

O B G Y N



Issue N° 35 Winter Newsletter 2020

Our lives are dedicated to yours

GET BOWTIED FOR HER FUND



"Get Bowtied for HER Fund" was the name of the fundraising event, the second collaboration between AUBMCares and the Department of OBS/GYN. The event took place on Thursday, January 30, 2020. This date was specifically chosen since January is the international "Cervical Health Awareness Month." Volunteers, students from AUBMCares and residents from the Department of OBS/GYN with unparalleled enthusiasm, were available at AUBMC's main lobby to answer questions of visitors and help raise awareness about "HER Fund." The event included a bake sale, the revenues of which will be used to provide immediate and continuous support for underprivileged women who suffer from critical and life-threatening gynecological and obstetrical conditions. We received lots of positive feedback and interest in the cause from AUBMC visitors, faculty, and staff and we would like to thank all those who made this event a great success.

With all that is going on around us, we decided to move forward and release this issue to share with you the few things that were going on at the department. Highlighted is an activity that was recently held in support of HER Fund and a new addition to our OBS/GYN family. We also share some thrilling facts about celebrities who left us early in the "Did you know?" section. Enjoy reading this issue.

Sincerely,
Anwar Nassar, MD
Editor-in-Chief



WELCOME DR. GIHAD CHALOUHI



Dr. Gihad Chalouhi recently joined the Department of OBS/GYN at AUBMC as an Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology. After graduating as an OBS/GYN specialist from Hotel-Dieu de France in Beirut, he acquired a Master 2 in Surgical Sciences from Paris-Sud XI University (Kremlin-Bicêtre) and a Master 2 in Prenatal Diagnosis, Specialized Imaging, and Fetal Medicine from Paris-Descartes V University. He also completed a PhD in functional fetoplacental MRI from Paris-Sorbonne, Paris-Descartes University.

After completing a fellowship in Fetal Medicine and Fetal Surgery from Paris-Descartes V University, he headed the fetal surgery center in Necker-Enfants Malades Hospital and the National French Referral Center for the Management of Complicated Monochorionic Pregnancies (CMR-STT) for four years before relocating to Beirut.

Dr. Chalouhi is the Head of the Simulation Task Force in the International Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology (ISUOG). He is also the President and co-founder of SimECHOle, simulation school for training in obstetrical and gynecological ultrasound in Paris. In addition, his peer-reviewed journal publications amount to more than 60 and his book chapters to 10.

He will be instrumental in the establishment of the first Fetal Surgery Center in Lebanon offering high standard medical care, diagnosis, and management for many fetal pathologies and complicated pregnancies including congenital diaphragmatic hernia and twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome. Dr. Chalouhi can be reached at his office on extension 5619, by paging 0698, at the Prenatal Diagnosis Unit on extension 5620, or by e-mail: gc22@aub.edu.lb.

Please join me in warmly welcoming Dr. Gihad Chalouhi to the AUB community.

CONGRATULATIONS



Dr. Suleiman Ghunaim, a second year fellow at the Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility has passed the membership of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) part 3 exam that was held in London on November 5, 2019. He is now officially British Board certified and a member of the RCOG, making him the youngest physician, at the age of 31 in both Jordan and Lebanon to hold this title. We are extremely proud of his distinguished achievement.



MEET THE ALUMNI

* Dr. Ahmad Fakhri graduated from AUBMC in June 2013 as an obstetrician/gynecologist. He is also a holder of a master's degree in healthcare management from the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. Currently, he is a consultant in Reproductive Medicine and Infertility at Fakhri IVF Center in the UAE. He is also the Chief Operating Officer of Jumeirah American Clinic, a polyclinic in Dubai that offers 4 main types of services: women's health, primary care, cosmetics, and obesity. He splits his time equally between being a clinician and managing a healthcare organization. Previously, Dr. Fakhri was the Chief Executive Officer of Barea International Hospital, and recently, he co-authored a chapter titled "Managing and transforming a single ART unit into a successful fertility business," in the book *Assisted Reproduction Techniques: Challenges and Management Options*.

* Dr. Stephanie Fellas completed her BS in Biology with distinction and received her M.D. from AUB in 2011. Following that, she completed a four-year residency in OBS/GYN at AUBMC in 2015. She then pursued a one-year training in Fetal Medicine and Ultrasound at CHU-Brugmann at Brussels and received a diploma in Fetal Medicine from Université Paris-Sud in France in 2016. After returning to Lebanon, she started her private practice in Jbeil. She is currently a Clinical Associate at KMC where she performs obstetrical sonography and is affiliated with three other hospitals: Notre Dame Maritime, Ftouh Keserwan Governmental Hospital, and Notre Dame du Liban Hospital. On a personal level, she is married with a baby girl, Lyana.

ACGME-I: FIVE-YEAR ACCREDITATION

We are proud to announce that effective January 9, 2020 our Residency Program was re-accredited by the ACGME-I for a duration of 5 years! This is the first time this reaccreditation duration is granted by the ACGME-I. We thank all those who made this possible especially Dr. Fadi Mirza, our Program Director, Mrs. Maha Jaafar, our Senior GME Program Coordinator, the residents, and all faculty members. Our Residency Program will continue to strive to create a healthy, diverse, and experiential learning environment in order to continue optimal physician training in our community.



ACADEMIC NEWS

- Dr. Tony Bazi spent one week at the B.P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences in Dharan, Nepal in November 2019, as a volunteer Faculty for the newly launched Urogynecology fellowship program that was established by the "Foundation of International Urogynecological Association." During this week, he was involved in teaching and supervising the evaluation and management (medical and surgical) of patients with urogynecological problems.
- Dr. Faysal El Kak participated in the 24th Congress of the World Association for Sexual Health (WAS) that was held in Mexico City, Mexico on October 12-15, 2019 as an invited speaker. On November 10, 2019, he moderated a presidential session in the 19th Asia Oceania Federation of ObGyn (AOFOG) that was held in Manila, Philippines following which he participated as an invited expert in FIGO delegate to the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25 in Nairobi, Kenya, on November 12-14, 2019. Dr. El Kak conducted three stakeholders and key experts meetings on "Maternal Mortality", "STI", and "Post Abortion Care" national policies and guidelines in collaboration with LSOG and UNFPA on December 11 and 13, 2019 in Beirut. At last, he acted as an external examiner in the viva of a PhD candidate in the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, UK on December 19, 2019.
- Dr. Sandrine Atallah was an invited speaker at the 22nd Congress of the European Society for Sexual Medicine that was held in Prague, Czech Republic on January 23-25, 2020. She delivered talks about unconsummated marriages in the Middle East, sexual aversion versus asexuality and internet-based psycho-sexological approach for sexual dysfunction in women with cancer.

PUBLICATIONS

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- Sassine D, Ghulmiyyah LM, Atallah S, Ghieh D, Saleh N, Slim S, Rameh G. Sexual changes during pregnancy in a middle-eastern population. *Sex Cult* 2019, Nov. [ahead of print].

IN THE SPOTLIGHT MONA FAWAZ



Q: When did you join the Department of OBS/GYN?

A: In December 2014.

Q: What is your title?

A: Clinical Nurse Coordinator at the Haifa Idriss Assisted Reproductive Technology Unit.

Q: What are your main duties?

A: Coordinating the daily workflow of the unit and ensuring patients are having an easy fertility journey as well as supervising the nursing staff in the unit.

Q: Prior to joining this department, what were you doing?

A: I was working as a registered nurse at the Women's Health Center.

Q: If you were not doing this job, what would you have chosen to do?

A: Applied Behavior Analyst (ABA) therapist.

Q: What is most enjoyable about your job?

A: Making a change in the life of patients.

Q: What do you find most challenging about your job?

A: To keep on giving hope to women with recurrent pregnancy failure despite several IVF attempts.

Q: If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you choose to go and why?

A: To Ivory Coast, the place where I was born and raised. It is the closest place to my heart.

Q: What do you enjoy doing during your free time?

A: Spending quality time with my husband and sons.

Q: What is something that most people don't know about you?

A: I have singing skills.

Q: What is your point of weakness?

A: My two sons.

Q: Who is your favorite artist?

A: Claude Barzotti.

Q: What is your favorite song these days?

A: "Flying on my own" by Celine Dion.

Q: What is the movie or book you recently enjoyed watching or reading?

A: I enjoyed reading "Mon nom est Rouge" by Orhan Pamuk.

Did you know?

- Marilyn Monroe took her life at the age of 36.
- Elvis Presley was deceased at the age of 42 shortly after a televised performance.
- On September 30, 1955, James Dean died following a car accident due to a broken neck. He was only 24 years old then!
- On September 4, 2006, Steve Irwin "The Crocodile Hunter" was filming a documentary when he decided to snorkel nearby during a break. Irwin was stabbed by a stingray's barb, which pierced his heart and caused him to bleed to death at the age of 44.
- Brandon Lee, son of Bruce Lee, died on March 31, 1993 after being accidentally shot on the set of "The Crow." A prop gun was not properly secured, causing the fatal accident. He was 28 years old.
- Diana, Princess of Wales, died on August 31, 1997 at the age of 36 after being involved in a deadly car accident.
- Amy Winehouse, Kurt Cobain, Janis Joplin, Jimi Hendrix, Jim Morrison all died at the age of 27. The "27 Club" was a term invented to categorize this unsettling trend.
- On February 11, 2012, Whitney Houston was found dead in her Suite at the Beverly Hilton Hotel, submerged in the bathtub. She was 48 years old.
- On the evening of November 24, 1991, only 24 hours after issuing his public statement about being an HIV carrier, Freddie Mercury, died at the age of 45 at his home in Kensington from AIDS.
- Bob Marley died on May 11, 1981 at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital in Miami, aged 36. Metastasis of melanoma originally diagnosed in 1977 under his toenail to lungs and brain caused his death. His final words to his son Ziggy were "Money can't buy life."
- The basketball star Kobe Bryant and his daughter Gianna were killed on January 26, 2020 when their helicopter crashed on their way to a youth basketball tournament. The death of Kobe at the age of 41 stunned fans around the world.

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