conjunction with researchers in Denmark, Copenhagen and Murcia, Spain, this study seeks to understand how prenatal factors such as mother's smoking and beef consumption while pregnant may affect the future fertility of their sons. Enrollment began in February 2009 and response to recruitment ads and flyers around local college campuses has been excellent. Study clinics are held two afternoons per week at the Strong Fertility Center, Andrology Department. Due to our successful recruitment we have already enrolled 50 subjects in our first 7 weeks. We have a projected total enrollment of 300.

2

## CONGRATULATIONS!

### PRESENTATIONS

- ◆ The division of Urogynecology is represented with 3 studies at the 2009 annual scientific meeting of the International Urogynecological Association (IUGA), which is being held place at the end of June in Italy:
  1. **Erin E. Duecy, Anna R. McNanley, Gunhilde M. Buchsbaum.** "Sexuality and sexual activity in women after colpocleisis." (Oral Presentation)
  2. **Stephanie Ahmed, MaryAnn Perevich, Anna R. McNanley, Gunhilde M. Buchsbaum.** "Uroflow Measurements in Healthy Female Volunteers" (Oral Poster)
  3. **Anna R. McNanley, Erin E. Duecy, Michael K. Flynn, Gunhilde M. Buchsbaum.** "Recovery after robotic sacrocolpopexy: the patient's perspective" (Poster)
- ◆ **Jody Stevens, PhD, FNP-BC** presented "Good Oral Health Practices During Pregnancy" for adolescent teens at the March of Dimes Lunch and Learn presentation on April 4th at the Clarion Riverside.

### GRANTS

- ◆ **Shanna Swan's** R01 grant application entitled "The Infant Development and Environment Study (TIDES)" received a fundable score (5th percentile).
- ◆ **Shawn Murphy's** R01 grant application entitled, "Immune Gene Regulation in Human Trophoblast Cells" received a fundable score (5.8th percentile).

### HONORS

- ◆ The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) has named **Diane M. Hartmann** a recipient of the organization's Parker J. Palmer Courage to Lead Award.
- ◆ **Dr. Constantino Fernandez** was honored by the National Hispanic Medical Association in March 2009 for his leadership in improving the health of Hispanics.

- ◆ **Erin Duecy** is listed on the front page of Inside URM as a "star."

### PUBLICATIONS

- ◆ **Loralei Thornburg** was quoted in a story about the link between obesity and birth defects on ABC <http://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory?id=6848462>.
- ◆ **Chris Stodgell, David Foster, Merrill Kotok and Fred Howard** published an article in *Obstetrics and Gynecology*, "The tampon test for vulvodynia treatment outcomes research: reliability, construct validity, and responsiveness"
- ◆ **Rich Miller** published an article in *Placenta*, "Allometric Metabolic Scaling and Fetal and Placental Weight"
- ◆ **Shanna Swan** published an article in the *American Journal of Epidemiology*, "Maternal Urinary Metabolites of Di-(2-Ethylhexyl) Phthalate in Relation to the Timing of Labor in a US Multi-center Pregnancy Cohort Study"
- ◆ **Shawn Murphy** published an article in *Haematologica*, "CITTA or RFX coding region loss of function mutations occur rarely in diffuse large B-cell lymphoma cases and cell lines with low levels of major histocompatibility complex class II expression," and an article in *Biology of Reproduction*, "Interferon Gamma in Successful Pregnancies." He also has three articles in press in *Immunology* "Human Leukocyte Antigen (HLA) expression by normal trophoblast cells and placental cell lines using a novel method to characterize allotype specificities of anti-HLA antibodies," "Histone deacetylases inhibit IFN-g-inducible gene expression in mouse trophoblast cells," and "The immunogenicity of L1210 lymphoma clones correlates with the ability to function as antigen presenting cells."

## ORA FLASH

### AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT FUNDING

President Obama recently signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (AARA or Stimulus Act) into law. Of the total \$787 billion in funding provided under the Stimulus Act, \$21.5 billion is reserved for federal research and development. These funds must be allocated within the next two years.

Many types of funding mechanisms will be supported, but, in general, NIH will focus scientific activities in several areas:

- ◆ NIH will choose among recently peer reviewed, highly meritorious R01 and similar mechanisms capable of making significant advances with a two-year grant. R01 are projects proposed directly from scientists across the country. NIH will also fund new R01 applications that have a reasonable expectation of making progress in a two-year grant.
- ◆ NIH will accelerate the tempo of ongoing science through targeted supplements to current grants. For example, NIH may competitively expand the scope of current research awards or supplement an existing award with additional support for infrastructure (e.g., equipment) that will be used in the two-year availability of these funds.
- ◆ NIH anticipates supporting new types of activities that fit into the structure of the Recovery Act. It will support a reasonable number of awards to jump start the new NIH Challenge Grant program. This program is designed to focus on health and science problems where progress can be expected in two years. The number of awards and amount of funds will be determined, based on the scientific merit and the quality of applications.
- ◆ NIH will also use other funding mechanisms, as appropriate.

More information can be found at [http://www.rochester.edu/ORPA/Stimulus\\_ARRA/](http://www.rochester.edu/ORPA/Stimulus_ARRA/)



*“We are very impressed with the many talents and interests of our new interns.”*

## EDUCATION CORNER

The National Resident Match Day was held on Thursday, March 19. The Ob/Gyn Residency Program is pleased to introduce the 2009-2010 intern class. We are very impressed with the many talents and interests of our new interns. Our new residents hail from all over the country, and we look forward to their arrival in June and to welcoming them to the

University of Rochester Medical Center and the Rochester region.

Please see our last page for more information about each of these new residents!



## OB/GYN @ URMC

The Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry is a leader in patient care, investigative research, and obstetric education. The Faculty is dedicated to promoting excellence in all areas that support women's health.

The Department is proud to offer care to our patients by physicians who were ranked among the nation's best in U.S. News & World Report's America's Best Hospitals list.



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## COMMUNITY NEWS

### FACULTY PROMOTIONS:

Robert Tatelbaum to Professor of Clinical OB/GYN effective November, 1, 2008.

Eugene Toy to Associate Professor OB/GYN effective March 1, 2009.

Tulin Ozcan to Associate Professor OB/GYN effective April 1, 2009.

Paula Eggers to Associate in OB/GYN effective March 1, 2009.

Rita Clement to Clinical Associate Professor in OB/GYN effective February 1, 2009.

### BIRTHS:

Jenny and Ken Droz welcomed their son, Grayson Lawrence to their family on January 29, 2009.

Wendy and Rob Roemer welcomed a son to their family, Samuel Vincent Parisi Roemer on March 12, 2009.

### WEDDINGS:

Kelly Quartieri and Kevin Chandler will be married on June 6, 2009.



## WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?

The faculty and staff of Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology are proud of the work we do in service to the community in caring for women throughout the lifespan. Donations in support of our program are key to our success. Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution today.

Yes, I would like to donate funds payable to the Dept. of OB/GYN for the following purpose: (please mail to the attention of Carol Shay Acomb, Program Administrator, Dept. of OB/GYN, 601 Elmwood Avenue, Box 668, Rochester, NY 14642).

\_\_\_\_\_ Joseph R. Scibetta Endowment

\_\_\_\_\_ Research work in Reproductive Health and the Environment

\_\_\_\_\_ Clinical Care of the Underserved

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2009/10 INTERNS (R1)



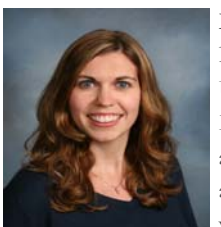
### **Brandy Becker**

B.S. – Physiology, University of Illinois Champaign/ Urbana  
AOA  
University of Illinois College of Medicine  
Hobbies and interests are: aerobics, knitting, cross stitching, cooking, and traveling with her husband.



### **Christopher Schwartzenburg**

B.S. – Industrial and Labor Relations, Cornell University  
University of Washington School of Medicine  
Hobbies and interests are: loves to experience new things, avid outdoors person, from skiing to biking & hiking to kayaking. Intrigued by different cultures and traveling to experience them. Has an appreciation for good food and loves to cook. Loves music and plays both the guitar and ukulele. Fluent in French.



### **Leigh Berven**

B.A. – Biology, University of Minnesota - Morris  
University of Minnesota Medical School  
Hobbies and interests are: enjoys many outdoor activities, including camping, hiking, canoeing, biking, and cross country skiing. Also enjoys experimenting with vegetarian cooking. Through participation in concert band has traveled to many foreign countries.



### **Mara Semel**

M.A. – Medical Science, Boston University  
B.A. – Neuroscience, Wellesley College  
AOA  
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine  
Hobbies and interests are: avid skier, competitive swimmer in high school and continues swimming in her free time. Enjoys cooking, particularly Italian food and loves having friends over to sample her creations. A huge animal lover and advocate.



### **Susan Bradford**

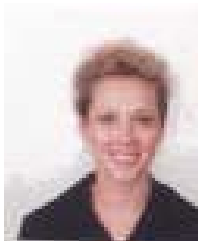
B.S. – Commerce, German, University of Virginia  
University of Virginia School of Medicine  
Hobbies and interests are: enjoys cooking, gardening, quilting, sewing, running, hiking, golfing, playing squash, and playing the piano. Has strong interests in environmental activism, nature preservation, and animal rights and protection. Fluent in conversational

German.



### **Holly Stevens**

B.S. – Family and Consumer Sciences, Human Nutrition, University of Wyoming  
University of Washington School of Medicine  
Hobbies and interests are: fly fishing, camping, backpacking, skiing, traveling, and pastel drawing.



### **Jennifer Myers**

B.S. – Physiology, Michigan State University  
Michigan State University College of Human Medicine  
Hobbies and interests are: Middle Eastern Dance - member of the Habibi Dancer's of Lansing, MI.; Music – violin & piano; Art – pencil/charcoal drawing, acrylic painting; traveling, and leisure bike riding.



### **Natalie Whaley**

B.A. – History, Drew University  
University of Washington School of Medicine  
Hobbies and interests are: social justice, reading, travel, and music. Took a year long position with AmeriCorps. Traveled to India for a six week rotation.