We hope everyone is enjoying some time off and staying cool this summer. Soon enough we’ll be shifting into high gear with all things SAGES 2023!

The theme for the Montreal meeting is Innovation for the sAGES, and session chairs are busy finalizing their programs. In the meantime, details and upcoming deadlines for both the Scientific Session Abstract Submissions and the Emerging Technology Call for Abstracts can be found here.

Once again, a reminder to those who need to renew their passports before the 2023 meeting; don’t wait! The U.S. Passport Office is currently experiencing delays and it may take up to 12 weeks to process and receive your updated passport.

Also in this issue: Call for Awards nominations; GERD Guidelines; spotlight on Dr. Michael Cripps; and, the Gerald Marks podcast.

Gerald Marks Featured on SAGES Stories Podcast

SAGES inaugural president and co-founder Dr. Gerald Marks shares stories about growing up in Philadelphia during the Great Depression, enlisting in the Navy during WWII, and his years of medical training. He also talks about how "being a good, but difficult to control student" helped him become one of the first doctors to perform flexible endoscopy and led to the ultimate formation of SAGES. Please go here to listen to all SAGES podcasts.

SAGES 2023 Awards - Call for Nominations
Open now through September 15th! To recognize great accomplishments of our colleagues, we hope that you participate in this process so that we may honor those who have contributed a great deal to surgery and to SAGES. Please visit the following website to review individual awards and submit nominees at https://www.sages.org/about/awards/.

Nominations are open for the following awards:

- George Berci Lifetime Achievement Award In Endoscopic Surgery
- Pioneer in Surgical Endoscopy
- Kenneth Forde Excellence in Humanistic Clinical Care Award
- International Ambassador
- IRCAD Visiting Fellowship
- Social Justice and Health Equity
- Excellence in Community Surgery
- Distinguished Service
- Early Career Faculty Researcher
- Researcher in Training
- SAGES Foundation - Jeffrey Ponsky Master Educator

If you would like to see someone nominated but don’t have all of the requested information, please complete the initial nomination suggestion form at https://www.sages.org/award-nomination/.

Scholarships are also available; interested parties must submit an application:

- Advocacy Summit
- The Brandeis Scholarship
- SAGES Foundation - Barbara Berci Memorial Award
- SAGES Foundation - Excellence in Medical Leadership
- SAGES Foundation - Dr. Margrét Oddsdóttir Traveling Fellowship

SAGES Member Spotlight
Dr. Michael Cripps

As a fellowship trained Trauma and Acute Care surgeon, Dr. Michael Cripps points out that his membership story is a bit different.

“I have always believed in the benefits of minimally invasive surgery. As a new faculty member, I made a comment during an M&M case that I supported an MIS approach over an open approach for a case, which was a relatively unheard of sentiment for a trauma surgeon. In the audience that day was future SAGES President Dr. Danny Scott who found me after the conference and told me he had a perfect opportunity for me to join SAGES! It was with his encouragement, support, and leadership that the Acute Care Surgery (ACS) committee was formed to help promote the use of MIS in Acute Care Surgery.”

To read more about Dr. Cripps, please go [here](#). To learn more about SAGES membership and access an online application form, please go [here](#).
If you're a SAGES member looking for a way to share your surgical expertise and enhance your professional visibility, SAGES invites you to join the newly launched Speaker Catalog. The catalog will serve as a platform to promote and connect SAGES members for speaking opportunities, both with SAGES and with local, national and even global groups and institutions. Log into your SAGES account, create your online profile and become a member of SAGES Speaker Catalog here.

SAGES GERD Guidelines Available for Public Comment

The SAGES Guidelines Committee has completed its Multi-Society Consensus Conference and Guideline on the Treatment of Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD). This document was prepared and revised by the SAGES Guidelines Committee in partnership with ASMBS, ASGE, STS, SSAT, and EAES. This document has been reviewed and approved by the SAGES Board of Governors.

The document is now available for public review and comment by SAGES members before submitting it for publication. You will need to log in to your SAGES membership account to access the content and comment form. Please provide all comments by July 31 here.

FUSE Workshop Well-Attended at EAES

At their international congress in Krakow, Poland, the EAES showed their ongoing strong commitment for the SAGES FUSE Program. The faculty for the FUSE didactic session and the well attended hands-on booth consisted of both SAGES and EAES faculty: Drs. Pascal Fuchshuber and Kinga Powers (SAGES); and, Drs. Catalin Copascu, Manuel SanchezCasalongue, Bodgan Smeu, Gerald Filip, and Victor Tomulescu (EAES). Drs. Alberto Arezzo and Yoav Mintz are the key FUSE supporters at the EAES leadership level.

Minimally Invasive & Bariatric Surgery Career Development Symposium

This 4th annual event, endorsed by SAGES, provides Minimally Invasive and Bariatric Surgery fellows from around the country with 2 days of career and personal development led by practicing general and bariatric surgeons. Interactive talks cover a variety of topics including finding a job, negotiating your worth, choosing an academic vs private practice, work life balance and learning from your mistakes. View the entire program here. Register today here.

A huge thanks to Dr. Pon Satitpunwaycha for yet another incredibly generous gift to SAGES Foundation in support of SAGES innovative technology for Global outreach. SAGES owes a debt of gratitude to Dr. Pon for his previous transformative gifts in support of our Global, OWLS and technology in education initiatives. We extend our deepest gratitude again for his most recent contribution.