Pregnancy Recovery Center
Magee’s Expanding Model to Treat Pregnant Women Addicted to Opiates
Once again, I welcome you to another OBGYN Alumni Newsletter.

In this edition, we will highlight the career of one of our valued alumni, Bob Fronduti. We will also review the Pregnancy Recovery Center, a program that Magee is very proud of and has received national media attention and awards.

On page 6, there is a list of the Research Day and departmental award winners. Each year, we celebrate our academic excellence through Research Day where our students, residents, fellows and faculty have the opportunity to interact and engage about the important research happening here. A few days later, we celebrate our resident awards dinner that toasts the excellence of the presentations given at the event.

It is the time of year when we wish the best for our outgoing residents and fellows as they start the next phase of their careers. And we welcome a new set of physicians to the Magee family.

You can find the list of incoming and outgoing trainees on page 9.

We hope we will see you at Alumni Day on October 19-20. As per our custom, the event will highlight the Magee alumni who have gone on to successful academic careers. It is also a chance to catch up with old friends.

Another opportunity to reconnect with our alumni and current faculty is at one of the fall subspecialty meetings. We will be holding alumni receptions at AUGS and AAGL. On page 8, you can see photos from the SGO, CREOG, and ACOG Magee receptions.

We greatly appreciate you continuing to be a part of the department. We hope your time at Magee has made a positive contribution to your overall professional excellence.

As Magee helps lead, what appears to be, a revolution in healthcare amid the funding realignments, we are happy to keep you informed. We are committed to reaching out to you and keeping you engaged about all of the progress being made here.

We hope to see you soon.

Best regards,

Robert P. Edwards
Milton Lawrence McCall
Professor & Chair
Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS
A Message from
Dr. Robert Edwards
Some doctors know that they want to go into the medical field since childhood. But for Dr. Robert L. Fronduti, ’72, that was not the case.

“Medicine was the last thing in the world I wanted to do. My dad did it, and I didn’t think it was right for me,” Dr. Fronduti said.

During high school, Dr. Fronduti was undecided about his future plans. “My guidance counselor told me I was good at science and math and encouraged me to pursue engineering,” he explained. He attended Purdue University for engineering, but after two years he realized that it wasn’t right for him. “I figured out that I liked working with people and was interested in medicine,” he said.

A friend counseled Dr. Fronduti to finish his degree in engineering. “He told me that I didn’t need to change my major, but that I would need more biology and biochemistry credits.” He spent a summer at New York University where he crammed a year of biochemistry into 12 weeks.

He graduated from Purdue with an electrical engineering degree in 1962 and was accepted into the Medical School at Jefferson Medical College. Surprisingly, his non-medical undergraduate degree was not unusual. “I came to find out that a lot of people in medical school had different backgrounds.”

During a break his senior year, Dr. Fronduti completed a clerkship at Lovelace Medical Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico that solidified the direction of his career. “I had the opportunity to do 5 weeks of OBGYN and 5 weeks of surgery. I started with OBGYN. After a week or two, I was having so much fun assisting on surgeries and helping with deliveries that I asked to do my whole time in OBGYN,” he said.

Dr. Fronduti completed an internship at The Cooper Hospital in Camden, New Jersey. His first rotation was in OBGYN where he worked with a nurse named Ann on the postpartum floor. “I had briefly met her before but the staff really pushed hard to play matchmakers with us.” Ann and Dr. Fronduti were married in 1967.

The Frondutis did not have much time to celebrate their marriage. Dr. Fronduti enlisted and was a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy Medical Corps during the Vietnam War. Ann and Dr. Fronduti celebrated their honeymoon by driving to San Diego’s Naval Base where Dr. Fronduti trained and then was deployed on a ship for 13 months.

After his military service, Dr. Fronduti checked in with places he had previously applied for residency. “All of the other places said they would get back to me but Dr. Donald Hutchinson called me and said he already had a spot for me,” he said.

Dr. Fronduti completed his residency at Magee in 1972. Dr. David L. Katz, ’65, offered him a position in a private practice group. Dr. Fronduti worked with Gateway OBGYN Associates from 1972 through 1998. “I worked with Dave in one way or another for over 40 years,” Dr. Fronduti said. From 1998 until his retirement in 2008, Dr. Fronduti was in a group practice at Magee.

Although retired, he continues to give back to the community. He was the first gynecologist at the Pittsburgh Diocese Catholic Charities clinic, a social service agency providing free health care services to those without insurance or facing other challenges. Dr. Fronduti still volunteers there today.

His generous nature also extends to philanthropic ventures. Dr. Fronduti and Ann have been donating

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A program at Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC is expanding to other regions because of its successful specialized care model designed to treat pregnant women addicted to opiates.

The Pregnancy Recovery Center (PRC) was started at Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC in 2014 after hospital administrators and staff observed increased numbers of pregnant patients addicted to heroin and other opiates. In 2016, there were 811 unique patients treated for drug dependency at Magee.

Buprenorphine Leads to Better Results
The PRC was also created because of a new and promising treatment option. For years, the only treatment for opiate dependent pregnant women was an inpatient program using methadone. Still today, Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC remains one of only a few institutions that offer methadone inpatient care for pregnant women. Methadone is delivered daily so it can be tedious for many women to go to a clinic every day for their dosage.

The PRC was established to offer Buprenorphine, a fairly new opioid medication, which can be delivered on an outpatient basis. In addition to the convenience, research has shown that babies of mothers who take Buprenorphine are two-thirds more likely not to develop Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) than those who were treated with methadone. Dr. Michael England, medical director of the Pregnancy Recovery Center commented, “The goal of the program is to stabilize our pregnant patients on Buprenorphine so they can manage their lives and their pregnancy.” There are five doctors at Magee who have the extra training and specialized license necessary to prescribe Buprenorphine. Uniquely, they are all OB/GYNs rather than psychiatrists.

So Much More than Medication
The PRC offers more than just medications to patients. The center provides a medical home model approach so that women can receive all the care they need at one site. “We bring together four disciplines: the Buprenorphine-prescribing doctors, the obstetrical team, the behavioral health team and the social services team. The importance of the behavioral health team is to help our patients understand their addiction and hopefully manage it during their pregnancy and for the rest of their lives. The PRC social services team is involved to help our patients with any additional needs or problems they might encounter during their time with us - transportation, relationship counseling, legal issues, jobs and other things that are common in people with opiate addictions,” Dr. England explained.

Women enrolled in the program are required to go to weekly counseling, give a urine test every visit to ensure that they haven’t relapsed, and attend prenatal care visits. And through it all, the staff’s main goal is to support the patients and not judge them. Dr. England explains, “We never cure addiction. Hopefully we
can manage the illness by giving our patients the proper skills, insight and motivation prior to transitioning them to a life without drugs. Addiction is not a criminal event; it’s a chronic illness. With more caring people involved and more medical research being performed, there is a greater chance that we can sustain these people in remission.”

Pregnant women travel from all over the tristate region to be treated at the PRC. And even though it is a fairly new program, there have been positive outcomes. Without any treatment, 80% of babies born to addicted mothers require medicine to fight the withdrawal symptoms. For babies whose mothers went through the PRC, only 35% require medicine. “With our PRC program, we’re treating two patients – the mom and the fetus. So if we can help the addicted patient become better, it creates the opportunity for her child to be better,” Dr. England said.

PRC Model Expands to Other Regions
State and local government have taken notice of the PRC’s model of care. The center was recognized by the state of Pennsylvania as a Center of Excellence and was awarded a grant to expand their services to community hospitals. In March, the PRC opened outpatient clinics in five new locations in Pennsylvania- Butler, Clairton, Beaver, Natrona Heights, and Monroeville. UPMC Hamot in Erie, PA will open the first PRC full-service program outside of Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC in July 2017. Other hospitals and health systems are also looking to the PRC as a model for their own programs.

Due to the success of the PRC, the Women’s Recovery Center was created at Magee to address non-pregnant women addicted to opiates. The Women’s Recovery Center treats patients’ opioid use disorder as well as their gynecologic care. Dr. England explained, “This program allows us to continue to care for our PRC patients postpartum and to give care to others who were not a part of the PRC program.”

As the program continues to grow, the opportunity for research grows as well. Magee researchers are studying the most appropriate dosage of Buprenorphine for pregnant and non-pregnant women. Another study is collaborating with other organizations to follow what happens to the mothers after they leave the PRC program.

If you would like to learn how to adopt a similar program like the PRC in your area, please call 412-641-1211.

“From the beginning to the end of their treatment in the PRC, you see a transition that is amazing. You can see their self-esteem build as they go through the program. It’s helping a group of people who have been often overlooked by society.”

– Dr. Michael England

Pictured on cover:
Left to right : Stephanie Bobby, Patient Care Manager and Certified Addiction Nurse at the PRC
Dr. Michael England, Medical Director of the PRC
Bawn Maguire, Outreach Coordinator at Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC
On Friday, May 19, the Annual Research Day in Reproductive Biology & Women’s Health took place at Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC.

This event featured poster and oral presentations from Magee’s students, residents, fellows, post-doctoral scholars, and faculty researchers in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, & Reproductive Sciences and at Magee-Womens Research Institute. At the end of the day, awards were presented for the best oral and poster presentations, as well as other research accomplishments.

Two ongoing lecture series were presented by distinguished guests.

The Margaret Prine Joy Lecture in Reproductive Sciences, “The Legacy of Maternal-Fetal Exchange: Microchimerism,” was presented by J. Lee Nelson, MD, full member, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Professor of Medicine, University of Washington.

The Celebration of Life: A Lecture Honoring Mothers, “Oncofertility: From Bench, to Bedside, to Babies,” was presented by Teresa K. Woodruff, PhD, DSc, Thomas J. Watkins Professor of OBGYN, Vice Chair for Research, Department of OBGYN, Chair, Division of Reproductive Science in Medicine, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine.

Research Day 2017 Awardees

Best Fellow/Graduate Trainee Oral Presentation
Emily Harrington Bossart, BS: *Unique Tamoxifen Regulation of Snail in Invasive Lobular Carcinoma*

Marvin C. Rulin, MD, Research Day Resident Presentation Award
Tiffany Deihl, MD: *STD Tracker Reminder System Increases Repeat Testing Following Treatment for Chlamydia or Gonorrhea*

Best Fellow/Graduate Trainee Poster Presentation
Kevin Levine, BA: *Combination FGFR4 and ER-Targeted Therapy for Invasive Lobular Carcinoma*

Best Resident Poster Presentation
Jason Ricciuti, MD: *The Significance of Lymphovascular Space Invasion in Microinvasive Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Vulva*

Paul M. Rike Fellowship Award
Saqib Sachani, PhD

Amy Roberts Health Promotion Award
Emily Rosenberger, PhD: *Randomized Controlled Trial of a Personal Trainer Intervention for Breast Cancer Survivors: Impact on Quality of Life and BMI*

Department Ceremony Awardees

Faculty and trainees also were recognized at the Department’s annual award ceremony on June 2 at the University Club.

Faculty and Fellows Teaching Awards
APGO Excellence in Teaching Award
Sarah Taylor, MD

CREOG – Faculty
Nicole Donnellan, MD

Clinic Faculty
Heather Hohmann, MD

Obstetrics Faculty Teaching Award
Rebecca Waltner-Toews, MD

Obstetrics Fellow Teaching Award
Alisse Hauspurg Janicki, MD

SASGOG Faculty Teaching Award
Rebecca Waltner-Toews, MD

Gynecology Fellow Teaching Award
Brian Orr, MD
MYTIPREPORT Acknowledgements

Faculty
1st – Richard Guido, MD
2nd – Audrey Lance, MD, MS
3rd – Nicole Donnellan, MD
4th – Robert Kaminski, MD & Rebecca Waltner-Toews, MD

Fellow
1st – Allison Serra, MD

Residents
1st – Kathleen Pombier, MD & Kelly Ferroni, MD
2nd – Tiffany Deihl, MD

Resident Awards
Ryan Program Resident Award for Excellence in Family Planning
Jessica Rose, MD

Magee-Womens Hospital Junior Resident Award for Excellence in Family Planning
Alison Garrett, MD

The Margaret Searce Compassionate Care Award
Carly Werner, MD

Dr. Morris Turner Procedural Teaching/Guidance Award
Ann Peters, MD

AAGL – Special Excellence in Endoscopic Procedures
Daniel Chan, MD

SLS Outstanding Laparoendoscopic Resident
Ann Peters, MD

AUGS – Award for Excellence in Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery
Kelly Ferroni, MD

SMFM Resident Award for Excellence in Obstetrics
Elizabeth O’Neill, MD

SASGOG Resident Award
Erin Rhinehart, MD

Best General OB Skills by an Intern
Taylor Orellana, MD

Best Teaching Fellow as Selected by Third-Year Medical Students
Shannon Grabosch, MD

Best Teaching Residents as Selected by Third-Year Medical Students
R1: Emily Redman, MD
R2: Alayna Butcher, MD
R3: Tiffany Deihl, MD
R4: Erin Rhinehart, MD

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to Magee for more than 40 years. “I was given an education, so I believe that others should have the chance to have a good education. And I believe in helping others who are in need. You need to give back if you can. I’m fortunate that I can,” he remarked.

Today, Dr. Fronduti and Ann split their time between Pittsburgh and Florida. They have three children and seven grandchildren. In their spare time, they enjoy biking, golfing and scuba diving.

Honorable Mentions
R1: Kathleen Pombier, MD
R2s: Elizabeth O’Neill, MD, Yasaswi Paruchuri, MD, & Jason Ricciuti, MD
R3s: Kelly Ferroni, MD and Max Horowitz, MD
R4: Sadie Ackerman, MD

Awarded by the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

The Gold Foundation Humanism and Excellence in Teaching “Little Apple” Award - Tiffany Deihl, MD

The University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine Award for Excellence in Clinical Precepting Carey Andrew-Jaja, MD

The University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine Clerkship Preceptor of the Year Award Margaret Watt-Morse, MD

SGO Reception
The SGO Alumni Reception took place on Tuesday, March 14 at Public House Restaurant in National Harbor Maryland.

ACOG Reception - May 6, San Diego, California
Pictured left: Faculty member, Joe Sanfilippo, and MIGS fellow, Mallory Stuparich, ’17; Pictured center: Residents, Misha Pangasa, ’18; Neggin Mokhtari, ’18 and Kavita Vani, ’18; Pictured right: Alumni Rachel Becker Rapkin, ’11 &’13 and David Rapkin, ’09

CREOG Reception
The CREOG/APGO alumni reception took place at the Hyatt Regency in Orlando, Florida on March 8.

For more alumni photos, please visit the OBGYN alumni Facebook page @MWHObGynAlumni.
Residency Program UPDATE

Graduating Fellows

Gynecologic Oncology
- Jill Gadzinski, MD – Faculty at the Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine, Division of Gynecologic Oncology of William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, Michigan
- Brian Orr, MD - Faculty, MWH Dept. OB/GYN/RS, Gynecologic Oncology Division

Maternal-Fetal Medicine
- Julia Bregand-White, MD – Faculty at the University of Chicago School of Medicine, Dept. of OB/GYN, Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine
- Emily Bunce, MD – Assistant Professor, Wake Forest School of Medicine, Dept. of Maternal-Fetal Medicine
- John Mission, MD – Legacy Medical Group, Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine, Portland, Oregon

Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery
- Mary Ackenbom, MD – Faculty, MWH Dept. OB/GYN/RS, Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery Division
- Erin Lavelle, MD – Allegheny Health Network, Division of Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery

Minimally Invasive Surgery
- Mallory Stuparich, MD – Southern California Permanente Medical Group, Downey, CA

Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility
- Fabiola Balmir, MD – Allegheny Health Network, Dept. of OB/GYN, Division of Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility
- Sunita Katari, MD - Faculty, MWH Dept. OB/GYN/RS, Division of Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility

Medical Genetics
- Ermal Aliu, MD – Research Postdoctoral Fellow, Children’s Hospital of UPMC
- Evgenia Sklirou, MD – Medical Biochemical Genetics Fellowship, UPMC Medical Education, Children’s Hospital of UPMC

Family Planning
- Rachel Flink-Bochacki, MD - Albany Medical Center, Albany NY

Graduating Residents

- Sadie Ackerman, MD, Med – East Suburban Obstetrical and Gynecological Associates of the Allegheny Health Network
- Amy Alexander, MD – Gynecologic Oncology Fellowship at Northwestern Medicine Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL
- Grace Ferguson, MD - Family Planning Fellowship at MWH, Dept. OB/GYN/RS
- Megan Klocek, MD – Active Duty Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth Virginia
- Ann Peters, MD - Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery Fellowship, MWH, Dept. OB/GYN/RS
- Erin Rhinehart, MD - Faculty, MWH Dept. OB/GYN/RS
- Jessica Rose, MD - Clinical Assistant Professor, New York University School of Medicine, Bellevue Hospital Center
- Jessica Sassani, MD - Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery Fellowship, MWH, Dept. OB/GYN/RS
- Shereen Singer, MD - Due to maternity leave, will continue in training through August. Future plans are to pursue a position as a generalist and researcher.

Incoming Residents

- Jennifer Anhut, MD – Mercer University School of Medicine
- Camila Cabrera, MD – USF Health Morsani College of Medicine
- Aaron Campbell, MD – East Tennessee State University James H. Quillen College of Medicine
- Susan Lang, MD – University of Virginia School of Medicine
- Mackenzy Radolec, MD – Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University
- Abby Stork, MD – University of Kansas School of Medicine
- Solomiya Teterichko, DO – Western University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific
- Chelsea Turgeon, MD – University of Alabama School of Medicine
- Nina Woolley, MD – Harvard Medical School

Incoming Fellows

Female Pelvic Medicine & Reconstructive Surgery
- Jessica Sassani, MD - Current resident transferring to fellowship
- Amanda Artsen, MD – Washington University School of Medicine (Med School); University of California San Diego (residency)

Maternal-Fetal Medicine
- Anna Binstock, MD – Current hospitalist trainee transferring to fellowship
- Christina Megli, MD – Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth (Med School); Oregon Health and Science University (residency)
- Sarah Rogan, MD, PhD – University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill School of Medicine (Med School and Pharmacology– joint degree); University of Texas Medical Branch (residency)

Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility
- Emily Barnard, DO – Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences (Med School); Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN (residency)

Gynecologic Oncology
- Lauren Hand, MD – University of Florida College of Medicine (Med School); Thomas Jefferson University Hospital (residency)
- Adria Suarez-Mora, MD – Duke University School of Medicine (Med School); McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University (residency)

Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery
- Ann Peters, MD – Current resident transferring to fellowship

Family Planning
- Grace Ferguson, MD - Current resident transferring to fellowship
Upcoming Events

6th Annual Fly Fishing Classic
September 14-15, 2017
Homewaters Club, Spruce Creek, PA

Proceeds benefit the Women’s Cancer Research Center. Visit mageewomens.org/events for more information

12th Annual Savor Pittsburgh:
A Celebration of Cuisine
Thursday, September 28, 2017
6 p.m. VIP, 6:30 p.m. General Admission
Petersen Events Center, Pittsburgh, PA

Proceeds benefit women’s and infants’ health research. www.savorpgh.com

AUGS Magee Alumni Reception
Save the Date- Wednesday, October 4, 2017
Providence, Rhode Island

Annual Magee Alumni Day Reception
Thursday, October 19, 2017
4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
The Pittsburgh Golf Club

RSVP by October 12 to Denise Wickline at dwickline@magee.edu

42nd Annual Magee Alumni Day
Friday, October 20, 2017
8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC

AAGL Magee Alumni Reception
Tuesday, November 14, 2017
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Public House Restaurant, National Harbor, MD

RSVP by November 9 to Denise Wickline at dwickline@magee.edu

www.mageewomens.org

Join Our Email List!
Stay up to date on the great things happening at Magee. Email Colleen Gaughan at cgaughan@magee.edu.

CONGRATULATIONS
Resident Class of 2017
Catov’s Article Selected

Dr. Janet Catov, Primary Investigator, Magee-Womens Research Institute, received recognition for her article titled “Race Disparities and Decreasing Birth Weight: Are All Babies Getting Smaller?” It was selected as one of the 2016 Articles of the Year by the American Journal of Epidemiology and the Society for Epidemiologic Research (SER).

Chang Named ELAM Fellow

The Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) program has selected Dr. Judy Chang as a Fellow in the 2017-2018 class. Dr. Chang, Primary Investigator, Magee-Womens Research Institute, commented, “I am honored and excited to participate in this fantastic program, and then to apply and share these skills and knowledge with Magee.” ELAM Fellows share a conviction that academic health centers must change in response to today’s societal, technological, and market forces.

Alumni Establishes First Gynecologic Oncology Fellowship in Georgia

Dr. Bunja Rungruang, ’09 residency alumni and ’12 gynecologic oncology fellow, received ACGME approval for a Gynecologic Oncology fellowship at the Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University. This is the first gynecologic oncology fellowship program in the state of Georgia. Dr. Rungruang will serve as the fellowship program director.

Gosman Appointed Chair Elect of AME

Dr. Gabriella Gosman, Professor, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences and Vice Chair of Education, Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC, was appointed as Chair Elect for the University Of Pittsburgh School Of Medicine’s Academy of Master Educators (AME). AME recognizes and rewards excellence in education.

Magee Alumni Receives Harvard Endowed Chair

Dr. Laura E. Riley, ’89 residency alumni and Charles Montraville Green and Robert Montraville Green Associate Professor of Obstetrics Gynecology and Reproductive Biology at Harvard Medical School, Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital, received a Harvard Medical School Endowed Chair. Dr. Riley commented that she couldn’t have done it without her Magee mentors.

Alumni Releases Book

Dr. Carolyn Sufrin, ’07 residency alumni and Assistant Professor of Gynecology and Obstetrics at Johns Hopkins Medicine, released a book called Jailcare which is based on her research and clinical experiences with incarcerated pregnant women at the San Francisco jail. Learn more at www.jailcare.org.

Dr. Yoel Sadovsky, Executive Director of Magee-Womens Research Institute, opened the 64th Annual Meeting of the Society for Reproductive Investigation in Orlando, Florida. Dr. Sadovsky serves as the Society’s President.
ATTEND THE 42ND MAGEE ALUMNI DAY!

Thursday, October 19 & Friday, October 20

All former residents, fellows, and faculty as well as current residents, fellows, and faculty are invited to attend.