

Scope



Summer, 2007
Volume 07, Issue 2

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



SAGES President
Steve Eubanks, MD

A Broader Perspective

The times in which we live allow us to communicate frequently with friends around the world. Through the Internet we can communicate with colleagues from other countries throughout the day at essentially no cost. Telephone service is available in even the most remote areas through satellite and cellular phones (although several “dead spots” remain inside my own hospital). International travel is routine for many of us. Surgeons around the world read many of the same books and journals. SAGES now has more than 5700 members with 84 countries represented. The most recent SAGES annual meeting, held in Las Vegas included more than 2400 participants from 62 countries. Whether by intent or default, we are an international organization with a global sphere of influence. Equally or more important is the influence of the rest of the world upon SAGES.

A greater focus on SAGES’ role in the international community will be a priority in the coming year. We will work to strengthen existing relationships with other laparoscopy and gastrointestinal surgery societies around the world. This will be accomplished through many avenues. One such example is the establishment of a formal presence at the annual meeting in other countries with a reciprocal agreement for a like number of surgeon representatives from that country to participate in SAGES annual meeting. International opportunities in research and open innovation will be explored and pursued. We have been fortunate to recently witness a more global perspective from some of our closest industry partners and some of the artificial barriers to international collaboration have been removed. Dramatic changes are occurring in the management of many disease processes and combining the creative abilities of

SAGES members with the innovative work of our international colleagues provides a setting in which unprecedented progress in the care of surgical patients can be achieved.

SAGES members have much to learn from our colleagues around the world. Centers exist in the Far East where the volume of specific cases far exceeds those experienced in any North American center. Innovation and creativity are often born out of necessity and advances are occurring in seemingly unlikely parts of the world. We are fortunate as SAGES members to have access to significant resources and wish to use some of those resources to help establish training centers for minimally invasive surgery in parts of the world where education and equipment for laparoscopy have been limited. The Program for the Americas was launched last year and will be expanded this year with efforts in Eastern Europe, thereby creating SAGES Global Initiative.

—Steve Eubanks, MD

Reminder!

If your contact information has changed recently (address, phone, fax, e-mail), you may easily update it online. Just go to www.sages.org and access the members’ area to make any changes to your information.

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SAGES 2007 - 2008 Slate of Officers

Officers and Members of the Executive Committee:



◀ **PRESIDENT**
Steve Eubanks, MD

PRESIDENT-ELECT ▶
Mark Talamini, MD



◀ **1ST VICE PRESIDENT**
(2 year term)
Steve Schwartzberg, MD

2ND VICE PRESIDENT ▶
(2 year term) Jo Buyske, MD



◀ **SECRETARY**
(3 year term)
W. Scott Melvin, MD

TREASURER ▶
(3 year term)
Gerald Fried, MD



Board Members—Three-Year Terms:

Re-Appointments:

Horacio Asbun, MD	Brian Dunkin, MD
Mark Callery, MD (2 year term, fulfilling unexpired term of Dr. Schwartzberg)	Michael Holzman, MD
	William Richards, MD
	C. Daniel Smith, MD

New Members:

Craig Albanese, MD
Michael Edye, MD
Ninh Nguyen, MD
Brant Oelschlager, MD
(1 year term, fulfilling unexpired term of Dr. Fried)

Our thanks to the following Board members, who completed their terms of service in April, 2007:

Dennis Fowler, MD	Lee Swanstrom, MD
Steven Rothenberg, MD	William Traverso, MD
Nathaniel Soper, MD	

2007 - 2008 Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs

Assets/Finance:

Finance Chair: Gerald Fried, MD
Assets Chair: Barry Salky, MD

Awards:

Chair: Bruce Schirmer, MD

By-Laws:

Chair: Brent Matthews, MD

Conflict of Interest Task Force (CITF):

Chair: C. Daniel Smith, MD

Continuing Education:

Chair: L. Michael Brunt, MD
Co-Chair: Dennis Fowler, MD

Development:

Chair: Kathrin Troppmann, MD
Co-Chair: Sherry Wren, MD

Educational Resources:

Chair: Daniel Jones, MD
Co-Chair: Kenric Murayama, MD

Endolumenal Task Force:

Chair: David Rattner, MD
Co-Chair: Jeffrey Ponsky, MD

Flexible Endoscopy:

Chair: Thadeus Trus, MD
Co-Chair: Daniel Scott, MD

FES:

Chair: Jeffrey Marks, MD
Co-Chair: Brian Dunkin, MD

FLS:

Chair: Nathaniel Soper, MD
Co-Chair: Gerald Fried, MD

Guidelines:

Chair: Robert Fanelli, MD
Co-Chair: William Richardson, MD

Legislative:

Chair: Eli Lerner, MD
Co-Chair: Mark Pleatman, MD

Membership:

Chair: Fredrick Brody, MD
Co-Chair: Peter Marcello, MD

Nominating:

Chair: Steven Wexner, MD

Outcomes:

Chair: John Morton, MD
Co-Chair: Vic Velanovich, MD

Program:

Chair: Steven Schwartzberg, MD
Co-Chair: Michael Holzman, MD

Public Information:

Chair: Bruce Ramshaw, MD
Co-Chair: Alfons Pomp, MD

Publications:

Chair: Frederick Greene, MD
Co-Chair: Desmond Birkett, MD

Research:

Chair: Blair Jobe, MD
Co-Chair: Aurora Pryor, MD

Resident Education:

Chair: Raymond Onders, MD
Co-Chair: Leena Khaitan, MD

Technology:

Chair: Michael Marohn, MD
Co-Chair: Ronald Clements, MD

Liaison Groups

Bariatric:

Chair: Ninh Nguyen, MD
Co-Chair: Matthew Hutter, MD

Ethics:

Chair: Peter Crookes, MD
Co-Chair: Phillip Shadduck, MD

International Relations:

Chair: Raul Rosenthal, MD
Co-Chair: Dimitrios Linos, MD

Pediatric:

Chair: Carroll "Mac" Harmon, MD
Co-Chair: Timothy Kane, MD

Non-voting advisor(s) to the Board:

Desmond Birkett, MD
Kenneth Forde, MD
Jeffrey Ponsky, MD

Starion Instruments Advertisement

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2007 SAGES Grant Award Recipients

Name: Anthony T. Petrick, MD
Institution: Geisinger Medical Center
Project Title: "Hepatic Iron Overload in the Morbidly Obese"
Supported by: Autosuture/Valleylab a Division of TYCO

Name: William R. Brugge, MD
Institution: Massachusetts General Hospital
Project Title: "Leak Elimination After Pancreatic Stenting, a Randomized Controlled Trial (LEAPS Trial)"
Supported by: Autosuture/Valleylab a Division of TYCO

Name: Ralph Aye, MD
Institution: Swedish Medical Center
Project Title: "Comparative Characteristics of the Normal Gastroesophageal Junction and Gastroesophageal Valve in the Supine and Upright Position"
Supported by: Autosuture/Valleylab a Division of TYCO

Name: Kfir Ben - David, MD
Institution: Duke University Medical Center
Project Title: "Laparoscopic Computer Simulator Versus Usage of Box-Trainer As a Module For Resident Education"
Supported by: Autosuture/Valleylab a Division of TYCO

Name: Michael F. McGee, MD
Institution: Case Western Reserve University & Case Medical Center
Project Title: "Natural Orifice Transluminal Endoscopic Surgery (NOTES™) and Physiologic Stress: A Comparative Study with Diagnostic Peritoneoscopy"
Supported by: Ethicon EndoSurgery, Inc.

Name: Caroline G. L. Cao, MD
Institution: Tufts University
Project Title: "Role of Haptic Feedback and Cognitive Load in Laparoscopic Surgery Performance"
Supported by: Ethicon EndoSurgery, Inc.

Name: Adam Meneghetti, MD
Institution: University of British Columbia
Project Title: "Quantitative Modeling of Surgical Motor Actions"
Supported by: SAGES Foundation

Name: Eric M. Pauli, MD
Institution: Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center
Project Title: "Extended Submucosal Tunneling As A Means of Safe Peritoneal Access for NOTES Procedures"
Supported by: Stryker Endoscopy

ACS-BSCN
 Half Page Ad

SAGES 2008 Award Nominations

SAGES has three major awards which are open for nomination from the general membership. Nomination forms will be reviewed by the Awards Committee prior to the ACS Clinical Congress in October. The Committee will recommend recipients to the Board of Governors during ACS. Awards will then be bestowed upon the recipients during the 2008 SAGES Annual Meeting next year in Philadelphia.

You may obtain a copy of the nomination forms by calling, faxing, or e-mailing Wootae Kim in the SAGES office (Phone: 310-437-0544, Fax: 310-437-0585, E-Mail: admin@sages.org). We encourage you to participate in this process so that we may honor those who have contributed a great deal to endoscopic surgery and to SAGES.

Please submit all nominations no later than September 14, 2007.

The awards that are open for your nomination are:

Pioneer in Endoscopy Award

- The award is designated for a person in industry, or a physician/surgeon.
- The award will be given to an individual, not to a company.
- The award will be granted for a significant, long-term scientific or technological contribution to the field of surgical endoscopy.
- The award will not be given every year, but bestowed when the Board determines a worthy nominee. It is intended for those whose efforts have substantively changed and improved the field of endoscopy.
- One person may not receive the award twice, as it is for a body of work as opposed to an individual achievement.
- Past winners include: Karl Storz 1995, Bob Quint 1997, Robert Anderson 1999, William Chang and Richard Newman 2001, Kurt Semm 2002, Basil Hirshowitz 2003, George Berci, 2004, Jeffrey Ponsky, 2005, Gregory Stiegmann, 2006, John Abele, 2007.

The George Berci Lifetime Achievement Award in Endoscopic Surgery

- This is the highest honor SAGES bestows.
- It is bestowed for a lifetime contribution as an innovator in the field of endoscopic surgery, which may be scientific, technological or educational.
- It is designated to be granted to an endoscopic surgeon who may or may not be a member of SAGES.
- The award will not necessarily be given every year, but bestowed when the Board determines a worthy nominee.
- Past winners include: Sir Alfred Cuschieri in 2001, Gerald Marks in 2004, Kenneth Forde in 2005, George Berci in 2006.

SAGES Annual IRCAD Visiting Fellowship Award

Sponsored by Karl Storz Endoscopy

This Award is designated to give a fellow the opportunity to study at IRCAD, a private institute that is dedicated to the valorization of basic research against cancer. The visiting fellow will attend a two or three day intensive course and will receive a certificate upon completion. The Award is available to an Active or Candidate member of SAGES, who is enrolled in a Fellowship Council recognized fellowship program.

Karl Storz will provide for all of the expenses (i.e. room/board, transportation and the cost of the course) for the award winner to attend the course at the IRCAD/EITS Facility.

The winner will be chosen by the SAGES Awards Committee based on merit and their desire to attend. The Applicant must submit the following by the September 14, 2007 deadline:

- One page statement of why they want to attend the course
- Copy of their current Curriculum Vitae
- Note from their Program Director

Best Resident or Fellow Presentation Awards

SAGES Resident Education Committee would like to congratulate the following surgeons-in-training for winning Best Resident or Fellow Presentation Awards at the 2007 Annual Meeting:

Best Resident or Fellow Presentation Award – Resident and Fellows Scientific Session

1st Place – Michael Amendola, MD - “A New Management Algorithm for Esophageal Perforation”

Best Resident or Fellow Presentation Award – Scientific Session: Top 5

Dan Eisenberg, MD - “Medically-Supervised Diets are Not Superior to Other Dietary Interventions Prior to Weight Loss Surgery”

Teresa LaMasters, MD - “Use of Local Anesthetic Infusion Pump in Laparoscopic Roux-en-y Gastric Bypass: A Prospective Double-Blinded Randomized Placebo Controlled Trial”

Michael McGee, MD - “Infectious Complications of Natural Orifice Transluminal Endoscopic Surgery (NOTES) with Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy (PEG) Tube Closure: A Quantitative Bacteriologic Study in the Porcine Model”

Richard Nguyen, MD - “Objective Outcome Analysis of Currently Available Gastro-Esophageal Reflux Disease (GERD) Treatments”

Craig Taylor, MD - “Prospective Randomised Trial of Mesh Fixation in 500 Laparoscopic Totally Extra-Peritoneal Herniorrhaphies”

2007 Awards Luncheon A Winning Success

The SAGES Education and Research Foundation gratefully thanks all those who participated at the recent 2007 Awards Luncheon which was held this past April during the SAGES Annual Meeting. In addition to recognizing top leaders and up-and-coming surgeons in the minimally invasive field, this first-time event helped to raise \$35,000 in funds to advance minimally invasive surgical care and technology! The event was a great success and everyone involved, especially the sponsors, played a role in making that happen.

Four major awards were presented that afternoon. The Young Researcher Award, supported by **Gyrus ACMI**, was given to Dr.

Atul Madan for his outstanding research and investigation in endoscopy. The **Karl Storz/IRCAD** Fellowship Award was presented to Dr. Kevin Reavis, who will study at the esteemed IRCAD institute in Strasbourg, France. The SAGES Pioneer in Endoscopy Award went to John Abele, Founder and Chairman of **Boston Scientific Corporation**, whose vision and company has helped shape the current face of surgical endoscopy, and the Distinguished Service Award was honorably presented to Dr. Desmond Birkett for his significant educational and clinical contributions to surgical endoscopy and his relentless effort to advance the SAGES mission. Research grants awarded to Drs. Adam Meneghetti, Eric Pauli, and Kfir Ben-David by industry and the SAGES Foundation were also announced.

Industry support was instrumental in making the Awards Luncheon a success, so the SAGES Foundation would especially like to acknowledge **Allergan** and **Richard Wolf Medical Instruments** for their \$5,000 Honorary Sponsorship, and the following four \$2,500 Patron Sponsors: **General Surgery News**, **Karl Storz Endoscopy**, **Pinnacle CME Tours**, and **Salix Pharmaceuticals**.

SAGES Foundation Legacy Donors

Supporters of the SAGES Education and Research Foundation often become even more devoted to its mission with each passing year. They understand the investment they are making in the future of minimal access surgery and some will go the extra mile to dedicate themselves to this cause. Legacy Benefactors are those who have pledged to give to the SAGES Foundation annually during their lifetime. **We would like to thank in particular the following donors for making a very special lifetime commitment as a Legacy Benefactor.**

Desmond Birkett, MD	Jeffrey Peters, MD
Frederick Greene, MD	Jeffrey Ponsky, MD
Sung-Tao Ko, MD	Bruce Schirmer, MD
Eli Lerner, MD	

Special Donor Recognition: Dr. Pon Satitpunwaycha

The SAGES Foundation supporters are truly some of the most devoted donors of any organization. Dr. Pon Satitpunwaycha is certainly an example of that. A SAGES member since 1994, Dr. Pon (as he likes to be called) made his first pledge to the Foundation in 1999, the same time he joined the Membership Committee. Giving regularly and loyally every year, he surprised us all with a \$100,000 donation last October! When asked about such a significant and generous gift, he responded simply, "The SAGES Foundation is very important to the work that we do. Without SAGES, I don't know where I would be. I would like to support our profession as much as I can. And we must set an example for others to give as well." Dr. Pon has most certainly set an example, and we wholeheartedly thank him for this wonderful gift! **See Contribution Form on p. 20.**

Summer Fling 2007!



Get out your lounge chairs and beach towels and prepare to celebrate those hot, lazy days of summer with the SAGES Foundation by...not doing a darn thing! For the first time ever, the SAGES Foundation is holding a phantom event in which you're invited **not** to show up.

How many times have you received an invitation to a fundraising event? Probably too many to count. Well, the SAGES Foundation invites you to support the advancement of endoscopy and laparoscopy, not by coming to yet another event, but by staying at home! At the Summer Fling, you'll never have to eat a rubber chicken meal, worry about balancing a plate of unfulfilling finger foods with a glass of wine, or search for parking space in a crowded lot. You can sit back and relax at home with a cocktail. We'll even provide the little umbrella toothpicks for you if you request it!

"Tickets" are \$75 each and may be purchased online or via snail mail if you already received your invitation. For further information, visit the SAGES Foundation website at: www.sagesfoundation.org.

Salix Pharmaceutical Ad #1

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Salix Pharmaceutical Ad #2

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SAGES 2008

Surgical Spring Week

April 9 - 12, 2008

Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA

Call for Abstracts

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS
SEPTEMBER 14, 2007**

Dear Colleagues,

You are invited to submit paper and video abstracts to the SAGES 2008 Scientific Session. The meeting will be held April 9-12, in Philadelphia, PA at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. **You must be a member of SAGES or have a member of SAGES sponsor you to submit an abstract.**

The program will consist of long (10 minutes) and short (5 minutes) oral presentations, long (10 minutes) and short (7 minutes) video presentations, and poster presentations. The program committee will be responsible for selecting the length of the oral and video presentations.

All Oral & Poster abstracts **MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE**. Also, if selected for a Poster Presentation, a **DIGITAL POSTER SUBMISSION WILL BE REQUIRED**. Please visit www.sages.org/abstracts for instructions.

Video abstracts must be mailed to the SAGES office along with submitting a brief summary of the video via our on line system. All Videos must be submitted on CD-ROM. For complete digital guidelines and video submission instructions, etc., please visit www.sages.org/abstracts

***Important Notice: The following Abstract Submission Policies will be firmly enforced –**

- **No Previously Published Submission:** The abstract submitted must present original work that has not and will not be published or presented prior to the 2008 SAGES meeting.
- **No Dual Submissions:** The abstract submitted must not have been submitted to any subsequent meeting in North America.
- **No Previously Presented Abstracts:** All abstracts must be new and original content OR include at least 50% new data if previously presented at a meeting.
- **Manuscript Submission:** Accepted Oral Abstract Presenters must submit a complete manuscript to *Surgical Endoscopy*.

If you have any questions, please contact the SAGES office at 310-437-0544 • FAX: 310-437-0585 or email: abstracts@sages.org.



Sincerely,

Adrian Park, MD
2008 Program Chair

SAGES Continuing Education Committee

CME Update

SAGES is pleased to present the following list of CME educational activities. For more information on these offerings, visit <http://www.cine-med.com>.

SAGES Postgraduate Courses

Top to Bottom GERD Video Course

Course Director: Jeffrey Marks, MD

March 2005 – SAGES designates this educational activity for a maximum of 3 AMA PRA Category I Credit(s)[™].

Surgeon in the Digital Age: PDA Workshop for Surgeons

Course Director: Steven Schwaitzberg, MD

March 2005 – (3 AMA PRA Category I Credit(s)[™])

Surgeon in the Digital Age:

Understanding Your Video System

Course Director: Steven Schwaitzberg, MD

October 2005 – (2 AMA PRA Category I Credit(s)[™])

Hands-on Laparoscopic Colon Course & Modern Management of Colon Cancer

Course Director: John Marks, MD

November 2005 – (6 AMA PRA Category I Credit(s)[™])

GERD Controversies and Laparoscopic Complications

Course Director: Daniel Scott, MD

May 2007 – (3.25 AMA PRA Category I Credit(s)[™])

SAGES Grand Rounds

SAGES Grand Rounds Episode I

Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy and Biliary Tract Surgery

SAGES Grand Rounds Episode II

Flexible Endoscopy for General Surgeons

SAGES Grand Rounds Episode III

Laparoscopic Management of Acute/Chronic Abdominal Pain

SAGES Grand Rounds Episode IV

Laparoscopic Management of Tumors of the Colon and Stomach

****SAGES Grand Rounds Episode V**

Controversies and Techniques in Inguinal Hernia

****SAGES Grand Rounds Episode VI**

Bariatric Surgery

2 CME credit hours available per episode.

****These Grand Rounds have just become available!**

Medscape

SAGES joined forces with Medscape at <http://www.medscape.com/partners/sages/public/sages> to bring a new audience information about SAGES. The new page includes the following sections: news, feature articles, editorials, new technology and video education.

SAGES Guidelines Committee

New SAGES Guideline available

- **Guidelines For Training In Diagnostic And Therapeutic Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP)**
- **Guidelines for Deep Venous Thrombosis Prophylaxis During Laparoscopic Surgery**

All current SAGES guidelines are available on the SAGES website. If you are unable to access the guidelines on-line and would like to have a copy sent to you, please contact Yumi Horii at the SAGES office, (310) 437-0544 or via e-mail at Yumi@sages.org

SAGES Flexible Endoscopy Committee

2008 SAGES Regional Course Offerings

Southeastern Surgical Congress Annual Scientific Meeting

New Modalities in Therapeutic Flexible Endoscopy Course Presented by SAGES

Saturday, February 9, 2008, 9:00AM - 2:00PM

Sheraton Birmingham, Birmingham, Alabama

For more information, please visit www.sesc.org

2007 SAGES Flexible Endoscopic Surgery Courses for MIS Fellows

The 2007 Fall SAGES Flexible Endoscopic Surgery Courses for MIS Fellows will take place November, December, and February. The first course will be held in Cleveland, Ohio on November 8-9, 2007 at Case Western Reserve. We are asking Fellowship Directors to nominate one MIS fellow from their program to attend this hands-on course. Only one nominee per program will be accepted and the nominee must be a SAGES Candidate Member. Space is limited and therefore registration will be "first-come-first-served". December and February dates will be announced at a later date. For those selected, SAGES will provide the following: lodging, meals, course fees, and ground transportation. If you are interested, please contact Jacqueline Narváez at the SAGES office at 310-437-0544 ext. 103 or jacqueline@sages.org

FLS

The Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery (FLS) Committee and FLS program continues to make progress and further their mission to provide surgical education and assessment in basic laparoscopy. Many new and exciting developments are coming down the FLS pipeline. FLS 2.0 is currently in the works that will include updated information, new videos, illustrations, patient scenarios and practice test questions. FLS 2.0 will use a web-based platform making it easier for residents/surgeons to access the most up to date information and brush up on their skills.

A new proficiency-based skills curriculum has also been developed that prepares individuals to pass the Manual Skills Test as well as create a feasible and cost-effective *continued on page 11*

tive way to train residents. It will soon be available on the FLS website and you can request a copy from the FLS Office.

Still haven't taken the FLS Test? New FLS Test Centers have been opened up in Honolulu, Cincinnati, Chicago, Dallas, Baltimore and Miami and FLS Testing will be offered at the Clinical Congress this October in New Orleans. Visit www.flsprogram.org to download an order form and see what's happening in the world of FLS. To request a new brochure, subscribe to the FLS Newsletter or if you have any questions, please contact the FLS Office at 310.437-0544 ext 115 or fls@sages.org.

FES

The Fundamentals of Endoscopic Surgery (FES) Committee, Chaired by Jeff Marks and Brian Dunkin, has been making great progress and continues to work hard developing the didactic, manual skills and assessment components of the FES program. The didactic chapters, which will make up the cognitive component of the web-based program, are now in their final stages of review. In March, a retreat was held in Chicago that resulted in the FES Test Blueprint, currently being used to set the parameters and objectives for the cognitive exam. A survey was then sent in August to the SAGES Board and relevant committees to help determine the weight and ratings of these objectives and to validate the appropriateness of the topics chosen. The next steps for FES are the continued development of the hands-on skills training component and the validation of the assessment tool, which will include an upcoming test question writing retreat.

SAGES International Liaison Group

2007 International Traveling Fellowship Award Winners

SAGES and the SAGES International Liaison Group would like to thank **Ethicon EndoSurgery, Inc** for their generous traveling grant.

Jose A. Sallet, MD – Sallet Medical Institute, Brazil

Ke Gong, MD – Beijing Shijitan Hospital, China

Alexander Ramirez Valderrama, MD –

Empresa Social Del Estado Rafael Uribe, Colombia

Satpal S. Virk, MD – Dayanand Medical College & Hospital, India

Safwan A. Taha, MD – Basrah Teaching Hospital, Iraq

American College of Surgeons International Guest Scholarships 2008

The American College of Surgeons offers International Guest Scholarships to competent young surgeons from countries other than the United States or Canada who have demonstrated strong interests in teaching and research. The scholarships, in the amount of \$8,000 each, provide the Scholars with an opportunity to visit clinical, teaching, and research activities in North America and to attend and participate fully in the educational opportunities and activities of the American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress.

This scholarship endowment was originally provided through the legacy left to the College by Dr. Paul R. Hawley (FACS Hon), former College Director. More recently, a bequest from the family of Dr. Abdol Islami (FACS) and gifts from others to the International Guest Scholarship endowment have enabled the College to expand the number of scholarship awards.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.facs.org/memberservices/igs.html>

SAGES Program for the Americas

SAGES Program for the Americas launched with its first course March 26-30, 2007 in Chinandega, Nicaragua! It was then followed by the SAGES-ALACE webcast sessions into Latin America, during SAGES' Surgical Spring Week. More than 600 participants in 9 countries viewed these webcast sessions. Program for the Americas Chairs Ramon Berguer, MD, David Earle, MD, and Raul Rosenthal, MD are looking forward to the two additional courses set to take place later on this year. For those interested in participating as faculty or interested in donating equipment, please contact Jacqueline Narváez at the SAGES office, Jacqueline@sages.org

Update on Surgical Endoscopy

As Chair of the SAGES Publications Committee I am pleased to inform our readership of many exciting changes and improvements in *Surgical Endoscopy*. Over the years our journal has served as the voice of SAGES and has become one of the more widely read journals that deal with gastrointestinal surgery and surgical endoscopy. Our colleagues at Springer continue to work with us and with our editor, Bruce MacFadyen, to create a publication that is truly outstanding.

The overall circulation for *Surgical Endoscopy* continues to increase. During 2006 our journal enjoyed a readership of more than 13,000 who benefited from subscription. This num-

ber included both SAGES and EAES members as well as institutions who are part of a large consortium of institutions that receive electronic copies of our journal over a world wide area. The circulation of the Journal has nearly doubled in the last 5 years. We have enjoyed an increased overall readership especially in the area of electronic "hits". During 2006 there were over 204,000 downloads of full text articles in the Journal and this averaged out at 17,000+ "hits" per month. The full text Journal articles are available on SpringerLink. This website also includes over 1300 journals and over 3000 books which include our SAGES manuals.

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Membership

The SAGES Membership Committee and Board of Governors congratulate 291 new members who joined our ranks in April: 53 Active, 4 Associate Active, 4 Allied Health, 204 Candidate, and 26 International. Welcome to the SAGES family!

Response to the Membership Drive continues to be tremendously successful. This year's Membership Drive award was presented to the George Washington University Medical Faculty Associates, Washington DC, for recruiting 24 new members. The prize is a \$500 voucher for the Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery (FLS) program. Thank you to all members who have taken the time to write recommendation letters and for spreading the word about SAGES. **Remember: the deadline for Fall 2007 applicants is August 31, 2007.** The Membership Drive award and prize will be given to the member who sponsors the most new members in the Fall 2007 and Spring 2008 review cycles. Application files must be complete in order to qualify.

Dr. Tonia Young-Fadok finished her tenure as Membership Committee Chair this April. She became a Membership Committee member in 1998, Co-Chair from 2001 – 2003, and Chair from 2003 – 2006.

Dr. Fredrick Brody, Co-Chair of the Membership Committee since 2003, accepted the Chair position. Dr. Brody joined the Membership Committee in 1997. His transition to Chair will insure the continued success for the SAGES membership.

Dr. Peter Marcello has accepted the Membership Co-Chair position. He began working on the Membership Committee in 2002. Both he and Dr. Brody look forward to working with the SAGES members, welcoming new members, and promoting the benefits of our organization.

Category numbers as of May 2007 are:

Active	3,334
Associate Active	11
Candidate	1,357
International	516
Allied Health	65
Senior	387
Hiatus	16
Honorary	21
Total Membership	5,707

Outcomes

Newsflash – Las Vegas SAGES Annual Meeting and Surgical Spring Week

In a joint meeting of the national ACS/SAGES outcomes alliance the National Surgical Outcomes Database (NSODB) was created. The product of a self reporting tool, the NSODB allows any number of the American College of Surgeons or SAGES to record their individual case log using the same data structure based on synchronized data points from the time tested Residents Case Log, the ACS Fellows Case Log, and the SAGES Outcomes Surgical Log.

The anonymous data will allow a new form of CME that is based on self-assessment linked to evidence-based medicine known as PBLI (Practice Based Learning and Improvement). In addition to participating surgeon will be developing their own reporting tool for maintenance of certification (MOC). Both organizations are developing a report to allow individual participants to report their case experience while applying for recertification.

Publications Committee – continued from page 11

Since the impact factor is an important indicator of the reference of journal articles our publication committee follows this very carefully. During 2006 the Journal was ranked 40 out of 138 titles in the field of surgery, and our impact factor increased to 1.969. Since 2003, most of our cited articles have been in the areas of bariatric surgery, robotic surgery and guidelines such as those represented by the ASGE/SAGES working group on Natural Orifice Translumenal Endoscopic Surgery (NOTES).

You will soon be seeing a new internal design for the Journal and this will be launched during the late summer or early fall 2007. This new design will allow for easier readability, not only in the print form but also online. We hope to have more articles dealing with guidelines and “white papers” dealing with new technology which will be of interest to our members.

One of the significant improvements is the reduction in the overall time that it takes for review and publication of your

submitted articles. Between July and March 2006 the average turnaround time from acceptance of a manuscript to publication in an online format was 66 days. During the same 3 month period in 2007 the average turnaround time was 44 days. Our publisher is committed to reducing this turnaround time potentially to 30 days which will represent a benchmark in the publication world. Remember that for all journals, the online publication date is the publication date of record and articles are included in PubMed as well as other search engines within 48 hours of online publication.

Your Publications Committee joins with me in urging all of our members to submit their best work to our Journal. We continue to look forward to having the excellent papers presented at our annual meeting appear in *Surgical Endoscopy* and also welcome comments of our members and readership as we continue to make progress in our publication ventures.

– Frederick L. Greene, MD

Chairman, SAGES Publications Committee

The 2008 SAGES Research Grant Application

The SAGES Research Grant application is currently available on the SAGES website, www.sages.org. The purpose of these grants is to stimulate original research in gastrointestinal and endoscopic surgery. The study may be either "bench" research or clinical. Writing tips and techniques can be found on the web site as well.

In the spirit of supporting the goals of SAGES membership, applicants are encouraged to review Urbach DR, Horvath KD, Baxter NN, Jobe BA, Madan AK, Pryor AD, Khaitan L, Torquati A, Brower ST, Trus TL, Schwaitzberg S. A research agenda for gastrointestinal and endoscopic surgery. *Surgical Endoscopy* 2007 [0930-2794 (Print) 1432-2218 (Online)] for a recent review of key research questions. Part of the grant review process includes evaluation of the importance of the research

question. The review committee will incorporate these published rankings to determine the importance of submitted topics.

New Grant Award: The SAGES Research Committee is pleased to present a new award. The early career development award is to support young surgeons or surgeons-in-training in the development of skills for their surgical career in gastrointestinal and endoscopic surgery. The intent of this award is to delay the start of a faculty role or ongoing residency training for supplemental training/traveling fellowship or intense research time. This award is to provide young surgeons with a unique educational opportunity that would not otherwise be available. For more information regarding this new award, visit <http://www.sages.org/research/index.php>.

For information on SAGES Research Grants, please contact Yumi Hori at the SAGES office at 310-437-0544 ext. 102 or research@sages.org.

AMA Membership – What It Means for SAGES

Maintaining 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

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.

But that is just a part of it. The AMA is still the physician organization with the most influence with:

- Center for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS)
- US House of Delegates
- US Senate

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:

<https://membership.ama-assn.org/JoinRenew/search.jsp>

2007 SAGES Resident Courses

SAGES will be offering several basic and advanced courses this year for surgical residents. For course registration policies, please contact Yumi Hori at yumi@sages.org or (310) 437-0544, ext. 102.

Basic Endoscopy and Laparoscopy Workshop

August 9 - 10, 2007 (This course is closed)

2nd and 3rd Year residents

Cincinnati, Ohio

Sponsored by Ethicon EndoSurgery

Advanced Foregut Surgery and FLS Workshop

September 20 - 21, 2007

4th and 5th year residents only

Must be a SAGES Candidate Member

Cincinnati, OH

Sponsored by Ethicon EndoSurgery

Advanced Intestinal Surgery Workshop

November 8-9, 2007

4th and 5th year residents only

Must be a SAGES Candidate Member

Norwalk, Connecticut

Sponsored by Covidien

SAGES-Endorsed Courses

These courses meet the guidelines established in the SAGES Framework for Post-Residency Surgical Education and Training and are endorsed by the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES). (Course information updated 5/30/07). For the most updated information, please visit www.sages.org/education/endorsed.html

Institution: Carolinas Laparoscopic & Advanced Surgery Program "CLASP", Charlotte, NC

Course Director: B. Todd Heniford, MD; Kent W. Kercher, MD; Timothy Kuwada, MD; Keith S. Gersin, MD; Frederick L. Greene, MD; Richard L. White, MD; Chris Teigland, MD; Ronald F. Sing, DO; Pierce Irby, MD

Contact: Phone: 704-355-4823 Fax: 704-355-8147
CLASP@carolinas.org

Address: 1000 Blythe Blvd.
P.O. Box 32861, Charlotte, NC 28203

Details: *Mini Fellowship for Advanced Lap*–Sept. 23-25, 2007, Nov. 28-30, 2007
Mini Fellowship for Urology–September 6-7, 2007
Radiofrequency Fibrolation–September 13-14, 2007
Bariatric Symposium–September 21, 2007
Mini Fellow for Lap & Hand Assisted Colon–October 21-22, 2007
Mini Fellowship for Sentinel Node Biopsy–Nov. 1-2, 2007
IVC Filter–November 9, 2007
Mini Fellowship for Flexible Endoscopy–Nov. 14, 2007
Mini Fellow/Hernia GORE–December 6-7, 2007

Institution: Emory University School of Medicine

Director: Edward Lin, DO, FACS

Contact: Kendra Price
Phone: 404-727-1540 Fax: 404-712-5416
e-mail: kendra.price@emoryhealthcare.org

Address: Emory University School of Medicine
1364 Clifton Road, NE, Suite H124
Atlanta, GA 30322

Details: Contact facility for upcoming courses.

Institution: Brigham & Women's Hospital; Massachusetts General Hospital

Directors: Christopher C. Thompson, MD; David W. Rattner, MD

Contact: Michele Ryan
Phone: 617-525-8266 Fax: 617-264-5183
email: MRyan15@partners.org

Address: Brigham & Women's Hospital
75 Francis Street, Thorn 1017, Boston, MA 02115

Detail: Contact facility for upcoming courses.

Institution: Ohio State University & Case Western Reserve University

Directors: W. Scott Melvin, MD & Jeffrey L. Ponsky, MD

Contact: Lisa Yeater
Phone: 614-293-9072 Fax: 614-293-7852
email: lisa.yeater@osumc.edu

Address: Ohio State University, 558 Dean Hall
410 West 10th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210

Details: Contact facility for upcoming courses.

Institution: IRCAD-EITS

Director: Jacques Marescaux, MD, FRCS
Contact: Guy Temporal, Project Coordinator
Phone: +33 388 119 000 Fax: +33 388 119 099
e-mail: secretariat@ircad.u-strasbg.fr

Address: IRCAD-EITS
Hopitaux Universitaires
1 place de l'Hopital, BP 426
Strasbourg, France F-67091

Details: IRCAD Program 2007–University Post-Graduate Courses in Laparoscopic Surgery

INTENSIVE COURSES 2007

General Surgery

Intensive Courses in Laparoscopic Surgery: (English-speaking courses)–September 17-21, 2007, November 19-23, 2007

Urological Surgery

Intensive Courses in Laparoscopic Urological Surgery: (English-speaking courses)–December 3-7, 2007 (French-speaking courses)– October 1-5, 2007

ADVANCED COURSES 2007

General Surgery

Digestive Surgery: (English-speaking courses)–December 17-19, 2007

Colorectal Surgery: (English-speaking courses)–November 16 & 17, 2007

Morbid Obesity Surgery: (English-speaking course)–October 12 & 13, 2007

Urological Surgery

Laparoscopic Treatment of Kidney Tumors (English-speaking course)–September 14 & 15, 2007

Aortoiliac Surgery

Laparoscopic Aortoiliac Surgery: (English-speaking course)–September 27-29, 2007

Pediatric Surgery

Videosurgery in Pediatric Urology: (English-speaking course)–October 25-27, 2007

Gynaecology Surgery

Current Techniques in the Treatment of Severe Endometriosis: (English-speaking course)–September 10-12, 2007

Techniques Avancées en Endoscopie Gynécologique Opératoire: (French-speaking course)–December 10-12, 2007

Institution: UT Southwestern Center for Minimally Invasive Surgery

Director: Daniel Scott, MD
Contact: Jennifer Leedy, Course Administrator
Phone: 214-648-3792 Fax: 214-648-2317
e-mail: Jennifer.Leedy@utsouthwestern.edu

Address: UT Southwestern
5323 Harry Hines Blvd, Dallas, TX 75390-9059

Details: Contact University for upcoming courses.

Institution: University of Minnesota, Medical School

Director: David Rothenberger, MD
Contact: Kara Bryant
Phone: (612) 624-1132 Fax: (612) 626-7766
kbryant@umn.edu
www.cme.umn.edu

Address: University of Minnesota
200 Oak Street SE, Suite 190, Minneapolis, MN 55455
Details: Contact University for upcoming courses.

Institution: Mayo Clinic Scottsdale

Director: Kristi Harold, MD; Tonia Young-Fadok, MD; Paul Andrews, MD
Contact: Phone: 480-301-4580
Address: Mayo Clinic Scottsdale
13400 East Shea Blvd., Scottsdale, AZ 85259
Details: Laparoscopic Colon Surgery—November 2007
Nephrectomy—September 2007
Gastric Bypass—November 2007

Institution: GEM Hospital India

Director: Dr. C. Palanivelu, MS, MCh(SGE0, MNAMS, FACS, FRCS (Edin)
Contact: Phone: +91-422-2324100 Fax: +91-422-232-0879
Email: cp@gemhospital.net
Address: 45.A. Pankajamill Road
Ramanathapuram
Coimbatore - 641 045, India
Details: Basic Laparoscopic Course—August 6-11, 2007,
September 3-8, 2007, December 3-8, 2007
Advance Laparoscopic Course—October 8-13, 2007

**Institution: University of Miami Miller School of Medicine
Center of Excellence for Laparoscopic and Minimally Invasive Surgery**

Directors: Michael D. Hellinger, MD, FACS; Fahim Habib, MD;
Raymond J. Leveillee, MD; Jose M. Martinez, MD;
Laurence R. Sands, MD, FACS, FACRS; Peter Takacs, MD, PhD.
Contact: Susan G. Mazzola
Phone: 305-326-6480 Fax: 305-326-6328
email: smazzola@med.miami.edu
http://www.mis.med.miami.edu
Address: University of Miami Miller School of Medicine
Center of Excellence for Laparoscopic and Minimally Invasive Surgery
McKnight Research Building, Room 802
1638 N.W. 10th Avenue, Miami, FL 33136
Details: Hand-Assisted Laparoscopic Nephrectomy Workshop:
Director: Raymond J. Leveillee, MD, October 20, 2007
Laparoscopic Training for Ob/Gyn Residents:
Director: Peter Takacs, MD, PhD, TBD

Institution: Creighton University

Director: Sumeet K. Mittal, MD
Contact: Sally O'Neil, MD
Phone: 402-280-1830 Fax: 402-280-5180
Address: Creighton University
601 N. 30th Street, Suite 2130, Omaha, NE 68131
Details: Fifth Annual Esophagal Conference—Sept. 6-7, 2007
(This conference will be held at the Qwest Center Omaha)

Institution: DS Institute

Director: Robert A. Rabkin, MD
Contact: Barbara Metealt
Phone: 415-668-3200
barbara@paclap.com
Address: 2250 Hayes Street, Third Floor
San Francisco, CA 94117
Course is held at: University Club
800 Powell Street, San Francisco, CA
Details: Contact institution for upcoming courses.

Institution: Legacy Emanuel Hospital and Health Center

Director: Lee L. Swanstrom, MD
Contact: Bev Oylear
Phone: 503-413-4343
boylear@lhs.org
Address: Legacy Emanuel Hospital and Health Center
2801 N. Gantenbein, Portland, OR 97227
http://www.advancedlaparoscopy.com/
Details: Contact institution for upcoming courses.

Institution: National University Hospital- Minimally Invasive Surgical Centre

Director: Davide Lomanto, MD, PhD
Contact: Serene Tan KH
Phone: +65 6772 5264 Fax: +65 67754007
Email: misc@nuh.com.sg
Address: National University Hospital- Minimally Invasive Surgical Centre
5 Lower Kent Ridge Road, Singapore 11907
Details: Intensive Workshop on Advanced Digestive Surgery
September 3-6, 2007
International Symposium on Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumor—September 13, 2007
International Laparoscopic Workshop on Thoracoscopic Surgery—September 10 & 11, 2007
3rd Asia-Pacific Hernia Society Congress—Oct. 25-27, 2007
Hernia Repair (Pre-Congress Workshop of APHS)
October 24, 2007
Endocrine Surgery Workshop—November 19 & 20, 2007
Workshop on Medical Video Editing—November 24, 2007
Robotic Surgery Workshop—December 10 & 11, 2007

Institution: University of California, San Francisco

Director: Lawrence W. Way, MD
Contact: Videoscopic Surgery Training Center
Phone: 415-476-5808 Fax: 415-502-1795
http://www.cme.ucsf.edu
e-mail: videoscopicctr@surgery.ucsf.edu
Address: UCSF Office of CME
PO Box 45368, San Francisco, CA 94145-0368

Institution: Cine-Med, Inc.

Director: Michel Gagner, MD, FACS
Contact: Kevin McGovern
Phone: 203-263-0006 Fax: 203-263-4839
E-mail: kmcgovern@cine-med.net
Address: Cine-Med, Inc.
127 Main Street North, Woodbury, CT 06798
Details: The International Consensus Summit for Sleeve Gastrectomy—October 26 & 27, 2007

**Covidien, formerly
Autosuture & Valleylab/
Tyco Healthcare, plans to offer
support for surgical chief
residents and fellows
to achieve FLS Certification.
Program Directors, Chief
Residents and Fellows
stay tuned!**

What is NOSCARTM?

David W Rattner, MD

Robert Hawes, MD

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In 2005, leaders of both SAGES (The Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons) and ASGE (American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy) recognized the potential importance of Natural Orifice Transluminal Endoscopic Surgery™ (NOTES™). As NOTES™ burst onto the scene it was apparent that this approach held potential for patients to derive a great deal of benefit in terms of diminished pain and a shorter convalescence, but also carried a risk of introducing new and potentially serious complications. Mindful of lessons learned from the rapid adoption of laparoscopic cholecystectomy as well as the inherently interdisciplinary nature of NOTES™, the governing boards of the two societies created a working group to consider the issues surrounding the development and introduction to clinical practice of NOTES™. This working group published its recommendations for NOTES™ development (*Surg Endosc* 2006;20(2):329-33, *Gastrointest Endosc* 2006;63(2):199-203.) as a White Paper that laid out not only the fundamental research problems to be solved, but also stated that all human NOTES™ procedures be performed under IRB oversight and that the results be recorded in a registry accessible to all SAGES and ASGE members so that they might learn from other therapists experiences.

The members of the original working group coined the acronym NOSCARTM as one that would be appropriate for incisionless surgery. NOSCARTM stands for the Natural Orifice Surgery Consortium for Assessment and Research™. The sponsoring societies have established a web domain www.noscar.org for information exchange and also trademarked the name. SAGES and ASGE subsequently established a joint committee that oversees NOSCARTM activities. NOSCARTM held its first summit meeting in March 2006 at which time participants from surgery, gastroenterology, and industry developed research roadmaps for the eight fundamental challenges identified in the original White Paper. The attendance and enthusiasm as well as the perceived accomplishments at this meeting exceeded expectations. Based on consensus of the stakeholders at the meeting and with approval from the governing boards of the parent societies NOSCARTM established a more formal structure.

The Research Subcommittee of NOSCARTM is tasked with furthering the research mission of NOTES™. To date, 1.5 million dollars have been raised for research directed at the fundamental barriers to NOTES™. All SAGES and ASGE members have been invited to submit grant proposals. The proposals have been peer reviewed in a blinded fashion by the committee and the grants have been awarded. The list of awardees is posted on the NOSCARTM web site.

The Registry Subcommittee of NOSCARTM has been charged with developing a database registry to record the outcome of human NOTES™ procedures. This database was presented at the 2nd International NOTES™ Symposium in July in Boston. All teams performing NOTES™ or hybrid (NOTES™ with laparoscopic assistance) will be strongly encouraged to submit their cases to the registry. Careful documentation of human cases will greatly enhance the development of NOTES™ in a safe manner to the benefit of patients

The Meeting Organization Subcommittee is responsible for setting the agenda for the NOTES™ summit meeting in July 2007 in Boston. If there are future meetings, which seems likely, this subcommittee will continue to function choosing the meeting sites, dates, and of course the content of the program.

NOTES™ is developing in a space that is neither purely surgical nor purely therapeutic endoscopy. As such, collaboration among the leading societies is essential to avoid turf wars, competition for scarce resources, and most importantly to optimize patient care and safety. Both SAGES and ASGE contain a large universe of areas of interest, committees, and special interest groups. NOTES™ is but a small part of the scope of these organizations. Neither SAGES nor ASGE alone could likely have galvanized the NOTES™ effort as NOSCARTM has. Yet NOSCARTM should not exist as a totally separate and competing society. Rather it is a bridge between the two parental organizations that has served all parties well to this point. For example, when standards or guidelines are published it is likely they will come from SAGES and ASGE jointly.

NOSCARTM does not have a membership, per se, rather it is a community of SAGES and ASGE members that are interested in NOTES™, participate in the research grant process, and come to meetings. There are no dues to join NOSCARTM, in part, because NOSCARTM exists under the auspices of SAGES and ASGE. Efforts are well underway in Europe and Asia to create organizations similar to NOSCARTM. It is our hope that the collaborative spirit will cross international borders in the same way it has crossed the boundaries of surgeons and gastroenterologists in North America.

Teleflex

half page ad

Save the Date!!

SAGES Scientific Session & Postgraduate Course

**** PLEASE NOTE – REVISED DATE ****

April 9 - 12, 2008

**Pennsylvania Convention Center
Philadelphia, PA**

SAGES Scientific Session & Postgraduate Course

April 22 - 25, 2009

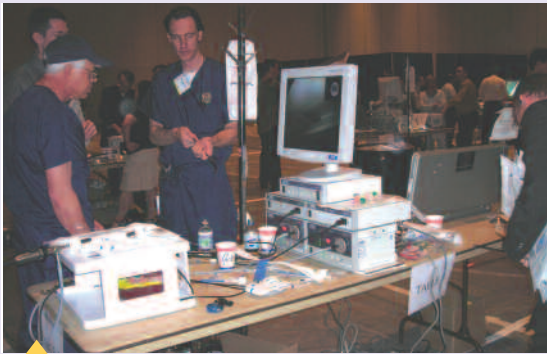
**Phoenix Convention Center
Phoenix, AZ (will be held with AHPBA & IPEG)**

SAGES Scientific Session & Postgraduate Course

April 14 - 17, 2010

**Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center
Landover, MD (just outside Washington, DC)**

SCENES FROM THE 2007 MEETING



Meeting attendees participate in one of the four hands-on labs.



A meeting attendee practices a procedure at the Learning Center.



Dr. Bruce Schirmer presents Dr. Desmond Birkett with the 2007 Distinguished Service Award for his significant long-term educational, research, clinical and technological contribution to the field of surgical endoscopy and advancement of the SAGES Mission.



Drs. Blair Jobe and Karen Horvath present Dr. Atul Madan with the Young Researcher Award, which was supported by Gyrus ACMI.



Attendees explore the Exhibit Hall.



Learning Center Chair Dr. Gretchen Purcell and Co-Chair Dr. Benjamin Schneider coordinated 13 stations.



Karl Storz Lecture, Professor Richard John (Bill) Heald.



Gerald Marks Lecture, Drs. Gerald Marks and Lester Rosen.



Dr. Steven Wexner passes the gavel to current President Dr. Steve Eubanks.

One of the many courses offered throughout the week. This year more than 2500 attendees took part in the Scientific Session, postgraduate courses, hands-on courses and video and poster presentations.



"Rocky Horror" comes to SAGES.

The 2007 SAGES Sing-Off at the House of Blues, Las Vegas

Led once again by MC Dr. Rick Greene, SAGES capped off another meeting with the traditional Sing-Off. Many SAGES members paid homage to all styles of music and musical groups (Elvis anyone?). Guests enjoyed the performances, including the traditional “We are the SAGES” concluding number, dancing, and spending time with friends and family.



SAGES Member Dr. Jo Buyske Named Associate Executive Director of the American Board of Surgery

Philadelphia, July 19, 2007 – The American Board of Surgery (ABS) has named Dr. Jo Buyske as associate executive director, making this post among the highest executive positions in American surgery to be held by a woman, and indicative of the growing presence of women in surgery. Dr. Buyske replaces Dr. Robert S. Rhodes, who is retiring from the position after more than ten years of service.

Dr. Buyske is chief of surgery and director of minimally invasive surgery at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center in Philadelphia, and associate professor of clinical surgery at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. Her current practice specializes in applications of minimally invasive surgery to all areas of general and gastrointestinal surgery.

In accepting the associate director position, Dr. Buyske assumes a leading role in the American surgical community. In her new position she will be in charge of evaluation methodology at the ABS, and specifically will be responsible for the development and oversight of ABS examinations in general surgery and surgical subspecialties. In addition she will work directly with the

executive director in formulating policy and guiding the overall direction of the ABS. Dr. Buyske is a current director of the ABS, representing the Society of American Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES) of which she is also vice president. She has previously served as an ABS examination consultant and as an associate examiner for the ABS' oral examinations in surgery.

“The American Board of Surgery is in a unique position to ensure the continued high quality of American surgery in these dynamic times,” said Dr. Buyske. “The ABS’ strong history of thoughtful action through consensus will help us navigate such issues as the changing demographics of surgery, and the new opportunities that have arisen in surgical education and practice. Our charge is to protect the American public and to ensure that practicing surgeons have the tools they need to be safe. I am deeply honored to be given the opportunity to serve in these roles.”

Dr. Buyske will be based in the ABS offices in Philadelphia as of January 2008. She and Dr. Rhodes will work together until his retirement from the position in June 2008.



Thanks for supporting the SAGES Foundation and not coming!



Summer Fling 2007

NAME _____

ORGANIZATION _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

COUNTRY _____

TEL. _____ EMAIL _____

I'm thrilled not to have to be there.

Please reserve me ____ tickets at \$75 each to stay home.

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SAGES Video Education Curriculum



Compilation of short video clips and expert narratives that offer tips, tricks and alternatives for important steps on specified procedures.



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- Surgeon in the Digital Age: Understanding your Video System
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SAGES TOP 14

Procedures Every Practicing Surgeon Should Know



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* To order FLS, please visit:
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or call 310-437-0544 ext. 115



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Support The Future of Endoscopic Surgical Care

If you are reading this newsletter, you already understand the benefits of furthering endoscopic and laparoscopic research. You know how critical it is to train surgeons on how to use the most current technology available to them. And you are aware that if patients are not educated about all their options, it can adversely affect their treatment. You probably also know that ensuring high-quality patient care is a continuous mission – one that the SAGES Education and Research Foundation was created to do.

In the past few years, the Foundation has helped institute breakthrough programs such as the Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery (FLS) module and the Robotics

Consensus Conference. But none of this would have been possible without the support we receive from generous SAGES members. To continue our efforts of advancing minimal access surgery and maintaining the best medical care possible, we need your support. Contributors may have an amount deducted each month from their credit card, give appreciated stock, or make a straight donation online. As a SAGES Foundation donor, you will receive and be recognized on the SAGES Foundation newsletter. There are many convenient ways to give, so consider making your mark and donate!

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EMAIL: _____

- Yes, I'd like to make the endoscopic surgical community the best it can be. Please accept my donation of \$_____.
Credit Card # _____ Exp. _____
- My check is enclosed, made out to the SAGES Education & Research Foundation.
- Please accept my donation of \$_____ to be deducted every month from my credit card.
I'd like to make a pledge of \$_____. Please send me a reminder monthly, quarterly.
- My donation is to honor or memorialize a friend. Please send a note to _____ at the following address:

- I would like to find out other ways I can contribute. Please contact me with information.



11300 West Olympic Boulevard, Ste. 600

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www.sagesfoundation.org

Karl Storz advertisement

Page 23 (inside back cover)

SAGES/SSAT Joint Symposium During the ACS Clinical Congress

Don't miss the joint SAGES/SSAT symposium on Barrett's Esophagus, Wednesday, October 10, 2007 from approx. 5:00-7:30 PM at the New Orleans Marriott, chaired by Drs. Mark Talamini and Mark Callery. Barrett's esophagus continues to be a condition of great interest, controversy, and significant scientific and clinical advancement. Its relationship with gastroesophageal reflux disease, its increased risk for adenocarcinoma of the esophagus, and the spectrum of potential treatments, create a confusing smorgasbord of data and treatment options for surgeons, gastroenterologists, primary care doctors, and patients. Currently, a patient carrying a diagnosis of Barrett's esophagus might get a photodynamic therapy session in one center, mucosal resection in another center, and an esophagectomy in yet a third. The objective of this session is to provide a current update on the best methods for the diagnosis of Barrett's esophagus, current therapies available for Barrett's esophagus, and what is currently known with regards to outcomes.

The symposium will be followed by a reception. There is no fee to attend, but registration is limited. To register, please visit <http://sages.org/acs2007.php> by October 1, 2007. For inquiries, please contact SAGES at 310-437-0544 or registration@sages.org.



Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons

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