



MESSAGES

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Monthly Electronic SCOPE 2.0

November 2020

A Message from SAGES President Dr. Horacio Asbun

As I enter my eighth month as SAGES president, it appears surreal that my whole presidency has been basically virtual. We're still battling the COVID virus and largely interacting in a virtual world, but despite so, SAGES has found ways to thrive throughout the pandemic and tried to capitalize on anything good that can come out of it.



In lieu of meeting together at the ACS Clinical Congress, we had 42 virtual committee meetings last month and just convened our Board meeting. SAGES remains alive, vibrant and active as ever, now representing 7,100 members worldwide. We have made tremendous strides in our strategic plan in less than a year, which you can read about [here](#).

IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES

Grant Applications
Deadline
December 15

ABSITE Review-Part 1
Free Webinar
December 15

SAGES 2021 Meeting, Las
Vegas
June 15-18

SAGES Free Resident Webinar - ABSITE Review Part 1 Tuesday, December 15 (7pm-9pm ET)

We are continuing our partnership with our webinar co-host, the Surgical Council on Resident Education (SCORE), to include the most up-to-date, high quality, multiple choice questions from the SCORE curriculum outline. Webinar chair Dr. Michael Awad and panelists will address key topics covered in the exam and use an interactive Q&A format and audience response system to drive discussion. Topics covered include: 1) Esophagus, Stomach, Obesity; 2) General Abdomen, Hernia, Spleen; 3) Colorectal & Anal Disease; and, 4) Small Intestine, Biliary Disease, Flexible Endoscopy.

You can register [here](#) today. And Save the Date and look for upcoming registration details for "ABSITE Review - Part 2" on Tuesday, January 12, 2021.

Grant Award Applications Open, Applications Due December 15

Applications for the SAGES Research Grant Award (up to \$30,000) are currently open to any principal investigator who is a current SAGES member, including Candidate members. Please read all [guidelines](#) carefully.

Applications for the SAGES Robotic Surgery Research Grants (up to \$50,000) are also open to any principal investigator who is a current SAGES member, including Candidate members. The purpose of these grants is to stimulate original research in robotic surgery focused on the use of robotic surgery for procedures *other than* colorectal surgical procedures. Please read all the guidelines carefully.

The deadline for all applications is **December 15, 2020 at 11:59 PM PT**. Please email questions to research@sages.org.

New Guidelines Posted on the SAGES website

Please visit the SAGES website for the new guidelines below:

- Guidelines for the Use of Peroral Endoscopic Myotomy (POEM) for the Treatment of Achalasia (July 2020)
- Is Per-oral Endoscopic Myotomy (POEM) More Effective than Pneumatic Dilation and Heller myotomy? A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis (July 2020)
- Surgical Treatment of GERD: Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis (coming soon)



Lessons From the Pandemic on Burnout and the Practice of Surgery

COVID-19 Reset: SAGES Paper Published in Surgical Endoscopy

An abstract written by members of SAGES' Reimagining the Practice of Surgery task force has been published in *Surgical Endoscopy*. The paper addresses physician burnout and the effect that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has had on elective surgery practices, and also allows for reflective opportunities and a resetting of priorities.

SAGES Member Spotlight

Dr. Mark Alan Dobbertien, DO FACS

"SAGES has been a big part of my professional and personal life since I began residency at the University of Illinois Metropolitan Group Hospitals Residency in General Surgery in 1987. My professors believed strongly that endoscopy is best performed by surgeons and that skill should be part and parcel of any full scope general surgery residency.

SAGES continues to lead all organizations with content on endoscopy and MIS surgery, and leads in safety, best practices, research and education. I have had the great opportunity to present my work at SAGES meetings as an Advocacy Committee member."

If you'd like to be considered for our



Retired naval surgeon Dr. Mark Dobbertien with his family

Member Spotlight, please send your submission to julie@sages.org.

Have a suggestion for MesSAGES? Please submit your comments to julie@sages.org.

[SCOPE Archives](#)

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