

Scope



Summer, 2008
Volume 08, Issue 2

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



SAGES President
Mark Talamini, MD

The Meaning of “And”

SAGES: The Society of American Gastrointestinal **And** Endoscopic Surgeons. Since you are reading this message, you have at least some interest in our Society and its future. When you go to a SAGES meeting, you know you’ll get cutting edge, innovative teaching experiences, the latest in minimally invasive surgery, a great time, and great friends. But SAGES has changed tremendously during our relatively brief history, and more change is likely on the way.

SAGES began as a group of surgeons committed to using flexible endoscopy in their surgical practice. So, from the very beginning, SAGES members used image based surgery to take care of their patients. As laparoscopic surgery emerged, SAGES took the lead role nationally in training surgeons for this new means of operating. As the movement gained steam, SAGES quickly became the place to see what’s new, and to hear what the “best practices” were for minimally invasive surgery. That certainly continues today.

Now, the development of NOTES™ (natural orifice surgery) is merging SAGES early and recent histories. Dr. David Rattner, our past president, has led the charge here along with Dr. Robert Hawes from ASGE to create a new roadmap for the development of NOTES™. But a potentially more important shift is also taking place. As GI surgery has evolved, we now find that many residents and young surgeons have reduced training opportunities with what used to be the bread and butter of general surgery: procedures such as open common bile duct exploration, and even open cholecystectomy. This has led the Society to begin to use its considerable expertise in image based teaching and training to also teach some of these open procedures. Watch for

this in the upcoming meeting announcements. More importantly, this has led the society to begin to organize the meeting more according to disease processes and physiology, rather than just along the lines of techniques. We believe this shift will better serve the membership of SAGES.

—Mark A. Talamini, MD

**SAGES Annual Meeting
April 22-25, 2009, Phoenix, AZ
SAGES Call for Abstracts**

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION
IS OCTOBER 3, 2008.**

(Please note that this deadline is 3 weeks later than in previous years. The deadline will not be extended and no late submissions will be accepted.)

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 2008 - 2009 Slate of Officers

Officers and Members of the Executive Committee:



◀ **PRESIDENT**
Mark A. Talamini, MD



PRESIDENT-ELECT ▶
C. Daniel Smith, MD



◀ **1ST VICE PRESIDENT**
(2 year term) Steven D. Schwartzberg, MD
(1 more year in this position)



2ND VICE PRESIDENT ▶
(2 year term)
Daniel M. Herron, MD.



◀ **SECRETARY**
(3 year term)
W. Scott Melvin, MD
(1 more year in this position)



TREASURER ▶
(3 year term) Gerald M. Fried,
MD (2 more years in this position)

Board Members—Three-Year Terms:

Re-Appointments:

Jo Buyske, MD
Jeffrey M. Marks, MD
Brant K. Oelschlager, MD
David W. Rattner, MD

New Members:

Fredrick J. Brody, MD
Raul J. Rosenthal, MD
Daniel J. Scott, MD
(2 year term, fulfilling unexpired term of Daniel Smith)

Our thanks to the following Board members, who completed their terms of service in April, 2008:

John Coller, MD (October 2008)
Namir Katkhouda, MD
Greg Stiegmann, MD

2008 - 2009 Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs

Assets/Finance:

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

Awards:

Chair: Lee Swanstrom, MD

By-Laws:

Chair: Brent Matthews, MD

Conflict of Interest Task Force (CITF):

Chair: David Easter, MD

Continuing Education:

Chair: L. Michael Brunt, MD
Co-Chair: Daniel Scott, MD

Development:

Chair: W. Scott Melvin, MD
Co-Chair: Michael Rosen, 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: Brian Dunkin, 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: Michael Holzman, MD
Co-Chair: Mark Pleatman, MD

Membership:

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

Nominating:

Chair: Steve Eubanks, MD

Quality, Outcomes & Safety:

Chair: John Morton, MD
Co-Chair: Matthew Hutter, MD

Program:

Chair: Steven Schwartzberg, MD
Co-Chair: Santiago Horgan, MD

Public Information:

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

Publications:

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

Research & Career Development:

Chair: Aurora Pryor, MD
Co-Chair: Alfons Torquati, 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:

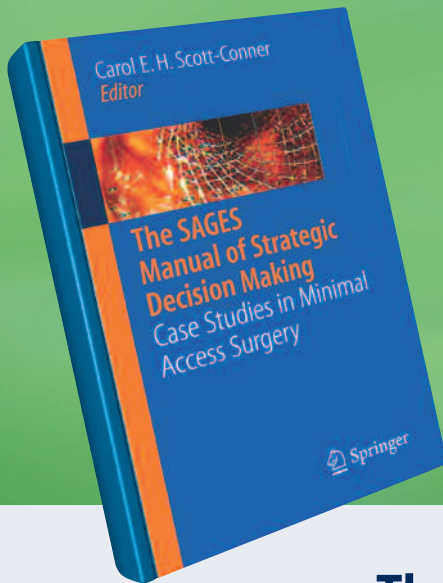
Chair: Raul Rosenthal, MD
Co-Chair: Dimitrios Linos, MD

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 Peters, MD, Jeffrey Ponsky, MD, Gregory Stiegmann, MD



Improve surgical decision-making

The SAGES Manual of Strategic Decision Making

Case Studies in Minimal Access Surgery

Edited by
Carol E. H. Scott-Conner

order your copy
— **NOW**

- ▶ 50 easy-to-read case studies improve decision-making
- ▶ Multiple scenarios explore strategies and decision rationales
- ▶ Includes technique descriptions, illustrations, and an evidence-based review of the literature

While other SAGES manuals simply discuss core topics in minimally-invasive surgery and GI endoscopy, this unique book explores fifty scenarios with a focus on the decision process that leads to an optimal treatment plan. **The SAGES Manual of Strategic Decision Making** is an unparalleled teaching aid for residents and faculty alike, as well as an indispensable resource for practicing surgeons who can appreciate and learn from the strategies offered by their colleagues.



2008, 652 p. 102 illus., Softcover
ISBN 978-0-387-76670-6 ▶ **\$65.00**

2008 AWARDS

The following Research Grant and Career Development Award recipients were honored at the April 2008 SAGES Annual Meeting

2008 SAGES Grant Award Recipients

Name: Alfonso Torquati, MD
Institution: Duke University Medical Center
Project Title: "Effect of Obesity on Adipogenic Differentiation of Adipose Tissue-Derived Human Mesenchymal Stem Cells"
Supported by: Covidien

Name: Martin Montenovo, MD
Institution: University of Washington
Project Title: "It is Not About Acid Anymore: Role of Pepsin in the Pathogenesis of Gastroesophageal Reflux Diseases Related Laryngitis"
Supported by: Covidien

Name: Lora Melman, MD
Institution: Washington University School of Medicine
Project Title: "The Biologic Basis of Paraesophageal Hernia Formation"
Supported by: Covidien

Name: Alberto Iglesias, MD
Institution: University of Miami
Project Title: "Prospective Randomized Trial of Virtual Reality Simulation Versus Ex-Vivo Simulation in Acquisition of Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography Skills"
Supported by: Ethicon Endo-Surgery

Name: Tatyan Clarke, MD
Institution: University of Southern California
Project Title: "The Efficacy of Fibrin Glue for Laparoscopic Intraperitoneal Mesh Fixation in a Porcine Model"
Supported by: Ethicon Endo-Surgery

Name: Allan Okrainec, MD
Institution: University Health Network, Toronto Western Hospital
Project Title: "The Effectiveness of Telesimulation for Teaching Surgical Skills in Africa"
Supported by: Karl Storz Endoscopy

Name: Fred Brody, MD
Institution: The George Washington University
Project Title: "Identification of Diabetes Related Genes in Bariatric Surgery Patients"
Supported by: SAGES Foundation

Name: Sarah Thompson, MD
Institution: University of Adelaide, Australia
Project Title: "Prognostic Impact of Micrometastases in Esophageal Cancer-Appling the Sentinel Lymph Node Concept"
Supported by: SAGES Foundation

2008 SAGES Career Development Award Recipient

Name: Melina C. Vassiliou, MD
Institution: Dartmouth-Hitchcock Clinic
Project Title: "Time to NESTLE: NOTES, Education in Surgery, Travel and Learning Endoscopy"
Supported by: SAGES Foundation

2009 Research Grant Application and Career Development Award

Research Grants

The SAGES Research Grant Application will be available on the SAGES website at <http://sages.org/leadership/committees/research/> later this summer. The Research Awards are open to any principal investigator who is a SAGES member, including candidate members. SAGES would like to especially encourage grant funding to young investigators/candidate members in the hopes that funding through SAGES will lead to extramural funding. The purpose of these grants is to stimulate original research in gastrointestinal and endoscopic surgery. The study may be either "bench" research or clinical. In the spirit of supporting the goals of our 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 for a recent review of key research questions.

Career Development Award

The focus of this SAGES Foundation supported award is to provide funding for a young surgeon or surgeon-in-training for the development of critical skills required for their academic 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 grant will provide the awardee with a unique educational opportunity that would not otherwise be available. The application for this award will be available at <http://sages.org/leadership/committees/research/> this fall.

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

SAGES 2009 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 2009 SAGES Annual Meeting next year in Phoenix.

You may obtain a copy of the nomination forms by calling, faxing, or e-mailing Mr. 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 12, 2008.

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, MD 2002, Basil Hirshowitz 2003, George Berci, MD 2004, Jeffrey Ponsky, MD 2005, Gregory Stiegmann, MD 2006, John Abele, 2007, Gerald Marks, MD 2008.

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:

- One page statement of why they want to attend the course
- Copy of their current Curriculum Vitae
- Note from their Program Director
- Past winners include Eric Hungness, MD 2005, Carlos Galvani, MD 2006, Kevin Reavis, MD 2007, Patricia Sylla, MD 2008.

Best Resident or Fellow Presentation Awards

SAGES Resident Education Committee would like to congratulate the following surgeons-in-training for winning Best Resident/Fellow Presentation Awards at the 2008 Annual Meeting:

Best Resident or Fellow Presentation Award-Scientific Session – Top 3

1st Place: Jessica Leers, MD – “Endoscopic therapy for esophageal perforation or anastomotic leakage with a self expandable metallic stent”

2nd Place: Alexandre Bouchard, MD – “Does Increasing Experience with Laparoscopic Colorectal Surgery Influence the Outcome of Complex Cases?”

3rd Place: Scott Nguyen, MD – “Laparoscopic Surgery for Crohn’s Disease. An experience with more than 300 cases.”

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

Jennifer Keller, MD – “Maximizing the donor pool: Use of right kidneys and multiple arteries for live donor kidney transplantation”

2008 Awards Luncheon Surpasses Expectations

Although it was certain the banquet room would be filled and the SAGES Foundation would raise additional funds for future grants, no one expected the 2008 Awards Luncheon to generate as much interest as it did. With approximately 250 guests in attendance and the support of 17 companies and institutions, the increasingly popular event that honors SAGES' pathmakers raised more than \$61,000!

In addition to the four major awards presented annually, two new awards were included in the program this year, namely the Gerald Marks Rectal Cancer Award and the Career Development Award. The honorees are listed below.

Distinguished Service Award – Barry Salky, MD

SAGES Pioneer in Endoscopy Award – Gerald Marks, MD

Gyrus ACMI Young Researcher Award – John Morton, MD

Karl Storz / IRCAD Fellowship Award – Patricia Sylla, MD

Career Development Award – Melina Vassiliou, MD

Gerald Marks Rectal Cancer Award – Masaki Fukunaga, MD

To see the winners of the Traveling Fellowship Awards and the 2008 Research Grants, please go to pages 4 & 5.

It goes without saying that the major sponsors were instrumental in making this event such a surprising success. Therefore, the SAGES Foundation would like to especially thank the \$5,000 Honorary sponsors **Allergan, Adolor, W.L. Gore & Associates, and Salix Pharmaceuticals**; and the \$2,500 Patron sponsors **Atrium Medical, Covidien, Ethicon Endo-Surgery, Genzyme, Lankenau Hospital, Symbionix, Karl Storz Endoscopy, and Stryker!**

New Corporate Supporters

Although **Karl Storz Endoscopy (KSE)** and **Stryker** are hardly new supporters, both companies' loyalty and dedication to SAGES and the SAGES Foundation warrants a section of its own.

On May 12th, KSE President and CEO Charlie Wilhelm, personally called Dr. George Berci to announce that the company wanted to recommit another \$1 million to the SAGES Foundation. He and Mrs. Sybil Storz felt it was an important mission for the company to invest in and wanted to play a role in getting the Foundation to its mission. Soon after, Stryker followed suit and proudly recommitted another \$300,000, also stating a desire to demonstrate their strong support of minimally invasive surgical advancement.

To date, Stryker has given \$250,000, bringing their overall contributions to more than half a million dollars! For KSE, including the \$750,000 it has already given, the company's new commitment now makes KSE the largest industry contributor to the SAGES Foundation!

Both of these very large contributions are much appreciated, and the entire board of the Foundation wishes to give special thanks to Mr. Wilhelm, Mrs. Storz, and Stryker for demonstrating their support of the mission so generously!

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 Foundation annually during their lifetime. **We thank the following new donors for making a very special lifetime commitment as Legacy Benefactors.**

John Cosgrove

Gregory Stiegmann

Stephen Unger

Special Donor Recognition: Dr. David Duppler

When Dr. Jeffrey Ponsky prophetically wrote in his August 1986 letter of support for Dr. David Duppler's application for membership in SAGES, "I feel that he will represent the Society in exemplary fashion," little did he know that his first surgical endoscopy fellow would pay tribute to him 21 years later by playing a major role in the establishment of a fund in his mentor's name. Moreover, Dr. Duppler demonstrated his heartfelt commitment toward furthering Dr. Ponsky's legacy by making a donation of \$25,000 to the Ponsky Flexible Endoscopy Research Fund, the second largest individual monetary gift in the history of the SAGES Foundation.

"I saw this as the perfect opportunity, in a small way, to pay him back for all he has done for me," Dr. Duppler said, explaining the inspiration behind his generosity. "And I wanted to repay SAGES for all they have done for so many people and for the profession." Adding that he would be forever grateful for the guidance he received during that period and beyond, Dr. Duppler was extravagant in his praise of Dr. Ponsky and characteristically modest in accepting our thanks for his gift.

After completing his post-general surgical fellowship under Dr. Ponsky in gastrointestinal endoscopy at Mt. Sinai Medical Center in Cleveland, Ohio, Dr. Duppler ran his own surgical practice in Maine for six years. In 1992, he returned to his native Wisconsin and joined the Fox Valley Surgical Associates where he earned a reputation as a superlative medical professional, an in-demand lecturer, and an all-around good guy.

Since becoming a SAGES member in 1987, Dr. David Duppler has proven his steadfast support of the Foundation, most notably with a \$5,000 pledge in 2000 and, of course, this recent gesture honoring Dr. Ponsky. He exemplifies the heart of this organization. We are unfathomably grateful for his generosity and proud to count him as one of our own.

If you would like to make your own personal gift to the SAGES Foundation, please complete the form on page 22 and return with your donation.

Summer Fling 2008: Shuffle Up And Deal!

Last summer, SAGES members thanked the SAGES Foundation for not holding another fundraising event by supporting the inaugural Summer Fling – a phantom event in which guests are invited not to attend. The time has come again to prepare for Summer Fling 2008, so get out your extra guest seats and clear your tables because this year's theme is *Casino Night!*

Unlike your standard fare charitable event, the Summer Fling does not require you to fit into your old tuxedo, gamble next to a drunk, or locate parking. You can simply purchase your "ticket," and invite friends over for a friendly game of cards, or just sit back and do absolutely nothing, knowing you have contributed to the future of minimally invasive surgery without any of your donation going to administrative costs. The SAGES Foundation will even include a lucky poker chip to thank you for your support!

"Tickets" for the Summer Fling are \$75 each and may be purchased online or via snail mail through invitations.



*Thanks for supporting
the SAGES Foundation
and not coming!*

*For more information, visit the
SAGES Foundation website at
www.sagesfoundation.org*

Summer Fling 2008

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.

I'm thrilled to stay home but you didn't send me enough poker chips. Please accept this gift of \$125 to send me an additional poker chip.

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Payment Method

Check enclosed

Credit card: Visa Mastercard Amex

Credit Card # _____

Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

11300 W. Olympic Boulevard, Ste. 600 · Los Angeles, CA 90064
Fax: 310-437-0585 · www.sagesfoundation.org

At the recent ALACE meeting in Guatemala, SAGES Immediate Past President, Dr. Steve Eubanks, and long standing SAGES member, Dr. Morris Franklin, were bestowed Honorary Membership into ALACE. Congratulations to Drs. Eubanks & Franklin for this honor and sign of appreciation from our Latin American colleagues!

See photo on page 15.



Phoenix Convention Center,
Phoenix, AZ

**IPEG (International
Pediatric Endosurgery
Group) will once again
convene its meeting
concurrent to SAGES**

**Registration & Program
Information will be
available Fall 2008**

**See page 23 for
abstract submission
information and
deadlines**

**Join us in
Phoenix!**

SAGES 2009

Postgraduate Course & Scientific Session

April 22 - 25, 2009 • Phoenix, AZ

SAGES 2009 Meeting Outline (tentative, as of July, 2008)

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

½ Day Colorectal Postgraduate Course – Chairs: Peter Marcello, MD & Jaap Bonjer, MD

½ Day Hernia Postgraduate Course – Chairs: Brent Matthews, MD & Michael Rosen, MD

½ Day Flexible Endoscopy Postgraduate Course –
Chairs: Ted Trus, MD & Klaus Thaler, MD

SAGES Foundation Awards Luncheon

½ Day Colorectal Hands-on Course (w/Lab) –
Chairs: Tonia Young-Fadok, MD & Sonia Ramamoorthy, MD

½ Day Endolumenal/NOTES Hands-on Course (w/Lab) –
Chairs: Scott Melvin, MD & Robert Hawes, MD

½ Day FLS Train the Trainers and Proctors Hands-On Course –
Chairs: Matthew Ritter, MD & Nathaniel Soper, MD

½ Day SAGES/ASMBS Bariatric Surgery Postgraduate Course –
Chairs: Matthew Hutter, MD & Kelvin Higa, MD

½ Day Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy Postgraduate Course –
Chairs: Steven Schwaitzberg, MD & L. Michael Brunt, MD

½ Day SAGES/ALACE Session – Chairs: Natan Zundel, MD & Raul Rosenthal, MD

SAGES/IPEG Evening Exhibit Opening Reception

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Exhibits, Posters & Learning Center Open

Scientific Sessions (accepted oral & video presentations)

SAGES/IPEG HPB and Solid Organ Video Session – Chairs: Kent Kercher, MD & IPEG TBD

½ Day Foregut Postgraduate Course –
Chairs: C. Daniel Smith, MD & Brant Oelschlager, MD

½ Day Advanced Laparoscopic Techniques Postgraduate Course –
Chairs: Daniel Scott, MD & Santiago Horgan, MD

Equipping the Surgeon/Training the Jedi Session –
Chairs: Karen Horvath, MD & Simon Bergman, MD

Patient Safety (Allied Health) Symposium –
Chairs: Michael Holzman, MD & Donna Stanbridge, RN

SAGES/MIRA Robotics Panel - Chairs: Michael Marohn, MD & Mehran Anvari, MD

SAGES/APDS/ASE Surgical Educators Forum –
Chairs: John Mellinger, MD & Gary Dunnington, MD

Educators Lunch: Simulation and Team Training –
Chairs: Rajesh Aggarwal, MD & Neal Seymour, MD

½ Day Laparoscopic Foregut Surgery Hands-on Course (w/Lab) –
Chairs: Brant Oelschlager, MD & Leena Khaitan, MD

½ Day Advanced Laparoscopic Techniques Hands-On Course (w/Lab) –
Chairs: Daniel Scott, MD & Paul Curcillo, MD

MOC/Recertification/Outcomes Analysis Panel –
Chair: Vic Velanovich, MD & John Morton, MD

Solid Organ Surgery Session – Chairs: Horacio Asbun, MD & Chair: Eric Poulin, MD

½ Day SAGES/ASGE NOTES & Endolumenal Therapies Symposium –
Chairs: Santiago Horgan, MD & David Rattner, MD

Industry Education Events

The Great Presidential Debates (Evening) – Chairs: Adrian Park, MD & Bruce Schirmer, MD

Friday, April 24, 2009

Exhibits, Posters & Learning Center Open

Scientific Sessions (accepted oral & video presentations, incl. Plenary)

Guidelines Panel – Chairs: Robert Fanelli, MD & Liane Feldman, MD

SAGES/ASCRS Colorectal Debates – Chairs: Conor Delaney, MD & John Marks, MD

Diabetes and Metabolic Syndrome Panel – Chairs: Alfonso Torquati, MD & Atul Madan, MD

Presidential Address: Mark Talamini, MD

Gerald Marks Keynote Lecture: TBA

Re-Operative Complications Panel – Chairs: David Easter, MD & Niaz Selim, MD

Global Initiative Panel – Chairs: Ramon Berguer, MD & Raymond Price, MD

From FLS to the Web Learning Center Panel – Chairs: Gerald Fried, MD & L. Michael Brunt, MD

Surgeons in Service Lunch – Chair: Raul Rosenthal, MD

Friday Afternoon at the Movies:

SAGES Video Classics Session – Chairs: Frederick Greene, MD & Kenneth Forde, MD

International Olympic MIS Video Session – Chairs: Lee Swanstrom, MD & Manabu Yamamoto, MD

From Medical Device to Field Development Session –

Chairs: Steve Eubanks, MD & Raymond Onders, MD

SAGES/AHS Hernia Panel – Chairs: Edward Felix, MD & Shirin Towfigh, MD

Residents & Fellows Scientific Session – Chairs: Eric Hanly, MD & David McClusky, MD

Best Practices for the Surgical Treatment of Obesity Session –

Chairs: Daniel Jones, MD & Jon Gould, MD

SAGES/IPEG Urgent/Emergent Care Problems Panel – Chairs: John Sweeney, MD & IPEG TBD

Meet the Leadership Reception

SAGES/IPEG Main Event & International Sing-Off

Saturday, April 25, 2009

Posters & Learning Center Open (Exhibits Closed)

Scientific Sessions (accepted oral & video presentations, incl. Plenary)

Karl Storz Keynote Lecture in New Technology: TBA

Health Policy Keynote Lecture: TBA

Patient Safety Panel – Chairs: Dennis Fowler, MD & Fredrick Brody, MD

SAGES/SLS Panel: Unexpected Findings at Laparoscopy Panel –

Chairs: Barry Salky, MD & David Earle, MD

SAGES/SSAT Upper GI Neoplasms Symposium – Chairs: Chandre Are, MD & Vivian Strong, MD

SAGES Annual General Membership Business Meeting

Technology Lunch: Industry/Surgeon Partnerships in Promoting Surgical Innovation –

Chair: Christopher Schlachta, MD

Emerging Technology Session – Chairs: Daniel Herron, MD & Gretchen Purcell, MD, PhD

MIS Jeopardy Session – Chairs: Butch Rosser, MD & Terry Hicks, MD

Overall Meeting ends at 4:00 PM Saturday afternoon

SAGES 2009 Meeting Coordinators

Program Chair: L. Michael Brunt, MD

Director of Program Operations: Brian Dunkin, MD

Associate Director of Program Operations: Ninh Nguyen, MD

Poster Chair: Aurora Pryor, MD

Poster Co-Chair: Donald Selzer, MD

Video Chair: Brent Matthews, MD

Video Co-Chair: John Sweeney, MD

Learning Center Chair: Dmitry Oleynikov, MD

Learning Center Co-Chair: Allan Okrainec, MD



SAGES 2009

Bariatric Liaison Group

The Bariatric Liaison Group is proud to announce that it has just recently completed a comprehensive pocket book on the fundamentals of bariatric surgery. The book is entitled “The SAGES Manual: A Practical Guide to Bariatric Surgery”. All members of the group contributed to this book and publication is anticipated for this fall. The group has been working closely with the Guidelines Committee to obtain co-endorsement of the “SAGES Guideline for Clinical Application of Laparoscopic Bariatric Surgery” from the American Society for Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS). The Bariatric Liaison Group also promotes collaboration between SAGES and the ASMBS. Last year SAGES and ASMBS put together a joint postgraduate hands-on course on flexible endoscopy for the bariatric surgeon, at ASMBS’ 24th Annual Meeting, which was quite successful! The course was repeated this year with another successful turn out.

Continuing Education

In 2006 the ACCME set forth new criteria for accreditation which asked providers to set a CME mission that focuses their CME program on the following: 1) improving one or more of physician competence, physical performance and/or the physician’s patient outcomes; 2) to strive to meet that mission through their program of CME activities based on practice-based needs; 3) to evaluate their success at meeting their change mission; and 4) to engage with their environment to enhance the role of their program, and of CME, in promoting quality and safety. The Continuing Education Committee has been leading the SAGES effort to meet these new criteria. The Committee, led by the Mission Statement Task Force, has developed a new educational mission statement that focuses on SAGES role in educating surgeons in the field and improving patient care in GI and endoscopic surgery. Along with this we have made additional modifications to the existing framework of evaluation methods, in a continuing effort to offer high quality educational programs.

SAGES Educational Mission Statement

SAGES, The Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons, aware of the vital role of endoscopy and minimal access surgery to patient care, has developed and implemented an educational program to help surgeons improve outcomes for patients who require these procedures. The expected results of the program are that surgeons will: 1) improve their knowledge and understanding of gastrointestinal and related diseases 2) learn or develop strategies to identify effective current and emerging technologies and techniques in endoscopic and minimal access surgery; 3) become competent to perform and teach the appropriate surgical techniques and new technologies; and 4) measure the effectiveness of their use of new techniques and technologies by documenting patient outcomes.

The scope of the educational programs will be designed to

meet the needs of the members of the society and will include the cognitive and technical aspects of gastrointestinal and minimal access surgery including diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopy, videoendoscopic surgery, and emerging technologies and minimal access techniques. Efforts will also be directed toward developing educational curricula for practicing surgeons and surgeons who teach fellow surgeons or surgeons in training. Educational programs will utilize both traditional and innovative methods of transmission of new information. Some programs may be developed in conjunction with other organizations. Educational activities will target knowledge and performance gaps of surgeons in the field and will be delivered in the context of sustaining, improving, and assessing the core competencies held by SAGES members.

The target audience will be surgeons in clinical practice, research and academic surgery, and surgeons in training.

The educational activities and services will include scientific sessions, symposia, didactic postgraduate courses, hands-on laboratory training that includes cognitive and skills assessment, enduring materials in printed and electronic formats, and the most currently available internet-based technologies.

SAGES goals are to enhance the knowledge and skill of practicing surgeons in the field and to improve the delivery of patient care in gastrointestinal and endoscopic surgery.

STATEMENT APPROVED BY THE SAGES BOARD OF GOVERNORS 4/9/08 (Revision of 10/27/91, 10/9/96, 01/25/00, 06/29/01, 11/05/01, and 10/19/05 Statement.)

SAGES 2008 Annual Meeting

Evaluations

All SAGES members received emails with links to evaluations for the sessions, panels, postgraduate and hands-on courses that you attended. Your feedback is vital to enhancing the program for next year and the years to come. As a part of our ACCME compliance process, SAGES will be following up with you in late summer to determine if you have changed your practice due to the information that was presented at the Annual Meeting. Please take the time to fill this out when you receive it.

Educational Resources

The Educational Resources Committee has developed new excellent and beneficial informational tools for surgeons and patients while enhancing existing projects. The committee is currently working on revising the SAGES catalog of **Patient Information Brochures**. The newly formatted brochure will feature a new sleek interface to the previously approved information. The first four topics to be converted into include Inguinal Hernia, Ventral Hernia, Laparoscopic Anti-Reflux Surgery, and Laparoscopic Colon Cancer. These NEW brochures will be available for purchase via cine-med.com/sages

Another great project is the **SAGES Case of the Month**, which features an interesting or unusual case presentation

which may include images or video. This module has been designed for the surgeon and general practitioner, providing a quick and easy to use method of sharing relevant information and experiences.

Classic SAGES Educational Projects such as the **Top 14** and the **Pearls** catalog are currently being enhanced, with new implementations scheduled to release in the next year. The SAGES Top 14 will soon become the Top 21. Upcoming Pearls issues currently in development include Lap Cholecystectomy, Incisional Hernia, Lap Band, and Gastric Sleeve.

For details on all official Enduring Material or to order, please visit www.cine-med.com/sages/ or call 800-515-1542.

FES

The Fundamentals of Endoscopic Surgery (FES) Task Force continues to make progress on the didactic, manual skills and assessment components of the FES program. Since October, the group has participated in a number of meetings and webinars to review the record number of test questions previously written and this summer the group hopes to begin beta testing phase. A meeting was also held to discuss the specifications of an FES simulator being collaboratively developed and designed with Simbionix. Dialogue was also recently started with a company to design a web-based learning management system for FES to seamlessly incorporate the didactic, skills and assessment components. Lastly, a select group has been working diligently on the development of a valid and reliable global assessment tool (GAGES) to measure flexible endoscopic skills and has begun a multi-institutional study. The abstract discussing this project was recently accepted to DDW.

FLS

The Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery (FLS) Committee and FLS Program continue to make great progress. The SAGES Meeting in Philadelphia was a great success with another sold-out FLS Hands-On Course and record numbers taking the FLS Test. This was in no small part due to the buzz surrounding the launch of the Covidien Educational Fund. Thanks to a landmark \$1.8M grant from Covidien, this Fund will help provide access to the FLS Program to all graduating surgical residents and fellows in North America over the next three academic years. Since its launch in early April, over 130 surgical residency programs and over 45 fellowships have taken advantage of this landmark opportunity representing over 2,100 residents and 245 fellows thus far. If you're a Residency or Fellowship Program Director and you haven't applied yet, visit www.flsprogram.org for more information or contact the FLS Office at 310.437.0544 ext 130.

This summer will finally see the launch of the web-based version of FLS with FLS 2.0 launching soon after with updated material, new videos, illustrations and a new section for patient scenarios. This past June, another first for FLS was a successful Postgraduate Course held in conjunction with the Association of

Colon and Rectal Surgeons Meeting in Boston. On the international front, FLS has been taken to Botswana, Ghana and Peru with continued growth in Australia and New Zealand thanks to the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons mandating FLS for all its surgical residents early this year. Other new initiatives being explored is FLS for RNFA's and physician assistants.

Check out www.flsprogram.org to see what else is going on in the world of FLS including the recently made available Proficiency-based skills curriculum that prepares individuals to pass the Manual Skills Test as well as create a feasible and cost-effective way to train residents. The five FLS tasks are also featured in detail in the Basic and Advanced Laparoscopy Modules of the ACS/APDS National Skills Curriculum currently available on www.facs.org.

Go Global

Luz Victoria Puriasca, 39-year old mother of 6, was admitted and entered the operating room on Monday, March 10, 2008, in Piura, Peru's Hospital Jorge Réatagui. She left the operating room sleepy but with no pain, and walked the morning following her surgery. Almost 48 hours later, Luz Victoria was sitting on her hospital bed waiting for her release forms and most eager to see her children, whose ages range from 5 to 17 years of age. She is a single mother and the sole provider for her family. Before her surgery, she wondered how many work days she would miss. For Luz Victoria, there is no sick pay and thus, no work means no food on the table for her children. "I am so pleased and surprised at how fast the procedure and recovery was. I feel good, calm, and happy. I can be with my children sooner than I expected." Luz Victoria's surgery is the result of the most recent Laparoscopic Cholecotomy course taught by SAGES Go Global volunteers.

Go Global Vision

To make basic laparoscopy and endoscopy available to all people of the world regardless of their financial circumstances.

Go Global Mission

To train committed local surgeons worldwide who care for those who have limited or no access to medical care to perform basic laparoscopic surgery and flexible endoscopic procedures.

The SAGES staff and the Go Global surgeon-volunteers work together towards these goals using a well-tested system of on-site didactics and proctoring to fully train committed local surgeons worldwide to perform basic laparoscopic surgery and flexible endoscopic procedures. This program leverages SAGES' membership expertise, its highly recognized teaching and training programs such as FLS, and the established SAGES outcomes database to bring a first class training experience to surgeons and hospitals who could otherwise not afford or gain access to such training. Patient safety and iatrogenic injury-avoidance are a core value of the program and emphasized during all phases of the training.

continued on page 12

As the Go Global program reaches its first year of activity, there is growing enthusiasm for participation by SAGES members and other health professionals. The core executive team is working with a leadership group as well as a growing advisory group to further develop the training modules and to schedule training programs in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, and Latin America. A program for training in basic flexible endoscopy will be ready for implementation later this year. The Go Global initiative program is currently supported by SAGES and the SAGES Foundation, with future funding being sought from industry and charitable sources. Collaboration with other surgical societies in the U.S. and abroad is critical for the success of the Go Global program.

It is possible to envision that in a few years, SAGES Go Global team members may be carrying out multiple courses each year on the five continents. It is exciting to see SAGES take on an international leadership role in bringing the benefits of basic minimally-invasive surgery and endoscopy to all people.

Contact Information:

For general information and updates, please visit the SAGES Go Global web page at: www.sages.org/projects/go_global/

For general inquiries, pre-requisite information, faculty interest, pre-requisite forms, etc., please contact Jacqueline Narváez (jacqueline@sages.org).

The SAGES Go Global laparoscopic training program will be donating laparoscopic equipment and instrument sets to selected hospital training sites in developing countries that cannot afford the equipment. These donations are intended to enable certain hospitals to participate in the Go Global training initiative, with the goal of becoming self-sustaining in 3 to 5 years. If you have functioning used laparoscopic equipment or instruments, or know of a hospital or industry representative that does, and would like to donate it to the Go Global program, please contact Maribeth Balon (maribeth@sages.org).

Guidelines

A complete list of all currently published SAGES guidelines can be found on the SAGES Publications page, including four recently revised publications :

SAGES Statement: *A Consensus Document on Robotic Surgery*
Prepared by the SAGES-MIRA Robotic Surgery Consensus Group

SAGES Clinical Guideline: *Guidelines for Diagnostic Laparoscopy*
SAGES Clinical Guideline: *Guidelines for Diagnosis, Treatment, and Use of Laparoscopy for Surgical Problems during Pregnancy*

SAGES Privileging Guideline: *Granting of Privileges for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy*

To access all current SAGES guidelines, visit <https://sages.org/publications/guidelines/guidelines.php>. If you are unable to access the guidelines on-line and would like a copy sent to you, please contact Yumi Hori at the SAGES office, (310) 437-0544 or via e-mail at Yumi@sages.org

Flexible Endoscopy

2008 SAGES Regional Course offerings:

SAGES has partnered with the Western Surgical Association for a special SAGES flexible endoscopy course to be offered at the WSA Annual Meeting, Sunday, November 9, 2008. The course, titled *New Modalities in Therapeutic Flexible Endoscopy Course*, will provide the participant with the latest information on therapeutic endoscopy as it pertains to surgeons and illustrate how flexible endoscopy is changing the face of minimally invasive surgery. This is a didactic only course and includes lectures by six surgical endoscopic experts on GI management, new technologies (stents, glues and clips), intraoperative endoscopy (surgically-assisted endoscopy/endoscopically-assisted surgery), new endoluminal treatments for GERD and Barrett's, and the future of endoscopy, including NOTES™ (Natural Orifice Transluminal Endoscopic Surgery). This half day course will take place at the Eldorado Hotel in Sante Fe, New Mexico. More information is available at <http://www.westernsurg.org/meeting/home.php>

2008 SAGES Flexible Endoscopic Surgery Courses for MIS Fellows

The next SAGES Flexible Endoscopic Surgery Course for MIS Fellows will take place in Miami, Florida, September 25th & 26th at the University of Miami and November 20th and 21st at the Methodist Institute for Technology, Innovation and Education (MITIE) in Houston, Texas. 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 on a "first-come, first-served" basis. 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 jacqueline@sages.org to request an application form.

Past MIS Fellows Course Supporters

SAGES gratefully acknowledges the following companies for their generous educational grant support and contributions in-kind:

KARL STORZ –ENDOSCOPY
 COVIDIEN
 BÂRX MEDICAL
 BOSTON SCIENTIFIC
 ETHICON ENDO-SURGERY INC.
 OLYMPUS SURGICAL AMERICA

In kind support:

COOK INC. · ENDOGASTRIC SOLUTIONS
 NDO SURGICAL · US ENDOSCOPY

Membership

The SAGES Membership Committee and Board of Governors congratulate and welcome 291 new members who joined the

SAGES family in April: 39 Active, 5 Allied Health, 208 Candidate, and 39 International.

Congratulations to the winner of the Membership Drive award this year, Dr. Austin Lehr from Galloway, Ohio. Dr. Lehr sponsored 17 new members. The prize is a \$500 value SAGES voucher and a wall certificate plaque. Also, special recognition is given to Dr. Adrian Park who sponsored 14 new members, Dr. Fred Brody with 12, and Drs. Bruce Steffes and Todd Heniford who each sponsored 11 new members. We want to thank the approximately 400 members who took the time to write recommendation letters and for spreading the word about the association.

The upcoming Membership Drive award and prize goes to the member who sponsors the most new members in the Fall 2008 and Spring 2009 review cycles. Application files must be complete and approved in order to qualify. Remember: the deadline for Fall 2008 applicants is September 12, 2008.

If any SAGES members know a colleague who could benefit from the knowledge and resources that our organization offers, and we bet you know several, ask them to apply!

What can SAGES do for you? The Membership Committee and membership staff always want to hear from the members to make sure that your personal needs are being met. Give us your input, ideas, and why you consider your membership valuable. You can send your comments to the Membership Dept at membership@sages.org.

Always remember to notify the Membership Dept of any changes to your member profile: Are you moving? Have you recently become board certified and need to be upgraded to Active status?

Category numbers as of June 2008 are:

Active	3506
Associate Active	11
Candidate	1360
International	576
Allied Health	65
Senior	406
Hiatus	17
Honorary	21
Total Membership	5962

Hot off the press!

The 2007 Impact Factors show that *Surgical Endoscopy* increased to 2.242.

Congratulations to SAGES journal editor, authors & reviewers!

Research & Career Development Academic Career Development Workshop

August 1-2, 2008

The Westin Michigan Avenue Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

For more information visit: <https://sages.org/leadership/committees/research/>

SAGES is providing an Academic Career Development Workshop designed for Fellows and Junior Faculty. This course is taking place in Chicago, Illinois on August 1-2, 2008 at the Westin Michigan Avenue Chicago. The overarching goal of this 1 1/2 day program is to provide fellows and junior faculty with a venue for interaction with experienced faculty with a track record of successful publication, funding, and mentorship. Topics will range from developing and organizing research studies to successful grant and manuscript writing strategies. Each participant will bring the specific aims portion of a research grant that will be edited, revised, and improved for submission to SAGES and/or other funding sources. Small group discussions on such protocols will provide practical training in research methodology, proposal writing, and manuscript preparation. Registration is limited to 40 attendees at a rate of \$250.00. This fee will include hotel accommodations, meals as well as all meeting materials. If you are interested in attending this course please visit <http://sages.org/leadership/committees/research/> or contact Maribeth Balon at maribeth@sages.org.

Resident Education

SAGES successfully offered the first international resident course on May 1-2, 2008 at the CSTAR facilities at the University of Western Ontario, in London, Ontario Canada. The program was limited to Canadian residents and every residency program was represented. Course Chair Christopher Schlachta organized a day and a half long course, which included both didactics and an intensive lab experience. SAGES received a generous educational grant from Ethicon Endo-Surgery Canada, with in-kind contributions provided by Ethicon Endo-Surgery Canada, Cook Medical and Olympus Surgical.

In Memoriam

Pioneer Phillippe Mouret Passed Away June 20, 2008

There have been many firsts in laparoscopic surgery, but most experts agree that Phillippe Mouret performed the first true laparoscopic cholecystectomy. In early 1987, Dr. Mouret, a general and gyn surgeon from Lyon, France, operated on a woman who experienced both gynecologic problems and gallstones. After concluding the gyn portion of the procedure he moved the laparoscope in the direction of the gall bladder and performed the first laparoscopic cholecystectomy. SAGES acknowledges his enormous contribution to surgery and extends its condolences to his wife, Christine, and his family.

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). (For the most updated information, please visit https://sages.org/education/endorsed_courses/index.php)

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Director: Daniel B. Jones, M.D. and David Feinstein, M.D.
For More Information Contact:
Carol Hughes
Phone: 617-667-5494 Fax: 617-667-9122
cahughes@bidmc.harvard.edu
330 Brookline Avenue, ES206
Boston, MA 02215
Contact Institution for upcoming courses. // October 05, 2007 - October 05, 2008

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

Directors: B. Todd Heniford, MD, FACS; Kent W. Kercher, MD, FACS; Timothy Kuwada, MD, FACS; Keith Gersin, MD; David A. Iannitti, MD; Dimitrios Stefanidis, MD, PhD; Chris Teigland, MD, FACS; Pierce Irby, MD, FACS; Ronald F. Sing, DO and others
For More Information Contact:
Judy Quesenberry
Phone: 704-355-4823 Fax: 704-355-8147
CLASP@carolinashealthcare.org
1000 Blythe Blvd.
P.O. Box 32861
Charlotte, NC 28203
Mini Fellowship for Open & Laparoscopic Ventral Incisional Hernia Repair & Inguinal Hernia Repair // August 14, 2008 - August 15, 2008
Mini Fellowship for Laparoscopic & Hand-Assisted Colorectal Surgery with Hands on Lab // August 17, 2008 - August 18, 2008
Laparoscopic Urological Surgery Workshop:
Laparoscopic Nephrectomy & Robotic Prostatectomy // September 11, 2008 - September 12, 2008
Mini Fellowship for Bariatric Surgery // September 26, 2008 - September 26, 2008
Mini-Fellowship for Advanced Laparoscopy Surgery; to include Laparoscopic Anti-Reflux, Laparoscopic Colectomy, Hand-Assisted Laparoscopy, Laparoscopic Ventral Herniorrhaphy, Laparoscopic Solid Organ and/or Laparoscopic Gastric Bypass // September 28, 2008 - September 30, 2008
Mini Fellowship for Laparoscopic & Hand-Assisted Colorectal Surgery with Hands on Lab // October 26, 2008 - October 27, 2008
Mini Fellowship for Hepatic Tumor Ablation // November 09, 2008 - November 10, 2008
Mini Fellowship for Flexible Endoscopy // November 12, 2008 - November 12, 2008
Inferior Vena Cava Insertion // November 14, 2008 - November 14, 2008
Mini Fellowship for Lymphatic Mapping and Sentinel Node Biopsy Workshop // November 20, 2008 -

November 21, 2008

Cine-Med, Inc.

Director: Michel Gagner, MD, FACS
For More Information Contact:
www.obesityeducation.com/icssg
Kevin McGovern
127 Main Street North
Woodbury, CT 06798
Phone: 203-263-0006 Fax: 203-263-4839
kmcgovern@cine-med.net
127 Main Street North
Woodbury, CT 06798
The International Consensus Summit for Sleeve Gastrectomy // March 19, 2009 - March 21, 2009

CUHK Jockey Club Minimally Invasive Surgical Skills Centre

Director: Professor Enders KW NG
For More Information Contact:
Joanne Hui
Executive Officer, Department of Surgery
Phone: +011 (852) 2632-2644
Fax: +011 (852) 2632-4708
joannehui@surgery.cuhk.edu.hk
3/F, La Ka Shing Specialist Clinic (North Wing)
Prince of Wales Hospital
Hong Kong
Contact Institution for upcoming courses. // December 12, 2007 - December 12, 2008

GEM Hospital India

Director: Dr. C. Palanivelu, MS, MCh(SGE0, MNAMS, FACS, FRCS (Edin)
For More Information Contact:
Phone: +91-422-2324100 Fax: +91-422-232-0879
Email: cp@gemhospital.net
45.A. Pankajamill Road
Ramanathapuram
Coimbatore - 641 045
India
Basic Laparoscopic Surgery // July 28, 2008 - August 02, 2008
Basic Laparoscopic Surgery // October 20, 2008 - October 25, 2008
Advanced Laparoscopic Surgery // November 24, 2008 - November 29, 2008
Basic Laparoscopic Surgery // December 15, 2008 - December 20, 2008

IRCAD-EITS

Director: Jacques Marescaux, MD, FRCS
For More Information Contact:
Guy Temporal, Project Coordinator
Phone: +33 388 119 000
Fax: +33 388 119 099
e-mail: secretariat@ircad.u-strasbg.fr
IRCAD-EITS
Hopitaux Universitaires
1 place de l'Hopital, BP 426
Strasbourg, France F-67091

Current Techniques in the Treatment of Severe Endometriosis // September 08, 2008 - September 10, 2008

International Advanced Symposium: "Laparoscopic Treatment of Urological Pelvic Cancers: Prostate and Bladder" // September 18, 2008 - September 20, 2008

Intensive Course in Laparoscopic Surgery // September 22, 2008 - September 26, 2008

N.O.T.E.S. (Natural Orifice Transluminal Endoscopic Surgery) // October 03, 2008 - October 04, 2008

Cours Intensifs en Chirurgie Laparoscopique Urologique // October 06, 2008 - October 10, 2008
Pediatric Endosurgery // October 16, 2008 - October 18, 2008

Colorectal Surgery // November 07, 2008 - November 08, 2008

Digestive Surgery // November 27, 2008 - November 29, 2008

Intensive Course in Laparoscopic Urological Surgery // December 01, 2008 - December 05, 2008

Intensive Course in Laparoscopic Surgery // December 08, 2008 - December 12, 2008

Techniques avancées en Endoscopie Gynécologique Opératoire // December 15, 2008 - Dec. 17, 2008

Legacy Health System: Minimally Invasive Surgery Program

Director: Lee L. Swanstrom, MD
For More Information Contact:
Yash Khajanchee, MD, Bev Oylear and/or Virginia Hankins
Phone: 503-413-4343 Fax: 503-413-5080
Vhankins@lhs.org
www.advancedlaparoscopy.com
Legacy Health System MIS Research Program
1225 NE Second Avenue
Portland, OR 97232
6th Annual Postgraduate Course Surgical Endoscopy, Advanced Laparoscopy and NOTES // September 17, 2008 - September 19, 2008

New York-Presbyterian Hospital/The University of Columbia and Cornell

Director: Marc Bessler, MD
For More Information Contact:
Nicole Kail or Josephine Caputo
Phone: 212-305-1496 Fax: 212-746-8539
Email: mb28@columbia.edu or jc2768@columbia.edu
New York-Presbyterian Hospital
161 Washington Avenue, Room 6-620
New York, NY 10032
Contact Institution for upcoming courses. // November 19, 2007 - November 19, 2008

Ohio State University and Case Western Reserve University

Director: W. Scott Melvin, MD & Jeffrey Ponsky, MD
For More Information Contact: Lisa Yeater
Phone: 614-293-9072 Fax: 614-293-7852
email: lisa.yeater@osumc.edu
558 Dean Hall
410 West 10th Avenue
Columbus, OH 43210
Contact Institution for upcoming courses. // November 26, 2007 - November 26, 2008

University Hospitals Case Medical Center

Director: Jeffrey Ponsky, MD
For More Information Contact: Cynthia Shega
Phone: 216-844-3209 Fax: 216-844-8201
University Hospitals Case Medical Center
11100 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44106
Contact Institution for upcoming courses. // September 11, 2007 - September 11, 2008

University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

Director: Jose M. Martinez, MD
For More Information Contact: Susan Mazzola
Phone: 305-326-6480
Fax: 305-326-6328
Email: smazzola@med.miami.edu
McKnight Research Building, Room 802
1638 N.W. 10th Avenue, D880
Miami, FL 33136

Contact Institution for upcoming courses. // February 18, 2008 - February 19, 2009

UT Southwestern Medical Center

Director: Daniel Scott, MD
For More Information Contact:
UT Southwestern Medical Center
5323 Harry Hines Blvd
Dallas, TX 75390-9059
Phone: 214-648-3792 Fax: 214-648-02317
Email: jennifer.leedy@southwestern.edu
Innovations in Endoscopy and Minimally Invasive Surgery // September 11, 2008 - September 13, 2008



This year, ALACE invited SAGES to participate in a joint Foregut Session at its 8th Annual Congress for Latin American Endoscopic Surgery. SAGES faculty included Michael Brunt, MD, Brian Dunkin, MD, Steve Eubanks, MD, Steve Schwartzberg, MD, Mark Talamini, MD and Peter Marcello, MD. Participating ALACE leadership included Natan Zundel, MD (President of ALACE), Estuardo Behrens, MD (ALACE Executive Director), and Rafael Espada, MD (Vice President of Guatemala).



SAGES

Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons



The Virtual Meeting

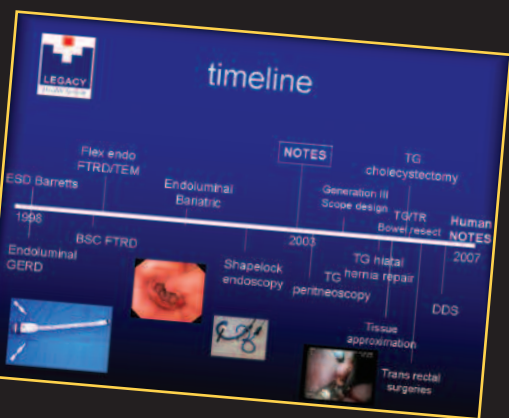
NEW on sages.org

Visit us on line and instantly access valuable content featured at the 2008 SAGES Annual Meeting.

Featured Sessions May Include:

- Key Note Lectures
- Bariatric Surgery PG Course
- Fellowship & MIS Program
- Basic Science Panel
- NOTES™ Sessions
- And much more!!

New material will be posted on a regular basis. Visit us soon to see what's NEW.



Initial experience with Transgastric NOTES Cholecystectomy

L L Swanstrom, C Dunst, M Whiteford, E Hungness, N Soper

Division of Minimally Invasive Surgery
Legacy Health System

SAGES Presenter Disclosure Slide

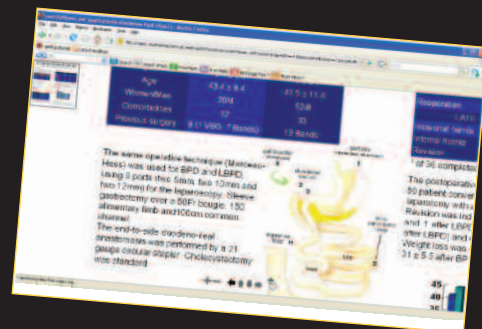
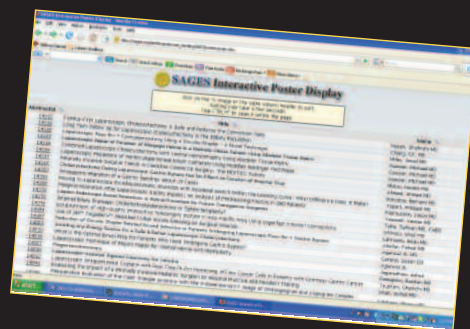
Michel Gagner, MD

Research grants: NIH, Covidien, Ethicon, Olympus

Adv. Board: Power Med, EMS

Multiple Formats:

- Video
- PowerPoint with Audio
- Digital Posters



3rd International Conference on Natural Orifice Translumenal Endoscopic Surgery (NOTES)[™]

The 2008 SAGES Annual Meeting held a session entitled, “ Best of NOTES”, with over 750 participants in attendance! This year, San Francisco hosted the 3rd International Conference on NOTES[™], July 10 -12, 2008, a joint initiative supported by the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE) and the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES). It was an exceptional event which featured NOTES working groups, working group reports, a review of NOSCARG grants, a “Best of SAGES and DDW® Session”, original abstract presentations, international NOTES group reports, live demos, a question & answer session, industry presentations, and networking opportunities.

On-Line Update

The SAGES web site debuted a new look and navigational system at the 2008 meeting. Many new features and content are coming online every day so if you have not visited the site recently, we strongly recommend you take a few moments to visit and refamiliarize yourself.

With the conversion to the new web site, we were forced to change our login processes slightly.

In the past, all members had to create a username and password and wait for webmaster approval before being able to log into the site.

The new site uses your email address as the username and we have kept your existing password if you had one. If you did not create a password, we assigned you a new, randomly-generated one and you will need to enter your email address and use the Recover Password button on any page of the site to obtain the password.

Another change has been made to the behavior of the site after one has logged in. On the old site, you were redirected to the protected Member Area after a successful login. Now, you are returned to the same page you were on when you logged it, but there will now be a new option on the left of the page for “Member Area” in red (see image). Clicking that navigation option will take you to the Member Area where you will be able to access the full navigation.

If you have any questions about using the new site or comments on things, please contact Jason Levine at webmaster@sages.org.

2008 SAGES Resident Courses

SAGES will be offering several basic and advanced courses this year for surgical residents. For course registration policies, please contact the SAGES Registrar Miriam Epstein at registration@sages.org or (310) 437-0544, ext. 128. Additional information is also available at http://sages.org/meetings/resident_courses/

August 14 - 15, 2008: Basic Endoscopy and Laparoscopy Workshop

Cincinnati, OH

Sponsored by Ethicon Endo-Surgery, Inc.

2nd and 3rd year residents

September 25 - 26, 2008: Advanced Laparoscopic Hernia Surgery Workshop

Norwalk, CT

Sponsored by Covidien

4th and 5th year residents – must be SAGES candidate members

October 2 - 3, 2008: Advanced Laparoscopic Foregut Surgery Workshop

Cincinnati, OH

Sponsored by Ethicon Endo-Surgery, Inc.

4th and 5th year residents – must be SAGES candidate members

November 13 - 14, 2008: Advanced Laparoscopic Colorectal Surgery Workshop

Norwalk, CT

Sponsored by Covidien

4th and 5th year residents – must be SAGES candidate members

SCENES FROM THE 2008 MEETING



At the 2008 SAGES Foundation Awards Luncheon, Dr. Barry Salky received the Distinguished Service Award (above left), Dr. Gerald Marks the SAGES Pioneer in Endoscopy Award (above, center), Dr. Patricia Sylla the Karl Storz/IRCAD Fellowship Award (above, right), and John Morton the golden scope for the Gyrus ACMI Young Researcher Award (near right).



Meeting attendees explore one of the many booths at this year's Exhibit Hall.



Gerald Marks Lecturer, Dr. James "Butch" Rosser with Dr. Gerald Marks.



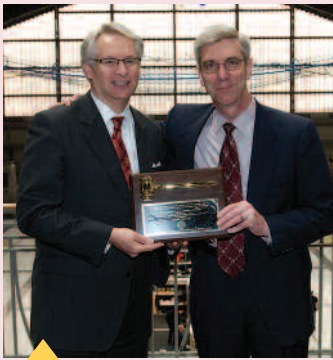
This year more than 2,100 attendees took part in the many postgraduate courses, hands-on courses, video and poster presentations, panels, sessions and debates.



The SAGES FLS Committee proudly accepted the \$1.8 million grant from Covidien for the launch of the Covidien Educational Fund.

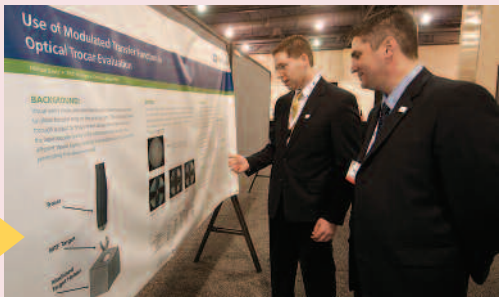


Karl Storz Lecture Thomas Krummel, MD presents *Inventing Our Future: Lessons Learned from Our Past and Stargazing to Our Future*.



Dr. Steve Eubanks handed the reigns of the Presidency over to Dr. Mark Talamini.

Health Policy Lecturer Professor the Lord Darzi of Denham KBE, HonFREng., FmedSci presents *The National Health Service in England: The Future of a Universal Service in the 21st Century*.



A meeting attendee discusses a poster at the Poster Session.



The 2008 Main Event and Sing-Off at the Constitution Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dr. Rick Greene emceed another Main Event as SAGES took over the Constitution Center for a night of dancing, singing, and mingling. In addition to the Sing-Off, attendees were able to enhance their knowledge of the U.S. Constitution by studying (and even emulating) the Signers of that famous document or perhaps by bumping into Ben Franklin. SAGES members paid homage to Philadelphia through Bruce Springsteen numbers and Rocky Balboa-esque fight scenes. The night, as tradition dictates, ended with the “We are the SAGES” number, led by our JSES colleagues from Japan.



AMA Annual Meeting Report

American Medical Association meetings have been referred to as a bully pulpit from which to discuss the great issues of medicine, a hall of influence at which we recommend legislation to Congress, a tower of Babel where we try to direct and correct ourselves, and a group of physicians meeting to impress themselves with their own importance and out of touch with reality. We have all heard these descriptions over and over again. The truth is that there is some life in each of these positions in the yearly meeting of the only organization considered to be strong enough to bring our case before Congress and have a chance to be heard. The AMA Annual meeting in Chicago began June 14, 2008. Several issues were debated that were of particular interest to SAGES members, including the AMA position on Corporate sponsorship of educational events, the pending 10.6% fee cut, the ongoing issue of health care for all and how to get there, and the seating of Specialty Societies in the House of Delegates.

Many issues are debated during the meeting and most are carried forward without much debate. They are usually procedural issues and have no real negative side. But we are able to fill three days with debate with what remained.

As members of the Gastrointestinal Caucus, the Surgical Caucus, and the Specialty Society Section, we participate actively in the debate over issues.

A major issue at this year's meeting was that of Corporate sponsorship of medical education. I believe that this was the most important issue for SAGES this year. A long analysis of the issue was presented which discussed the balance of corporate funding and the potential of utilization of products, drugs and instruments because of financial support instead of scientific reason. Support from paying for meals to honorariums to underwriting courses was discussed. The issue was debated for several hours in Reference Committee and then again on the floor of the House of Delegates. In the end it became clear that the problems associated with developing a clear policy that would garner a majority of support was not possible at the time. The entire issue was sent back to Committee for further development and no immediate action was recommended. I am certain that this will be a hot topic again at the next few AMA meetings. We will try to put together a specialty coalition to evaluate and act upon this issue.

As the meeting progressed, a general undertone of concern was apparent concerning the proposed 10.6% Medicare cut. The Baucus Bill had not passed out of cloture in the Senate and there-

fore could not be debated by them. Phone booths were established and the majority of the physicians assembled called their Senators and discussed their unhappiness over the Senate's failure to move forward. It appeared that even if a bill is advanced through the House and Senate, it will most likely face a veto by President Bush since the most likely financing will remove money from the private side of Medicare (Medicare Advantage) which Bush wants to leave in place. He feels that ultimately that program will bring down the Federal cost of Medicare by 10%.

Specialty group participation in the AMA continues to be an ongoing problem. This year ten specialty societies were scheduled to automatically lose their seats in the House of Delegates because of an inadequate number of AMA members within their group or because of too small a head count within their specialty society. It was felt that it was unfair to phase these Societies out when medicine needs more unification now than ever before and all seated specialty societies in the House of Delegates were frozen until this very contentious issue is resolved.

Finally, the global issue of health care as a right or a privilege continues. The AMA position on health insurance for all was unveiled. It includes television spots aimed at all Americans which will begin airing very shortly as well as advertising in magazines and newspapers. A major effort will be directed at Congress to effect legislation to make the program a reality.

Other highlights of the meeting included a very inspiring speech by President Ron Davis who is suffering from advanced cancer of the pancreas. He taught us all about the value of attitude, compassion, and the humor one needs to employ to win the battle against cancer. He pointed out that the odds of overcoming his disease are not large but as long as there is one survivor, he may be the one. We should never take away our patient's hope for recovery. He is a very brave man and is one of my personal heroes.

Nancy Nielson was inducted as the second female president in the history of the AMA and immediately went on record as supporting the health insurance program of the AMA. She is a very strong leader and is will guide the organization well through the coming year.

I urge you all to occasionally check out the AMA webpage to stay current with the organization's positions that effect us all, members or not. We are all in this together and I believe will win our battles based on unity.

—Eli Lerner, MD, FACS



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Episode VII

MS1116-7

Adrenal Tumors

Presenters: L. Michael Brunt, MD; William B. Inabnet, MD; Quan-Yang Duh, MD
Moderator: L. Michael Brunt, MD

Objectives:

Understand the clinical presentation and diagnostic evaluation of adrenal tumors.
Discuss Adrenalectomy Techniques.
Discuss Open vs Laparoscopic Adrenalectomy.

- Overview of Adrenal Tumors
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- Adrenalectomy Techniques
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SAGES Postgraduate Courses

SAGES Video Course Task Force Chair: Don Selzer, MD

Laparoscopic Surgery for Inflammatory Bowel Disease: Technical Issues MS1120

DVD Course Chair: Barry Salky, MD

Objectives:

- Discuss how and when to recommend surgery after failed medical therapy.
- Outline the technical aspects of simple and complicated Crohn's disease resection using laparoscopic techniques, including hand-assist surgery.
- Outline the technical aspects of total proctocolectomy with and without j-pouch in the treatment of ulcerative colitis.
- Describe the different techniques required to accomplish resection in the pediatric age groups.

Released April 2008, 3.25 credit hours of CME available until April 2010



MIS & Cancer: Debate on Controversies in GI Cancer Surgery MS1121

DVD Course Chair: Steven Brower, MD

Objectives:

- Discuss the current optimal endoscopic and surgical treatments for primary and metastatic GI malignancies.
- Compare the outcomes for patients undergoing MIS or open surgery for GI malignancies with respect to perioperative management and morbidity.
- Discuss the major controversies for the perioperative staging and surgical approach for the curative treatment of gastrointestinal malignancies.
- Compare the overall merits of MIS and open surgery for pediatric tumors.
- Discuss of the technical differences (if any) between MIS versus open surgery for GI malignancies.

Released April 2008, 7 credit hours of CME available until April 2010



Price: Members \$195.00 Non-members \$230.00

Accreditation: The Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (A.C.C.M.E.) to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians. Each program is designated for *AMA PRA Category 1 credits™*. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Support The Future of Minimally Invasive 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 Go Global

Initiative. 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 can make a long-term pledge, give appreciated stock, or make a straight donation online. As a SAGES Foundation donor, you will receive and be recognized on the SAGES Foundation Annual Report and website. There are many convenient ways to give, so consider making your mark and donate!

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SAGES 2009 Meeting

April 22 - 25, 2009 • Phoenix, AZ

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS
OCTOBER 3, 2008.**

(Please note that this deadline is 3 weeks later than in previous years. The deadline will not be extended and no late submissions will be accepted.)

Dear Colleague,

You are invited to submit paper and video abstracts to the SAGES 2009 Scientific Session. The meeting will be held April 22-25, Phoenix, AZ at the Phoenix 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, (8 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**. Please visit www.sages.org/meetings/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/meetings/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 2009 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 AND Video Abstract Presenters must submit a complete manuscript to *Surgical Endoscopy*. To fulfill the video manuscript submission requirement, authors must submit the presented video (complete with English narration) and the video abstract summary text to *Surgical Endoscopy*.
- **Digital Poster Submission:** If selected for a Poster Presentation, a digital version of the poster must be submitted.

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

Sincerely,

L. Michael Brunt, MD
2009 Program Chair



Save the Date!!

SAGES Scientific Session & Postgraduate Course

April 22 - 25, 2009, Phoenix Convention Center, Phoenix, AZ
(will be held with IPEG)

SAGES & CAGS host the 12th World Congress of Endoscopic Surgery

April 14 - 17, 2010, Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center,
Landover, MD (just outside Washington, DC)

SAGES Scientific Session & Postgraduate Course

March 30 - April 2, 2011, San Antonio Convention Center, San Antonio, TX

SAGES Scientific Session & Postgraduate Course

March 7 - 10, 2012, San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA



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