The College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (O & G), Singapore was officially inaugurated on 14 August 2004. In the tradition of its predecessor, the Chapter of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, the College continues to involve itself in training, continued medical education and examination activities. This also includes producing consensus guidelines and distance learning programmes for the purpose of achieving best practices. An important milestone was the signing of the MOU on 3 September 2005 for the conjoint MRCOG/MMed examination between the RCOG and the College. The first conjoint MRCOG/MMed examination was held on 8 May 2006. The College is well poised to address the challenges ahead including keeping the high standards of practice and ensuring that every practitioner maintains competence in his practice.

President’s Message

Dr Tan Hak Koon

2014 was a busy yet very productive year for the College. We started the year with the annual 14th Regional MRCOG Part II Examination course (16-19 January 2014), which was held at KK Women’s and Children’s Auditorium. It was co-organised by the College, the Singapore Representative Committee (RCOG) and the Division of Graduate Medical Studies, National University of Singapore. The course had a total of 48 participants from various countries such as Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Myanmar and Bangladesh. The College would like to thank Dr Ho Tew Hong for his hard work towards the success of this annual examination course.

The 10th International Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics & Gynaecology (ISUOG) Outreach course was hosted together with the ISUOG Teaching and Training Centre, Singapore at Raffles Convention Centre, Stamford Ballroom from 4 to 6 May 2014. Many internationally renowned experts on ultrasound were invited to give their expert views on issues commonly encountered in the daily clinical practice. There were 473 participants for the congress, of which 258 were local participants and 215 were from overseas. The overseas participants came from various countries such as Australia, Brunei, China, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines and Sri Lanka. This success would not have been possible without the help of Dr George SH Yeo. The College also held the 10th College Lecture and Dinner with Prof Sturla Eik Nes from Norway.

In the year, we also welcomed 15 new Fellows in College of O & G, bringing the College membership to 229 Fellows. We continuously encourage all O & G specialists to join the College to contribute and influence the standards of specialists practice, training and education, and professional development in Singapore.
The 2013-2014 Council

President: Dr Tan Hak Koon
President Elect: Dr Arijit Biswas
Vice President: Dr Jasmine Mohd
Immediate Past President: Dr Bernard Chern
Honorary Secretary: Dr Philip Yam Kwai Lam
Honorary Treasurer: Dr Sheila Loh
Council Members:
- Dr Jothi Kumar
- Dr Lai Fon Min
- Dr Khoo Chong Kiat
- Dr Ho Tew Hong (Co-opted)
- Dr Tan Lay Kok (Co-opted)
- Dr Yong Eu Leong (Co-opted)

Section Chairmen
Section of Gynaecological Oncology: Dr Lisa Wong
Section of Maternal Fetal Medicine: Dr Yeo Seow Heong George
Section of Reproductive Medicine: Dr Yu Su Ling
Section of Urogynaecology: Dr Roy Ng
Section of Gynae-endoscopy: Dr Beh Suan Tiong

Front row (from the left): Dr Philip Yam (Honorary Secretary), Dr Lai Fon Min (Council Member), Dr George SH Yeo (Chairman, Section of Maternal Fetal Medicine), Dr Tan Hak Koon (President), Dr Yong Eu Leong (Council Member), Dr Ho Tew Hong (Council Member), Dr Sheila Loh (Honorary Treasurer)

Back row (from the left): Dr Lisa Wong (Chairman, Section of Gynaecological Oncology), Dr Jasmine Mohd (Vice President), Dr Tan Lay Kok (Council Member), Dr Yu Su Ling (Chairman, Section of Reproductive Medicine), Dr Jothi Kumar (Council Member), Dr Roy Ng (Chairman, Section of Urogynaecology), Dr Beh Suan Tiong (Chairman, Section of Gynae-endoscopy), Dr Khoo Chong Kiat (Council Member)

Not in photo: Dr Arijit Biswas (President Elect)
Annual General Meeting

The College’s Annual General Meeting was held on 21 May 2014 at the KK Women’s and Children’s Hospital.

Membership

The total number of members in the College stood at 229 as of 31 December 2014. There were 217 Local Fellows, 11 Overseas Fellows and 1 Honorary Fellow.

Visiting Academician Lecture

Emeritus Professor Sir Sabaratnam Arulkumaran, from the St George’s University of London delivered the Visiting Academician Lecture at the Inaugural Electronic Fetal Monitoring (CTG) course held on 4 September 2014. The CTG course was a one-day symposium comprising lectures, reviews of actual clinical scenarios and CTGs. It included the medico legal aspects; pre and post course tests to reinforce learning, CTG interpretation in the clinical setting with case examples.

The 14th Regional MRCOG Part II Examination Course

The 14th MRCOG Part II Examination Course was held at KK Women’s & Children’s Hospital on 16 to 19 January 2014. It was co-organised by the College, the Singapore Representative Committee (RCOG) and the Division of Graduate Medical Studies, National University of Singapore.

There were 48 participants from various countries such as Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Myanmar and Bangladesh. The candidates went through a rigorous mock exam course which included attempting the extended matching questions, short answer questions and the Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) circuit. The examiners from UK, Drs Paul Wood and Jonathan Scott, also gave the participants useful insights on handling the actual examination. A total of 48 local trainers helped out with the essay marking, skills station session and the OSCE circuits during the course.

The 10th International Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics & Gynaecology (ISUOG) Outreach Course in Conjunction with 5th College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists, Singapore Scientific Congress

This event was hosted together with the ISUOG Teaching and Training Centre, Singapore at Raffles Convention Centre, Stamford Ballroom from 4 to 6 May 2014. The theme was ‘Rationalising the New Pyramid of Pregnancy Care’.

Several internationally renowned experts on ultrasound gave their expert views on issues commonly encountered in daily clinical practice. The congress owed its smooth success to the more than 550 delegates from different countries. There were about 300 obstetricians, 100 diagnostic professionals, 100 nursing staff and 50 residents in attendance, notably from Singapore, Indonesia, Taiwan, Malaysia, Philippines, China, Australia, Japan and India. All had enriched the scientific discourse at the well-attended sessions, which were led by an immensely impressive line-up of international speakers.

The 11th College Lecture and Dinner

The College held its annual lecture and dinner at the Stamford Ballroom at the Raffles Convention Centre, Singapore on 4 May 2014. There were a total of 23 tables with 230 attendees.

Prof Sturla Eik-Nes delivered the 11th College Lecture entitled ‘The ISUOG Outreach Programme – A Founder’s Perspective’. Prof Eik-Nes was heavily involved with pioneer work in O & G ultrasound and brought his expertise to many parts of Asia and Africa. In his talk, he shared the challenges he faced in introducing ultrasound to villages and towns which did not have a constant supply of electricity.
Prof Eik-Nes delivering his lecture.

The College President, A/Prof Tan Hak Koon (left) presented Prof Eik-Nes a medallion.

He had also emphasised the importance of being innovative and flexible to overcome the physical, language and cultural barriers in being a founder of the ISUOG Outreach programme. In the context of Singapore, he chronicled the training of O & G trainees in the early days and emphasised the importance of continuous training and accreditation.

2014 APAGE Regional Conference in Conjunction with College of O&G, Advanced Laparoscopic Surgery Pre Congress Workshop

The regional APAGE Conference was held at the Academia, Singapore General Hospital from 12 to 14 June 2014. The theme of the Congress was ‘Hysterectomy and Managing Complications in Minimally Invasive Surgery’. There were a total of 52 delegates, and including faculty, the attendance was estimated at 192.

The programme included live endometrial and pelvic surgeries beamed directly from KK Hospital operating theatre. The main Congress featured live surgery demonstration by renowned international surgeons Masaki Andou, CY Liu, Rakesh Sinha and Giuseppe Bigatti. The types of surgeries included laparoscopic hysterectomy in frozen pelvis, in case of large uterus and oncological surgery like radical hysterectomy or hysterectomy with lymphadenectomy. The Congress also featured lectures focusing on the theme of laparoscopic hysterectomy.

The other focus of the Congress was managing complications in laparoscopy. Colorectal surgeons and urologists gave their perspectives on how to manage bowel and urologic complications and how to avoid a laparotomy in these situations.

SGH SOAR – Starting Out on Assisted Reproduction

Held from 15 to 17 September 2014 at the Singapore General Hospital, the ‘SGH SOAR’ event aimed to give a strong foundation on the basics of IVF and embryology.

Invited overseas speakers included Prof Tin-Chiu Li (Reproductive Medicine and Surgery, Sheffield Teaching Hospital, UK), Dr Sandro Esteves (Androfert, Andrology & Human Reproduction Clinic, and Referral Centre for Male Reproduction, Brazil), Dr Simon Cooke (IVF Australia) and Dr Andrew Kan (The University of New South Wales, Australia).