Looking back at 2016, I am pleased to see how much collaboration and teamwork contributed to the Society of Gynecologic Oncology’s success.

Whether it was within our own volunteer committee groups, with other medical associations, or even the federal government, SGO members put forth a tremendous amount of effort to represent and respond to the needs of the patients they serve.

And through the SGO Wellness initiative, we encouraged many SGO members to reach out to family, friends and each other to reduce stress and burnout. Members had the opportunity to read stories by SGO Wellness task force members about the struggles they faced with physician burnout, and learned that they are not alone.

By working together, we witnessed firsthand how we could accomplish more. SGO kicked off 2016 with the merger of the Foundation for Gynecologic Oncology and the Foundation for Women’s Cancer (FWC), establishing the new FWC as the official foundation of the SGO. This enabled both organizations to leverage the combined knowledge of staff members and SGO volunteers to enhance patient outreach efforts such as the Survivor Courses and National Race to End Women’s Cancer.

By working with other medical societies and patient advocacy organizations, SGO contributed to impactful projects such as the SGO Genetics Toolkit, the joint clinical practice guideline on neoadjuvant chemotherapy for newly diagnosed, advanced ovarian cancer, and the National Cancer Institute’s Cancer Moonshot program. All of these efforts in the service of our patients demonstrate how powerful these partnerships can be.

No review of SGO in 2016 would be complete without acknowledging the efforts of outgoing SGO President Robert L. Coleman, MD, the Annual Meeting Program and Steering Committees, and SGO staff who teamed up once again to give members an inspiring and educational 2016 Annual Meeting on Women’s Cancer in San Diego.

On behalf of the SGO Board, I thank you all for the work that you do on behalf of women with gynecologic cancers. I am grateful to all of our SGO volunteers and staff who worked with me to make my tenure as SGO President a truly productive one. It was an honor to collaborate with all of you.

With highest regards,

Jeffrey M. Fowler, MD
2016-2017 SGO President
SGO’s Foundation for Gynecologic Oncology Merges with Foundation for Women’s Cancer

Gynecologic oncology research, education and awareness took a historic step forward on Jan. 1, 2016, when the Society of Gynecologic Oncology’s Foundation for Gynecology Oncology and the Foundation for Women’s Cancer (FWC) became one foundation within the SGO, with David G. Mutch, MD, as Chair of the new FWC, and Karen J. Carlson, continuing in her role as FWC Executive Director.

Throughout 2016, the FWC continued to promote and encourage research in gynecologic oncology while maintaining core programs such as the National Race to End Women’s Cancer and the Survivors Courses.
**SGO BY THE NUMBERS**

**Membership by Category**

- Full: 1,001
- Candidate: 212
- Senior: 203
- Fellow-in-Training: 186
- Resident/Student: 183
- Allied: 141
- International/Affiliate: 106
- Associate: 26
- Honorary: 4

Total members: 2,062

**Social Media**

- Facebook Likes: 3,984 (+34%)
- Twitter Followers: 2,439 (+19%)
- LinkedIn Followers: 1,382 (+21%)

**Financials**

- Revenue: $5,238,839
  - Meetings: 48%
  - Membership: 16%
  - Management services: 12%
  - Publications: 10%
  - Industry Corporate Council: 6%
  - Registry: 4%
  - Misc.: 3%
  - Job board: 2%

- Expenses: $4,764,839
  - Administration: 57%
  - Meetings: 28%
  - Membership: 5%
  - Registry: 4%
  - Government Relations: 4%
  - Other: 2%
SGO’s 2016 Annual Meeting on Women’s Cancer in San Diego, CA, broke an attendance record for the second year in a row with 2,156 attendees, 9.5 percent (or 99 registrants) higher than the 2015 meeting. Included in the 2016 number were 387 attendees from 45 different countries. The event also had the highest number of exhibitors (50) since 2007.
The 2016 program highlighted immunotherapy, molecular testing and targeted therapy, health care economics, clinical trials, novel surgical techniques and radiation technologies, international gynecologic cancer care and delivery, gynecologic pathology and disease pathogenesis, rare tumors and gestational trophoblastic disease.

Led by 2015-2016 SGO President Robert L. Coleman, MD, and Program Committee Co-chairs Deborah K. Armstrong, MD, and Michael Frumovitz, MD, MPH, the Annual Meeting marked the transition to the presidency of Jeffrey M. Fowler, MD. It also was the last Annual Meeting with Mary C. Eiken, MS, RN, as SGO’s Executive Director. Mary had served in this capacity since 2004, and her successor Pierre M. Désy, MPH, CAE, assumed the position of Chief Executive Officer of SGO and FWC immediately after the 2016 SGO Annual Meeting.

The 2016 SGO Winter Meeting was held at Lake Tahoe, CA, and featured sessions on complementary medicine, ovarian cancer, minimally invasive surgery and innovative uses of technology. The 2016 Allied Health Professionals Workshop returned to Chicago and included workshop topics on resiliency, standards of care, sexual function/quality of life, chemotherapy and surgical issues.
Throughout his term as SGO president, Jeffrey M. Fowler, MD, focused on issues of burnout and physician wellness, culminating in the publication of *Stress and burnout among gynecologic oncologists: A Society of Gynecologic Oncology Evidence-based Review and Recommendations* in the August 2016 edition of *Gynecologic Oncology*.

The Task Force also collaborated on the creation of the Wellness section on the SGO website. The online resources include materials from Annual Meeting presentations, related links to videos and articles, and Perspectives columns by other Task Force members.
Utilizing individual case histories with genetic pedigrees as examples, SGO launched the SGO Genetics Toolkit in October 2016. A collaborative effort between several medical societies and advocacy organizations, the toolkit serves as a resource for health care providers on issues surrounding hereditary risk assessment and genetic testing in women who have or are worried about gynecologic cancers.

The toolkit includes a series of vignettes that are designed to help providers and patients understand the implications of a genetic test result for themselves and other members of their family. The toolkit dispels some common misconceptions around the genetics of gynecologic cancers and sheds light on often overlooked nuances of cancer genetic testing while introducing resources to help families adjust and adapt to the results of genetic tests.

Collaborating organizations are the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), Bright Pink®, Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered (FORCE), and the National Society of Genetic Counselors (NSGC).
In June 2016, the Society of Gynecologic Oncology proposed five specific recommendations to improve the availability of drugs for cancer patients at a reasonable and fair cost. The proposals were contained in the article, “Addressing the High Cost of Drugs for Oncology Patients: A National Priority.”

In the article, SGO proposed the following:

- Allow Medicare to negotiate prices.
- Encourage transparency from pharmaceutical companies in setting prices.
- Improve access to lower cost chemotherapy agents through generics.
- Develop a federal working group at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to study value-based pricing.
- Better align drug supply with dosing recommendations.

To address the unique needs of cancer patients in light of the federal government’s efforts to curb what has been called a “public health crisis” of opioid misuse, SGO in October 2016 issued the Clinical Practice Statement, “Opioid Use in Gynecologic Oncology; Balancing Efficacy, Accessibility and Safety.”

The purpose of the statement is to promote safety without compromising efficacy of pain control by making gynecologic oncologists aware of current guidelines and proposed legislation, and urging them to address barriers to safe and effective opioid prescribing.
Collaborative clinical practice guidelines

In May 2016 SGO and the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) released Neoadjuvant chemotherapy for newly diagnosed, advanced ovarian cancer: Society of Gynecologic Oncology and American Society of Clinical Oncology Clinical Practice Guideline. This joint guideline was published simultaneously in the Journal of Clinical Oncology and Gynecologic Oncology.

That same month, the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) issued a clinical practice guideline on invasive cervical cancer. This resource-stratified guideline was the first of its kind from ASCO, offering treatment recommendations tailored to resource availability. SGO endorsed the guideline, which takes into account how cervical cancer care varies throughout the world.

SGO member co-authors: Linus T. Chuang, MD; Sarah Feldman, MD; Joo-Hyun Nam, MD, PhD; Gillian Thomas, MD; and Jonathan S. Berek, MD, MMS
In June 2016, SGO submitted seven recommendations to then-Vice President Joe Biden’s National Cancer Moonshot initiative. SGO’s recommendations addressed clinical trials, data sharing, obesity, disparities, p53, germline genetic testing, and school-based HPV vaccination. An SGO Task Force led by Carol L. Brown, MD, Chair of the SGO Health Policy and Socioeconomic Committee, finalized the Society’s recommendations.

By October 2016 the Cancer Moonshot Task Force released a report, which incorporated some of the suggestions put forth by SGO that directly impact gynecologic cancers. These goals include “Promoting Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccination as Cancer Prevention and Strengthening” and “Clarifying the Requirements for Public Availability of Clinical Trial Information.”

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