2016 OPEN ELECTIONS

Society of Gynecologic Oncology Board of Directors
Candidates for elected positions in the Society of Gynecologic Oncology are recommended by the Nominating Committee, which is composed of the Past President, Past President Once Removed and seven Members at Large appointed by the President Elect. The final slate is approved by the SGO Board of Directors and Foundation Council. Biographical information, statements and photos of the candidates can be found below. The online election will begin on Jan. 11, 2016. To ensure that your ballot arrives in your inbox on Jan. 11, 2016, please add the following email address as an approved sender: noreply@directvote.net.

Voting members include Full and Senior Members as well as “grandfathered” Associate and International Members that joined the Society prior to 2010. Candidate and Fellow-in-Training Members will vote for their respective member representative.

PRESIDENT ELECT II

Carol L. Brown, MD
Associate Cancer Center Director for Diversity & Outreach
Director Office of Diversity Programs in Clinical Care, Research and Training
Associate Attending Surgeon, Gynecology Service
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, NY

SGO Activities:
• 2015-2016 Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Task Force
• 2015-2016 SGO Executive Director Search Committee
• 2015 FGO/FWC Merger Working Group
• 2013-2014 Annual Meeting Program Committee Chair
• 2011-2016 Finance Committee
• 2011-2014 Development Committee
• 2011-2014 Honors and Awards Committee
• 2011-2012 Nominating Committee
• 2011-2012 Health Disparities Task Force
• 2009 Quality and Outcomes Task Force
• 2007-2010 Board of Directors/Council Member
• 2005-2010 Government Relations Committee Chair
• 2005-2010 Liaison to the National Coalition for Cancer Research
• 2005-2012 Liaison to National Cancer Advisory Board, NCI
• 2003, 2007 Annual Meeting Program Committee
• 2002-2005 Government Relations Committee Co-Chair
• 2000-Present Liaison to American Medical Association
• 1999-2013 Government Relations Committee

The principles of inclusion and health equity—ensuring women affected by cancer have access to high quality screening and treatment that can prolong and save their lives—are the focus of my career. In my leadership roles as Communications Chair for the FWC, Chair of ACOG’s delegation to the AMA, Co-Chair of Health Disparities for the GOG/NRG, and as an Associate Cancer Center Director, I increase awareness, improve care access and delivery, and increase availability of clinical trials for women and diverse populations. As a board member of a community cancer center in Harlem, and as a practicing gynecologic oncologist for more than 20 years, I face the daily challenge of providing exceptional care to patients in a complex and dynamic health care environment. As President, I will use my unique career experience, and my 16 years of continuous service and leadership in the SGO, to achieve our Society’s strategic goals for education, research, and advocacy for women with gynecologic cancers.

My leadership strength is the ability to engage, motivate and mobilize individuals and groups to achieve common goals and an inclusive mission. In service to SGO, I have worked with members, leadership, elected officials, government agencies and our patients to increase access to multidisciplinary specialty care, improve reimbursement, increase federal funding for research and GME, and improve care for women with gynecologic cancer around the world. These critical issues will remain my priority during the next four years if given the opportunity to serve as the 50th President of the SGO.
Thomas J. Herzog, MD
Deputy Director, University of Cincinnati Cancer Institute
Paul & Carolyn Flory Professor and Vice Chair Quality and Safety,
Dept. of Ob/Gyn, University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, OH

SGO Activities:
• 2015-Present SGO Executive Director Search Committee
• 2013-Present SGO/FWC Foundation Merger Executive Committee
• 2012-2015 Chair, Clinical Trials Endpoint Working Group
• 2010 Chair, Program Committee
• 2006-2010 Chair, Education Committee
• 2005-2008 SGO Council
• 2003-2010 Education Committee
• 2001-2003 Health Insurance Advisory Task Force
• 1998-2000 Life Enrichment Task Force

The SGO and its members are at critical and yet exciting crossroads that will require planning and leadership in order to achieve our strategic goal of being the leading organization in gynecologic malignancies. There are immediate and longer-term challenges that we must address.

The Society has undergone significant changes, first becoming independently managed and then diversifying membership, which provides amazing opportunities for organizational growth, but demands goal alignment and prioritization.

Merging two foundations into a single stronger foundation to better serve members needs, while broadening our philanthropic potential will be another operational challenge. We must serve our patients’ educational needs and support innovative research, while fostering fundraising that meets primary organizational goals of member education and advocacy.

Externally, a major challenge confronting our membership will be the need to demonstrate “value” in emerging compensation models as we move from traditional fee-for-service reimbursement constructs. It’s an absolute imperative that we are the leaders in defining quality care and developing the value proposition; otherwise, the model will be developed by others who lack the deep knowledge of gynecologic cancers.

My past leadership experience within SGO and in other organizations qualifies me to guide us through these and other emerging leadership challenges. The SGO is an incredibly important professional organization that has globally improved the care of women with cancer. Personally, this organization has had an extremely positive influence in my professional development. Thus I maintain a strong and vested interest in being part of the leadership team that charts our future course.

Steven C. Plaxe, MD, MBA
Professor of Reproductive Medicine University of California San Diego
Director, Gynecologic Oncology UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center
San Diego, CA

SGO Activities:
• 2011-2014 Secretary-Treasurer
• 2011-2014 Foundation Secretary-Treasurer
• 2011-2014 Foundation Board of Directors
• 2009-2010 Secretary-Treasurer Elect
• 2009-2014 Board of Directors
• 2009-2014 Executive Committee
• 2009-2014 Membership Committee
• 2003-2014 Finance Committee (Vice Chair, 2007-2009)
• 1999 Practice and Ethics Committee

At UC San Diego, I have built a division of clinicians and basic scientists who have created strong clinical, research and educational programs. Our faculty are integrated into our regional medical and patient and caregiver communities. As SGO Secretary-Treasurer, a member of the Board and one who has served on other committees I have gained valuable experience that provides a solid foundation for the SGO Presidency. I have helped work through significant issues: the relationship between the Society, the SGO Foundation and the Foundation for Women’s Cancer, managing conflict of interest for SGO leaders, evolving membership categories and criteria and strengthening the Society’s position as an arbiter of quality gynecologic cancer care, through membership in the National Quality Forum (NQF).

The SGO must continue to be an important voice in determining the future of gynecologic cancer care worldwide. The SGO President is a spokesperson for the specialty, and can be an important contributor to key decisions for the field, the Society and its membership. The SGO will continue to define clinical excellence, improve standards of care and influence proper reimbursement. Matters pertaining to precision medicine, fellowship training, global health, support of general obstetrician-gynecologists and our evolving role in integrated clinical networks are among the present and future issues facing the specialty and provide opportunities for the SGO to define the future of gynecologic oncology. I would be honored to serve the Society as President and look forward to promoting the interests of our members, patients and colleagues.
SECRETARY-TREASURER ELECT

Stephanie V. Blank, MD
Associate Professor and Fellowship Director
NYU Langone Medical Center
New York, NY

SGO Activities:
• 2014-Present SGO Wellness Task Force
• 2013-Present SGO Board of Directors
• 2013-Present Chair, Marketing and Communications Committee
• 2010-2013 Co-Chair, Marketing and Communications Committee
• 2007-Present Program Directors’ Committee
• 2007-Present Media Response Team
• 2006-Present Annual Meeting on Women’s Cancer Media Campaign
• 2006-2010 Chair, Media Subcommittee
• 2006-Present Marketing and Communications Committee
• 2006-2011 Hereditary Cancer Education Resource Panel
• 2004-2005 Program Committee
• 2002-2003 Bylaws Committee
• 2000-2002 SGO Council
• 2000-2002 Chair, Fellows’ Task Force
• 1998-2002 Fellows’ Task Force

My work with SGO has been instrumental in my growth as a person, physician and leader. I would be honored to have the opportunity and responsibility to serve as Secretary-Treasurer Elect. I truly believe in our mission and have the experience to see the issues clearly. I have the drive and energy needed to work towards fulfilling our Society and Foundation’s goals.

Nine years on the Communications Committee and three years on the Board and Council advanced my acute awareness of the importance and power of the SGO’s voice and integrated me into the organization’s inner workings. I am inspired to do more and work harder to make the SGO and Foundation grow and succeed.

As Secretary-Treasurer Elect, I would advocate prioritizing the following:
• Achieving financial sustainability;
• Building a successful and synergistic merger of the Foundation for Women’s Cancer and the Foundation for Gynecologic Oncology;
• Advocating for federal funding for gynecologic cancer research and ensuring the viability of cooperative group trials;
• Defining the new reality of today’s health care environment;
• Enhancing education and developing junior members; and,
• Remaining agile, responsive and relevant to the changing nature of women’s cancer care.

I thank you for your consideration and ask for your support.

John O. Schorge, MD
Chief, Division of Gynecologic Oncology
Vice Chair for Gynecologic Surgery
Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, MA

SGO Activities:
• 2014-Present Registry Taskforce
  Chair, Data Quality Workgroup, 2015-
  Registry User Feedback Workgroup, 2014-
• 2014-Present Policy, Quality and Outcomes Taskforce
  PQRS Work Group, 2014-
• 2012-Present SGO Representative, Surgical Quality Alliance
• 2012-2014 Quality and Outcomes Committee
• 2009-2011 Education Committee
  Program Development Subcommittee, 2010
• 2007-2009 Government Relations Committee
• 2002-2003 Program Committee
• 2001-2003 Candidates Task Force
• 1998-2000 Government Relations Committee

We are in the midst of a critically important time to ensure the financial health of our Society as the FWC and FGO are consolidated. The complexities of merging, reallocating resources and building towards not just solvency, but long-term success are immense and yet occurring right now.

In addition, our Society has expanded dramatically over the past few decades. With growth comes increased complexity of the financial operation, and the need for more strategic planning to plan far into the future. The Secretary-Treasurer has a vital role in overseeing the day-to-day functioning of our Society, teaming with SGO Administration and the Board, all the while communicating to membership.

I have had the privilege of serving our Society in a number of ways and am eager for other opportunities to contribute. My relevant experience includes serving as the treasurer of our regional New England organization. In that capacity, I worked within our executive committee to plan, implement and achieve a better financial profile.

If elected as the Secretary-Treasurer Elect, I would embrace the chance to team with our financial services partners to address the current challenges facing the SGO and its membership. My budgetary literacy would bring a fresh perspective to the many complicated topics already known, and those still to come in the future. It would be a highlight of my career to be afforded the chance of serving on the Board to further the long-term financial goals of our Society.
I have worked on various projects with other national and international leaders in gynecologic oncology and I would continue to use that spirit of collaboration within and outside of SGO to achieve its programmatic and educational goals. I have been involved in fellow and postgraduate education throughout my career so I feel that I have a good understanding of what is pertinent to our Society.

Michael Frumovitz, MD, MPH
Associate Professor and Fellowship Director
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
Houston, TX

Our members and Society face a period of transformation and uncertainty in the next few years. I believe my experiences both within and outside of SGO have prepared me to contribute in leading us through the changing landscape of health care and our Society.

As a member of the Board, I would help our members and the Society successfully navigate many of the upcoming changes in our field. My goals would include:

• Installing and advising the new leadership (Executive Director and staff) for the merged SGO/FWC
• Positioning SGO to lead in creating new physician reimbursement systems so that our members are fairly compensated for the invaluable and unparalleled work we do in providing care for women with gynecologic cancers
• Improving funding and infrastructure for and access to clinical trials for women with gynecologic malignancies
• Increasing funding for translational and basic science research
• Smoothly transitioning our fellowship training programs from ABOG to ACGME
• Growing our philanthropic efforts to raise money for the Society and its Foundation
• Raising our visibility among other professional organizations so that everyone understands the importance of a gynecologic oncologist managing the multidisciplinary care for women with gynecologic malignancies

These and other changes on the horizon will require our Board to provide leadership that is insightful, innovative, and decisive. I believe my leadership experience and style blends my own creative ideas with a philosophy that collaboration with others leads to the strongest advocacy for our Society and members.
I contribute prolifically to scientific and medical literature. I am a regularly invited faculty member at professional societies and congresses and am called upon to perform live surgery in teaching settings. I have visited over 30 countries in these capacities.

I am also a co-founder and co-sponsor of “Worldwide Endometriosis March,” a campaign to raise awareness, find a cure and develop non-invasive diagnostic testing.

I believe learning, training, and collaboration are foundational components for key advancements and stimulating innovation. I think the initiation of novel relationships will lead to a myriad of incremental paradigm shifts necessary for disease prevention and eradication.

I feel fortunate to have had the benefit of exposure to diverse leaders, cultures and schools of thought and that my successes are due largely to the willingness of others to share their ideas and experiences. My vision for SGO is to expand its reach by attracting the broadest range of thought leaders, thereby fostering a far-reaching, open-minded forum to exchange views on preventing and treating gynecologic cancers.

I feel as a member of Council we can address the challenges of job satisfaction, compensation, and support/resource dissemination for our members. I believe my strengths as a listener and skills at building consensus will help me work with leadership to achieve these goals.

It would be a privilege to serve on the SGO Board of Directors. My major goal would be to identify the changing needs of SGO members which are clearly impacted by numerous socioeconomic pressures. My experience in ACOG leadership in Alabama has reinforced my belief that you can impact your field by participating in the leadership of the organization. As the chair of the Alabama Section of ACOG, I have been fortunate to interact with physicians from all over District VII. I would like to serve as a Board member so that I can participate in several SGO initiatives. My experience as Fellowship Director should allow me to help shape the education of trainees and members in the future. Specifically, my clinical interests involve quality initiatives, cost-effectiveness, and surgical excellence. At my institution, I am involved in quality committees for the department and hospital. I am very interested in the Choosing Wisely Initiative that SGO is participating in. The list of five evidence-based recommendations that our specialty needs to address will improve the quality and cost of care we provide in our clinical practices. Furthermore, I believe the SGO registry is the first step in developing quality measures for our specialty and we need to continue to develop these parameters which can measure success in our specialty. It would be an honor to have the opportunity to use my skills as a member of the Board to assist in the future success of the SGO and its members.

I am a board-certified gynecologic oncologist, pioneer and leading authority in applying minimal access surgery to the treatment of malignant and benign pelvic gynecologic pathologies. Advancing the surgical education of fellows, residents and medical students is my utmost priority. I established a minimally invasive surgery division and fellowships at three hospitals and regularly welcome national and international physicians as clinical observers. I organized frequent post-graduate courses, which include didactic lectures, hands-on simulations, and live surgery demonstrations.
Fidel A. Valea, MD
Associate Professor, Residency Director, Gynecologic Oncology Fellowship Director
Duke University Medical Center

SGO Activities:
• 2013-Present  Board of Directors, Foundation for Women's Cancer
• 2012-Present  Chair, SGO Fellowship Directors Committee
• 2012-Present  APGO/CREOG Nominating Committee
• 2011-Present  Director, SGO Fellowship Directors Course
• 2011-Present  Bylaws Committee
• 2011-Present  APGO/CREOG Program Committee
• 2007, 2014  Program Committee
• 2007-2011  Education Committee
• 2006, 2011  PROLOG Committee on Oncology and Critical Care
• 2006, 2007  APGO/CREOG Program Committee
• 2004-Present  Board of Directors, Carol’s Cause (not for profit)
• 2004-2008  SGO/ACOG Liaison Task Force
• 2002-2014  Moderator for SGO meetings (various years)
• 1997-2004  Foundation for Women's Cancer Membership Committee
• 1999-2004  GOG Cervix Committee

I would like to serve on the SGO Board of Directors to be part of a group that has the ability to guide our Society through the various transitions we will make over the next few years. Specifically, I want to help rebuild our administrative infrastructure and re-establish the reputation of our Foundation as one that donors are proud to partner with. Our Society should focus its educational missions to meet the needs of the members (CME) and the fellowship directors as they transition to ACGME oversight (GME), and to continue to produce durable educational products that not only provide education to our membership but also the patients and the community. I bring a great deal of educational experience to the table as well as the drive and determination to speak up and represent our membership. I also bring a multicultural background to our Society with fluency in Spanish and the ability to connect and help grow our membership from Latin America and other countries. My leadership style is one of transparency and honesty. I am not afraid to speak up even if the topic is unpopular as long as I feel it is in the best interest of the organization that I serve. I believe in clear and consistent communication for our members.

Caroline C. Billingsley, MD
Assistant Professor
University of Cincinnati, Division of Gynecology Oncology
Cincinnati, OH

I would like to serve as the Candidate Representative because I can make a difference in this position. I am dedicated to SGO’s mission, and am passionate about contributing to the advancement of our specialty. I was “raised” in a fellowship that instilled in me the vision to strive for the ultimate goal of eradicating gynecologic cancers, and I believe this is an attainable goal. In order to achieve these goals, collaboration and communication are essential. I want to serve on the SGO board to develop and refine the skill set necessary to make impactful advances for the specialty, as well as bring my own unique skills of leadership, communication and innovative ideas to the organization. As a candidate member, I will strive to increase our membership through communication with our fellow and candidate members. I believe that ownership and participation in our Society’s missions and national meetings will strengthen our numbers and lead to long-term memberships, and this will be an ambition of mine.

I come with leadership skills that I have developed throughout my career, and I also come with the desire to learn from the best other Board members will offer. My strengths include a strong will to achieve my goals, and willingness to persevere until those goals are realized. I believe my former program director described this trait in me as “scrappiness”—a tenacious will to achieve personal goals. I am committed to serving the Board and SGO, and working to achieve those goals set forth in the mission statement.
I am very interested in becoming involved in the SGO Board of Directors as I think it would be a wonderful opportunity to serve our organization during this critical time of health care reform and reorganization. As a Candidate Representative, I would work eagerly to involve women’s cancer specialists in SGO and ensure the vision and scope of our organization is clearly understood. I enjoy taking responsibility and the lead within organizations and have worked hard to implement positive change via critical evaluation of needs and future goals whenever I have held leadership positions. I have been attending and presenting at SGO consecutively since I was a third year resident; each year I find myself even more excited to attend the Annual Meeting than I was the year before, as I believe our organization continues to flourish and further extend the footprint of the SGO mission both within the United States and internationally. It was truly a privilege to serve on the Program Committee for the 2015 Annual Meeting; through this process, I learned a great deal about intricacies of the organization. I would be honored to further serve our organization on the Board of Directors, wherein I would diligently and creatively work with other members of the team and the SGO staff to build upon the strong existing foundation in order to implement change for future development and broaden SGO’s reach to increase membership, more closely involve members, and further the organization’s mission.

My choice to pursue a career in academic medicine was driven in large part by my love of “team medicine” and the desire to be a part of something bigger than myself. I gain inspiration, motivation, and develop a deeper understanding of the practice of gynecologic oncology by working with those around me, on a junior and senior level. Serving on the SGO Board would be the ultimate team experience.

If chosen to serve, my goals include addressing the impact and challenges of practicing gynecologic oncology in the era of genomics, targeted therapy, and immunotherapy. I will address disparities in care and work to ensure that all providers and patients have access to the most current information, resources, and treatment opportunities. By acknowledging and respecting the strengths and limitations of various models of health care delivery, we can optimize the care we provide to our patients. Additionally, I plan to explore the challenges facing professionals in our Society and advocate for our members as they face health care reform, increasingly complex treatment options, the stresses and risk of burnout, and the challenges of balancing home and work. I am committed to the practice of gynecologic oncology and to the community of gynecologic oncology providers who make up the Society. I am energetic, motivated, collaborative, and representative of the new generation of gynecologic oncologists. I genuinely respect the value of every aspect of our profession and believe that will allow me to represent a broad range of cancer care providers.
FELLOW-IN-TRAINING REPRESENTATIVE

Nathaniel L. Jones, MD
Fellow, Gynecologic Oncology
New York Presbyterian: Columbia and Cornell
New York, NY

I am currently in the second year of gynecologic oncology fellowship and eager to contribute to an exciting and evolving field. Just as the exponential growth in our understanding of tumor biology forces us to challenge conventional treatment paradigms, so too does the evolving political and economic environment in which we practice force us to reconsider traditional business practices and ways that we deliver care. I believe the field needs good doctors, those who possess vision, compassion, and a burning desire to impact the lives of their patients. I am a tireless advocate for my patients, and believe that women deserve evidence-based recommendations and access to the highest quality of care, regardless of overriding political agendas and socioeconomic barriers. I embrace the challenge of change, and see opportunity where others may see adversity. I believe that our field has a promising and exciting future, and see the Society as an organization that embraces tradition while challenging convention, affecting change and improving the lives of the women that we treat. As a potential Board representative, I bring with me tireless energy, contagious enthusiasm, and excellent teamwork mentality. I remain a student of this field, humble and ambitious, passionately curious, with a steadfast resolve to improve the lives of our patients. I have confidence that I will be a leader in the field and make lasting contributions in the years to come.

Josephine Kim, MD
Gynecologic Oncology Fellow-in-Training
University of Chicago/NorthShore University HealthSystem
Chicago, IL

I hope to join the SGO Board as a Fellow-in-Training representative so that I can be part of the important process by which this organization guides and leads its members toward the best possible delivery of women’s cancer care. As awareness of the emerging impacts of duty hour restrictions on resident and fellow training increases, I believe it is an important time to openly address the concerns of both future gynecologic oncologists and those who train us in order to ensure that the highest quality of clinicians, educators, and researchers are still being produced. Additionally, as our fellowship programs begin their transition to ACGME accreditation, the guidance of a governing body such as the SGO may play a key role in ensuring that core educational objectives are still fulfilled under the new organizational structure. Having served as part of a multidisciplinary council previously, I understand the importance of combining the perspectives of individuals with different levels of experience and diverse interests but common goals in order to optimally accomplish one collective mission.

Margaret Liang, MD
Gynecologic Oncology Fellow
UCLA/Cedars-Sinai
Los Angeles, CA

In addition, given the current climate of research funding restrictions it will become increasingly important for us to maximize collaborative efforts and serve as political advocates, and I hope to help increase the presence of fellows among the SGO’s advocacy initiatives. I would love to have the opportunity to represent the voice of current and upcoming fellows as one important piece of our organization's shared effort to better the field of gynecologic oncology and the care that we deliver.

SGO Activities
• 2015-Present Taskforce on Lobbying/Legislative and Regulatory Affairs
• 2015-Present SGO Congressional Ambassador

I view the SGO as a collaborative think tank that promotes high quality clinical care through education, research, and advocacy in gynecologic oncology. As a Fellow-in-Training Representative, my goal would be to make the pursuits of the SGO more accessible to trainees as we near the transition from fellow to attending and to contribute the perspectives of the fellows-in-training to better inform the SGO’s agenda and goals. I would aim to provide a convenient means to regularly communicate hot topics and opportunities for fellow involvement within the SGO through a monthly e-newsletter and Twitter feed. This would include items such as practical bite-size updates on SGO committee activities, Q&A with leaders in the field, and local/national events for outreach. I am a reliable and resourceful leader who is very approachable and values the opinions of my colleagues. I would also set out to use these forums to elicit the opinions of fellow-in-training members on a monthly topic of discussion in order to summarize and bring our voice to the Board. Just as our patient navigators play an integral role in ensuring our patients are successful in understanding and completing their treatment, I hope to provide a similar service to the fellow-in-training members of the SGO as we represent the future of gynecologic oncology.
Jennifer Mueller, MD  
Fellow-in-Training  
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center  
New York, NY

SGO Activities

- 2015  
  SGO Congressional Ambassadors Committee

I want to serve as a member of the SGO Board so that I can impact new and junior members to be inspired by and contribute to our great organization. With these goals in mind, I will ask two key questions if elected to the Board.

I want to motivate new and junior members get involved in the educational and advocacy programs of SGO. I want to pilot a volunteer assessment tool for all new and junior members to seek out the best fit for their time, talent and resources. The focus would be on each person’s genuine interests and abilities. If a member is passionate about education, collaborative research, patient or political advocacy, this volunteer tool would seek to leverage their unique talents in that direction.

A mentoring relationship encourages excellence in both directions. I want to help members generate meaningful relationships within our field. I want to implement one-on-one and group programming within the SGO that builds a culture of mentorship in our Society.

I have worked on committees at every stage in my academic career, including within the SGO. This work has strengthened my ability to collaborate, listen carefully and speak effectively at individual and group levels. As a fellow nearing the culmination of my training, I have a valuable perspective on the challenges of balancing family, academic and clinical pursuits. I want to lend my energy, perspective and ideas to support this great organization.

Lauren Prescott  
Gynecologic Oncology Fellow-in-Training  
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center  
Houston, TX

SGO Activities

- 2015 – Present  
  SGO Communications Committee liaison to the Clinical Practice Committee
- 2013 – Present  
  SGO Communications Committee, Fellow Member

Health care reform is one of the most important issues facing the medical community today. How we as a Society embrace this changing landscape is the most challenging issue we will face in the coming years. SGO has demonstrated its commitment to delivering high quality cancer care and taking an active role in establishing the trajectory of our field in research, education and patient advocacy during a momentous time of health care delivery transformation. As the Fellow-in-Training Representative of the Board, I have several goals that will augment the strategic plan and mission of our organization.

My goals are to:

1. Increase the number of fellow in-training positions on SGO committees. Our peers bring a positive and enthusiastic vantage point that can be utilized to increase the productivity of our Society and provide more opportunities to engage current fellows;
2. Increase involvement of patients on SGO committees. Involvement of our patients in organizational decision making is crucial;
3. Continue to advocate for the continued educational opportunities and training for residents and fellows. Continued cuts in medical education and training require our Society to enhance its education efforts; and,
4. Continue to take an active role in redesigning payment models for gynecologic malignancies.

The SGO has a unique ability to achieve physician-led, patient-centered care that truly drives improvements in the research, clinical care and education of gynecologic oncology. As Fellow-in-Training Representative to the Board I will bring a new perspective to this momentous and exciting time in health care.