It's Springtime at SAGES: Important Announcements, Dates and Deadlines

It was great to see so many of you in Denver last month! A reminder that whether you were unable to attend certain sessions or unable to travel, you've got until December 31, 2022 to access on demand content and CME credits.

All attendees - whether previously registered or registering for the first time here - can access virtual content at https://www.sages2022.org/get-the-app. For more information about CME credits, please go here.

In this month’s issue: RAFT award winners and upcoming webinar; registration for the NBT Innovation Weekend in Houston; committee assignments; SAGES podcast interview with Dr. Rick Greene-and more!

IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES

- SAGES Committee Volunteer Deadline
  April 30, 2022
- SAGES Free Resident Webinar
  May 3, 2022
- NBT Innovation Weekend
  - Houston
  June 9-11, 2022
- WCES 2022
  Oct 5-8, 2022
- SAGES 2023 - Montreal
  March 29-April 1, 2023

SAGES Announces Dr. John Mellinger as President and Dr. Patricia Sylla President-Elect

Congratulations and a warm welcome to SAGES 2022-23 President Dr. John Mellinger and President-elect Dr. Patricia Sylla.

"I am humbled and honored to be entrusted with the privilege of stewarding this role for SAGES," said Dr. Mellinger. "This society has made unparalleled contributions to my own development as a surgeon, and to sustaining my professional joy over the course of my career. No other community has been as welcoming to new members and young colleagues, nor has any other contributed as SAGES has to surgical education and innovation in recent decades." You can read Dr. Mellinger's full presidential message here.
Many members regularly refer to SAGES as family. For Dr. James — better known as "Butch" — Rosser, SAGES is the Jedi Club for cutting edge laparoscopic surgeons.

Since joining SAGES in the early 90s as a young attending surgeon in Ohio, Dr. Rosser's ongoing participation has elevated him to Jedi Master status. His interest and focus on technology, innovation and education has kept him involved in a number of committees as well as the SAGES board and annual meeting. He's been active creating training videos for the meeting's Learning Center, and for the last decade, has been the chair of the Mini Med School.

To read more about Dr. Rosser, please go [here](#). To learn more about SAGES membership and access an online application form, please go [here](#).

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**SAGES NBT INNOVATION WEEKEND**

The SAGES Next Big Thing is a combination of the 2-day Surgical Disruptive Technology Summit and the NOSCAR meeting. For those who have attended in the past, participants know that the SDTS Summit is designed to be a different type of surgical meeting. It is a place where industry and providers can have an open dialogue about innovations in surgical technology and surgical practice. Click [here](#) for more info, agendas and to register.

**Deadline to Request SAGES Committee Assignments is April 30**

Looking to get more involved in SAGES or serve on a different committee? To request to join a committee or change committee assignments, please go [here](#) and follow instructions to access the form.

**RAFT Committee Awards at SAGES 2022**

The purpose of these awards is to encourage the development of clinical and research-oriented work in the field of general surgery and recognize outstanding abstracts presented by Surgical Residents and Fellows. **Congratulations to the 2022 Winners!**

**Best Resident/Fellow Abstract Presentation Award** delivered during the
plenary/symposium/general meeting session:
1. Richard Garfinkle, MD, PhD; Presentation: BOWEL STIMULATION BEFORE LOOP ILEOSTOMY CLOSURE TO REDUCE POSTOPERATIVE ILEUS: A MULTICENTER, SINGLE-BLINDED, RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL
2. William Gerull, MD; Presentation: ROBOTIC MEDIAN ARCUATE LIGAMENT RELEASE: MANAGEMENT ALGORITHM AND CLINICAL OUTCOMES FROM A LARGE MINIMALLY INVASIVE SERIES
3. Dominique Doster, MD; Presentation: THE AMERICAN BOARD OF SURGERY FLEXIBLE ENDOSCOPY CURRICULUM PREPARES INDIVIDUALS TO PASS THE FUNDAMENTALS OF ENDOSCOPIC SURGERY MANUAL SKILLS TEST

Best Resident/Fellow Scientific Session Presentation Award:
1. Vincent Cheng, MD; Presentation: NON-OPERATIVE MANAGEMENT OF UNCOMPLICATED APPENDICITIS DURING PREGNANCY FAILS FREQUENTLY LEADING TO HIGHER RATES OF MATERNAL AND FETAL COMPLICATIONS
2. Seyed A Arshad, MD, MS; Presentation: READABILITY OF SAGES PATIENT INFORMATION BROCHURES
3. Safiya Al-Masrouri, MD, MSc; Presentation: AMBULATORY BARIATRIC SURGERY: A PILOT STUDY ON LAPAROSCOPIC SLEEVE GASTRECTOMY AS DAY SURGERY

Advocacy and the American Medical Association

Thank you to everyone advocating for our surgical interests and for the best patient care year round! Our voice and advocacy work is heard and amplified by the American Medical Association (AMA). When we have ample co-membership, our delegates and members are able to more effectively advocate for our patients. The AMA is the physician organization with the most influence with the Center for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS), U.S. House of Delegates and the U.S. Senate. Please strongly consider joining the AMA and expanding your support with SAGES. Learn more here.

SAGES Founding Member Dr. Rick Greene Featured on Latest Podcast

Dr. Rick Greene, SAGES founding member and former president, is this month’s featured guest on SAGES Stories. The Virginia native and current senior medical advisor at General Surgery News, covers the gamut: his first radio show at age 14; his shift from pediatrics and cardiac surgery to MIS; the beginning days of SAGES; and, becoming the voice of numerous medical podcasts. You can listen to Dr. Greene and subscribe to SAGES Stories here.