

# Scope



Winter, 2004  
Volume 04, Issue 1

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



**SAGES President**  
**Lee Swanstrom, MD**

## Focus on the Future

**A**t the start of a new year it is difficult not to spend time assessing the past year – and trying to see the path of future developments. Thanks to the energy and efforts of more than 300 committee and task force members we can be proud of the accomplishments of our Society in 2003. I am certain that SAGES will continue to build on these accomplishments for the next year.

We had an enormously successful Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, with the highest attendance ever for a non-World Congress year. The presence of almost 1,500 surgeons and allied health professionals tells us conclusively that in spite of a down economy, declining revenues and overworked and “meeting’d out” surgeons, there is still strong support for a place for surgeons to congregate – to share ideas, learn, network, see new technologies and simply relish in the company of like minded peers. We will continue to strengthen and promote our Annual Meeting, improving but not changing our winning formula and expect that the next meeting (March 31 to April 3 in Denver, CO), will be even better. Many thanks to the 2004 Meeting Director Jo Buyske, Chair of the Program Committee, Dan Deziel and the entire Program Committee for the excellent job they’ve done.

Our position in the hierarchy of North American surgery continues to grow. We are no longer a marginal Society of eccentric surgeons clinging to flexible endoscopy when the rest of surgery let go of it, or performing “outrageous” new laparoscopic procedures. We have a voice in the AMA (John Coller) and the American Board of Surgery, where former SAGES President Jeff Ponsky has been selected to become the next Chairman. We

interact on equal footing with all other surgical and medical societies, where we present joint programs, collaborate on common issues and act as partners in guideline endorsement, reimbursement issues and establishment of new procedure codes. We welcomed the American Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association to jointly meet during our 2005 Annual Meeting and have made future plans to have the Spring meeting of the ACS meet back to back with us starting with the 2005 meeting.

A major endeavor for SAGES has been the Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery (FLS) project, an exciting opportunity to objectively measure the impact of our education efforts. Phase One of FLS was finalized in 2003 through the untiring work of the FLS Committee and its Chair, Nat Soper. In addition to creating and validating this educational and testing tool, the FLS Committee has submitted an R0-1 Grant to the NIH – a first for SAGES. Dr. Soper now chairs a joint committee with the ACS that has been created to supervise the national rollout of FLS. The ACS Board of Regents is in the process of reviewing the joint plan. Regardless of the outcome, FLS will be available this Spring at six regional test centers – watch for one near you and sign up!

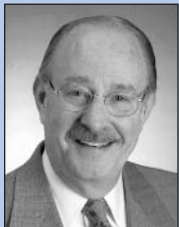
SAGES continues to work with other Societies to promote the interests of our members. While SAGES doesn’t lobby directly to the government, we can and do contribute money to the ACS which has a lobbying arm and testifies regularly on subjects such as welfare cuts and the liability crises. In 2003 we collaborated with the American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE) to establish CPT codes for endoscopic

*Continued on page 18*

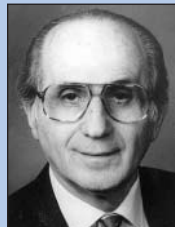
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The **SAGES Awards Committee and Board of Governors** is pleased to announce the **4 major 2004 award recipients:**



*Distinguished Service Award:*  
**Frederick Greene, MD**



*Pioneer in Endoscopy Award:*  
**George Berci, MD**



*Berci Lifetime Achievement Award:*  
**Gerald Marks, MD**



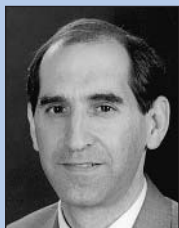
*Young Researcher Award:*  
**Daniel Scott, MD**

These awards will be presented during the Awards Ceremony at the Annual Meeting in Denver, Saturday, April 3, 2004, 9:00 - 9:30 am.

## SAGES 2004-2005 Slate of Officers

The SAGES Nominating Committee and Board of Governors is pleased to announce the 2004-2005 slate of new officers and Board members:

*Officers:*



**PRESIDENT -**  
David Rattner, MD



**2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**  
Steven Schwaitzberg, MD



**PRESIDENT-ELECT -**  
Daniel Deziel, MD



**SECRETARY**  
Jo Buyske, MD



**1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT -**  
Steven Wexner, MD



**TREASURER**  
Mark Talamini, MD

*Re-Appointed Board Members:*

Steve Eubanks, MD  
Dennis Fowler, MD  
Michael Holzman, MD  
Scott Melvin, MD  
Nathaniel Soper, MD

*New Board Members:*

Mark Callery, MD  
Karen Horvath, MD  
Namir Katkhouda, MD  
William Richards, MD  
Steven Rothenberg, MD

# SAGES Endorsed Courses

As a service to members, SAGES offers Course and Program Directors the opportunity to have their courses reviewed and endorsed by the Continuing Education Committee. For more information and applications, please visit the Endorsed Course Application page at [www.sages.org/endorsedcourses.html](http://www.sages.org/endorsedcourses.html)

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 Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES)

**Course:** Advanced Laparoscopic Suturing & Surgical Skills, San Francisco, CA

**Director:** Zoltan Szabo

**Dates:** Check with MOET Institute for dates

**Address:** Phone: 415-626-3400  
[www.moetinstitute.com/](http://www.moetinstitute.com/)

The courses sponsored by these institutions meet the guidelines established in the SAGES Framework for Post-Residency Surgical Education and Training and are endorsed by the Society of American Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES)

**Institution:** Virginia Commonwealth University Health System

**Course Director:** Eric J. DeMaria, MD

**Contact:** Phone: 804-828-0409  
Fax: 804-828-1933  
Email: [mbtowler@vcu.edu](mailto:mbtowler@vcu.edu)  
<http://www.lesspainsurgery.com>

**Courses:** Nov. 17-18, 2003, Laparoscopic Gastric Bypass Surgery  
March 15-16, 2004, Laparoscopic Bariatric Surgery  
May 24-25, 2004, Laparoscopic Colectomy  
Sept. 20-21, 2004, Laparoscopic Bariatric Surgery  
Nov. 8-9, 2004, Laparoscopic Bariatric Surgery  
Jan. 23, 2004, Laparoscopic Hernia

**Institution:** Center For Advanced Laparoscopic Surgery, Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Singapore

**Course:** Richard Sim, MD; Melvin

**Directors:** Look, MD; James Tan, MD

**Contact:** Phone: 65-6357-7807;  
E-mail: [gloria\\_seah@ttsh.com.sg](mailto:gloria_seah@ttsh.com.sg)  
<http://www.ttsh.com.sg>

**Courses:** Contact institution for upcoming courses.

**Institution:** Minimal Access Surgery Center, New York Presbyterian Hospital, New York, NY

**Course:** Dennis Fowler, MD; Mark M.

**Directors:** Souweidane, MD; Joseph DePizzo, MD & Ernest Sosa, MD; Stephen Cohen, MD & Tom Caputo, MD; Marc Bessler, MD; Lyall Gorenstein, MD; Jeffrey Milsom, MD & Richard L. Whelan, MD

**Contact:** Phone: (212) 305-0577  
<http://www.masc.cc>

**Courses:** Contact institution for upcoming courses.

**Institution:** Southwestern Center For Minimally Invasive Surgery (SCMIS), Dallas, TX

**Course Director:** Daniel B. Jones, MD

**Contact:** Phone: 1-800-688-8678  
[www.swmed.edu/home\\_pages/cmis/conted.htm](http://www.swmed.edu/home_pages/cmis/conted.htm)

**Courses:** Contact institution for upcoming courses.

**Institution:** Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA

**Course Director:** C. Daniel Smith, MD

**Contact:** Phone 404-727-1540  
[www.emoryendosurgery.org](http://www.emoryendosurgery.org)

**Courses:** Jan. 29-30, 2004, USSC Bariatrics Course  
March 4-5, 2004, Gore General Hernia Course  
March 26, 2004, USSC Lap Colon Course  
April 8-9, 2004, USSC Bariatrics Course  
April 16-17, 2004, Gore Advanced Hernia Course  
May 14-15, 2004, Gore Advanced Hernia Course  
June 18, 2004, Curon Stretta Course  
August 5-6, 2004, USSC Bariatrics Course  
August 26-27, 2004, Gore Basic Hernia Course  
Sept. 30, 2004, USSC Lap Colon Course  
Oct. 1, 2004, USSC Lap Colon Course  
Nov. 19-20, 2004, Gore Advanced Hernia Course  
Dec. 10, 2004, Curon Stretta Course

**Institution:** Legacy Health System, Portland, OR

**Course:** Lee L. Swanstrom, MD

**Directors:** Paul Hansen, MD and Emma Patterson, MD,

**Contact:** Yashodhan S. Khajanchee, MD, Education Coordinator  
Phone: 503-963-2877

[www.legacyhealth.org/education/meded/](http://www.legacyhealth.org/education/meded/)  
**Courses:** Contact institution for upcoming courses.

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

**Course:** B. Todd Heniford, MD FACS;

**Directors:** Frederick Greene, MD; Pierce Irby, MD; Chris Teigland, MD; Richard L. White, Jr. MD FACS; Kent W. Kercher, MD; Ronald F. Sing, DO; Brent D. Matthews, MD

**Contact:** Phone: 704-355-4823,

E-mail: [CLASP@carolinas.org](mailto:CLASP@carolinas.org)

**Courses:** Feb. 20, 2004, Lap. and Hand-Assisted Colorectal Surgery  
March 12, 2004, Lap. Ventral & Incisional Herniorrhaphy  
March 19, 2004, Laparoscopic Renal Surgery  
March 26, 2004, IVC Filter  
April 16, 2004, Lap. & Hand-Assisted Colorectal Surgery  
April 23, 2004, Percutaneous Tracheostomy  
May 16-18, 2004, Mini Fellowship for Advanced Lap. Surgery  
June 4, 2004, Lymphatic Mapping and Sentinel Node Biopsy Course  
June 18, 2004, Laparoscopic and Hand-Assisted Colorectal  
June 24-25, 2004, Mini Fellowship for Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease  
July 16, 2004, Lap. Ventral and Incisional Herniorrhaphy Course  
July 25-27, 2004, Mini Fellowship for Advanced Lap. Surgery  
Sept. 10, 2004, Lap. Renal Surgery  
Sept. 17, 2004, Lap. Ventral & Incisional Herniorrhaphy  
Sept. 24, 2004, Laparoscopic Colorectal (Resident Training)  
Oct. 15, 2004, Lymphatic Mapping & Sentinel Node Biopsy  
Oct. 24-25, 2004, Mini Fellowship for Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease  
Oct. 29, 2004, Laparoscopic & Hand-Assisted Colorectal  
Nov. 7-9, 2004, Mini Fellowship Advanced Lap. Surgery  
Nov. 17, 2004, Mini Fellowship in Flexible Endoscopy  
Nov. 19, 2004, IVC Filter  
Dec. 10, 2004, Lap. Ventral & Incisional Herniorrhaphy

**Institution:** Medical Training Worldwide (U.S. non-profit organization)

**Course Director:** Ramon Berguer, MD (President and Executive Director)

**Contact:** Phone 415-892-1550

**Course:** Courses will be held in different developing nations. Volunteers are needed to teach these courses. Laparoscopic equipment is also needed, which will be donated to hospitals where the courses are taught. Surgeons and corporate representatives are encouraged to contact Dr. Berguer for more information. An article about Medical Training Worldwide is included in the July, 2000 issue of SCOPE, available at the SCOPE Archives online.

## Outcomes

The SAGES Outcomes Initiative was recently featured in the January issue of *General Surgery News*. The monthly publication keeps over 37,000 readers abreast of current developments in general surgery. To view the article, go to [www.general-surgerynews.com](http://www.general-surgerynews.com). As of December 2003, there were over 12,000 cases in the database and still growing. To help facilitate data entry, the committee approved an upgrade of the PDA software which will be compatible with Palm and Pocket PC technology. It will be made available at the Denver meeting. For more information about these current events or to participate, contact Jennifer Clark at the SAGES office at (310) 437-0544, ext. 105 or [jennifer@sages.org](mailto:jennifer@sages.org).

## Educational Resources

The Educational Resources Committee is in the process of finalizing excellent and beneficial informational tools for both surgeons and patients. SAGES Top 14 Project, a revised collection of the top most common minimally invasive procedures performed by surgeons, will be available at the 2004 SAGES meeting. The SAGES Nissen Pearl, a procedure specific instructional series, concentrating on different, important steps of a Nissen procedure, offering instructions, tips, tricks and alternatives for these steps, will be available at the meeting as well. In addition, newly revised and approved patient information brochures on endoscopy and laparoscopy will soon be available. For more information, please contact the SAGES office at (310) 437-0544, ext. 109.

## Guidelines

During 2003 SAGES Guidelines Committee and the Bariatric Taskforce developed and distributed our latest guideline:

- ▶ Guidelines for Institutions Granting Bariatric Privileges Utilizing Laparoscopic Techniques

Guidelines which have recently been revised and distributed:

- ▶ Granting of Ultrasonography Privileges for Surgeons
- ▶ Guidelines for Training in Diagnostic and Therapeutic Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP)
- ▶ Guidelines for Collaborative Practice in Endoscopic/Thoracoscopic Spinal Surgery for the General Surgeon

NEW Guidelines currently under development by the SAGES Guidelines Committee:

- ▶ A Definitions Master Document

This document will include all definitions contained in SAGES current guidelines. Each SAGES guideline will reference this new guideline as they are revised and reprinted.

**ALL CURRENT SAGES GUIDELINES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE SAGES WEB-SITE.**

If you are unable to access the guidelines on-line and wish a copy sent to you, please contact Joyce Hasper at the SAGES office, (310) 437-0544 or via e-mail at [joyce@sages.org](mailto:joyce@sages.org)

## Technology Committee

The SAGES Committee on New Technology continues to explore over-the-horizon technologies and new applications of current technologies for minimally invasive surgery. Several articles have gone to *Surgical Endoscopy* for review and should be appearing in an upcoming issue. The Committee is also engaged in writing guidelines to allow surgeons to submit video for the 2005 Scientific Session in authored DVD format. Work continues on a position statement concerning the use of robotics in MIS.

## Membership

SAGES membership numbers grew by more than 300 between October 2002 and October 2003, notwithstanding all retired and/or discontinued memberships. This past fall, the SAGES Board approved a record number of 258 new members.

Membership Category numbers as of the end of 2003 are:

Active	2990
Candidate	966
International	511
Allied Health	15
Senior	317
Hiatus	18
<b>Total Membership</b>	<b>4817</b>

*Keep your eye on this box.*

**Look for the  
FLS Educational Program  
to be available in March  
and Test Centers to be  
open in April.**

## Publications Committee/Journal Update

*Surgical Endoscopy*, the official journal of SAGES, will be featuring “streaming videos” to add a new advanced educational dimension to the surgical aspects of interventional endoscopy and ultrasound. “Streaming video” allows the viewer to see the video immediately without waiting until the full file is downloaded. Be a part of this new exciting multimedia technology by submitting video content to *Surgical Endoscopy*.

Video content goes through the same peer-review process as all printed articles. It can be cited by other authors and is recognized by Index Medicus/PubMed, and other indexing services, such as ISI Current Contents.

There are three kinds of multimedia content to submit for publication: Long Submissions - original articles and reviews that are a maximum of ten minutes in length, the video is the article, with abstracts and references available in HTML format for citation; Short Submissions - technical notes & brief communications, which will be complete articles of two to three minutes in duration; and dynamic manuscripts. The latter are articles published in the journal’s print version, with illustrations that can be viewed as videos (for example, the procedure being illustrated) via the online edition.

Submit your video as you would any other article:

### **In North America send to:**

Dr. Bruce MacFadyen, Jr., c/o North American Editorial Office  
ATTN: Bernadine Richey  
117 Lexow Avenue, Upper Nyack, NY 10960, USA.

### **Outside of North America send to:**

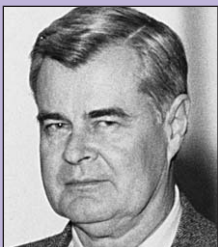
Sir Alfred Cuschieri, c/o Mrs. Jo Bennie  
*Surgical Endoscopy* Editorial Office  
17 Donaldsons Acre, Arbroath  
Angus DD11 5TA, Scotland, UK

The Multimedia Editor, Dr. Steven Schwaitzberg, will work with authors on their video content. Multimedia submissions require three copies and diskette of the abstract and bibliographic references along with a signed copyright form. Files for review should be formatted in MPEG-I or Quicktime MOV. Files that have been accepted for publication should be formatted in generic Microsoft AVI, Microsoft DV AVI, Quicktime MOV, or data format DVD. Please visit the *Instructions for Authors* on Springerlink.com for more detailed instructions.

Also available on Springerlink.com – *SpringerAlerts*. *SpringerAlerts* provide e-mail notices on upcoming publications including Online First™ articles for subscribers and registered individuals. Every alert contains a full reference to the print and online version of the issue, a listing of the Table of Contents, and a link to the abstract of the latest article requested. To register for any of the *SpringerAlerts*, visit [springerlink.com/Alerting](http://springerlink.com/Alerting).

Coming in the Fall of 2004—*The SAGES Manual, Second Edition*. This revised edition now features laparoscopy, endoscopy and a new section on thoracoscopy and laparoscopic bariatric surgery. Over fifty new illustrations have been created exclusively for this Manual. This is an absolute must-have reference for the general surgery resident and practicing physician. Visit [Springer-ny.com](http://Springer-ny.com) for forthcoming information.

*Surgical Endoscopy* serves as a worldwide forum to provide you with the latest essential information with the most advanced technology available. Help us to continue to meet this goal by taking advantage of “streaming videos” to enhance and share your work with the international surgical community.



### **In Memoriam—John VanSant, MD, FACS**

John VanSant was one of the founding leaders of SAGES. He died last summer and his loss was not only that of a great surgeon, a kind and gentle human being, but a courageous warrior in the endoscopic arena.

When Jerry Marks recruited John VanSant in 1980, the new organization was looking for risk-takers, innovators and those willing to challenge the status quo. If ever there was a person who *appeared* to be part of the establishment, it was John VanSant. He was a conservative, southern gentleman, respected by those protecting the medical establishment. But, he understood what you should do and where you should stand on any issue. You should do what’s right and stand with those who will fight the good fight. So, he became part of the SAGES founding leadership, serving as its Treasurer for several years. It was

through his calm, insistent management that SAGES started and remained on the road to fiscal security. John VanSant did not seek the presidency of SAGES, although he was encouraged to do so. He was willing to do the tough work, and seek none of the glory. From time to time after he withdrew from his active SAGES involvement, we would send him copies of the budget so he could see how well we were prospering, thanks to his well-laid foundation. He always wrote back wonderful letters of praise for the new leaders. John retired in the early 90’s and sadly suffered from Alzheimer disease until his death.

In a letter to his widow, Jerry Marks said “Were he not to have been spiritually aligned with our mission and were he to not have had extraordinary good common sense and leadership qualities, there is no question in my mind, SAGES would never have happened.” We continue to learn from the extraordinary example he set for us and we will miss him.

# SAGES Pursues Bariatric Codes

SAGES has partnered with the American Society of Bariatric Surgeons (ASBS) in the pursuit of codes for several laparoscopic bariatric procedures. At the November 2003 CPT meeting, seven (7) codes were presented to the CPT panel. Dr. Eric Weiss, SAGES representative to CPT, and Dr. Christine Ren, of the ASBS, testified on behalf of the codes, with support from the ACS. The seven codes were passed without controversy.

The next step in the process requires a survey to be drafted for each of the seven approved codes. In the process of developing the surveys, the surgeons realized that the descriptors for several of the codes were unclear, and therefore could not be surveyed as written.

Dr. Michael Edye, SAGES representative to the RUC, Dr. Ren and consultant Jan Martin, with input from SAGES Legislative Committee Chair, Dr. Aaron Fink and Drs. Charles Mabry and John Preskitt of the ACS, worked diligently to create surveys for three codes - one open and two laparoscopic.

Appropriate surgeons from SAGES and ASBS were identified to complete the surveys which assess physician work. (At the time this goes to print efforts are ongoing to obtain sufficient responses on the open code.) The group proceeded with work on the two laparoscopic codes and several conference calls later, the summaries were finalized for submission to the RUC. Drs. Edye and Ren will present the two laparoscopic codes, with support of the ACS, at the RUC meeting at the end of January, 2004.

In the meantime, the descriptors for the remaining codes (all related to the laparoscopic band) are being sent back to CPT for reconsideration at the February, 2004 meeting. The descriptors for the codes have been clarified and the group is confident that adequate survey results can be obtained.

In both cases the goal is for the codes to be printed and available in the 2005 CPT book. Check SAGES website and your monthly mini-SCOPE (email version) for updates.

SAGES will be offering seven basic and advanced courses this year for surgical residents. Tear this section out and post it on your bulletin board for fast and convenient reference.

## Basic Endoscopy and Laparoscopy Workshop

2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Residents  
February 5-6, 2004  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
Sponsored by Ethicon Endosurgery

## Advanced Foregut Surgery

4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Year Residents (Must also be a SAGES candidate member)  
May 6-7, 2004  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
Sponsored by Ethicon Endosurgery

## Advanced Solid Organ/Ultrasound

4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Year Residents (Must also be a SAGES candidate member)  
June 10-11, 2004  
Norwalk, Connecticut  
Sponsored by AutoSuture

## Basic Endoscopy and Laparoscopy Workshop

2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Residents  
August 12-13, 2004  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
Sponsored by Ethicon Endosurgery

## Advanced Foregut/Bariatric Course

4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Year Residents (Must also be a SAGES candidate member)  
September 9-10, 2004  
Norwalk, Connecticut  
Sponsored by AutoSuture

## Advanced Laparoscopic Techniques Course

Chief Residents and Fellows (Must also be a SAGES candidate member)  
December 2-3, 2004  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
Sponsored by Ethicon Endosurgery

## Web Site Update

The SAGES site continues to undergo revisions to make the site more dynamic and database driven. As a result of these efforts, the SAGES Public Member Listing has been transformed to the SAGES Public Member Profile area.

All members have the option of listing their practice information and as much contact information as you wish for people to view on the public site. Since the public member listing is usually one of the top five most visited areas of the web site, this is invaluable free visibility for your practice.

To create or maintain your public member profile, simply log into the SAGES member area and select Public Profile from the menu.

This year also marked the first time SAGES accepted abstracts for the upcoming Scientific Session entirely online. For the 2003 meeting, more than 80% of submissions came through the web site, so this was not a radical departure for the Society. A new submission system was created to handle SAGES abstracts and we are happy to report it a success.

More to come in 2004. Stay tuned and keep clicking.



**SAGES Program Chair:**  
Jo Buyske, MD



**Denver, Colorado**

### FEATURED LECTURES:



**Presidential Address:**  
Lee Swanstrom, MD



**Karl Storz Lecture in Innovative Technology:**  
**Surgical Education and Training into the New Millennium**  
Ara Darzi, MD



**Gerald Marks Lecture:**  
**Paradigm Shifts and Loss of Domain: Implications for Surgical Education**  
Jeffrey Ponsky, MD

### HANDS ON COURSE:

#### **Advanced Laparoscopic Techniques**

Chair: Sherry Wren, MD  
Co-Chair: Paul Cirangle, MD

### POSTGRADUATE COURSES:

#### **Complications in Bariatric Surgery and How to Manage Them**

Course Chair: Daniel Herron, MD  
Course Co-Chair: Santiago Horgan, MD

#### **Top to Bottom: GERD**

Course Chair: C. Daniel Smith, MD  
Course Co-Chair: Jeffrey Marks, MD

#### **Top to Bottom: Colon**

Course Co-Chairs: Anthony Senagore, MD  
Howard Ross, MD

#### **Minimally Invasive Surgery in HPB Tumors**

Course Co-Chairs: Frederick Greene, MD  
Ricardo Rossi, MD

### SAGES REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

You can find additional information about the SAGES meeting on-line at <http://www.sages.org/o4program/>. You may register for the SAGES meeting online at [www.sages.org/registration](http://www.sages.org/registration). The early registration deadline is March 1, 2004.

## SCIENTIFIC SESSION PANELS TOPICS:

### Clinical Trials 101

Moderator: David Rattner, MD

### Gut Motility Panel

Moderator: Daniel Dempsey, MD

### Minimally Invasive Endocrine Surgery

Moderator: Quan Duh, MD

### Patient Safety

Moderator: Desmond Birkett, MD

### MIS From the Far Side

Moderator: Kenneth Forde, MD

### Pros and Cons: Issues in General Surgery

Moderator: C. Daniel Smith, MD

## ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS:

### Learning Center:

Chair: Mark Callery, MD

Co-Chair: Daniel Jones, MD

### Primer on Establishing and Running a MIS/GI Fellowship Program

Course Director: C. Daniel Smith, MD

Co-Director: Adrian Park, MD

### Evening Video Session

Chair: Horacio Asbun, MD

### Allied Health Professionals Course

Chair: Donna Stanbridge, RN

Co-Chair: Annette Wasielewski, RN, BSN, CNOR

### Surgeon in the Digital Age Hands-On Course PDA Workshop for Surgeons

Chair: Steve Schwaitzberg, MD

Co-Chairs: Daniel Herron, MD and Alex Gandas, MD

### Resident and Fellow Scientific Session

Coordinators: Gretchen Purcell, MD

Ed Lin, MD

### Industry Education Events from Ethicon Endo-Surgery, Inamed Health, W.L. Gore and Associates, Inc.

## SAGES LUNCHEES:

### Educator's Lunch

**SAGES Fundamentals in Laparoscopic Surgery (FLS):  
Conception, Validation and Distribution**

Chair: Gerald Fried, MD

### Technology Lunch

**Robots: After the Honeymoon is Over**

Chair: Patrick Reardon, MD

### Pediatric Lunch

**Ileo-Colic Disease in Young Adults –  
Congenital Defects to Inflammatory Bowel Disease:  
Do We Do as Well as We Think?**

Chair: Steve Rothenberg, MD

## SAGES SOCIAL EVENTS

### Welcome Reception

**Meet the Leadership Reception for New Members,  
Residents, Fellows**

An Evening at Jillian's, including the  
7<sup>th</sup> Annual SAGES International "Sing-Off"

## SAGES 2004 MEETING SUPPORTERS

(as of Jan. 12, 2004)

### Platinum Level Donors

Autosuture

Ethicon Endo-Surgery, Inc.

Karl Storz Endoscopy-America, Inc.

Olympus America

### Gold Level Donors

Boston Scientific/Microvasive

Curon Medical

Inamed Health

Stryker Endoscopy

Valleylab

### Silver Level Donors

General Surgery News

W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc.

### Bronze Level Donors

B-K Medical Systems

Cook Surgical

Southern Anesthesia and Surgical

Synovis Surgical Innovations

Taut, Inc.



## **SAGES Education & Research Foundation Awards its First Grants**

**T**he Foundation is now in its fourth year and well on its way to the “critical mass” of a \$10,000,000 goal.

At its October meeting the Directors voted to award three grants to vital SAGES projects. The Foundation also established a formula for using non-capital income to provide grants on a continuing annual basis. The established formula is that a maximum of 5% of the foundation account balance, as averaged over the last 12 previous quarters, may be awarded in any year. This formula will preserve the principle. The first awards are:

- ▶ \$100,000 to the SAGES FLS Project (to be given over two fiscal years, 2003 and 2004).
- ▶ \$10,000 to SAGES in support of a strategic planning meeting to map a blueprint for the future of endoscopic surgery and minimally invasive interventional techniques.
- ▶ \$15,000 to fund one 2004 research Grant for SAGES.

Dr. Greg Stiegmann, President of the Foundation, expressed his delight that the Foundation is now able to support projects within the purview of its vision. A formal grant application process is being developed.

## **9<sup>th</sup> International Congress of European Association of Video Surgery**

**Aim of Congress is to present and apply the most recent technologies to the surgery.**

**Dates: April 22-24, 2004**

**Location: Hevelius Hotel, Gdansk, Poland**

**For more information or to register, visit [www.eavs-gdansk.com](http://www.eavs-gdansk.com).**

# SAGES Preceptorship Registry

Dear Colleague:

The Flexible Endoscopy Committee is continuing its efforts to better identify training experiences in flexible endoscopy that might be available around the country. We are interested particularly in identifying surgeons in private practice who may be able and willing to have a visiting fellow for either a short or long term who could assist in a hands-on fashion with flexible endoscopy cases. There are many residents and junior surgeons who are finishing their training with some experience in endoscopy but not enough numbers to qualify for credentialing. These surgeons are looking for places to do a mini-fellowship or preceptorship where they might increase their experience and number of cases for credentialing purposes.

Our impression is that this could be a win-win situation both for the trainee and for the preceptor. The stimulation of having young people come into your practice for a few months at a time or potentially longer might be quite enjoyable. Our discussions with some of the surgeons in the Rural Surgery Committee indicate that many surgeons in smaller and medium size communities are doing flexible endoscopy and would potentially welcome the association with either a training center or a program such as this to offer added experience.

To participate in the preceptorship program, please visit

SAGES website at [www.sages.org/preceptorship](http://www.sages.org/preceptorship). If you do not have access to the Internet, please fill out the form below and information will be mailed to you.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gary C. Vitale, M.D.

Chairman, Flexible Endoscopy Committee

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## Flexible Endoscopy Preceptorship Information Request Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please fax form to Christina Blaney at (310) 437-0585.



# Two New Video Courses Available From SAGES

## SAGES Laparoscopic Colon Surgery Video Course

Course Chair: Tonia Young-Fadok, MD

Released February 2004; Valid for CME until February 2006

**Objectives:** When the course is completed the attendees should have up to date knowledge on the status of laparoscopic colectomy for numerous indications. Further, they should take away one or several surgical approaches to the various components of the laparoscopic-assisted colectomy.

### Lectures:

Port Arrangements/Room Set Up	Kirk Ludwig, MD
Devascularization Ureter & Gonadal Vessels	Jeff Milsom, MD
Colonic Mobilization & Flexure Takedown	Toyooki Sonoda, MD
Intracorporeal Bowel Division ...	Joseph Petelin, MD
Diverticulitis	Steve Wexner, MD
Inflammatory Bowel Disease	Barry Salky, MD
Colon Cancer	Antonio Lacy, MD
Rectal Cancer	Morris Franklin, MD
Intraoperative CO2 Pneumo ...	Seng Lee, MD
Immunologic Ramifications	Jaap Bonjer, MD
Oncologic Impact	Richard L. Whelan, MD
Port Site & Incisional Tumor Recurrences	Christoph Jacobi, MD

**Accreditation:** The Society of American Gastrointestinal 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. SAGES designates this Continuing Medical Education activity for: **3.0 credit hours for the Laparoscopic Hernia Surgery Video Course** and **3.0 credit hours for the Laparoscopic Colon Surgery Video Course** in Category I of the Physicians Recognition Award for the American Medical Association. Each physician should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spend in the educational activity by entering the appropriate value in the field provided on the Evaluation Form.

## SAGES Laparoscopic Hernia Surgery Video Course

Course Chair: George Ferzli, MD

Released February 2004; Valid for CME until February 2006

**Objectives:** At the conclusion of this activity, the participant will be able to: Review different techniques of open and laparoscopic inguinal herniorrhaphy and related clinical outcomes; Gain an understanding of indications for inguinal herniorrhaphy and when hernia repair may not be indicated; Be able to recognize issues in patient selection and choice of techniques for ventral herniorrhaphy as well as recognition & avoidance of potential complications.

### Lectures:

Operative Anatomy for Inguinal & Ventral Hernias	Scott Melvin, MD
Should Tissue (Non Tension Free) Repairs Still Be Performed?	Bruce MacFadyen, MD
Should Every Inguinal Hernia Be Treated?	Robert Fitzgibbons, MD
Laparoscopic Techniques, Indications & Outcomes (TEP & TAPP)	Maurice Arregui, MD
Open Tension Free Techniques - Indications & Outcomes	Ed Felix, MD
Groin pain and other complications of inguinal herniorrhaphy	Robert Bailey, MD
Technique of Laparoscopic Ventral Hernia - To Suture or To Not Suture	Bruce Ramshaw, MD
Choosing Biomaterial: PPM Can be Used for Lap. Ventral Hernia Repair	Morris Franklin, MD
PPM Should Not be Used for Lap. Ventral Hernia Repair	Karl LeBlanc, MD
Outcomes Risks & Complications of Open & Lap. Ventral Herniorrhaphy	B. Todd Heniford, MD
Uncommon & Challenging Ventral Hernias	Dennis Fowler, MD

### SAGES Video Course Order Form:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Qty	Course Description	Format	Price	Total
	Laparoscopic Colon Surgery Video Course	DVD Only	Members: \$195, Non-Memb: \$230*	
	Laparoscopic Hernia Surgery Video Course	DVD Only	Members: \$195, Non-Memb: \$230*	

\* Call for volume discounts

\*\* Shipping is \$10 per video course set for US addresses, or \$20 per set for international shipments. Please call for express delivery rates.

All sales are final. Returns accepted for defective DVDs only.

<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	
** Shipping: \$10/\$20 per course	
<b>TOTAL DUE</b>	

**Payment:**  Check: Checks should be made out to SAGES. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

Credit Card:  Mastercard  VISA  American Express

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return order form to SAGES office via fax: (310) 437-0585, or by mail to:

SAGES - Attn: Video Course Order, 11300 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 600, Los Angeles, CA 90064

*President's Message continued from page 1.*

antireflux procedures and with the American Society of Bariatric Surgery (ASBS) for codes for laparoscopic bariatric procedures. In 2004, I can promise that we will continue to use our strength and influence to push our agenda and defend our member's interests.

SAGES prides itself on being both a forum for the everyday "working" surgeon as well as fostering the highest academic standards. We have always supported the training of surgery residents, offering several courses each year for them and encouraging their participation in the annual meeting. We have also long supported the concept of Fellowships as a source of new leadership for the future – an idea whose wisdom is being demonstrated as we see the first generation of Laparoscopic Fellowship trained surgeons become department heads and chairmen of major teaching institutions. 2004 will continue SAGES' representation on the Minimally Invasive Surgery Fellowship Council, the group responsible for running the Fellowship Match and for creating standards for quality training. SAGES also has a tremendous track record for sponsoring research – the wellspring of tomorrow's procedures. In 2003 we awarded 10 research grants and this will be the first year that SAGES' Foundation (your Foundation) will distribute grants –

the first step towards insuring that SAGES can independently support research in the future.

SAGES has not rested on its laurels but continues to lead the way to the future practice of surgery. Last year saw the Society approving guidelines for bariatric surgery, tackling tough issues like the place of obesity surgery in children, putting on forums on robotics and computer augmented surgical training as well as supporting a host of other "cutting edge" concepts and approaches. No one can predict the future of surgery, but one can be sure that whether it will be interventional flexible endoscopy or robotics, SAGES will be there first.

As a society, SAGES has matured and can now refer back to a rich and eventful history. But your Society also constantly has its eye on the horizon and will be there before anyone else; to make sure your interests are protected, to provide high quality education, establish guidelines to protect your patients and always bring excitement to the practice of surgery. I look forward to seeing you all in Denver this Spring.

–Lee Swanstrom, MD  
SAGES President

# Save these Dates!

## SAGES Upcoming Annual Meetings

March 31 - April 3, 2004	Denver, CO
April 13 - 16, 2005	Ft. Lauderdale, FL <i>with AHPBA</i>
Held consecutively with the ACS Spring Meeting	
April 26 - 29, 2006	Dallas, TX <i>with IPEG</i>
Held consecutively with the ACS Spring Meeting	
April 19 - 22, 2007	Las Vegas, NV
Held consecutively with the ACS Spring Meeting	

## Other Meetings and Congresses

February 2 - 7, 2004	9th World Congress of Endoscopic Surgery (hosted by FELAC/ALACE)	Cancun, Mexico
May 5 - 8, 2004	13th Annual Congress for Endo-Surgery in Children IPEG	Maui, HI
May 16 - 19, 2004	DDW	New Orleans, LA
May 8 - 13, 2004	ASCRS	Dallas, TX
June 2 - 6, 2004	IHPBA	Washington, DC
June 9 - 12, 2004	EAES	Barcelona, Spain
October 10 - 15, 2004	ACS	New Orleans, LA

### Society of American Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Surgeons

11300 W. Olympic Boulevard, Suite 600  
Los Angeles, CA 90064  
Phone: (310) 437-0544  
Fax: (310) 437-0585  
E-mail: [sagesweb@sages.org](mailto:sagesweb@sages.org)  
[www.sages.org](http://www.sages.org)

### SAGES EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Executive Director: Sallie Matthews  
Director Emeritus: Barbara Saltzman Berci  
Newsletter Editor: Christina Blaney  
11300 W. Olympic Boulevard, Suite 600  
Los Angeles, CA 90064, U.S.A.  
Tel: (310) 437-0544  
Fax: (310) 437-0585  
E-mail: [sagesweb@sages.org](mailto:sagesweb@sages.org)  
[www.sages.org](http://www.sages.org)

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