

SCOPE



A Publication of the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons

SAGES & CAGS Host the
**16th World Congress
of Endoscopic Surgery**

April 11-14, 2018
Seattle, WA

*See the Schedule-
at-a-Glance Inside!*



WINTER 2018

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It Couldn't Be Done

BY EDGAR ALBERT GUEST

.....

*There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done,
There are thousands to prophesy failure,
There are thousands to point out to you one by one,
The dangers that wait to assail you.
But just buckle in with a bit of a grin,
Just take off your coat and go to it;
Just start in to sing as you tackle the thing
That "cannot be done," and you'll do it.*



Dan Jones, MD, SAGES President

With my New Year's email to SAGES members I sent the poem, "It Couldn't Be Done." I was particularly struck by the positive responses to this poem by surgeons who are well known for getting things done and making a real impact on the field of Surgery. Just a few representative email replies to this poem among our SAGES educators, innovators and leaders:

"Thanks, I needed that!"

- Phil Shauer

"What a great idea to start the new year. We all need a little encouragement now and again."

- Vivian Strong

"Well Said."

- Col. Rick Satava

"Nice! The false prophets always seem to outnumber the true by a good margin. I appreciate your spirit..."

- John Mellinger

"Great lines. Reminds me of this quote: When you come to the end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on (FDR)."

- Pascal Fuchshuber

"Love it!"

- Raul Rosenthal

"Happy new year. Thank you so much!"

- KMarie Reid

"Bonne Annee Daniel!"

Merci encore une fois."

- Michel Gagner

As SAGES President I am delighted to report that SAGES is singing loud and strong. I would like to mention just a few societal accomplishments and ongoing project highlights. Go to the links and learn more about the programs and individuals leading these team efforts.
(continued on next page)

Advocacy

- SAGES has traditionally supported the ACS PAC. Today, we are also recognizing the important influence our society and members can add. We have representatives to the ABS, ACS, AMA, CPT, and RUC.
- SAGES is hosting an intensive Advocacy Training Workshop for surgeons interested in getting engaged with political leaders. We hope to create a group of SAGES Advocacy Champions.

Education

- The SAGES Masters Program began its roll out in 2017. The program moves participants through three phases of skill and knowledge acquisition - from a competency to a proficiency to a mastery curriculum in eight pathways: acute care, bariatrics, hernia, foregut, colon, biliary, robotic surgery and endoscopy. SAGES recently proposed this curriculum to the American Board of Surgery for consideration as a Focused Practice Designation. [Learn more about the Masters Program here.](#)
- SAGES is partnering with the Fellowship Council to revamp the MIS Fellowship Criteria. Several SAGES members who are fellowship program directors are currently piloting the new criteria. [Learn more here.](#)

Inclusiveness

- The new Community Practice Task Force is organizing with enthusiasm.
- The inaugural group of International Ambassadors will represent 36 countries at the Annual Meeting.
- The new We R SAGES (WRS) Task Force conducted a climate survey and has proposed recommendations for advancing diversity and inclusiveness in our society. Look for Dr. Dana Telem's paper in *Surgical Endoscopy* soon.

Infrastructure

- The OWLS (Organization-Wide Learning Systems) Task Force has worked diligently to review options for improving access to all SAGES educational resources. The new system will engage learners and track your progress for MOC.

Innovation

- The i3 Summit will bring together inventors, innovators, and investors to a special program during the SAGES Annual Meeting. Got a new idea or product? [Find out more here.](#)
- SAGES has eight Facebook groups aligned with the new Masters program: Acute Care, Bariatrics, Colorectal, Flexible Endoscopy, Foregut, Hernia, HPB and Robotics, plus groups for Community Practice Surgeons and Candidate Members. [To access the groups click here.](#)
- SAGES has a new Facebook Task Force to guide how we leverage social media in the future. Join us on Facebook and Twitter. Share your likes and dislikes. Let us know if you want to wear immersive head mounted displays with next generation videos.

Leadership

- The SAGES Leadership Development and Health Care Policy Program in Boston in November boasted 250 attendees and another 3,000 who participated via Facebook and Twitter. [Read more here.](#)
- SAGES sponsored two new Promising Leaders fellowship awards in collaboration with the Society for Black Academic Surgeons (SBAS) and Society of University Surgeons (SUS). Congratulations to Dr. Racquel Bueno and Dr. Colin Martin on receiving these awards!
- SAGES currently has more than 700 committee members. Interested in serving on one of our 40 committees? [Nominate yourself to serve and learn more about them here.](#)

Patient Safety

- 87% of all SAGES Board members and 71% of all committee chairs are FUSE certified. Industry sponsors are helping us translate FUSE to Mandarin, Spanish and other languages. In an effort to promote FUSE internationally, SAGES members have taken the initiative to [translate the FUSE flyer into key languages for global dissemination](#).
- SAGES Board recently approved a statement on Firearm Safety which was sent to the full membership for vote and comment. A clear majority of SAGES members were supportive of the statement. [View the full statement here](#).

Philanthropy

- SAGES reached its highest level of giving in 2017, going from 11% to 13% of members donating to the SAGES Foundation.
- 17 leaders donated \$1000 to pilot the "Pay it Forward Campaign" whereby small \$20 donations were given in the name of fellows and colleagues. If you received the gift, please match and pay it forward to others.
- The Foundation has an "80 by 20" campaign to reach 80% participation by 2020. [Donate today](#).
- One SAGES member, who wishes to remain anonymous, donated a second \$500K to support ongoing educational initiatives. As SAGES President and on behalf of all of our members, Thank you!

Research

- The Alternative Funding Task Force is applying for National Institute of Health, AHRQ, SBA and private grants on behalf of SAGES to further our educational, research and patient safety projects.

Training

- Working with Intuitive, SAGES is hosting four regional Robotic Surgery courses for MIS Fellows. SAGES controls content and speaker selection. Courses have a long

waiting list and fellows are raving about the quality of the courses. [View courses](#).

- SAGES cosponsored a Winter Course in January on *GI Surgical Emergencies: Challenges and Opportunities* in Vegas with SSAT and AAST.
- We are on track to have 100% of graduating surgical chief residents certified in SAGES FES this year, prior to sitting for Board exams.

World Congress/SAGES Annual Meeting

- As a World Congress, SAGES taps the talents across the globe for our annual meeting. The Program Chairs have done a tremendous job and by all accounts, this could be the best SAGES meeting in 30 years. Over 1500 scientific abstract submissions from 54 countries. Several joint programs are hosted with ASE, ASMBS, CSLES, JSLS, ILLS, IPEG, and KSELS. Keynote speakers will be Dr. Richard Reznick and Dr. Yuman Fong, as well as Dr. Carol-Anne Moulton. And while there is unlikely to be an Elvis sighting this year, the Sing-Off Gala is always a lot of fun. Come dance and sing with us. Visit www.sages2018.org to register, book housing, view the advance program, download a PowerPoint slide to help promote the meeting, and more!

Thank you to all who have taken off your coat with a grin on your face, done the work, and are making SAGES the best surgical society. I am proud to be a voice in the SAGES ensemble of singers.

*Dan Jones, MD
2017/2018 SAGES President*

2018-2019 SLATE OF OFFICERS

The following slate of Officers and new/re-appointed Board members for the 2018-2019 year was approved by the SAGES Board in November 2017. Congratulations to all SAGES newly appointed leaders!

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

PRESIDENT

Jeffrey M. Marks, M.D.

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Aurora D. Pryor, M.D.

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

(2-year term)

John D. Mellinger, M.D.

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

(2-year term)

Horacio J. Asbun, M.D.

(1 more year in this position)

SECRETARY

(3-year term)

Fredrick J. Brody, M.D.

(2 more years in this position)

TREASURER

(3-year term)

Liane S. Feldman, M.D.

BOARD MEMBERS:

(3-year terms)

Re-Appointments

(3-year term)

Robert Lim, M.D.

Patricia Sylla, M.D.

New Members

Robert Fanelli, M.D.

Gretchen Jackson, M.D.

Leena Khaitan, M.D.

John Marks, M.D.

Carla Pugh, M.D.

Donald Selzer, M.D.

Dana Telem, M.D.

David Urbach, M.D.

IN MEMORIAM

SAGES has learned of the passing of the following members, and extends our condolences to their family and friends.

Dr. Nobuhiro Ito

Dr. Natsuya Katada



SAGES 2018 Annual Meeting 16th World Congress of Endoscopic Surgery

Mastering the Art of Surgery

April 11-14, 2018, Washington State Convention Center, Seattle, WA

*Hosted by SAGES and CAGS
Endorsed by IFSES
Held in conjunction with IPEG*

PROGRAM CHAIRS: John Marks, MD (SAGES), Robert Lim, MD (SAGES) & Liane Feldman, MD (CAGS)

Don't miss SAGES 2018 and the 16th World Congress of Endoscopic Surgery in Seattle, Washington, home to the famous Space Needle, Pike Place Market, and Puget Sound.

- 4 Days of Scientific Sessions, PG Courses, Panels, Keynotes & Video
- 2.5 Days of Exhibits, Posters & Learning Center
- 8 SAGES University Masters Series Sessions
- 3 Hands-On Courses
- 5 NEW The Devil is in the Details Sessions

See next page for the Schedule at a Glance



Register Now!
www.sages2018.org
Early Registration & Hotel Deadline
FEBRUARY 23, 2018

SAGES 2018 Annual Meeting

16th World Congress of Endoscopic Surgery



Presented
by SAGES
& CAGS

Schedule-At-A-Glance

“Mastering the Art of Surgery”

PROGRAM CHAIRS: John Marks, MD (SAGES), Robert Lim, MD (SAGES) & Liane Feldman, MD (CAGS)

Oral & Video Sessions will take place throughout the SAGES Scientific Session.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 2018

SAGES Scientific Sessions 7:30am - 5:00pm

Magnets In Surgery: What's The Attraction?
Tele Us: Mentoring, Consultation, and Surgery
Academic Boot Camp
Masters Bariatrics: Revision and Reversal
Post Graduate Course: Total Mesorectal Excision
Military Surgical Symposium
Devil's in the Details: Paraesophageal Hernia Repair
SAGES/ASE Symposium: Building Your State-of-the-Art Simulation Curriculum: Best Strategies
Masters Flexible Endoscopy: Endoscopic Dilation and Stent Placement
Symposium de las Americas: When and How We Treat Motility Problems
SAGES / JSES Session: Similarities and differences between surgical approaches in Japan and the USA

SAGES Foundation Awards Luncheon 12:00pm - 1:30pm

SAGES Advocacy Program Summit
Hands-On Course: Total Mesorectal Excision
Small Bowel Obstruction / Common Bile Duct Exploration / Incarcerated Hernia: Always or Never Lap
New Gadgets and Gizmos - Advanced Technologies for Surgeons
IFSES Member Societies Update Symposium: Presentation of Each Society's Expertise - A World Congress Extravaganza!
Masters Hernia: Recurrent Hernias - Making the Best of a Bad Situation
The Fundamental Use of Surgical Energy (FUSE) Session
Reflux After Sleeve Gastrectomy
Surgical Options in Gastroparesis
Opening Session - Welcome Ceremony

Exhibits Opening Welcome Reception 5:30pm - 7:30pm

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2018

Exhibits/Posters/Learning Center OPEN 10:00am - 4:00pm

SAGES Scientific Sessions & Videos 7:30am - 5:30pm

Augmented Virtual Reality and Other Cool Things in Surgery
Expect The Unexpected In The Top 21
Intestinal Anastomosis: Hand Sewn to Intracorporeal - Newest Techniques to Improve Outcomes
Mesh: Must Avoid Or Must Have?
i3 Summit
Diverticulitis Consensus Conference

KEYNOTE: Karl Storz Lecture - “Training to Competency”

POEM Coming of Age: What Have We Learned and What Are We Still Learning?
SAGES / KSELS Session: What We Can Learn From Each Other in MIS of Biliary & Pancreas Disease?
SAGES / IPEG Session: Are You Kidding? You Want to be a Pediatric Bariatric Surgeon? Everything You Need to Know But Were Afraid to Ask
When Bad Things Happen to Good People: “Emergency Bile Spill Response”
Video Perfection From SAGES U
Endoscopic Alternatives To Fundoplication
Hands-On Course: Lap Colon ADOPT
Educators Luncheon: Teaching Today's Learners

Free Lunch in the Exhibit Hall for All Attendees 12:00pm - 1:30pm

Hands-On Course: Primary Procedures in Bariatric Endoscopy and Endoscopic Management of Complications
MIS Approaches to Complications of EsophagoGastric Surgery
MIS Approaches to Pancreatitis
Unit: Emerging Tech
Post Graduate Course: Minimally Invasive Advances in Complex Hernia Repair
Shining in Your Practice Right From the Start - Tools for Success
Masters Colorectal: MIS Approaches to the Right Colon

Happy Half Hour in the Exhibit Hall 3:00pm - 3:30pm

Image is Everything: NIR Fluorescence in Every OR?
Managing Long Term Complications Of Bariatric Surgery: Weight Regain And Long-Term Nutrition
Masters: Robotic Panel
SAGES / ILLS Session: Laparoscopic Liver Surgery
Surgical Emergencies in the Pregnant Patient - the Role of MIS
The Optimal Quality Metric in Laparoscopic Surgery: You Can Decide What Matters!
Industry Educational Events

FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 2018

Exhibits/Posters/Learning Center OPEN 10:00am - 4:00pm

SAGES Scientific Sessions & Videos 7:30am - 5:30pm

KEYNOTE: Presidential Address, Daniel B. Jones, MD KEYNOTE: Gerald Marks Lecture – “Gene Surgery and the Next Generation of MIS/Robotic Surgeons”

Robotic Colorectal Surgery Tips and Tricks: How to Safely Incorporate Robotics Into Your Practice and What's With All These New Robots?

We R SAGES - Celebrating Diversity

Refreshment Break/Morning Mimosas in Exhibit Hall 10:00am - 10:30am

Devil's in the Details: MIS Retrorectus Approaches
Devil's in the Details: Splenic Flexure/Middle Colics
MIS vs Endolumenal Approaches for Early Gastric Cancer
Timing and Treatment of Cholelithiasis
When Bad Things Happen to Good People: Managing Bariatric Mishaps
Fellowship Council Luncheon: Video Assessment For Ensuring Competency “Live Free Or Die”

Free Lunch in the Exhibit Hall for All Attendees 12:00pm - 1:30pm

CAGS Keynote Lecture: Culture and Teamwork in Surgery
Devil's in the Details: Getting that Critical View of Safety
Robotic Surgery: Real Indications and Trends
Devil's in the Details: Gastro-Jejunal Anastomosis
Emerging Treatment for Diverticulitis: Making Sense of the Evidence Amidst the Controversy
What's New in ERAS: Best Perioperative Care for MIS
Achalasia Management: Nuanced Care for a Rare Disease
Groin Pain and Sports Hernia
Masters Foregut: Mastering GERD

The Future of Bariatrics, Diabetic Care, and Metabolic Surgery: No Weight Loss Required

Minimally Invasive Pancreatic Resection: Present and Future

The Great Video Debate: Perfect Inguinal Hernia Repair - Open vs Lap vs Robot

Resident and Fellows Session

SAGES Stories: Shaking The Tree Of Tradition

Main Event & International Sing-Off 7:30pm - 11:30pm

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2018

Exhibits, Posters, Learning Center CLOSED

SAGES Scientific Sessions 8:00am - 3:00pm

Evidence Based Pathways in Bariatrics: Are You in Step with the Best
Single Incision Colon Resection
What's Next? New Techniques and Technologies in Bariatric Surgery
Masters Acute Care: Perforated Viscus Call - You Never Want It But You're Going to Get It
Masters Biliary: Help! Severe Acute Cholecystitis - How to Recognize, And What To Do!
SAGES Mini-Medical School Boot Camp & Interactive Experience
International Hernia Symposium 2018: “You Did What?”
Percutaneous Image Guided Treatments - the New MIS
Robots, Robots, Robots - Vision of the Past, Present, and Future
When Bad Things Happen to Good People - Endoscopy: Being FLEXible
The Symptomatic Patient After Anti-Reflux Surgery: Causes, Work-Up, and Management Strategies
Go Global: MIS Incorporation Around the World
Why Should I Care? Advocacy, Health Policy & Reimbursement
SAGES / CSLES Session: Learning From Each Other - Hot Topics in GI Surgery From China and America

Register Now! www.sages2018.org

Book your hotel at:

www.sages2018.org/registration/housing-information

Email: registration@sages.org

ADVOCACY & HEALTH POLICY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Ross F. Goldberg, MD, AHP Committee Chair

As the health care reform discussion has taken a more prevalent role over the past few years, the Advocacy and Health Policy Committee has been active in finding ways to engage the membership on these issues, as well as finding ways to have SAGES engage on these important topics. Currently, the AHP committee is working on the establishment of advocacy pillars, a set of core principles that would be the foundation of SAGES advocacy efforts on important health care topics. As always, we have representatives on the CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) Editorial Panel and RUC (Relative Value Scale Update Committee), helping to ensure correct coding and reimbursement is in place for the operations we can offer our patients. We also continue to engage the American Medical Association by sending a representative to serve in the House of Delegates, helping to shape policy that affect all aspects of health care.

For the upcoming SAGES annual meeting, the AHP Committee is involved with two sessions. The first is an Advocacy Training Session, a hands-on, interactive session designed to engage and educate surgeons on how they can become surgeon advocates, establishing SAGES Advocacy Champions. The second session is on Saturday, entitled, "Why Should I Care? Advocacy,

Health Policy & Reimbursement." This session is designed to help show how you can integrate being a strong advocate into your surgical practice, going over the basic tenants of CPT/ RUC valuation of codes (the way you get paid) and reviewing the current health policy that affects your practice and what changes may be coming.

As SAGES continues to expand its role within the health care advocacy and policy forums, your Advocacy and Health Policy Committee will continue to work hard on your behalf to ensure that we can continue to provide excellent care to all of our patients. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Shelley Ginsberg in the SAGES office at shelley@sages.org.

SAGES MEMBER EXCLUSIVE - FREE FUSE CERTIFICATION

SAGES is currently offering the first 500 members who complete the FUSE online educational module a free opportunity to become FUSE certified. To take advantage of this limited time offer, please review [the following instructions posted here](#).

The FUSE exam may be taken at the 2018 SAGES Annual Meeting in Seattle or at one of our many FUSE test centers. For a current list, [please visit this link](#).

Global Testing Network for the Fundamental Use of Surgical Energy™ (FUSE) Exam

The FUSE Committee is taking steps to make FUSE testing accessible around the globe.

Effective February 2018, U.S. military personnel stationed overseas and test takers residing outside the United States may take the FUSE assessment at Kryterion Authorized Test Centers, a global network of 1,000+ testing locations. In addition to this expanded testing network, U.S. military personnel stationed abroad may take the FUSE exam online using Kryterion's Online Proctoring (OLP) services.

For additional information about the FUSE Program, please visit:

www.fuseprogram.org

For more information about the Kryterion Testing Network (KTN), [please visit this link](#).

For more information about online proctoring (OLP), [please visit this link](#).



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GROWING INTERNATIONAL INTEREST IN THE FUNDAMENTAL USE OF SURGICAL ENERGY PROGRAM

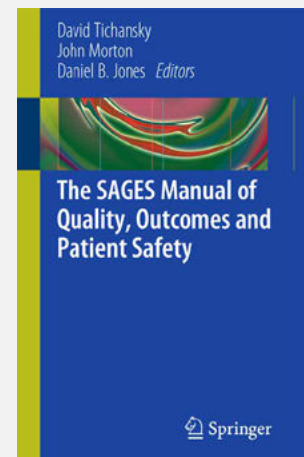
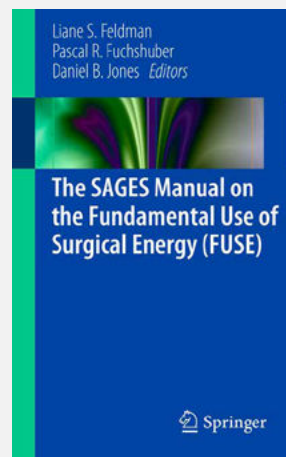
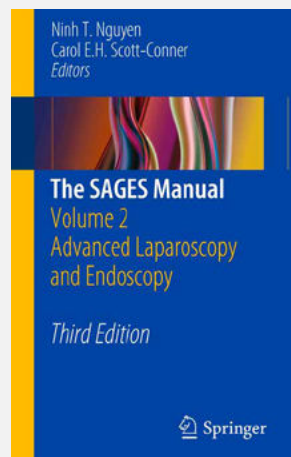
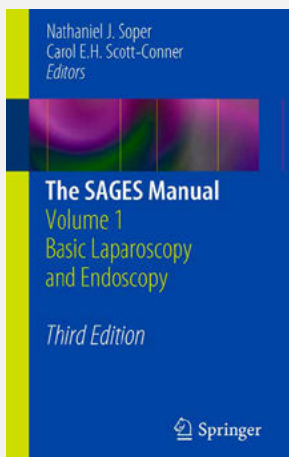
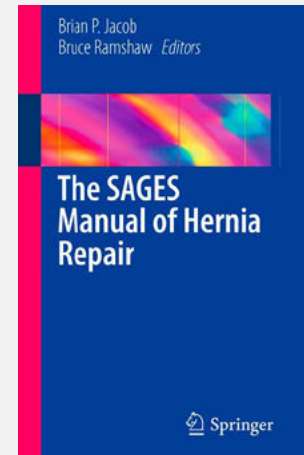
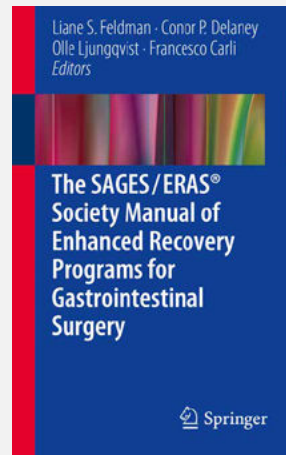
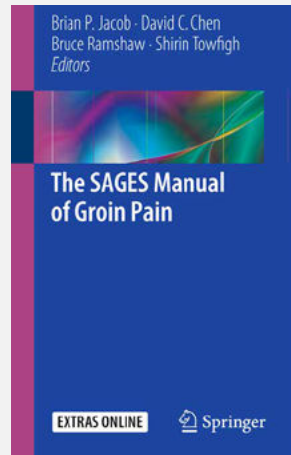
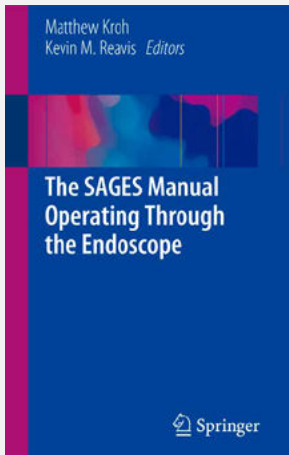
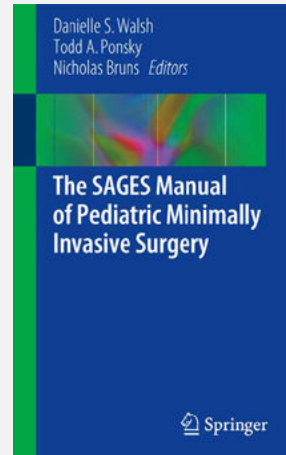
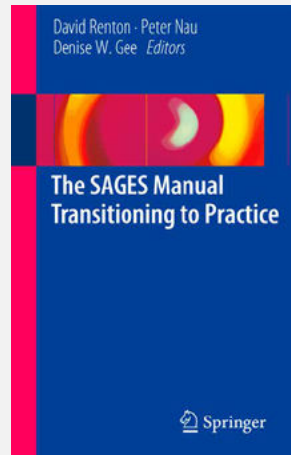
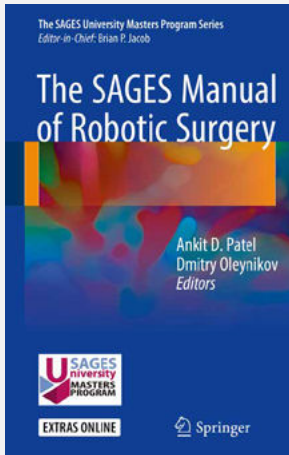


"The Latin American surgical community is acutely aware of the issues surrounding the use of energy-based devices in the OR. Dr Manuel Sanchez, member of the SAGES FUSE committee, is proud to integrate the FUSE program into a special session at the Argentine National Surgical Conference."
-Pascal Fuchshuber

The 88 Congreso Argentino de Cirugía October 2017 in Buenos Aires featuring Dr. Manuel Sanchez (l), FUSE Champion for the first Argentinian FUSE Test Center in Buenos Aires, and Dr. Pascal Fuchshuber (r), SAGES FUSE chair.

SAGES Manuals

The SAGES Manuals are portable, concise, beautifully illustrated manuals from the world's pioneering society of minimally invasive surgery.



SAGES EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOUNDATION AWARDS LUNCHEON

The 12th Annual SAGES Education and Research Foundation Awards Luncheon will take place on Wednesday, April 11, 2018. The luncheon celebrates and honors distinguished leaders in minimally invasive surgery. Proceeds benefit the SAGES Foundation and its mission to advance endoscopic, laparoscopic, and emerging minimal access surgical methods and patient care. The awards listed below reflect laudable service and innovation and are presented to outstanding, experienced, and reputable leaders in minimally invasive surgery.

April 11, 2018

12:00pm - 1:30pm

Washington State Convention Center, Seattle, WA

How to RSVP:

[Please click here](#) to purchase tickets, tables, virtual ads, or to become an event sponsor. Individual tickets are \$175 each, tables of ten are available for \$1,300, and event sponsorship opportunities begin at \$3,500. Since this event benefits the SAGES Education & Research Foundation, a portion of your purchase is tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

2018 Honorees to date are listed below:

- SAGES Young Researcher
Award: **Luke Funk, M.D.**
- SAGES Researcher in Training
Award: **Maria Altieri, M.D.**
- SAGES IRCAD Award: **Tyler Cohn, M.D.**
- SAGES Brandeis Awards: **Gina Adrales, M.D. & Shanu Kothari, M.D.**
- SAGES Foundation Jeffrey L. Ponsky Master Educator in Endoscopy
Award: **Brian Dunkin, M.D.**
- The Excellence in Medical Leadership Award – A SAGES Foundation Award:
Dimitrios Stefanidis, M.D.
**Generously funded through an unrestricted educational grant from Gore & Associates*
- SAGES Award for Excellence in Humanistic Clinical Care: **Frank Lewis, M.D.**
**SAGES gratefully acknowledges support by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation*
- SAGES International Ambassador
Award: **Abe Fingerhut, M.D.**
- SAGES Pioneer in Surgical Endoscopy
Award: **Phil Schauer, M.D.**
- SAGES Distinguished Service
Award: **Barbara Berci**

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WHY MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMA IS IMPORTANT

Are you concerned about reimbursement? What about healthcare reform? Do you wonder about patients' diminishing access to quality care? If you answered yes to any of these questions then your membership in the American Medical Association (AMA) is important.

YOUR AMA MEMBERSHIP – WHAT IT MEANS FOR SAGES

In order for SAGES to retain its seat in the HOD, a significant percentage of our members also have to be members of the AMA. Your membership in the AMA allows SAGES to:

- Keep our seat in the AMA House of Delegates (HOD)
- Have representation on the CPT Advisory Committee
- Have representation on the RUC Advisory Committee

But that is just a part of it. While SAGES continues to gain experience and recognition in the legislative arena, there is no denying that being a part of a larger organization has its benefits. The government recognizes the AMA as representing physicians across the country. They take the lead in tracking action on Capitol Hill and in organizing member associations and grass roots efforts to affect positive change.

KEEP THE SAGES VOICE STRONG

Please check your AMA membership status and keep it current. To join the AMA or renew your membership, [visit the AMA website here](#).

In addition, please visit <https://www.ama-assn.org/about-us/specialty-society-representation-ballot> to designate SAGES as your specialty society for representation purposes.



SAGES 2019



Surgical Spring Week

Save the Date

Baltimore Convention Center, Baltimore, MD

April 3-6, 2019

Program Chairs: Jon Gould, MD & Patricia Sylla, MD



THE SAGES ADOPT PROGRAM

Jonathan Dort, MD and Erin Schwarz

It's just not working. That was the conclusion of the SAGES Continuing Education Committee members in 2014 when reviewing the annual meeting post-course surveys. The time, money, and energy resources committed to the hands-on courses at the meeting were not translating into procedure adoption into surgeon practice or improved surgeon confidence levels. Courses were brief, teaching from the faculty was not standardized, and follow up with the participant was non-existent. It is not difficult to see why this formula was unsuccessful.

From this dilemma, the SAGES ADOPT (Acquisition of Data for Outcomes and Procedure Transfer) Program was created. Introduced as a pilot group at the 2015 annual meeting hands-on hernia course, the ADOPT program converts the old-fashioned one day course into a one year course of longitudinal mentorship and on-going communication.

The program begins with the assignment of a mentor to each enrolled participant. Mentors are chosen based on their known expertise in their field, their enthusiasm for education, and their willingness to participate in the program. All mentors participate in a train-the-trainers course based on the LapcoTT training program developed in the UK. The techniques taught in this two day session standardize the mentoring given to all course participants. Pre-course surveys given to the participants allow the mentors to understand the practices and the needs of the surgeons they are going to be mentoring. Once these mentors serve as the procedural teachers during the course, following a hands-on experience that can then be tailored in a learner-focused way to the participant, they are assigned as the mentors for those participants throughout the following year. Webinars are scheduled throughout the year allowing both participants and mentors

to present challenging cases, in-person meetings are available at both the SAGES meeting and the annual ACS Clinical Congress, and continuous communication through e-mail and other mechanisms are available to the participant throughout the year. The yearlong curriculum culminates in a presentation at the following SAGES meeting.

The results have been very encouraging. The first pilot group in 2015 showed a threefold increase in procedure adoption when compared to the standard course group, as well as increases in confidence levels in performing those procedures (*Dort et al, Surg Endosc. 2017 Aug;31(8):3326-3332.*) In 2016, the program was expanded to the entire hands-on hernia course group, and the results are equally as encouraging. Similar increases were seen in both procedure adoption rates and surgeon confidence levels. The third iteration of the program came at the

(cont. from previous page)
annual meeting in Houston in 2017, when it was utilized for the laparoscopic colectomy course under the leadership of Dr. Jamie Sanchez and Dr. Peter Marcello. Participants are completing their program year with excellent results to date. We will kick off our fourth ADOPT program, focusing on laparoscopic colectomy again, at the meeting this year in Seattle ([register today here](#)).

We are on the road to being able to say "It's working." The benefits of longitudinal mentorship with standardized teaching and a learner-focused curriculum are becoming increasingly clear and proven. As the number of new procedures and techniques continue to increase, the challenge to surgeons to safely and effectively incorporate them into their practice will need to be met. Programs such as the SAGES ADOPT program,

with proven effectiveness in procedure adoption, will lead the way into the future to meet these challenges.

WE R SAGES (WRS)

Dana Telem, MD, WRS Task Force Chair

The vision of the newly created We R SAGES (WRS) task force is to "foster innovation through diversity." At SAGES we recognize that the success of our organization hinges on the diversity and inclusion of our amazing membership. Thus, we are creating and implementing policies to ensure the organization is welcoming and providing equitable opportunity for all of our members. This process was initiated with a climate survey that was administered to committee members and leadership of the

organization. Full survey results will be available in Surgical Endoscopy by the 2018 meeting. Overall, SAGES was felt to be an inclusive and welcoming environment. That said, the climate survey did identify three key organizational targets for improvement: organizational advancement and participation, the value and identity of the organization, and the diversity of the organization. Strategies to address these domains are underway as part of the WRS mission in conjunction with the SAGES Board of Governors

and Executive Committee. Dissemination of the climate survey to the membership at large is forthcoming at SAGES 2018 and we hope that you will participate!

at the SAGES Annual Meeting

Bringing *i*nnovators, *i*nvestors, and *i*ndustry together to foster innovative and emerging technologies that benefit our patients

i³ Passholder Track Schedule

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM	i³ Session Chair: Matthew Hutter, MD Co-Chair: Paresh Shah, MD & Aurora Pryor, MD A session in the i3 track where Innovators, Investors and Industry learn from speakers and panelists about how to bring a technology from idea to prototype to startup to buy out. The focus will be on partnering while protecting your interests and getting results, with the goal of FDA approval and eventually reimbursement by payers/insurers.	i ³ Room
9:00 AM - 9:45 AM	Karl Storz Lecture	General Session
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Networking Break	Exhibit Hall
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	i³ Guided Tours Guided tours of the industry hall will provide an unfiltered expert opinions on the latest products and services on the market.	Exhibit Hall
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	i³ Networking Lunch	i ³ Room
1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Emerging Techonologies Session	General Session
3:30 PM - 4:00 PM	Happy Half Hour	i ³ Room
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM	Shark Tank Chairs: Mike Kochman, MD & Jeffrey Marks, MD A venue for novel ideas and innovation, the Shark Tank forum is to be an opportunity for innovators and companies to show case their non-marketed innovative ideas and concepts. This venue will allow for you and your company to receive feedback from an expert panel of innovators, investors, and larger companies in a safe environment to assist in the success of your concept. APPLICATIONS FOR SHARK TANK NOW OPEN! APPLY HERE BY MARCH 21ST, 2018: https://www.sages2018.org/shark-tank-application-questions/	i ³ Room

How to REGISTER :

i³ Only Registration <i>Does not include access to world congress sessions or social events</i> ONLINE: http://www.cvent.com/d/m5qx3y?ct=252e18d8-2567-40ab-893d-5bfb4531bc35	US\$599
Include i³ as an add on to your SAGES Annual Meeting Registration ONLINE: https://www.cvent.com/events/sages-cags-16th-world-congress/registration-63c4bf976200437fadf748a34ab512a0.aspx	US\$125
You may also contact: SAGES Registrar • 11300 W. Olympic Blvd., Ste. 600 • Los Angeles, CA 90064 Phone: 310.437.0544 ext. 128 • Fax: 310.437.0585 • E-mail: registration@sages.org	

SAGES ENDORSED COURSES

Framework for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Courses for Practicing Surgeons: The New SAGES Course Endorsement System and Online Application

SAGES framework for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) courses for practicing surgeons is a course endorsement system that offers a framework upon which coursework for CPD educational activities may be developed. It provides both educational policy and practical guidelines for designing such programs. Individual societies or institutions can use the online application to apply for endorsement for the various courses created using this framework.

[Review the framework here.](#)

[Apply online here](#)

Authors: Iman Ghaderi MD, John Paige MD, Erin Schwarz, Michael Fu

IRCAD-EITS Course

[Find out more about the IRCAD-EITS course here](#)

Director: Jacques Marescaux, MD, FRCS

MISS Conference

[Find out more about the MISS Conference Course here](#)

Director: Philip R. Schauer, MD

SAVE THE DATE

Consensus Development Conference on Prevention of Bile Duct Injury During Cholecystectomy

Saturday, October 20, 2018 • Boston, MA

Immediately prior to the 2018 ACS Clinical Congress

Presented by SAGES, AHPBA, EAES, IHPBA, and SSAT



Sponsored by:

SAGES Education and Research Foundation



For more information, visit
www.sages.org/bdi-consensus-development-conference

Join us in Boston, Massachusetts for a Consensus Development Conference on Prevention of Bile Duct Injury During Cholecystectomy

taking place on Saturday,
October 20, 2018, immediately
prior to the 2018 ACS
Clinical Congress.

The conference will provide
a detailed evidence-based
review of the current challenges
and advances in reducing
bile duct injuries (BDI) that
occur during laparoscopic
cholecystectomy and result in
recommendations that should
have a significant impact on

future surgical practice and
surgical research in this field.

International experts
will convene to focus on
management strategies and
techniques surgeons can
employ to reduce the incidence
of this complication across the
entire spectrum of gallstone
disease, with the goal of
establishing best practices
and improve patient safety
for this common operation.
The consensus conference
proceedings will be used to
generate practice guidelines
manuscripts for publication
in major surgical journals.

The conference, jointly hosted
by the Society of American
Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic
Surgeons (SAGES), Americas
Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary
Association (AHPBA), the
International HPB Association
(IHPBA), the Society for Surgery
of the Alimentary Tract (SSAT),
and the European Association of
Endoscopic Surgeons (EAES),
is expected to attract general
surgeons, GI, HPB, community
and international surgeons and
will be open to the public.
For more information,
[please visit this link.](#)

THE WINNERS ARE...

*Congratulations to the 2017 SAGES New Member Recruitment Campaign winners: **Dr. R. K. Mishra** and **Dr. Andrew Wright**. Both winners will receive FREE registration to the SAGES 2018 conference. First runner-up is **Dr. Luca Milone**, who will receive a \$100 Amazon gift card.*

Win Free Registration to SAGES 2019 Annual Meeting

SAGES 2018 New Member Drive ends December 14, 2018.

We are once again challenging members to encourage your colleagues to join SAGES. For every new member you refer this year, your name will be entered into a drawing to win one of multiple prizes, including the grand prize, FREE registration for SAGES 2019 Annual Meeting March 13-16, 2019 in Baltimore, MD.

There are two ways to participate:

1. Bring your colleagues to the SAGES Membership Booth to apply on-site at the Washington State Convention Center, Seattle, WA April 11-13, or at the American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress later this year. Be sure to have your colleagues list you as their "SAGES Sponsor" for your name to be entered into the drawing.
2. Direct your colleagues to complete a membership application online at www.sages.org/membership/ no later than Friday, December 14, 2018, and remind them to list you as their "SAGES Sponsor", for your name to be included in the drawing.

Winners will be announced Friday, January 14, 2019

Please contact Member Services at membership@sages.org or call (310) 437-0544, ext. 110 if you have questions. Good luck!

BECOME A SAGES CHAMPION

The SAGES Champions Program was launched in 2017, with the goal of enlisting one SAGES member at every North American medical institution to serve as a liaison to the SAGES Membership Committee. SAGES Champions develop and enhance positive, productive relationships with SAGES, assisting to recruit and engage surgeons, faculty, residents, medical students and health professions to SAGES while communicating the particular needs and interests of the members to SAGES leadership.

Responsibilities include:

- Send communications regarding SAGES award nominations and grant submissions.
- Attend the SAGES Annual Meeting, and participate in membership-sponsored events like the Townhalls, Meet the Leadership reception, and other activities.
- Present an introductory power point presentation about SAGES to medical

students and residents at your institution.

- Encourage abstract submission and Annual Meeting participation.

Requirements:

- At the time of appointment, the proposed SAGES Champion must be an Active member in good standing.

To apply to become a SAGES Champion, [complete an online application here](#).

Please contact SAGES Member Services Department if you have any questions at 310-437-0544, ext 110.

THANK YOU TO OUR CURRENT CHAMPIONS

Husain Abbas
Cheguevara Afaneh
Edward Auyang
Michael Awad
Andrew Bates
Ajay Bhandarwar
Curtis Bower
Judy Chen
Jennifer Choi

Eric Davies
Raj Gajbhiye
Erin Gilbert
Sujata Gill
Brandon Grover
Alexis Grucela
Sara Hennessy
William Hope
Ryan Horsley
Shaneeta Johnson
Rohan Joseph
Mark Kadowaki
Leena Khaitan
Steven Leeds
Michael Marohn
Erin Moran-Atkin
Giuseppe Nigri
Kristin Noonan
Chintan Patel
Jonathan Pearl
Sarah Popek
Jennifer Preston
Michael Pucci
John Rodriguez
John Scott Roth
Fady Saleh
Peter Senatore
Timothy Snow
Kevin Wasco
Yusuke Watanabe
Eric Weiss
Parker Brett

A NEW PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN AWS & SAGES

Kenric Murayama, MD, SAGES Membership Committee Chair

Improving inclusion and diversity within the surgical community continues to be a major SAGES initiative, making a positive difference in countless ways to our field, our practices, and our patients. A new member partnership has been formed to help address this issue within our society and give our members a great opportunity to support women surgeons.

This exciting venture will partner SAGES with the Association of Women Surgeons (AWS), one of the largest associations encouraging and empowering women surgeons to realize their professional and personal goals. The key component of the partnership will provide an incentive for practicing surgeons who are members of AWS or SAGES to join the other society with a 30% discount on 2018 membership dues. Additionally, the new members who register for the other association's Annual Meeting will be given another 30% discount on 2019 membership dues.

This is a genuine "win-win" opportunity for both groups. SAGES will benefit because more women surgeons will join our ranks, bringing their great expertise, energy and perspective to our mission. AWS will benefit because more surgeons will

join their ranks, supporting pay equity, reducing workplace bias, and eradicating obstacles women face in the male-dominated surgical field.

The partnership started February 1, 2018, and more details are available at www.sages.org, www.womensurgeons.org, or by contacting the membership staff at either association.

P.S. Yes, AWS membership is open to both women and men. I'm thrilled about becoming a proud member of the Association of Women Surgeons!



SAGES AMBASSADORS

A call went out and SAGES members answered

We wanted the World Congress to be special this year and bring in surgeons from around the globe. To help get the message out, SAGES sent out an email seeking volunteers. We had a tremendous response. Ambassadors encouraged abstract submission, recruited surgeons to the Annual Meeting, and answered questions. This year the Ambassadors will proceed in the Opening Ceremony.

If you were not selected this year as an Ambassador, we may ask you again in the future. Some countries had numerous volunteers.

Maria Bailez - Argentina

Alberto Ferreres - Argentina

Geoff Kohn - Australia

Karl Miller - Austria

Giovanni Dapri - Belgium

Armando Melani - Brazil

Bruno Zilberstein - Brazil

Domingo Montalvo - Chile

Minhua Zheng - China

Evelyn Dorado Alban - Columbia

Hany El-Barbary - Egypt

Karl Fuchs - Germany

Tsalis Konstantinos - Greece

Wai Lun Law - Hong Kong

Brij Agarwal - India

Ajay Bhandarwar - India

Pawanindra Lal - India

Issam Hassan - Iraq

Kevin Conlon - Ireland

Yoav Mintz - Israel

Giuseppe Nigri - Italy

Yusuke Watanabe - Japan

Manabu Yamamoto - Japan

Pankaj Jani - Kenya

Ho-Seong Han - Korea

Ali Aljewaied - Kuwait

Hussein Faour - Kuwait

Faek Jamali - Lebanon

Sze Li Siow - Malaysia

Jose Luis Beristain-Hernandez - Mexico

Juan Pablo Pantoja - Mexico

Jaap Bonjer - Netherlands

Adewale Adisa - Nigeria

Chukwunonso Agogbua - Nigeria

Qamaruddin Baloch - Pakistan

Muhammad Waris
Farooka - Pakistan

Francisco Berrospi - Peru

Edmundo Inga-Zapata - Peru

Miguel Mendoza - Philippines

Vivencio Villaflor - Philippines

Moneer Almadani - Saudi Arabia

Alenazi Naif - Saudi Arabia

Davide Lomanto - Singapore

Ricard Corcelles - Spain

Amador Garcia Ruiz
de Gorde - Spain

Art Hiranyakas - Thailand

Khunpugdee Saipan - Thailand

Senol Carilli - Turkey

Mohd Yasser Kayyal - UAE

Niraj Khetan - UK

THANK YOU REVIEWERS OF DISTINCTION

SAGES thanks the following *Surgical Endoscopy* Journal Reviewers of Distinction, all of whom completed more than 10 reviews in 2017. Dr. Talamini, SAGES editor-in-chief for the journal, wrote recently to the reviewers:

"The peer review process is not perfect, but it works surprisingly well. While reviewing is often an educational process for the reviewer, it is volunteer work. The journal could not function without your reviews. Again, we are very grateful. A set of reviewers each year goes well above and beyond, reviewing on a regular basis."

Thank you for your superb service to SAGES and the journal!

Ferdinando Agresta
Marco Allaix
Mazen Al-Mansour
Antoniuo Stavros
Hideo Baba
Nikolai Bildzukewicz
James Bittner

Collin Brathwaite
Fredrick Brody
L. Michael Brunt
Peter Cataldo
Eugene Ceppa
Julietta Chang
David Chen
Eugene Cho
Yong Choi
Nathan Curtis
Gregory Dakin
Diana Diesen
Christopher DuCoin
Rym El Khoury
James Ellsmere
Zhining Fan
Fausto Fiocca
Pascal Fuchshuber
Michitaka Fujiwara
Michela Giullii Capponi
Ross Goldberg
Takuji Gotoda
Jon Gould
Andrew Gumbs
Jeffrey Hawel
Alex Hawkins
Amelia Hessheimer
Rana Higgins
Yu Jin Kim
Matthew Kroh
Anne Lidor

Roberto Lo Tesoriere
Jeffrey Marks
Luca Milone
Peter Nau
Eric Pauli
Benjamin Poulouse
David Renton
Ricardo Robles
David Saavedra-Perez
Konstantinos Spaniolas
Dana Telem
Anthony Teoh
Yosuke Tsuji
David Urbach
Tracy Wang