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President’s Message....

Dear Friends,

In the blink of an eye, we are already half way through 2019 and nearing the end of the current AOFOG Council tenure.

In March and April 2019, AOFOG participated at the Annual Congress of the Taiwan Association of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists (TAOG) and the Japan Society of Obstetrics & Gynaecology (JSOG) respectively. The AOFOG sessions were well received in both these meetings and the added bonus was a rare opportunity to meet with the President of the Republic of China, HE Tsai Ing-wen, who, as a woman, was empathetic to and supportive of our efforts to improve women’s healthcare. Both the TAOG and JSOG have developed in leaps and bounds and the efficiency with which they conduct their business is something we can all aspire to. For many years now, these 2 organisations have held dedicated AOFOG sessions during their Annual Congresses and this is also being emulated now by our National Society members in South Asia. It is hoped that in time to come, this trend will be embraced by all our National Society members.

At the Action Plan Meeting of the Executive Board and Committee Chairs on 1st June 2019, we had the opportunity to take stock of what we have achieved to date while reassessing our shortcomings so that we can chart a better course for the new term. The invitation to participate in Committee activities has already been sent to all National Society Presidents on 1st May with a closing date of 30th September 2019 and we invite members who are energetic, proactive, ambitious and with vision, to join us in our quest to improve the healthcare of women in our region.

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of Prof Geoffrey Bishop on 1st June 2019. Prof Bishop was President of AOFOG from 1991 – 1993 and among his Executive Board members at the time were Prof. Rohit Bhatt (Vice President), Prof. Suporn Koetsawang (President Elect), Prof. S.S. Ratnam (Secretary General), Prof. Arulkumaran (Deputy Secretary General) and Prof. V. Sivanesaratnam (Treasurer). A memorial service was held on 7th June 2019 and I sent a message on behalf of AOFOG. This Newsletter also carries tributes to the great man from his contemporaries.

Finally, with our AOFOG Congress only 5 months away, the level of organisational activity has gone up several notches. We will have a very international flavour with participation from WHO, JHPIEGO, RCOG and ACOG. FIGO has recently decided to have a General Meeting during our Congress and this will see participation from many Officers and Executive Board members of FIGO. To date, we already have close to 3500 registrants so please register early before the event is sold out.

Warm regards as always

Ravi Chandran
Secretary General’s Message.....

The intention of the AOFOG is to work closely in association with the member societies. Towards this end we were able to participate in Annual conferences of a few member societies during the past 4 months. During these conferences AOFOG officers were able to meet with the officers and members of the National Societies and get to know each other better and also it gave us an opportunity to discuss what assistance AOFOG could offer these societies.

14th International Conference NESOG

14th International of the Nepal Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists took place from 13-14 April, 2019 in Kathmandu, Nepal. The Theme of the conference was "Bridging the Equity Gap in Reproductive Health". An AOFOG session was conducted on ‘Tips for the Clinicians - Early Pregnancy scanning” by Dr. Angelita Teotico, Past chair U/S Committee. The session was well attended and appreciated very much by the participants.

The 58th Annual Congress of TAOG, 2019

Annual congress of the Taiwan Association of O & G was held on March 9th & 10th 2019, at Tayih Landis Hotel in Tainan, Taiwan. President Dr. Ravi Chandran, Prof Kaz Ochiai, Prof Su, Prof Yu Shih, Prof Nam, Dr. Rohana & many others from the AOFOG participated in the congress. AOFOG had 2 sessions on the 1st day of the congress. Read more...

71st Annual Congress of JSOG

71st Annual Congress of Japan Society of Obstetrics in Nagoya, Japan from April 11th to 14th, 2019. AOFOG organized a session on “Updates in Maternal Fetal Medicine”, which was opened with the remarks of Dr. Ravi Chandran & JSOG Chairman Prof. Tomoyuki Fujii and was chaired by Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa & Prof. Yoshiki Kudo from Hiroshima University. Prof Okamoto, JSOG representative to the AOFOG had also organized a meeting between the JSOG & AOFOG officers which was very beneficial. Read more...

iCOE Programme Mongolia.

The Mongolian Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology (MSOG) and the Obstetrical & Gynecological Society of Malaysia (ICOE) jointly organized the ICOE on May 20th-21st 2019 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia in collaboration with and supported by AOFOG. Dr Gunasegaran headed the team of dedicated trainers, from OGSM which included Dr. S. Harris, Munis, Patricia, and Alysa. AOFOG was represented by Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa. As this programme was a follow up programme, a few trainers were local Mongolia doctors who had received training on ICOE previously. The programme was well received by the participants and they benefited much from the programme and requested more programmes.
Action Plan Meeting

We had the final action plan meeting of the Committee Chairs along with the Executive Board meeting on the 1st of June 2019 at the Paradise Resort, Maldives. This also gave an opportunity for everyone to enjoy and relax in the blue calm seas and the sandy beaches. Almost all the Executive Board members and Committee chairs participated most with their spouses which enabled everyone to spend time together which gave the feeling of one AOFOG Family.

The meetings were chaired by the President Dr. Ravi Chandran who conducted the meetings so well that we were able to discuss many items including the preparations for the AOFOG 2019. I wish to thank all the Executive Board members for their valuable contributions and for the Committee chairs for their numerous activities.

AOFOG - NESOG Earthquake Relief Project.

Nepal faced the most disastrous earthquake in 80 years on 25th April, causing extensive damage to a few districts. Following this the AOFOG developed the Nepal earthquake relief fund with the generous contributions of the member countries to assist NESOG with their relief work.

With the remaining funds received from AOFOG during earthquake rehabilitation, Executive committee of NESOG decided to assist the reconstruction and renovation of Sherna Birthing Centre.

By December 2018, all the renovation and maintenance work was completed. NESOG arranged the joint monitoring visit to Sherna Birthing Center with District Health Office in the presence of District Health Officer, Health Coordinator Chisankhugadi Gaupalika & the equipment was handed over to Sherna Birthing Center on 7th January, 2019.

The birthing center is now running successfully and providing services to all the needy women of the region.

AOFOG wishes to place on record its utmost thankfulness to all the member societies who joined in assisting this worthy project which has brought relief for thousands of women. Read more...
Passing away of Prof Geoffrey Bishop – President AOFOG 1991 – 93.

It is with heartfelt sadness that I inform you the passing away of Prof. Geoffrey Bishop, President of AOFOG 1991-93. Prof. Bishop has been involved with AOFOG for many more years before his presidency in different capacities and has contributed very much for the development of AOFOG during the period Late Prof. S.S. Ratnam was the Secretary General. We remember Prof. Bishop as a very gentle quiet friendly person loved by all.

One more great personality departed from our lives.

May his soul rest in peace! Read more…

AOFOG 2019

Preparations for the Asia Oceania Federation of Obstetrics & Gynaecology Congress 2019 in Manila, Philippines from 11th – 15th Nov; 2019, is progressing full swing. Dr. Christia and her team are working tirelessly with the guidance of President Dr. Ravi Chandran tirelessly. We are bound to have an historic congress this year with the participation of the members of the Executive Board and Council of the FIGO, and also with participation of officers from FIGO & SAFOG.

Also the organisers have planned very entertaining social activities which would be enjoyed by everyone, I request everyone to register early to take advantage of the numerous concessions being offered.

I also invite the past YGAs to join in the session which is kept only for presentations by them. This will also give them an opportunity for them to reunite with the other past YGAs and share each other’s experiences and achievements.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Manila this November. Read more…

Rohana Haththotuwa.

The 58th Annual Congress of TAOG, 2009

The 58th Annual Congress & the 8th International Symposium of Taiwan Association of Obstetrics & Gynecology (TAOG), 2019 was held on March 9th-10th at Tayih Landis HOTEL in Tainan. There were 94 oral reports, 200 posters and 7 speeches from foreign speakers.

The AOFOG Session was held on March 9th, and we invited a few outstanding speakers including Prof. Kidong Kim from KSOG, Prof. Kenji Tanimura from JSOG, Dr. Symphorosa SC Chan from The Chinese University of Hong Kong to give lectures for the AOFOG Session.

With domestic and foreign participants, including Dr. Ravi Chandran, the President of AOFOG, Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa, Secretary General of AOFOG, Professor Tomoyuki Fujii, the Chairperson of JSOG, Professor Seung Cheol Kim, the Chairman of KSOG, and twenty other professors from JSOG and KSOG.
The 58th Annual Congress of TAOG achieved a great success with over 2000 TAOG members and foreign participants.

On March 8th 2019, the International Women’s Day, to awaken people’s attention and care on women’s health and well-beings, five significant International Obs-Gyn leaders including Prof. C. N. Purandare, Immediate Past President of FIGO, Prof. Jeanne Conry, President-elect of FIGO, Prof. Ravi Chandran, President AOFOG, Prof. Seung-Cheol Kim, Chairman of the Board of KSOG, Prof. Mark DeFrancesco, past President of ACOG and several TAOG delegates attended the meeting with the President of Taiwan, President Tsai Ing-Wen, at the Presidential Office. It is gratifying that women’s health and well-being has been highly stressed.

The 26th Asia and Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology Congress will be held in Manila on November 10-14. TAOG has greatly promoted this significant meeting in our monthly newsletter to encourage our members to join and to submit abstracts.

Thank you for your Cooperation again.

Tsung-Cheng Kuo
President of TAOG

The 71st Annual Congress of JSOG

It was our great pleasure to invite the AOFOG Symposium to the 71st Annual Congress of Japan Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology which was held in Nagoya, Japan in April this year. The symposium took place under the theme of “Updates in Maternal Fetal Medicine” and the four (4) speakers made lectures as follows after opening remarks by Dr. Ravi Chandran and Prof. Tomoyuki Fujii, chairperson of JSOG.

1) Halting rising CS rates: Prof. Pisake Lumbiganon (AOFOG Vice President)

2) Current practice knowledge in prediction and prevention of spontaneous preterm birth: Dr. Ounjai Kor-anantakul (AOFOG Committee Chair)

3) Routine Induction of Labour at 39 weeks: Dr. Ravi Chandran (AOFOG President)

4) Ultrasound diagnosis of fetal abnormalities in the first trimester: Prof. Takao Sekiya (Fujita Health University)
The symposium, which attracted about 160 attendees, was chaired by Dr. Rohana N. Haththotuwa (AOFOG Secretary-General) and Prof. Yoshiki Kudo (Hiroshima University). After the panel discussion, Prof. Kazunori Ochiai (AOFOG President-elect) made closing remarks.

The next AOFOG symposium in Japan will be held at the 72nd Annual Congress of JSOG in Tokyo in April 2020.

Aikou Okamoto, M.D., Ph.D
Representative to AOFOG Japan Society of Obstetrics & Gynecology

Intensive Course in Obstetric Emergencies (ICOE) in Mongolia

The Mongolian Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology (MSOG) and the Obstetrical & Gynecological Society of Malaysia (ICOE) jointly organized the ICOE on May 20th-21st 2019 in collaboration with and supported by AOFOG.

The OGSM trainers comprising of Drs. Guna, Munis, Patricia, Alysa and Harris were joined by Mr. Baskeran who attended as an ICOE executive flew by China Air from KL International Airport at just past midnight on May 19th to Ulaanbataar via Beijing, and was supposed to arrive just past noon. The OGSM trainers had planned to have trainer’s update session for the Mongolian ICOE trainers on new development in the curriculum that afternoon, but a 12 hour delay in Beijing International Airport for our connecting flight meant that this had to be cancelled. The team only arrived at 8.45pm. This meant some ‘crisis’ management was necessary for the Day 1 programme which had to be delayed slightly to allow for equipment set up which was otherwise meant to be completed on 19th May.

The course was conducted at the Mongolia National Centre for Maternal and Child Health (NCMCH) where 23 participants attended. The participants were obstetricians from the provinces around Ulaanbaatar, except for two who were from other parts of Mongolia. The AOFOG was represented by Dr. Rohana (secretary general of AOFOG) and the MSOG by Dr. Tsedmaa (President). Dr. Gunasegaran was the course director, who also represented OGSM. The Mongolian trainers were Dr. Naraa, Sansar, Sarantuya, Batnasan, Enkhee and Ganaa

Dr. Rohana was the guest of honour and during the opening speech, commented on the benefits that ICOE brings to the AOFOG member countries and the continuous support from AOFOG for ICOE activities. Drs Kishgee (Head of department O & G) and the NCMCH Hospital Director also spoke on their support for ICOE during the opening ceremony.
Language was an obvious challenge, the breakout sessions were expertly handled by the dedicated Mongolian trainers who have matured into trainers of calibre. The lecture slides were in English with Mongolian translation by the trainers where necessary. The course was successful as noted by the continuous feedback provided by the interactive Mentimeter internet software. The participants were tested on 7 obstetric emergencies skills and the posttest skills scores in all 7 skills showed a huge improvement in the scores obtained by the participants, indicating the objective of acquiring and improving of skills were achieved. The participants also commented that their objectives of attending the course were achieved.

The course once again proved popular and there is a demand for the ICOE to continue. Lack of funding and equipment however remain a challenge for the continuation of the course in Mongolia, as well as other AOFOG countries where ICOE have gone.

**Recommendations**

1. MSOG take a leadership role in ICOE for 2020 onwards with a clear plan of action on the number of courses and the target participants to be trained

2. The next TOT should be done in 2020 to train the next cohort of trainers and OGSM can assist in the TOT training module

3. The Simulation center at the NCMHC has some equipment and this should be sufficient to start an ICOE independently while budgeting for additional equipment

4. MSOG to seek funding from relevant agencies e.g. USAID, UNFPA, AOFOG for the future sustainability of the course.

Haris N. Suharjono
President elect OGSM

**NESOG Earthquake Relief Project**

Nepal Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (NESOG) is a non-profit and service-oriented organization. NESOG is a nongovernmental organization (NGO) valued as influential partner for policy making, planning and implementing RH program among other partners working in RH including UN agencies, INGOs and NGOs. Key areas of NESOG include advocacy, education and training in RH. Key areas of NESOG include advocacy, education and training in RH.
The major earthquakes of 25th April and 12th May 2015 devastated different parts of Nepal. While the country had not faced a disaster of this magnitude for over 80 years, the people confronted this adversity bravely and showed their resilience to the world. Various global gynecological societies like AOFOG, FOGSI and non-profit organization like Nepal Youth Foundation and individuals like Dr. Soma, Dr. Sagarika stood in solidarity with us by sending unprecedented volumes of financial and humanitarian aid at this hour of need.

NESOG embarked on an ‘Earthquake Relief Project” with the objective to improve the health infrastructure of Paropakar Maternity and Women’s Hospital and Sherna Birthing center of Okhaldhunga district.

Supporting both health institutions were appropriate as Sherna birthing center has provided service for rural poor of Okhaldhunga. Whereas Paropakar Maternity Women’s Hospital (PMWH), Thapathali has been providing service for a large number of pregnant women including providing them facilities for safe delivery.

Earthquake Relief Project was a five month project that covered the renovation of Shrena Birthing Center of ward no five Chisankhugadi Rural Municipality of Okhaldhunga, & provided equipment for operational of birthing. The project also provided, 4 CTG machines, & 2 Blood Warmers to Paropakar Maternity Women’s Hospital (PMWH), Thapathali, Kathmandu.

The total budget of the project is NRs 3,436,432.00 (Thirty-four Lakhs thirty-six thousands four hundred and Thirty-two Rupees) which was totally a financial grant from AOFOG, SOMA, FOGSI, Nepal youth Foundation and Dr. Sagarika Thapa.

The project has been able to address the need of the poor and vulnerable women of Chisankhugadi Rural Municipality who did not have access of institutional delivery. Similarly, the equipment supported to Paropakar Maternity Women’s Hospital (PMWH), Thapathali, Kathmandu has helped to provide quality service to additional number of women. Further, the objectives have been quite relevant to the Nepal Government’s priority to reduce maternal and child mortality.

The renovation task was carried as per the agreement between Health Facility Operation and Management Committee, Sherna and NESOG. The equipment’s were supplied by NESOG and all the costs associated with professional and labor workers were taken care by the Chisakhugadi Rural Municipality.

NESOG highly appreciates the support of AOFOG and other organizations in this time of disaster.

Nepal Society of O&G
MESSAGE FROM THE ASIA OCEANIA FEDERATION OF OBSTETRICS & GYNAECOLOGY (AOFOG)

Professor Geoffrey Bishop served as President of AOFOG from 1991 – 1993. He was instrumental in bringing the Royal Australian & New Zealand College of O&G (RANZCOG) into the AOFOG family and worked tirelessly to strengthen this bond and to elevate the status of the organisation. It was the Golden Era of AOFOG and Prof Bishop and his contemporaries on the Executive Board made AOFOG a well recognised organisation in the international arena of womens’ healthcare. Although he had a reputation for being forthright, his “larger than life” personality made him a very approachable and likeable person. To paraphrase one of his peers, Professor Bishop “ate, drank and breathed all that was AOFOG” and in 1998, he was honoured with a Fellowship at the AOFOG Congress in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. After the passing of his close friend Professor Shan Ratnam, Professor Bishop was given the honour of presenting the inaugural S.S. Ratnam Oration in Bangalore India in 2002. Professor Bishop was by all accounts a legend in AOFOG and left an indelible mark within the organisation. He will be missed but never forgotten.

Dr. Ravi Chandran
President 2017-2019
PROFESSOR GEOFFREY JAMES BISHOP. AM FRANZCOG FRCOG

Geoff Bishop, one of Melbourne’s leading Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, died on 1 June 2019, aged 86 years.

Following his graduation from Melbourne University Geoff chose O&G as his future career, and trained at the Royal Women’s Hospital Melbourne, and at Mill Road Hospital in Liverpool. He worked in Liverpool for 3 years, where he experienced the poverty of Liverpool, the Flying Squad rescues of complicated deliveries, and honed his obstetrical skills to perfection. He was offered a permanent position at Liverpool by Sir Norman Jeffcoate, but chose to return to Australia in 1965.

He was appointed an Honorary Gynaecologist at the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital Melbourne, and rapidly developed a busy private practice in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. The practice covered a large area, as he attended hospitals from the CBD to Hampton, some 18 km and at times a 40 minute drive away. His children remembered long drives on a Saturday morning as he visited his patients, usually listening to “The Goon Show” and “My Word” on the car radio. His later practice extended to the Monash Medical Centre and Box Hill Hospital.

Geoff was an excellent teacher. He believed strongly in the value of clinical experience and exposure to the real problems faced by patients. He, along with other Consultants, always helped prepare the registrars for their specialist examinations. He was a superb clinician and excellent surgeon. He was greatly respected and trusted by his medical friends and colleagues, and was known at the Queen Vic as “the Doctor’s Obstetrician”.

Geoff had an exceptional commitment to Women’s Health. He was passionate about our duty to teach our profession, to contribute to all College activities, and also to contribute to the wider World Community of International Women’s Health. He set the standard for those who followed by combining his practice with many voluntary activities. These included:

- Member and Chairman, Victorian State Committee RCOG/RACOG
- Member of Council RACOG including several terms in Executive Positions
- Member of Council of AOFOG including terms on the Executive and as President
- Chairman, Organising Committee AOFOG conference Melbourne
- Member of the Medical Board of Victoria
- Member of the Australian-Asian Association of Victoria, including terms as President
- Consultant O&G work for the WHO.
- Teaching and Training roles throughout Asia in places such as Bangalore, Mandalay, Karachi, Jamshedpur, Sendai, Ulaan Bataar, plus many more. He was the first International Fellow of the Mongolian Association of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

After his retirement from private practice he, with much pleasure, took over the role of Honorary Curator of the RANZCOG Museum and Library.

Geoff was a man of life. He welcomed life, supported it, devoted himself to it, and thoroughly enjoyed all aspects of it. He received everything in the busy world with enthusiasm, engagement and, mostly, good humour. He loved Fellowship, and went to great lengths to celebrate it. Those who worked with him will recall countless occasions of capacious socialising, full of fun, laughter, and that particular glint in his eye. He had very many friends in the world of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, starting from his days at the Royal Women’s Hospital and Mill Road Hospital, and from the many hospitals and countries where he later
worked. He respected and enjoyed all Asian cultures and this endeared him to his Asian Colleagues, all of whom reciprocated with their respect and friendship. On one occasion, when Geoff was hospitalised with a severe illness, the then President and Secretary General of AOFOG flew from Singapore to Melbourne just to see and support him.

Geoff loved his family, his garden, swimming, tennis, golf, and fishing. His was a full and fulfilled life. He is survived by his wife Ruth, their children and grandchildren.

Geoff was very appropriately recognized for his enormous contributions to Obstetrics and Gynaecology by receiving an AM in the Australian Honours System, and The President’s Medal, the highest possible recognition from RANZCOG.

His friends and colleagues have been privileged to have known Geoff, to have worked with Geoff, and to have shared his love of our profession, his love of friendship, and his devotion to promoting excellence in the provision of Women’s Health in the World.

**Vale Geoff**

**John Campbell OAM FRANZCOG FRCOG**

**Tom Bishop**

**Tribute to Late Professor Geoffrey Bishop**

Geoff Bishop was an ardent supporter of the AOFOG. He sacrificed his time to do the errands of what AOFOG wanted him to do i.e. to build up the family AOFOG - to promote more countries to join AOFOG. He promoted young academics to have social responsibility by promoting them to give their knowledge and time freely to the developing countries of the AOFOG. During his personal holidays Geoff visited the small cities and towns in the most needed countries and conducted safe motherhood workshops with like-minded people.

He was one of the architects of the AOFOG junior fellows programme by working with Professor Mizuno from Japan, Peter Elliott and Shan Ratnam. When Mizuno retired due to ill health Geoff travelled to Japan to confer the Hon Fellowship of the RAZCOG and AOFOG to Mizuno - such mutual respect and strong personal friendships helped to build AOFOG.

His strong leadership qualities were well known. He was an excellent Vice President of the RANZCOG and devoted President of the AOFOG. The family of AOFOG had internal policy differences due to strong will power of some leaders. Geoff was able to negotiate a middle pathway on which everyone could work comfortably for the benefit of the AOFOG. Peter Elliott who was his mentor and President of AOFOG. But Geoff steered his own destiny by initiating and conducting projects in developing countries in his own calm style. He helped the Pacific island countries and was a mentor and tutor for many budding gynaecologists from AOFOG countries.

On his retirement he was advised that 'Climbing up the mountain is easy but climbing down may be difficult and some may have a precipitous fall'. Geoff took his retirement in style - providing knowledge and wisdom to those who needed it and staying away from other's path way. He was supported by his wife and life time partner Ruth who also assisted AOFOG in many ways in addition to giving Geoff time to do his AOFOG activities which was his passion. AOFOG will fondly remember his great contributions to the organisation and its member countries.

**Prof. Sir. Sabaratnam Arulkumaran,**

Past President FIGO
Tribute to Late Professor Geoffrey Bishop

It is with great sadness that we learn of the passing on of Professor Geoffrey Bishop on June 1st 2019. He was one of the pillars of AOFOG, with which he had been associated since the 1970’s. He was Deputy Secretary General from 1979-1981 and held the Co-Chair of the Maternal & Perinatal Health Care Subcommittee from 1981-1987. He was President of AOFOG from 1991-1993, during which period I served in his Executive Board as Treasurer. Throughout all these years he made a tremendous contribution to the activities in AOFOG. In recognition of this he was conferred the Fellowship of the Asia–Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (FAOFOG) in 1998 at the XVI AOCOG, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Also in recognition of a long and distinguished career in his own country, Australia, he was awarded the RANZCOG Distinguished Service Medal in 2010.

He was a highly respected, friendly and warm person. As a Past President and Fellow, he continued to be a trusted source of advice that was often helpful in various AOFOG activities. We in AOFOG will miss him.

Emeritus Professor Dr. V. Sivanesaratnam
Past President of AOFOG, Fellow

Tribute to Late Professor Geoffrey Bishop

I was privileged to be the vice-president when Dr. Bishop was the president of AOFOG in 1991. I found him very courteous, methodical and down to earth in solving issues. He would consult me while taking decisions on important issues in AOFOG. Prof. Bishop conducted the AOFOG council meetings with great precision. He would listen to all council members with great patience and then give his final opinion. He steered the AOFOG to new heights.

Prof. Bishop was very simple in his lifestyle and would receive any AOFOG member with great respect. It is unusual for a person to be a good administrator and also astute clinician. Prof. Bishop possessed both these qualities. He was a good speaker. His presidential address was full of sound clinical approach along with a bite of humor.

I was pleased when Prof. Bishop and Ms. Ruth his wife, invited my wife and me to spend few days at his place in Melbourne after AOFOG Congress in Manila. I must say that Ruth and Geoffrey played perfect host. My wife and I remember those days at his residence with nostalgic memories.

He was not well for some time. But we did not expect him to leave this world so soon. We pray almighty that May his soul rest in peace and give strength to the bereaved family.

Rohit Bhatt
Past vice president & Fellow
Future Events

1. PIT POGI Meeting: Precongress Workshop, Annual Conference of Indonesian Society of Obstetrics & Gynecology on 4-10th July 2019, at Shangri-La Hotel Surabaya-Indonesia.  
   http://www.pitpogi2019.com

   http://ogsm.org.my/ogsm2019

   www.slcog.lk

4. 33rd Annual Conference of AICC-RCOG, on 5-8th September 2019, at ITC Royal Bengal, Kolkata.  
   https://www.aiccrco2019.com

   www.ksog.org

   https://www.ranzcogasm.com.au

7. AOFOG-Congress Philippines-Manila, on 10-14th November 2019, at Philippine International Convention Center & Sofitel Philippine Plaza Hotel.  
   https://aofog2019.com
Ride with us to the AOFOG Congress 2019 in Manila

Mabuhay!

Register now to the 26th Asia and Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology Congress in Manila, Philippines. Mark November 10 to 14, 2019 on your calendars and join the Philippine Obstetrical and Gynecological Society (Foundation), Inc. as it hosts this prestigious AOFOG Congress in “Strengthening the Road to Women’s Health _ Reaching New Heights” at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC).

Ride with us and let us continue to promote the science and art of obstetrics and gynecology towards total healthcare in women throughout life. Let this AOFOG 2019 Congress be a manifestation of international cooperation and goodwill in the region.

Pre-Congress Activities are scheduled on November 11, 2019. Choose from a variety of subspecialty topics: obstetric and gynecologic ultrasound, urogynecology, aesthetic gynecology, reproductive medicine, pediatric gynecology, infectious diseases in obstetrics and gynecology, gynecologic endoscopy and maternal fetal medicine.

Meet our Plenary Speakers starting off with the AOFOG President’s Lecture on Paradigm Shift in Obstetric Practice by Professor Ravi Chandran and the CT Hsu Memorial Lecture on Controversial Issues in Gynecologic Oncology of Professor Neville Hacker. Professor Haywood Brown will deliver the Malaysia Lecture while Professor Michael Robson will discuss Achieving an Appropriate Cesarean Section Rate. The RCOG President’s Lecture by Professor Lesley Regan is aptly entitled How Can We Achieve SDG5: Ensuring Gender Equality by 2030. Witness the FIGO President’s Lecture by Professor Carlos Fuchtnier and the ACOG President’s Lecture on Obesity and Cancer: Link to Incidence and Recurrence to be delivered by Professor Eva Chalas. Listen to interesting topics on Preventing Preeclampsia by Professor Liona Poon and Innovations to Reduce Postpartum Bleeding and Postpartum Hemorrhage-Related Deaths by Professor Sabaratnam Arulkumaran. Paradigm Shift in the Treatment of Endometriosis will be discussed by Professor Tasuku Harada. Professor Mario Festin will
cover the topic on *Saving Mothers: The Global Health Perspective*. **Professor Walfrido Sumpaico** will give the Shan S Ratnam Memorial Oration. Joining the Plenary Speakers likewise is **Dr Christine Tippett**.

The scientific symposia will comprehensively cover remarkable topics in obstetrics and gynecology presented to you by various local subspecialty societies and international organizations. Special topics on Maternal and Perinatal Death Surveillance Response, Contraception and Maternal Health, Medico Legal, Environment and Maternal Health, and Patient Safety will also be included.

There will be stimulating simultaneous sessions, panel discussions, debates and interesting free communications as well. The **Call for Abstracts** has been **extended up to June 30, 2019**. Notification of acceptance for presentation will be on **July 15, 2019**. Deadline for registration of abstract presenters is on **July 31, 2019**. Note that registration of accepted abstract presenters will be through email correspondence with abstracts@aofog2019.com and payment will be through international bank transfer/ bank remittance. **Special registration rates** have been arranged for all abstract presenters. Visit www.aofog2019.com for more details.

Celebrate with us as we feast together in the extraordinary fusion of cultures and traditions amidst the signature gracious and heartfelt warmth of the Filipino hospitality. View the magnificent Manila Bay sunset as it leads us to the President’s Night and acclaim “One Asia Oceania.” Exult in delight during the Welcome Reception/Fellowship Night as we revel a “Festival of Festivals” _ Festival of Lights, Festival of Colors, Festival of Music and Motion and Festival of Taste! Secure your Congress Banquet tickets and witness the prestigious occasion of the installation of the incoming AOFOG President, installation of the Immediate Past President of AOFOG, induction of the AOFOG Executive Board and the presentation of prizes for the 3 best YGA oral paper presentations. Take part in the upcoming **Manila Declaration** and thereafter join the toast and celebrate the night with splendid Filipino entertainment.

Online booking is now open for **hotel accommodations at special room rates** made available for the delegates. Choose from any of the Congress’ partner hotels: Sofitel Philippine Plaza Manila (Speakers’ Hotel), Conrad Manila, Diamond Hotel, New World Hotel Manila Bay, Nobu Hotel (City of Dreams), Manila Hotel, Century Park Hotel, Hotel Jen, Pan Pacific Hotel, Rizal Park Hotel, Hotel 101, and TRYP by Wyndham. By booking through the convention hotel partners, free shuttle to and from hotel and the convention site (PICC) will be provided. For inquiries, please email accommodation@aofog2019.com.

Experience the splendor of Philippine history and mystery and its cultures and adventures as you make time for “Day Tours” and “Explore Tours.” Enjoy a day trip through the Walled City of Intramuros and
also visit the island fortress of Corregidor. Escape to Tagaytay for a relaxing retreat away from the busy metropolis to enjoy a day of pampering and wellness. Explore Cebu, the Queen City of the South and also discover the little paradise of Bohol. Frolic under the sun in the most beautiful world-renowned islands of Palawan and Boracay too. For inquiries, please email tours@aofog2019.com.

Special registration rates for members from FIGO, AOFOG low resource countries (LRC) has been extended up to June 30, 2019. Group registration available (not available for low resource countries) with 10% discount on registration fees offered for a group of 20 registrants. Please contact reg@aofog2019.com for group registration listing.

For registration concerns and inquiries of YGA delegates, please email yga@aofog2019.com to facilitate proper correspondence.

All is set for the AOFOG 2019 Congress in Manila. Visit our website at www.aofog2019.com and register now.

Visit our website at www.aofog2019.com and register now.

Ride with us. See you in Manila!

CLICK TO REGISTER
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

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AOFOG CONGRESS
MANILA
The 26th Asia and Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Congress
10-14 November 2019

Philippine International Convention Center
Sofitel Philippine Plaza Manila
www.aofog2019.com

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION 
(for International Delegates) 
ends on June 30, 2019

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE 
is extended up to June 30, 2019

LAST DAY OF REGULAR FEE REGISTRATION 
is on September 30, 2019

SPECIAL REGISTRATION RATES
for members from FIGO AOFOG low resource countries (LRC) 
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GROUP REGISTRATION
10% Discount on Registration Fees 
will be offered for a group of 20 registrants!
From the Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecological Research (The AOFOG Journal)

Editor’s choice articles from Issue 6 are as follows;

1. Invited Manuscript
AOFOG survey for the status of minimally invasive gynecologic surgery in the Asia/Oceania region
Masaki Mandai on behalf of the AOFOG MIGS Committee
Pages: 1091-1095 | First Published: 11 April 2019

2. Original Article
Increase in the number of patients diagnosed using the new classification of hypertensive disorders of pregnancy in Japan
Michinori Mayama; Mamoru Morikawa; Takeshi Umazume; Kinuko Nakagawa; Ami Hosokawa; Masahiro Yamaguchi; Kentaro Chiba; Satoshi Kawaguchi; Hidemichi Watari
Pages: 1118-1126 | First Published: 28 March 2019

3. Original Article
Relation between the number of board-certified gynecologic oncologists per hospital and survival of cervical cancer
Asami Yagi; Yutaka Ueda; Satoshi Nakagawa; Akiko Morimoto; Shinya Matsuzaki; Eiji Kobayashi; Tadashi Kimura
Pages: 1160-1166 | First Published: 06 March 2019

JOGR issue 6 has been published and Editor’s choice has been updated here;
https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14470756/current
We hope these articles will be useful as references and updates for our members.

Contact us at
Secretariat - Asia Oceania Federation of Obstetrics & Gynaecology,
‘SLCOG House’, 112, Model Farm Road, Colombo 8, Sri Lanka.
E-mail: secretariat@aofog.net  web: www.aofog.net