

Founding Conference and First Annual Conference of NASCOG

The founding conference of North America Society of Chinese Obstetricians and Gynecologists (NASCOG) & First NASCOG Annual Conference was held on April 28, 2018 at the Aloft Austin Downtown Hotel in Austin, TX. The inaugural meeting was attended by nearly 30 Chinese obstetricians and gynecologists and scholars from North America and China. The board meeting was chaired by Professor Guoyang Luo, the Chair of Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology (OBGYN). Professor Xiaoming Guan, the Director of Minimal Invasive Gynecology Surgery of Department of OBGYN of Baylor University was elected as the first president.

NASCOG is a non-profit and non-political group initiated and formed by Chinese obstetricians and gynecologists in North America. The Society aims to provide an academic exchange platform for Chinese obstetricians and gynecologists in North America and other regions, as well as to promote medical education and collaboration among Chinese obstetricians and gynecologists, relevant organizations, and groups in the field of OBGYN.

The preparation of the Society took about half a year and was initiated by ten Chinese obstetricians and gynecologists including Drs. Guoyang Luo, Xiaoming Guan, Kai Chen, Chao Li, Zitao Liu, Fangyin Meng, Jing Qiao, Wenliang Shi, Xiangna Tang, and Pengfei Wang. After four rounds of discussions, the first Board

meeting was successfully held at 14:00 on April 28th, 2018. After voting, Professor Xiaoming Guan was elected as the first president of NASCOG, and Drs. Kai Chen, Chao Li, Zitao Liu, Guoyang Luo, Jing Qiao, Wenliang Shi, and Qintian Zheng were elected as board members.

The inaugural meeting was presided by Professor Guoyang Luo. As the first president, Professor Xiaoming Guan delivered the inaugural speech, and reviewed the history on the establishment process of NASCOG and presented a talk in "Updates in American Chinese Obstetricians and Gynecologists". Professor Guan summarized the demography of Chinese obstetricians and gynecologists in North America including the number of practicing physicians, their regional distribution, as well as their achievements in promoting academic exchanges and cooperation between China and the United States in recent years. Professor Jinghe Lang, an academy member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, president of the Chinese Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology (CSOG) of the Chinese Medical Association (CMA), and president of Chinese Obstetricians and Gynecologists Association (COGA) of the Chinese Medical Doctor Association (CMDA), along with the esteemed Professors and Drs. Lei Song, Zhenyu Zhang, Wen Di, Dunjin Chen, Chongdong Liu, Juan Liu, and Drs. Yingchun Sun and Qiushi Wang from CMDA attended the meeting and congratulated the establishment of the Society. Visiting scholars Drs. Dan Zi, Rong Zheng and Zhouxuan Li from Baylor College of Medicine attended the meeting, too.

Dr. Jinghe Lang delivered a keynote speech during the inaugural meeting. On behalf of CSOG of CMA and COGA of CMDA, he expressed his sincere congratulations and greetings to the founding of NASCOG. He spoke about the Mission and Development of Chinese OBGYN in the New Era, starting from the development history of western medicine and extending to implementation of the Healthy China Strategy and research on policies and strategies for improving birth rate. Dr. Lang believes that the establishment of the NASCOG would promote exchanges and cooperation among Chinese obstetricians and gynecologists in the USA and China, and fuel the power for the co-development of OBGYN in China and USA. Dr. Lang expects NASCOG would facilitate the progress of OBGYN in China and the United States.

Professor Zhenyu Zhang, vice president of COGA of the CMDA, firstly congratulated the grand founding of NASCOG and also warmly congratulated Professor Jinghe Lang for being named an honorary academy member of the USA. Professor Zhang highlighted the important functions of COGA of CMDA and emphasized that the exchanges between COGA and NASCOG provided a good academic platform for Chinese obstetricians and gynecologists, promoting the international reputation of COGA. He stated that the establishment of the NASCOG had built a bridge for medical exchanges between China and the USA, making a great contribution to the academic exchanges in obstetrics and gynecology between the two countries.

After the congratulations from Professors Lang and Zhang, President Guan presented Texas cowboy hats to Professor Lang and Zhang as souvenirs, commemorating the founding of NASCOG.

During the meeting, the specialists from both countries presented on several important topics in OBGYN. Dr. Chao Li, a maternal fetal medicine (MFM) specialist from the USA presented the "Progress in Preventing Preterm Delivery". Professor Qintian Zheng delivered a special lecture on "Seeking Common Ground While Reserving Differences for China-US OBGYN", focusing on the differences in fetal heart rate monitoring between China and the USA. Dr. Wenliang Shi gave a speech on the private practice of OBGYN in USA, while Dr. Jing Qiao, an expert in pelvic floor reconstruction, reported on progress of transvaginal mesh implantation in pelvic floor reconstruction. During the academic discussion session, Professor Dunjin Chen, director of the MFM of COGA, and Professor Zheng discussed the management of fetal heart rate monitoring, the reduction of maternal-fetal complications and maternal and neonatal mortality. Professor Juan Liu from the Third Hospital of Guangzhou Medical University had an in-depth discussion with Professor Guan and Dr. Qiao on the treatment of pelvic floor dysfunction, vaginal patch placement skills and surgical complications. The academic exchange was held in a relaxed and pleasant tone, with everyone expressed their drive to continue the in-depth exchanges in the future and take the advantage of the high-quality of medical resources in China and USA to learn from each other and make progress together.

Finally, President Guan stated that NASCOG would promote academic exchanges and collaboration between the Chinese and American obstetricians and gynecologist, support the career development of American Chinese obstetricians and gynecologists, and enhance the reputation of the Chinese physician in North America.