

## Report from the President

In this communique I would like to report on some of the plans for the upcoming year. While in the past most of the Society's work during the year revolved around our annual meeting, we are becoming a more consistently-active Society. This year we will continue to push two agendas: to continue the work of the Government Affairs Committee headed by Jim Rose who is now a council member, and to formalize plans for the use of some of our endowment and reserve funds for research and development of the Society.

There has been general consensus that we should help to develop the careers of young investigators and to encourage research in reproduction. Along these lines we will establish support in two areas, although at present we have limited resources and will only be able to begin this project with limited grants. We will establish "bridge" grants for selected investigators to help support research between fellowship training programs such as the RSDP and research independence. In addition, we will establish programs to help encourage medical students and residents to enter careers in gynecologic investigation. Jim Roberts will be helping me to determine criteria for these awards. Finally, it is my desire to subsidize meeting registration fees for our younger attendees,

specifically those in training. It is anticipated that these plans will be established by the early fall, prior to the abstract submission date.

Plans for our 1998 annual meeting in Atlanta are coming along. The overall Program Chair this year is Mark Sauer; Michael Belfort will chair the Post-Graduate Courses, and Ana Murphy will be our Local Arrangements Chairperson. I am trying to establish a theme of "academic unity." My attempt will be to begin to develop a common forum for Reproductive Sciences among our major subspecialty societies (SPO, SGO and American Society for Reproductive Medicine). All three will be represented in Atlanta by their Presidents and their best work. In addition, I am beginning an initiative to annually merge all of our scientific research abstracts onto a single CD. Updates on this project will follow.

Mark your calendars for March 11-14, 1998 to go to Atlanta. I am also trying to make the festivities, specifically the banquet, more acceptable for everyone. It is still early enough to incorporate your ideas into this year's program; feel free to contact me through the Journal office or on E-Mail.

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