19 August 2014

Dear Colleague,

In connection with the upcoming 24th Asia & Oceanic Congress of Obstetrics & Gynaecology (AOCOG 2015) to be held in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia on June 3-6, 2015, the Asia and Oceanic Federation of Obstetrics & Gynaecology (AOCOG) has invited OGSM to nominate 2-3 candidates for the Shan S. Ratnam - Young Gynaecologist Award (2015).

This award is for young gynaecologists who will be under 40 years on June 3, 2015. This award is to enable the awardee to attend the AOCOG 2015.

In addition to attending the AOCOG 2015, the Organizing Committee of AOCOG 2015 is offering a Community Fellowship Program where the Federation will select 1 (one) among the nominated YGAs from each countries to participate in a week long activities alongside with the Malaysian Healthcare Providers in Kuching prior to the Congress.

Interested candidates are to submit an unpublished full paper (with Times Roman 12 font size) together with a detailed CV. The candidates are required to present their papers during AOCOG 2015. For further information, please visit the OGSM website www.ogsm.org.my

Deadline for submission is on or before 30th September 2014. Please forward your submission to the OGSM Secretariat at ogsm@myjaring.net

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Dr Thaneemalai J.
Hon. Secretary
O&G Society of Malaysia
05 June 2014

Dr. Tang Boon Nee
President
Obstetrical & Gynaecological Society of Malaysia
Sime Darby Medical Centre, 1, Jalan SS 12/1A, 47500 Subang Jaya, Selangor

Dear Dr. Tang:

SHAN S. RATNAM-YOUNG GYNAECOLOGIST AWARD
AOCOG 2015, KUCHING, SARAWAK, MALAYSIA

One of the more satisfying activities of the Federation has been the Young Gynaecologist Award (YGA), initiated in 1991 through the generous support of the National Societies, Foundations and industry. Initially, the award was restricted to 8 countries but during the 2002 General Assembly in Bangalore, India, the award has been opened to all 27 member countries but only those coming from 20 member countries* will be funded by the Federation.

The Federation has been able to award about 35-40 positions for each congress. The awardees are given the opportunity to stay together during the congress and are invited to all social functions to provide them an opportunity to interact not only amongst themselves but also with representatives of National Societies and office bearers of the Federation. It is hoped that the SSR-YGA will provide an opportunity for young and committed members of national societies to attend a congress, make a commitment to their national societies and subscribe to future activities of the Federation. They will be expected to be present at the President’s Night to personally receive the award.

I am writing to request you to submit 2-3 nominations in order of priority not later than 30 September 2014 with their curriculum vitae and an unpublished full paper (in a CD and a printed copy in a 8 ½ x 11 bond paper, with Times New Roman font ; 12 font size). If I do not hear from you by then, I shall presume that you have no nomination for the Shan S. Ratnam-Young Gynaecologist Award.

Normally, we will try to send a prepaid ticket but there are times when it is cheaper for the Awardee to purchase the ticket in his/her hometown and be reimbursed no more than what it would cost the Secretariat if it had purchased a prepaid ticket locally. It would, therefore, be extremely helpful if your Society could provide the Secretariat with an estimate of what it would cost an individual to fly from your country to Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia and back by the most direct economy class. Attached herewith are the SSR-YGA guidelines for your reference.

This year’s Congress is extraordinary since the Organizing Committee of AOCOG 2015 is offering the AOCOG 2015 Community Fellowship Program where the Federation will select 1 (one) among the nominated YGAs from each countries to participate in a week long activities alongside with the Malaysian Healthcare Providers in rural Malaysia. Full details of this program are outlined in the attached PDF file.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Professor Walfrido W. Sumpaico, M.D.
Secretary-General

* Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Egypt, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Israel, Macau, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam

cc Dr. Kurian Joseph, AOFOG President
Professor Joo-Hyun Nam, Officer-in-charge, AOFOG YGA Project
ASIA & OCEANIA FEDERATION OF
OBSTETRICS & GYNAECOLOGY (AOFOG)
S S Ratnam - Young Gynaecologist Award (SSR – YGA)

I. Objective:

The SSR - YGA enables promising young Obstetricians and gynaecologists from all the member countries of the Asia and Oceania region to attend the congress of the AOFOG which are usually held biennially.

The participation of Young Gynaecologists:

  a) provides them an opportunity to update knowledge and skills of Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Reproductive Biology

  b) promotes social interaction between them, their peers and other delegates

  c) provides an insight into the functioning of the Federation by encouraging attendance at General Assembly session

All these help to prepare them to become the future leaders of their National Societies (NS) of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and hence of the Federation. The criteria of selection provided to the NS reflects this hope

II. History of the Award:

It was instituted in 1991 during the presidency of Professor Masahiko Mizuno through the support of the Japan Society of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and subsequently supported by donor agencies and member societies on a voluntary basis. Ten years later in 2001, it was renamed the SS Ratnam - Young Gynaecologists Award in memory of Emeritus Professor S. S. Ratnam, who was the President Elect of the AOFOG at the time of his demise and who had been its Secretary General for 21 years.

Initially restricted to eight (8) countries from developing countries, it was approved in the Bangalore Council meeting 2002 that all National Societies will have YGAs. YGAs from the following 16 developing countries will be provided with the financial support from AOFOG whereas YGAs from 7 developed countries/NS will provide financial support to the selected YGAs from their own fund and resources.

DEVELOPING MEMBER COUNTRIES

| Bangladesh | Mongolia | Papua New Guinea |
| Egypt      | Myanmar  | Saudi Arabia     |
| India      | Nepal    | Sri Lanka        |
| Indonesia  | Philippines | Thailand      |
| Israel     | Pakistan | Vietnam         |
| Malaysia   |          |                  |
DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

AUSTRALIA KOREA SINGAPORE
HONG KONG NEW ZEALAND TAIWAN
JAPAN

III. The Award / The Donors:

On the year of the award, AOFOG provides the awardee with free economy airfare, registration fee and allowance for board and lodging. The awardee is given free registration for the next congress but he must now pay for his/her airfare and accommodations.

The Secretary-General will write to all the NS for sending over donations towards the objective of S.S. Ratnam YGA Awards and all the previous donors of the project. The donors for the YGA have include National Societies of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists from the Asia and Oceania region, M/s Organon Netherlands, Third world Academy of Sciences (TWAS) and several others. Appendix 2 lists the donors and the donations received since its conception.

IV. Guidelines on YGA selection

➢ All initial communications regarding YGAs will come from the Secretariat. The NS will be asked for nominations and should be submitted at least 6 months prior to the Congress date.

➢ The NS is required to submit at least 3 candidates for consideration together with their Curriculum Vitae and full papers but the Secretariat is not in a position to decide on the number of awards available to each country until funds come in from donor agencies and member societies.

➢ Upon receipt of all the nominations and full papers, the Secretariat will transmit them to the committee (chaired by the President-Elect) which is given 2 months to do the pre-screening for the 10 best papers.

➢ The final list of the YGAs shall be given to the host society three (3) months prior to the Congress date.

➢ On the presentation of the papers at the congress, the 10 best selected papers will be presented judged by a committee (chaired by the President-Elect together with the Journal Editor and one of the committee chairs selected by the President-Elect) at a plenary session in the congress whereas other submitted papers will be presented like free communication. The two best presentations are selected for with a cash award.
The NS is also required to inform the Secretariat on the cheapest round trip airfare to the Congress venue to facilitate preparation of the Federation’s budget for reimbursement.

The reimbursement of the air fare and allowance for board and lodging to each of the YGA will be scheduled within the first two (2) days of the Congress.

The YGAs will be required to present the Official Receipt, the ticket and other pertinent receipts (airport taxes, etc.) for reimbursement.

V. Activities of the YGAs in AOFOG Congresses

During the Congress, the Young Gynaecologists Awardees present their papers at a special session.

They could participate in all congress workshops and other clinical activities. They shall take part in all the social events, attend sessions of the General assembly and in some instances can represent their National Societies at the council meetings.

They are awarded certificates of attendance during the President’s night. Representatives of all the donors are invited to the ceremony so that they could be thanked personally for their support and could interact with the YGAs and assess how well their contribution has been spent. During the ceremony several previous YGAs narrate their achievements in academic and at their National Societies.

VI. Eligibility of a YGA:

All nominations are to be made by the NS, then submitted to the AOFOG Secretariat and finally approved by the Executive Board.

To qualify, the Young Gynaecologist must

a) be under 40 years of age
b) have made a significant contribution to his National Society
c) demonstrate leadership qualities.
AOCOG 2015
Community Fellowship Program
(Revised Version)

Dr. Hj. Mohamad Farouk Abdullah
Organising Chairman
AOCOG 2015
Community Fellowship Program

- Linked to the Federation’s YGA Program
- Targeting young and promising OBGYNs from the AOFOG member nations
- Will attend and work alongside Malaysian Healthcare Providers in rural Malaysia
- In the week ahead of AOCOG 2015
- Focusing on Malaysia’s MCH Services, CEMD and MDG5 Achievements
- Supported by and in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Malaysia
- Will share their experience with AOCOG 2015 delegates at a special session
AOFOG to identify and nominate

Based on existing criteria for YGA Program

Ideally 1 Fellow per member nation

Maximum Fellows: 27

Names and details to be submitted to AOCOG 2015 Secretariat at OGSM

Deadline: 31 January 2015
Day 1, Wednesday (27.5.15)

- Arrival of AOCOG 2015 Fellows in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia

Day 2, Thursday (28.5.15)

- Briefing & Dialogue Session, Sarawak State Health Department (hosted by the State Health Director & State MCH Officer)
- Briefing & Dialogue Session, Kuching District Health Department (hosted by District Family Medicine Specialist & Medical Officer of Health)
- Fellowship Dinner in Kuching (hosted by OGSM)
Day 3, Friday (29.5.15) &
Day 4, Saturday (30.5.15)

- Community Fellowship Program
- Maternal & Child Health Clinics
- Domiciliary Midwifery Care
- Home Visits
- Community Health Clinics
- Public Health Outreach Initiatives

Day 5, Sunday (31.5.15) to
Day 7, Tuesday (2.6.15)

- Long House Experience
- Gawai Festival Experience
- At selected Long Houses in Kuching, Sarawak
Day 8, Wednesday (3.6.15) to
Day 11, Saturday (6.6.15)

- **AOCOG 2015**
- Special Session: Feedback and Sharing of Experiences and Lessons learnt with delegates of AOCOG 2015
AOCOG 2015
24th Asian & Oceanic Congress of Obstetrics & Gynaecology
3 - 6 June 2015
Borneo Convention Centre Kuching, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia
Day 12, Sunday (7.6.15)

- Departure of AOCOG 2015 Fellows from Kuching, Sarawak
Our Commitments

• Day 1, Wednesday (27.5.15) to Day 6, Monday (1.6.15)

• Accommodation (Bed & Breakfast)

• Fellowship Dinner

• Community Fellowship Program

• Long House Experience

• Internal Land/City Transfers

• Per Diem

AOFOG/Fellows Commitments

• Day 7, Tuesday (2.6.15) to Day 12, Sunday (7.6.15)

• Accommodation

• All Flight Expenses

• AOCOG 2015 Conference Registration
Full Backing and Support

- Ministry of Health Malaysia
- Malaysian Conventions and Exhibitions Bureau
- Sarawak Convention Bureau
AOCOG 2015
24th Asian & Oceanic Congress of Obstetrics & Gynaecology

3 - 6 June 2015
Borneo Convention Centre Kuching, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia

Plenaries • Updates • Controversies

FIGO Symposium
RCOG Symposium
International Faculty
Leading Experts

“See you in Borneo”
www.aocog2015.com