

ICOG Convocation@Guwahati – AICOG 2010  
By Dr. Mandakini Parihar

The ICOG CONVOCATION was held on 21st January 2010 at 5.00 p.m. at Hall “1” at the Sarusajai National Games Stadium, Guwahati, during the Annual Conference of FOGSI2010.

The Convocation began with the ceremonial Convocation parade led by Dr. Sanjay Gupte, President FOGSI &ICOG and Dr. Duru Shah, Chairman of ICOG. They were followed by the chief guest and other dignitaries of ICOG and all the new members, fellows & credit point winners along with the international fellows.

Once all the guests were seated, the convocation process began with Welcome address from Dr. Hema Divakar, secretary ICOG. She also outlined all the different advantages of becoming a member/fellow of the ICOG and gave a brief overview of the activities of ICOG. Dr. Sanjay Gupte, President FOGSI gave his presidential address and outlined his vision for 2010 and how ICOG can play a part in creating awareness and education. Dr. Duru Shah, chairman ICOG, gave the convocation address. She spoke on how education was the only way forward if we as a country need to progress and how it was a herculean task to have an education system that could reach out to the millions of children in our country. She mentioned that the greatest human achievement was in reducing suffering through quality healthcare and strong public education. She mentioned that The Indian College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists is playing an important role in strengthening maternal healthcare in the public sector by reaching out to the most distant students through the internet and through various programs such as 6 months Certification Courses, Ethiskills, Satellite school which are all part of the ICOG’s educative initiative.

Dr. Duru Shah also highlighted the important activities of ICOG and informed the delegates about the Current Opinion Series being started by ICOG and announced that the first one will be held in Goa on PCOS and the syndrome X, from 19-21<sup>st</sup> March 2010 in association with AEPCOS society.

The Chief Guest for the function was Professor Liselotte Mettler. Professor Mettler was introduced to the audience by Dr. P K Shah, Secretary General, FOGSI. She is currently the Head of Department of Ob-gyn at Kiel university, where she pursues her extensive clinical work in fertility preservation in young cancer survivors. In her Chief guests’ address she gave an excellent talk on the newer advances in fertility preservation and future of endoscopic surgery. The much awaited convocation ceremony by the members and fellows was after her talk. The MICOG and FICOG awards were given by Presided by Dr. Sanjay Gupte, President FOGSI and Dr. Duru Shah, Chairman, ICOG. Dr. Uday Nagarsekar and Dr. Hema Divakar also participated in giving the awards to the newly inducted Members and Fellows of ICOG, as well as 2 members who were awarded credit points.

This time around, there were a record number of new entrants to the Indian College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. There were 36 new members, 49 fellows for MICOG/ FICOG respectively. 2 members were awarded credit point for all their academic achievements in the last 2 years.

Every year ICOG recognizes the contribution of stalwarts and friends from abroad and confers an honorary Fellowship on these invited guests. This year there were 2 international fellows, who were given the honorary Fellowship of ICOG.- Dr. Rohana Hathathowa from Sri Lanka, President of the Sri Lankan College of Obs-Gyn and Dr. Ajay Rane From New Zealand, with special interest in uro-gynecology.

The Convocation was completed with the vote of thanks being given by Dr. Uday Nagarsekar. Dr. Suchitra Pandit and Dr. Mandakini Parihar were the Master of ceremonies. The convocation concluded with the National Anthem. The President and Chairman of ICOG then led the Convocation Parade back and all the Office bearers and Governing Council members stood to give an ovation to the newly inducted members and fellows as they came out of the convocation hall.

The entire Convocation was truly an experience!!