



SOAP/Kybele International Outreach Grant

The Society for Obstetric Anesthesia and Perinatology (SOAP) is pleased to announce that it is seeking applications for the inaugural SOAP/Kybele international outreach grant. **The application deadline will be August 26, 2011**, with expected funding of the grant in fall/winter 2011. It is anticipated that the grant will be awarded on an annual basis starting in 2011.

The goal of this program is to provide funding needed to get involved with international outreach projects in collaboration with Kybele in order to identify and train future leaders in international outreach from SOAP members. Specifically the grant is designed to encourage research in collaboration with host countries with the goal of enhancing the practice of obstetric anesthesia in those countries.

The SOAP/ Kybele International Outreach Grant will provide \$ 5000 to cover travel and related expenses for two trips to a country where a Kybele program is ongoing.

A. Guidelines for Applications:

This award is intended for initiating research that will advance the practice of obstetric anesthesia in a country where a Kybele program is conducted. Information about current Kybele programs can be obtained at <http://www.kybeleworldwide.org/>. A summary of ongoing projects, team leaders, and some potential research projects can be found at the end of this announcement.

Specific requirements are:

1. The applicant must a member of SOAP in good standing with a commitment to obstetric anesthesia.
2. A proposal for a research project to be conducted in one of the countries where a Kybele program is currently active. It is anticipated that some applicants may have a specific research project in mind, while others might not yet have a concrete plan. Potential projects could cover a wide range of topics such as clinical studies, public health policy, or database formation and improvement of infrastructure. If the applicant has some concrete ideas for a research project, these should be delineated, with the understanding that input of the host physicians will be a large part of the final iteration of any research effort. Otherwise, a general description of a potential feasible project should be outlined. Interested individuals are encouraged to discuss potential research projects with Kybele team leaders. A list of currently active Kybele projects together with the contact information of team leaders

and possible areas of research interest are summarized at the end of this announcement.

3. The successful applicant will be expected to be involved in two trips to the selected country where the project is conducted over a period of two years.
4. The research must be conducted in the country where the Kybele program is conducted.
5. All applications must be accompanied by a letter from the applicant's Department Chair or Chair's designee. The letter must address the applicant's suitability for the program (ability to teach, adapt, initiate and complete a research project, and be flexible). The letter must also confirm the department's commitment to granting the time needed to fulfill the requirements of the grant.
6. An annual progress report must be submitted to the SOAP International Outreach Committee.
7. The applicant is required to submit work resulting from this grant for consideration for presentation at an annual SOAP meeting.
8. Any publications or presentations resulting from this funding should contain a statement that such work was "funded by the SOAP/ Kybele international outreach grant".

B. Application Format:

All documents should be in 12 point font (Arial or Times Roman preferred). Microsoft Word format, with at least 0.75 inch margins.

1. A letter from the chair of the department confirming the department commitment to granting the time needed to fulfill the requirements of the grant.
2. If the applicant is a fellow, a letter from the fellowship director is needed highlighting the fellow's suitability for the program.
3. Curriculum Vitae of the applicant.
4. One page highlighting previous experience and motivation for seeking the grant.
5. 1-2 page for a proposed research project.
6. Letters of support: letters of support from two SOAP members with international outreach experience. The letters must address the applicant's suitability for the program (ability to teach, adapt, initiate and complete on a research project, and be flexible).

C. Terms:

1. Funds will be disbursed on a yearly basis.
2. The application and accompanying letters should be sent electronically as a word attachment to an email by August 26, 2011. Supporting letters may be sent by email from the email accounts of the letter writers (not the applicant), or hard copies mailed to the address below. Applications will be

evaluated by the appropriate SOAP Committees and Kybele and recommendations made to the SOAP Board of Directors. It is anticipated that an award decision will be made at the ASA annual meeting in October 2011.

D. Ongoing Kybele projects:

1. Ghana:

a. Accra (Ridge Hospital):

- i. Team Leaders: Dr. Medge Owen (mowen@wfubmc.edu), Dr. Yemi Olufolabi (olufo001@mc.duke.edu)

ii. Potential projects of interest:

1. Survey of current practice in areas such as compliance with developed protocols, time from CS decision to surgery, time elapsed until patients are seen by OB staff after arrival to hospital.
2. Develop a checklist for CS and monitor compliance with its use.
3. Study the long term impact of Kybele project.

b. Sunyani:

- i. Team Leaders: Dr. Vernon Ross (vhross@wfubmc.edu), Dr. Ron George (bgeorge@dal.ca)

ii. Potential projects of interest:

1. Study the use of intrathecal meperidine for post CS analgesia

2. Egypt:

- i. Team Leaders: Dr. Ashraf Habib (habib001@mc.duke.edu), Dr Sabri Barsoum (BARSOUs@ccf.org)

ii. Potential projects of interest:

1. Study the use of single shot spinal anesthesia as an option for pain relief in labor
2. Develop tools to audit practice and be able to retrieve data about practice for quality improvement purposes
3. Study the impact of the kybele project in the hospitals involved.

3. Armenia:

- i. Team Leader: Dr. Lisa Councilman (lcouncilman@msn.com)

- ii. Potential projects of interest:
 - 1. Survey to evaluate the practice of OB anesthesia in various hospitals in the country before and after implementation of national guidelines.

- 4. Romania:
 - i. Team Leader: Dr. Virgil Manica (vmanica@tuftsmedicalcenter.org)

- 5. Georgia:
 - i. Team Leader: Dr. Brittany Cline (bbclyne@hotmail.com)

Submit application materials to:

By Email:

soap@asahq.org (please include “SOAP/ Kybele International Outreach Grant” in the subject line)

By Mail:

Attn: SOAP/ Kybele International Outreach Grant
Society for Obstetric Anesthesia and Perinatology
520 N. Northwest Highway
Park Ridge, IL 60068

Please contact SOAP with questions at:

847-825-6472

soap@asahq.org (please include “SOAP/ Kybele International Outreach Grant” in the subject line)