

# Western Association of Gynecologic Oncologists



Volume 1, Number 1

NEWSLETTER

April 2004

## Message From The President Beth Karlan, MD



WAGO has undergone a rapid evolution over the last decade! In addition to its new bylaws, mission statement, and organizational staff, its increased membership and fiscal reserves, WAGO is now entering cyberspace. Thanks to the efforts of Gary Leiserowitz, we are launching a WAGO website and newsletter focused on keeping members up-to-date with the latest WAGO news.

As many of you have heard me say, WAGO is one of my favorite professional meetings. For almost 10 years, I have worked to help shepherd WAGO's growth into this new era. But WAGO's vitality is really the result of many: its members, devoted Board (especially secretary-treasurer, Wui-jin Koh), and its unique "culture" that fosters an open interchange of ideas, professional comradery and excellence in clinical care.

As WAGO President, I am looking forward to our 2004 annual meeting. We will be returning to the beautiful Monterey Plaza Hotel and Spa in Monterey, California, and Dr. Joan Walker and her program committee promise an outstanding meeting. Additionally, this year WAGO will meet in conjunction with the Felix Rutledge Society. Some anticipated highlights include an address from the Presidential Speaker, Jack Lewin, MD, CEO of the California Medical Association entitled "Healthcare: As Good As It Gets", special luncheon sessions, and a family evening at the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

Once again WAGO will open its arms to our members, trainees, and families as we enjoy this unique opportunity for mentorship, professional growth and education, collegiality, and "good clean fun". I hope you all have the 2004 meeting on your calendars (May 26-29, Memorial Day Weekend) and plan to attend another outstanding Annual meeting. See you in Monterey!

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## 2004 WAGO Officials

### Officers:

President	Beth Karlan, MD
President-elect	Joan Walker, MD
Vice President	Karen Ireland, MD
Immediate Past President	Hisham Tamimi, MD
Secretary-Treasurer	Wui-Jin Koh, MD
Secretary-Treasurer Elect	Gary Leiserowitz, MD

### Members-At-Large

Member-at-Large	David Miller, MD
Member-at-Large	Anil Sood, MD

### Executive Director

Cassandra Larkins

### 2004 Program Committee

Joan Walker, MD, Chair
Matthew Boente, MD
Lee-may Chen, MD
Randall Gibb, MD
Robert Coleman, MD (Felix Rutledge)
Lisa Sandles, MD (Felix Rutledge)
Anil Sood, MD (Felix Rutledge)



**Photos from the 2003 Meeting in Steamboat Springs Colorado**



**Report from the Secretary-Treasurer  
Wui-Jin Koh, MD**

**Membership**

WAGO currently has 199 members.

- 168 Regular Members
- 1 Associate Member
- 15 Emeritus Members
- 15 Honorary Members

We are pleased to welcome the new members to WAGO listed below:

**Financial Statement**

WAGO maintains a strong financial position in 2004.

Beginning Balance January 1, 2003:	\$125,162.99
Income	
Total Income from Membership Dues	8200.00
Total Income from Annual Meeting	62,025.00
Total Income	+70,225.00
Total Assets	<u>195,387.99</u>
Total Expenses as of December 31, 2003	
Total Administrative Expenses	7,233.00
Total 2003 Meeting Expenses	57,001.00
Total Other Expenses	399.00
Total Expenses	<u>64,624.00</u>
Ending Balance	\$130,763.99

**Welcome New Members**

- Elizabeth Swisher, MD, Seattle, Washington**
- Cecelia Boardman, MD, Richmond, Virginia**
- Seiko Diane Yamada, MD, Chicago, Illinois**
- Kian Behbakht, MD, Denver Colorado**
- Matthew Boente, MD, Minneapolis, Minnesota**

**Future Meeting Sites**

- 2005            Hilton Santa Fe, Santa Fe, New Mexico**
- 2006            Resort at Squaw Creek, Squaw Valley, North Lake Tahoe, California**

## 2004 Annual Meeting

### Joan Walker, MD, Program Chair

The 2004 WAGO meeting will be held in one of the most beautiful places in the world: Monterey Bay, next to Carmel and the Big Sur. The big news for this year is that we will have our first joint meeting with the Felix Rutledge Society from MD Anderson Cancer Center. We are planning an exciting meeting with the hope that these joint sessions will become a regular feature. Our Program Committee is encouraging all fellows in training to submit abstracts for this special meeting.

Highlights for the meeting include abstract presentations from both WAGO and Felix Rutledge Society members and fellows, a Thursday night reception at the Monterey Bay Aquarium, a Presidential Address from the CMA President Jack Lewin, MD, and a Saturday luncheon symposium on radical trachelectomy with Michel Roy, MD. There will be a special set of awards for the best scientific presentations at the meeting.

Come join us for a great meeting in a gorgeous setting!

## Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa

Dramatically overlooking the Monterey Bay, the Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa combines elegant European architecture, wide-sweeping coastal views, and sophisticated style to create the perfect vantage point by which to enjoy the gentle sounds of surf, the fresh scent of sea air, and the sight of sea otters at play.

The hotel is located on historic Cannery Row at the end of the Monterey Bay. Among the many recreational activities available are ocean kayaking, sailing, scuba diving, and world-class golf. The Monterey Bay Aquarium, Fisherman's Wharf, Old Town Monterey, and the Maritime Museum are only a short walk away.

## 2003 Award Winners

### 2003 James F. Nolan Award

Carolyn Muller, MD

Paper: BRCApap: Feasibility of BRCA Testing from Liquid-Based Lower Genital Tract Cytology

The Nolan Award is for Best Presentation by a WAGO member

### 2003 Leo D. Lagasse Award

Michael R. Manuel, MD, MPH

Paper: Decision Factors Related to Risk-Reducing Salpingo-Oophorectomy in Women Carrying a Germline BRCA Mutation

The Lagasse Award is for the best clinical research presentation by a resident/fellow

### 2003 J.G. Moore Award

Jayanthi S. Lea, MD

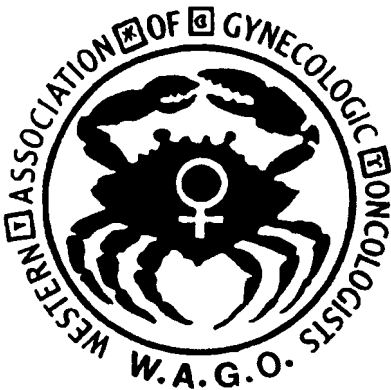
Paper: RNA Interference Mediated Silencing of HPV 18 Viral Oncogenes Inhibits Cervical Cancer Cell Growth

The Moore Award is for the best basic science research presentation by a resident/fellow



Western Association of  
Gynecologic Oncologists  
409 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20024-2188

Phone: 202-863-1648  
Fax: 202-554-0453  
Executive Director: C. Larkins  
Email: Clarkins@acog.org



## 2004 Meeting at a Glance

### Wednesday, May 26, 2004

4:00 to 6:00 PM	Registration
6:00 to 8:30 PM	Welcome Reception

### Thursday, May 27, 2004

7:00 AM	Continental Breakfast
8:00 to 12:30 PM	Scientific Program
12:30 PM	“Stump the Professor” Luncheon
7:00 PM	Reception at the Monterey Bay Aquarium

### Friday, May 28, 2004

7:00 AM	Continental Breakfast
8:00 to 12:30 PM	Scientific Program
12:30 PM	Annual Business Meeting
6:30 to 9:30 PM	Reception/Banquet

### Saturday, May 29, 2004

7:00 AM	Continental Breakfast
8:00 to 11:00 AM	Scientific Program
11:00 AM	Presidential Guest Lecturer Jack Lewin, MD, CEO CMA
12:00 PM	Lunch
12:00 to 3:00 PM	Radical Trachelectomy Presentation
3:00 PM	Adjourn

#### To Register for the 2004 Annual Meeting:

Contact Cassandra Larkins  
(202) 863-1648  
Email: Clarkins@acog.org

#### To Register at the Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa, Monterey, CA:

(831) 646-1700  
(800) 334-3999

**Cut-off date for Hotel Reservations is May 1, 2004**

**If after May 1, 2004, contact Ms. Larkins for alternative hotel arrangements**

**Transportation from San Jose (SJC) and San Francisco (SFO) Airports:**  
Monterey-Salinas Airbus runs shuttles between Monterey and both airports.  
The charge is \$35 one way with an extra \$10 per group to go to Monterey Plaza. The schedule is at:  
[www.montereyairbus.com](http://www.montereyairbus.com)

#### Send articles, letters, comments to

**Gary S. Leiserowitz, MD**

**Editor**

**UC Davis Medical Center**

**Dept. of OB/GYN**

**4860 Y Street, Suite 2500**

**Sacramento, CA 95817**

**(916) 734-6938**

**FAX: (916) 734-6034**

**Email: [gseiserowitz@ucdavis.edu](mailto:gseiserowitz@ucdavis.edu)**