

Scope



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



SAGES President
Daniel J. Deziel, MD

Island Hopping

It is winter in Chicago and in these and other northern climates, the islands we often think of are of the tropical variety. The image of a sand beach and azure sea bedazzled by sun is a welcomed refuge from the sullied snow and windborne chill that whips Lake Michigan into a front of frozen grey. John Donne, the early 17th century British poet and preacher, knew of chill and meager times. The island metaphor he recounts in his oft quoted Meditation XVII (*Nunc lento sonitu dicunt, Morieris*) has a more somber strain than a winter fantasy of fruit drinks and festival: “No man is an island, entire of itself, every man is a piece of the Continent, a part of the main.”

Donne linked the individual and the community, the specific and the general, as inseparable components of the human condition. It seems to me, in this grand new year of 2006, that this very concept applies to modern medical societies. As knowledge and technology race headlong in pursuit of disease processes, the distinction between physicians who treat similar conditions as different specialists becomes increasingly blurred. The natural evolution is collaboration as we decipher the best way to attack a common enemy with our ever expanding arsenal of molecular and mechanical tools.

SAGES is proudly on the crest of numerous collaborative pursuits. Perhaps the most acute example is the merger of minimally invasive surgery and endoscopy. In March, SAGES and the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE) will jointly host the first International Conference on Natural Orifice Translumenal Endoscopic Surgery (NOTES). This meeting will bring together gastroenterologists and surgeons, teams of experts in flexible endoscopy and laparoscopic surgery from

around the world to explore the challenges in bringing transluminal endotherapy to the clinical realm. In another specialty-spanning effort, SAGES and the Minimally Invasive Robotics Association (MIRA) will sponsor the Robotics Guidelines Writing Consensus Conference in June. In these and in other timely endeavors, the citizenry of practitioners from multiple professional islands are linked.

It is a natural consideration that professional organizations might open ports of membership to their colleagues who, although of different brand, are like-linked in battle: call it island hopping if you will. To this end, SAGES Board of Governors has approved an amendment to the society’s by-laws that would open the Associate Active membership category to “non-surgeon” gastrointestinal endoscopists with specific qualifications. This amendment must yet be voted on by the general membership and is no doubt controversial for some. From my vantage, this proposal will in no way compromise our identity and can only strengthen SAGES ability to influence the evolving challenges of caring for patients with GI afflictions.

SAGES is also continuing its inter- *Continued on page 22.*

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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2006 Awards

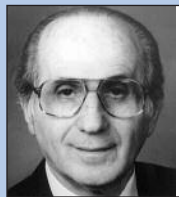
The SAGES Awards Committee and Board of Governors are pleased to announce the five major 2006 award recipients:



Distinguished Service Award:
Bruce MacFadyen, Jr., MD



Young Researcher Award:
Leena Khaitan, MD



Berci Lifetime Achievement Award:
George Berci, MD

IRCAD Traveling Fellowship Award:
Carlos Galvani, MD



Pioneer in Endoscopy Award:
Gregory V. Stiegmann, MD

These awards will be presented during the Awards Ceremony at the Annual Meeting in Dallas, on Saturday, April 29, 2006 from 11:00 - 11:45 AM.

To the right is an excerpt from a letter by Dr. Eric Hungness, the 2005 IRCAD Traveling Fellowship Award recipient, regarding his trip to Strasbourg, France. To view the entire letter, please visit <http://www.sages.org/education/ircad.html>

“...I would like to thank Storz and IRCAD, as well as the SAGES Awards Committee, for the opportunity to visit Strasbourg, France as a traveling fellow. I attended the Advanced Laparoscopic GI Surgery course at IRCAD from October 18 - 20, 2005, which was hosted by Professor Jacques Marescaux, president and founder of IRCAD, and moderated by Professor Michael Bailey, president of the Association of Laparoscopic Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland. They, along with world renowned experts, including Dr. Lee Swanstrom and Dr. Bernard Dallemagne, put on an outstanding program centered on live telesurgery and hands-on animal labs.

I have attended many laparoscopic courses throughout my training, but never as the only American. In fact, of the 66 course participants, 33 countries spanning 5 continents were represented. This truly put an “international flavor” on the course, which opened my myopic surgical eyes and helped me realize that globalization is not just something that’s happening in economics and trade. Most importantly, it showed me that the American way of performing laparoscopic surgery is not the only way...”

SAGES 2006 - 2007 Slate of Officers

The SAGES Nominating Committee and Board of Governors are pleased to announce the 2006-2007 slate of new Officers and Board members.



◀ **PRESIDENT**
Steven Wexner, MD



PRESIDENT-ELECT ▶
Steve Eubanks, MD



◀ **1ST VICE PRESIDENT**
(2 year term)
C. Daniel Smith, MD



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



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



TREASURER ▶
(3 year term)
Mark Talamini, MD

Board Members—Three-Year Terms:

Re-Appointments:

B. Todd Heniford, MD	Adrian Park, MD
Daniel Herron, MD	Philip Schauer, MD
Karen Horvath, MD	Steven Schwaitzberg, MD
Daniel Jones, MD	

New Members:

Horacio Asbun, MD
(1 year term, fulfilling unexpired term of Steve Eubanks)
Michael Brunt, MD
Brian Dunkin, MD
(1 year term, fulfilling unexpired term of Scott Melvin)
Paresh Shah, MD
Tonia Young-Fadok, MD

Rotating Off:

Robert Bailey, MD	Jeffrey Ponsky, MD
David Easter, MD	Bruce Schirmer, MD
Michael Nussbaum, MD	Steven Stain, MD

This section of SCOPE explores the science and ethics of surgical endoscopy and attempts to address some controversial questions.

Your thoughts and comments will be enthusiastically received. Letters to the editor will be published on a space-available basis.

Sustainable Growth Rate And Pay for Performance – A Surgical Perspective

By **Eli Lerner, MD**

Chair, SAGES Legislative Review Committee

Surgeons are currently faced with two factors which do or will affect our reimbursement – the Sustainable Growth Rate and Pay for Performance. The Sustainable Growth Rate refers to the speed at which Medicare is allowed to up or downgrade medical costs, including fees. The increases have to be balanced against decreases for an essentially zero increase in Medicare spending year to year.

Pay for Performance refers to a plan that will financially reward physicians who practice within parameters, which are yet to be announced, and financially punish those who don't. It may amount to a difference of only 0.5% to 2.0% between the two groups, but this can be significant. Currently we are not certain that there are good tools to factor in acuity of care. We all know that there may be vast differences in the management of patients with the same condition based on their level of sickness.

That being said, physicians can make an impact on the Sustainable Growth Rate problem. The government plans to maintain the SGR and push forward with Pay for Performance (P4P). This has the potential to lead surgeons down a road of opposition with other physicians and will result in draconian Medicare cuts to the tune of 26%.

The first step in this downward spiral begins with a 4.4% decrease in Medicare payments in 2006. This single cut may cause physicians to limit the number of Medicare patients they accept or cause them to drop out of Medicare completely. An AMA survey showed that 38 percent of physicians will decrease the number of new Medicare patients they accept due to this first Medicare payment cut. And that is just the beginning; further cuts are scheduled to come after 2006.

The survey results show additional practice changes physicians will be forced to make as a result of the cuts. For example, if Medicare payments are cut by about 5 percent in 2006, 61 percent of physicians plan to defer purchase of new medical equipment and 54 percent plan to defer purchase of information technology. This is alarming because the entire future of health care is based on technological and informatics progress and application.

Actually, when it first started, P4P was locked arm-in-arm with Congress, dropping the SGR. This would allow for increases not to be budget neutral (currently an increase in one area of medicine means a decrease somewhere else in order to maintain budget neutrality). This concept was widely embraced

by surgeons as this marriage (P4P and SGR) would allow for a more reasonable fee structure. Additionally, it fostered the development over time of a quality system which could improve parameters of care globally. We all began working towards those goals.

Then hard reality set in – compliments of Washington.

Government claimed that there was not enough money to accomplish removing the SGR. Excuses included hurricanes and war. Congress and the Senate decided to keep the SGR in place and still pursue P4P. All of this major decision-making has been done in a period of weeks, not a lot of time to spend discussing the future of health care for our elderly (as we all know, many other insurers follow the lead of Medicare, which translates into a bad plan for healthcare nationwide).

Congress has floated a plan that will give surgeons all a 1% raise if we will go along with SGR and P4P. One percent does not even cover inflation in health care costs over the past year and leaves us wide open for the continuing cuts in the years to follow. However, there is no remedy in place for the 4.4% decrease in 2006 and the 26% decrease over the next six years.

There also is the unaddressed problem of the underachievers under P4P who will lose more financially, many times because of situations over which they have no control, such as the advanced state of disease the patient faces and problems with adequate hospital staffing. The American College of Surgeons has an excellent position paper on the issue of P4P posted on their web page, and if you read carefully, you will see that once again, the surgical community has taken the lead and essentially completed Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the program. Phase 1 and 2 were simple quality goals, such as surgical site marking and pain management tools. Only Phase 3, the financial phase, remains for implementation with a scheduled take-off in 2006. I believe that this phase will be under the control of the CMS.

AMA Board Chairman Duane M. Cady, MD, FACS told members of a key House subcommittee that the AMA strongly urges Congress to enact at least two years of positive payment updates (increases in Medicare payments), giving Congress time to enact a long-term solution while preserving seniors' access to care in the short term.

Frank Opelka, MD, FACS, a member of the ACS Health Policy Steering committee, also testified to the subcommittee on behalf of the American College of Surgeons. Dr. Opelka expressed the College's concern that the 4.4 percent cut in Medicare payments, which went into *Continued on page 11.*

2006 SAGES Resident Courses

SAGES will be offering several basic and advanced courses this year for surgical residents. For course registration policies, please contact Jackie Reed at (310) 437-0544, ext. 108.

Basic Endoscopy and Laparoscopy Workshop

February 9 - 10, 2006

2nd and 3rd Year Residents

Cincinnati, Ohio

Sponsored by Ethicon Endosurgery

Advanced Laparoscopic Foregut Workshop

May 8 - 9, 2006

4th and 5th Year Residents

Must be a SAGES Candidate Member

Cincinnati, Ohio

Sponsored by Ethicon Endosurgery

Advanced Laparoscopic Solid Organ/Foregut Surgery Workshop

June 8 - 9, 2006

4th and 5th year residents only

Must be a SAGES Candidate Member

Norwalk, CT

Sponsored by Autosuture

Basic Endoscopy and Laparoscopy Workshop

August 17 - 18, 2006

2nd and 3rd Year Residents

Cincinnati, Ohio

Sponsored by Ethicon Endosurgery

Advanced Laparoscopic Hernia Surgery Workshop

September 14 - 15, 2006

4th and 5th year residents only

Must be a SAGES Candidate Member

Norwalk, CT

Sponsored by Autosuture

Advanced Laparoscopic Techniques Surgery Workshop

September 25 - 26, 2006

Chief Residents and Fellows only

Must be a SAGES Candidate Member

Cincinnati, Ohio

Sponsored by Ethicon Endosurgery Institute

Advanced Laparoscopic Intestinal Surgery Workshop

November 2 - 3, 2006

4th and 5th year residents only

Must be a SAGES Candidate Member

Norwalk, CT

Sponsored by Autosuture

Why Membership in the AMA IS Important

Are you concerned about reimbursement? What about medical liability reform? Do you wonder about patient's diminishing access to quality care? If you answered yes to any of these questions then your membership in the American Medical Association (AMA) is important.

SAGES has become increasingly involved in these issues over the past few years. The primary point of access for SAGES into this arena is the AMA. Because we have a seat in the AMA House of Delegates (HOD), we are given the opportunity to have representation on both the CPT and RUC Advisory Councils. Establishing our presence at this level gives SAGES credibility as a player in the socio-political field.

While we continue to gain experience and recognition, there is no denying that being a part of a larger organization has its benefits. The AMA is the leader in medical liability reform. The government recognizes the AMA as representing physicians across the country. They take the lead in tracking action on Capital Hill and organizing member associations as well as grass roots efforts.

In order for SAGES to retain its seat in the HOD, a significant percentage of our members also have to be members of the AMA. Please check your AMA membership status and keep it current. To join the AMA or renew your membership, visit the AMA website:

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

Outcomes

The SAGES Outcomes Initiative reached its record 20,000th case on December 7, 2005. The program continues to expand and is in the process of rolling out an EGD registry as well as a Pediatric registry, in conjunction with the International Pediatric Endosurgery Group (IPEG). Other modules in development are robotics and an appendix registry. The new PDA software is available for current participants. To operate the software, you must have a current User ID and Password, Palm OS 3.5 or later, and Microsoft Access 2000 or later. Participation is free to all SAGES members. To register, contact Jennifer Clark in the SAGES office at jennifer@sages.org or (310) 437-0544, ext. 105.

Flexible Endoscopy

In its ongoing mission to introduce general surgeons to the benefits of flexible endoscopy, the committee successfully presented an advanced therapeutic endoscopic course at two regional meetings. Held in the Fall of 2005, these courses were presented during the New England Surgical Society Meeting and the Western Surgical Association Meeting and supported by a generous educational grant from Olympus. A recent membership survey indicated that over 60 percent of SAGES members currently practice endoscopy and feel that it will play an important role in their future practice. The committee continues to work on projects to promote training and practice of flexible endoscopy in general surgery.

Resident Education

For the second consecutive year, the Resident Education Committee is sponsoring a resident to attend the SAGES Annual Meeting in Dallas. Congratulations to Dr. Robert Wilmoth from the University of Tennessee Medical Center in Knoxville. Additionally, the Exhibit Advisory Council and Resident Education Committee awarded a complimentary trip to the SAGES Annual Meeting to three fellows. The three fellows are Yuri Novitsky, MD from Carolinas Medical Center, Sergey Lyass, MD from Cedars Sinai Medical Center and J. Esteban Varela, MD from the University of California Irvine Medical Center.

The Resident Education Committee would like to thank all resident course faculty members who recently donated their honorarium to the American Red Cross on behalf of the victims of the hurricanes. Your generosity and kindness are greatly appreciated.

Guidelines

New SAGES Guideline Available:

Guidelines for Laparoscopic Resection of Curable Colon and Rectal Cancer is the newest in the series of clinical practice guidelines issued by SAGES. This guideline was developed in collaboration with the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons (ASCRS).

All current SAGES guidelines are available on the SAGES website.

If you are unable to access the guidelines on-line and wish a copy sent to you, please contact Jacqueline Narvaez at the SAGES office, (310) 437-0544, or via e-mail at Jacqueline@sages.org

Publications Committee

Now Available!

Two new SAGES manuals made their debut at the American College of Surgeons meeting last month. *The SAGES Manual: Fundamentals of Laparoscopy, Thoracoscopy and GI Endoscopy*, 2nd Edition, edited by Carol Scott-Conner, features an entirely new section on thoracoscopy, a greatly expanded section on laparoscopic bariatric surgery, and new chapters on hand-assisted laparoscopy. In addition to this new material, all chapters have been revised and updated to reflect the current state of the art in minimally invasive surgery.

New this year is *The SAGES Manual of Perioperative Care in Minimally Invasive Surgery*, edited by Drs. Richard (Larry) Whelan, James Fleshman and Dennis Fowler. This book focuses on perioperative concepts and strategies for successful patient management before, during and after minimally invasive surgery. From preoperative evaluation and technique selection to post-operative management, this easy-to-read manual provides strategies that not only optimize outcomes but also ensure quality patient care beyond the operating room.

Both books are available online at www.springeronline.com or by calling 800-SPRINGER.

Public Information Committee

The Public Information Committee has completed 10 patient/primary care PowerPoint files (see On-Line Update for list) and will be converting each of them to a web site this winter. The committee is now looking at different methods to put patients in touch with SAGES member surgeons and will be at the forefront of writing more surgeon-to-patient literature.

On Line Update

Visit the SAGES Patient Information Web Sites:

Disease	Web Site	Going Live?
Colonoscopy	www.colonoscopy.info	Live
GERD	www.gerdsurgery.info	Live
Morbid Obesity	www.morbid-obesity.info	Live
Adrenalectomy	www.adrenalsurgery.info	Live
Colectomy	www.colon-surgery.info	Live
Donor Nephrectomy	www.kidney-donor.info	February-06
Gallbladder & CBD	www.gallbladder-surgery.info	March-06
Hernia	www.hernia-surgery.info	Live
Splenectomy	www.spleensurgery.info	April-06

Each site is based on a PowerPoint file created by the SAGES Public Information Committee. All visitors can view the PowerPoint content online and download a PDF version of the file. SAGES Members can download the PowerPoint file and use it in their presentations.

Educational Resources

The Educational Resources Committee has developed excellent and beneficial informational tools for surgeons and patients. The recently revised Patient Information Brochures can be ordered through sages.org. Test your skills with the SAGES Web Quizzes, also available on-line and updated monthly.

SAGES Top 14 Project, a revised collection of the top most common minimally invasive procedures performed by surgeons, is now available. The SAGES Nissen and Bariatric Pearls, a procedure specific instructional series, concentrating on different, important steps of a nissen and bariatric procedure, offering instructions, tips, tricks and alternatives for these steps, are available as well. Upcoming Pearls issues including Right/Left Hemicolectomy and Inguinal Hernia are scheduled for a Spring 06 release. To order, please visit www.cine-med.com/sages/ or call 800-515-1542.

FLS Committee Update

The Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery (FLS) Committee met during the ACS Clinical Congress in October with many new and exciting things to discuss. FLS Testing was offered once again at ACS and we're happy to report all SAGES Board Members who have taken the FLS Test thus far have passed with flying colors.

The Association of Program Directors in Surgery (APDS) recently came on board to support FLS and will be working with the FLS Committee to improve resident education. An APDS representative will be attending FLS committee meetings to provide insight and feedback. We're also pleased to be working closely with the Military who recently purchased a large number of FLS trainer boxes, tests and CDs with the objective of implementing the FLS program military-wide. This is a testament to the merit and validity of the FLS program. We're thrilled to be working in collaboration with the National Center Area Medical Simulation Center of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, MD to make this happen.

Still haven't taken the FLS Test? FLS Testing will be offered at the SAGES Annual Meeting this April in Dallas! Sign up before space runs out. Visit www.flsprogram.org to download an order form and see what's happening in the world of FLS. To request a new brochure, subscribe to the FLS Newsletter or if you have any questions, please contact the FLS Office at (310).437-0544 ext 115 or fls@sages.org.

FLS is a comprehensive, multi-media educational module designed to teach and assess the fundamental knowledge and technical skills required in the performance of basic laparoscopic surgery. It includes a 2-disc CD-ROM set, the FLS Trainer Box, and an assessment tool that quantifies your cognitive knowledge and psychomotor skills. FLS allows you to document your skills and is the first validated program of its kind.

FES Update

Following in the successful footsteps of the Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery (FLS) project, SAGES is once again continuing its mission to educate, train, and provide guidelines to its members and the surgical community. We have begun development of a Fundamentals of Endoscopic Surgery (FES) project. Spearheaded by Jeffrey Marks, MD and Brian Dunkin, MD, this program will address the need for a comprehensive and standardized curriculum in basic endoscopic surgery and will incorporate a validated assessment tool.

In late January, members of the FES Task Force will meet in Chicago to review the didactic outline and begin work on the manual skills component. Like FLS, this program will be applicable to both surgical residents and practicing surgeons.

Membership Update

The SAGES Membership Committee and Board of Governors congratulates 322 new members who joined our ranks in October 2005: 61 Active, 8 Allied Health, 226 Candidate, and 27 International. Welcome to the SAGES family!

Response to the Membership Drive continues to be tremendously successful. The number of new members in October is the highest ever. Thank you to all members who have taken the time to write recommendation letters and for spreading the word about the association. Remember: the deadline for Spring 2006 applicants is March 1, 2006. The Recognition Award and prize will be given to the member who sponsors the most new members in the Fall 2005 and Spring 2006 review cycles.

Lastly, in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, SAGES asked our members if there was any service or assistance that could be provided to SAGES members in the hardest hit areas. We received a tremendous response and the SAGES Leadership wishes to thank each and every member who gave assistance in this time of need.

Category numbers as of December 2005 are:

Active	3280
Associate Active	2
Candidate	1085
International	476
Allied Health	63
Senior	358
Hiatus	7
Honorary	21
Total Membership	5292

In Memoriam

Dr. Claude Organ Jr, Oakland, California
Member Since 1985

Dr. Robert H. Bower, Cincinnati, Ohio
Member Since 1980

Dr. Robert M. Spector, Norman, Oklahoma
Member Since 2001

FLS Continues to Spread Its Wings – From the Military to Down Under

The Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery (FLS) program is continuing to gain momentum in the surgical community, and has recently received great support and recognition from the Military and Australia. The National Capital Area Medical Simulation Center of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS), in conjunction with the TriCare Management Agency, is embarking on a project to improve skills, communication and patient safety in minimally invasive surgery by introducing the FLS curriculum to all military hospitals with surgical training programs. This program will include a series of lectures based on slides produced from the FLS CDs, followed by mentored, proficiency based practice on the FLS trainer box. Upon completion of this course, military providers will have the opportunity to take the FLS written and skills tests to become FLS certified. Military surgeons or program directors interested in this program or in incorporating FLS into their curricula should contact Dr. E. Matt Ritter at eritter@simcen.usuhs.mil.

Also in recent news, Lisa Jukelevics, FLS Project Manager, traveled down under to begin negotiations with the Queensland Health Skills Development Centre (SDC) in Brisbane, Australia and the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) to work on a strategy for the implementation of FLS throughout Australia and New Zealand. An

introductory workshop, facilitated by Lisa, was attended by eighteen leading surgeons from Australia and New Zealand. Attendees also included Dr. Russell Stitz, President of RACS and Kathleen Hickey, Director of Surgical Skills Training. The course was welcomed as a validated and well developed laparoscopic training module with the expectation of becoming the primary course and building block in surgical simulation and training throughout Australia, New Zealand, and eventually Asia Pacific. SAGES and ACS will work closely with the SDC under the auspices of RACS and the Board of Surgery to ensure the integrity of the FLS program and examinations remain. While the educational underpinnings and structure of this plan is still in the beginning stages, we're all very excited at the prospect of integrating FLS on such a grand scale.

A new FLS brochure featuring the recent partnership of ACS, new FLS Test Centers and Educational Packages are now being printed and a new FLS Newsletter will be distributed quarterly by e-mail to its subscribers. The FLS website, www.flsprogram.org, will have a new look and include information on FLS related studies, future developments and testing sites. Be sure to check these out and feel free to send any comments/suggestions to fls@sages.org.



First SAGES Foundation Tribute Dinner to Honor Ken & Kay Forde And Celebrate SAGES 25th Anniversary

Kay & Dr. Kenneth Forde ▶



The SAGES Education & Research Foundation will host its first annual Tribute Dinner during the 2006 Annual Meeting in Dallas next April. The dinner will take place on Thursday Evening, April 27th. Kenneth and Kay Forde are, in many respects, two of the parents of SAGES. The Foundation, in establishing the annual event, wanted to salute the luminaries who have provided the framework on which SAGES and endoscopic surgery have been built.

Kenneth A. Forde, MD, FACS, served as President of SAGES, 1983-1984. Ken was a vital force in the founding of SAGES and is considered a voice of wisdom and reason for almost 25 years. He served SAGES as its first Membership Committee Chairman, Journal Editor for 10+ years, Credentials Committee

Chair, ACS Governor, and now as an officer of the SAGES Foundation. He is currently Jose M. Ferrer Professor, Department of Surgery, College of Physicians & Surgeons of Columbia University, Vice Chairman, Department of Surgery, New York Presbyterian Hospital - Columbia Campus, New York, NY.

Kay was an early supporter of the vision of SAGES. No one can ever give "his/her all" for an organization without the support of his/her partner. She served as editorial assistant for five years and, unbelievably, until 2004 (when she was recovering from surgery) had never missed a SAGES meeting. A nurse by profession, she has been a pillar in the growth of both SAGES and the Foundation.

Invitations have been mailed to SAGES members and friends. Please RSVP by February 22, 2006. For more information or if you have not received your invitation, please call Michi Nakayama at (310) 437-0544, ext. 113.

Hold the date! Don't miss this tribute and celebration!

View Column continued from page 4.

affect January 1, will have negative effects on surgeons' ability to practice and on Medicare patient access.

Clearly, these two issues, SGR and P4P, have been intertwined and need to be separated for political action. P4P will not be an answer to reducing Medicare costs. The administrative costs of creating and running P4P will be gargantuan. The effect on our relationships with our colleagues will be immense. Remember, in the SGR environment, there are financial winners and losers among our colleagues and ourselves, simply because the budget must be balanced. Adding P4P, which creates even stronger financial differentials, will most likely make professional schisms deeper.

At the AMA meeting in June, delegates were asked to call our Senators and Representatives to discuss our displeasure with the SGR and P4P. Over five hundred people made over 1500 phone calls in a few hours to their Senators and Representatives and created a real awareness of our position. This type of effort can be related to shelling an island to soften

it up before an invasion. Such efforts make it easier for our lobbyists to gain access and entree to relevant Congressmen and Representatives. This is a powerful way to convince our politicians to do what's right and is clearly in the American political tradition.

Now is the time for SAGES members to take action. There are only a few short weeks to resolve this issue. Without all of us acting in a positive manner, we will certainly garner a 4.4% Medicare decrease which will filter down through all of our insurance fee schedules.

You can access information about organized medicine's position on the matter and details about how to make free calls to our political leaders at the following web address.

http://capwiz.com/ama/mail/oneclick_compose/?alertid=8104801

SAGES represents the cutting edge of surgery. It is our duty to our patients and our colleagues to engage in this effort. Don't wait. Act now.

SAGES 2006 Meeting Exhibitors (as of 12/31/05)

ADVANTAGE MEDICAL SYSTEMS
AESCLAP, INC.
ALOKA ULTRASOUND
AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR BARIATRIC SURGERY
APPLIED SURGICAL, LLC
ATRIUM MEDICAL
AUTOMATED MEDICAL PRODUCTS
AUTOSUTURE AND VALLEYLAB, DIVISIONS OF TYCO HEALTHCARE
BARCOVIEW, LLC
BARIATRIC TIMES
BARRX MEDICAL
B-K MEDICAL SYSTEMS
BOSTON SCIENTIFIC
BRAINTREE LABORATORIES, INC.
CALMOSEPTINE, INC.
CARDINAL HEALTH, INC.
CINE-MED, INC.
COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS
CONMED CORPORATION
CONTEMPORARY SURGERY
COOK SURGICAL
CURON MEDICAL, INC.
DAVOL
ELSEVIER
ETHICON ENDO-SURGERY, INC.
FUJINON INC.

GENZYME BIOSURGERY
GLAXOSMITHKLINE/ADOLOR CORPORATION
GORE & ASSOC., INC.
HAPTICA LTD
HCA PHYSICIAN SERVICES
INAMED CORPORATION
INTEGRA
INTERMARK MEDICAL INNOVATIONS
INTOUCH HEALTH
INTUITIVE SURGICAL
KARL STORZ ENDOSCOPY-AMERICA, INC.
KENWOOD THERAPEUTICS
LEXION MEDICAL
LIPPINCOTT, WILLIAMS & WILKINS
MARKET ACCESS PARTNERS
MARY ANN LIEBERT, INC.
MAST BIOSURGERY
MEDICAL EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGIES, INC. (METI)
MEDICAL MEASUREMENT SYSTEMS, INC.
MEDICAL SURGERY TECHNOLOGIES, LTD. MST.
MEDTRONIC, INC.
MGI PHARMA, INC.
MICROLINE PENTAX, INC.

MICROMEDICS
MINISTRY HEALTH CARE
NASHVILLE SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS
NDO SURGICAL INC.
OLYMPUS AMERICA
POWER MEDICAL INTERVENTIONS, INC.
REDFIELD CORPORATION
RICHARD WOLF MEDICAL INSTRUMENTS
SANARUS MEDICAL, INC.
SANDHILL SCIENTIFIC
SIMULAB CORPORATION
SONOSITE, INC.
SPRINGER-VERLAG
STARION INSTRUMENTS CORP.
STRYKER ENDOSCOPY
SURGICAL PRODUCTS MAGAZINE
SURGICAL ROUNDS
SURGICAL SCIENCE AB
SURGRX
SYNOVIS SURGICAL INNOVATIONS
TAUT, INC.
TISSUE SCIENCE LABORATORIES (TSL)
USGI MEDICAL
VEREFI TECHNOLOGIES
VIKING SYSTEMS, INC.

SAGES Endorsed Courses

These courses meet the guidelines established in the SAGES Framework for Post-Residency Surgical Education and Training and are endorsed by the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES). (Course information updated 1/3/06. For the most updated information, please visit www.sages.org/education/endorsed.html)

Institution: Carolinas Laparoscopic & Advanced Surgery Program "CLASP"

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

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

Course Detail:

COLORECTAL

- Laparoscopic & Hand-Assisted Colorectal Surgery:* January 27, 2006
- Mini Fellowship for Laparoscopic & Hand-Assisted Colorectal Surgery with hands-on lab: April 9 & 10, 2006 and November 5 & 6, 2006

HERNIA

- Laparoscopic Ventral & Incisional Herniorrhaphy: May 19, 2006 and October 6, 2006
- Mini Fellowship for Open and Laparoscopic Ventral and Incisional Hernia Repair & Inguinal Hernia Repair: February 26 & 27, 2006
- Masters Course in Hernia Repair: October 2006 (date TBD)

ADVANCED LAPAROSCOPIC SURGERY

- Mini Fellowship for Advanced Laparoscopic Surgery to include: Laparoscopic Anti-Reflux, Laparoscopic Colectomy, Laparoscopic Gastric By-Pass, Laparoscopic Solid Organ and Laparoscopic Ventral Herniorrhaphy: March 19 -21, 2006, June 11 - 13, 2006 and September 17 - 19, 2006

UROLOGY AND ROBOTICS

- Mini Fellowship for Laparoscopic Urological Surgery Workshop* to include: Laparoscopic Nephrectomy & Robotic Prostatectomy: March 9 & 10, 2006 and September 7 & 8, 2006

LYMPHATIC MAPPING AND SENTINEL NODE BIOPSY

- Mini Fellowship for Lymphatic Mapping and Sentinel Node Biopsy* to include: Case Observation in Radiology and CMC Main OR: March 2 & 3, 2006, June 1 & 2, 2006 and November 2 & 3, 2006

GASTRIC-BY-PASS

- Gastric By-Pass Symposium:* May 16, 2006 and September 22, 2006

MISCELLANEOUS

- Inferior Vena Filter Workshop: December 1, 2006
- Percutaneous Tracheostomy: March 24, 2006
- Mini Fellowship for Flexible Endoscopy:* November 15, 2006

*Courses with an asterisk are Category I credits towards the AMA Physicians Recognition Award

Institution: IRCAD-EITS

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

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

Course Detail:

INTENSIVE COURSES 2006

GENERAL SURGERY

- Intensive Courses in Laparoscopic Surgery: (English-speaking courses) January 30 - February 3, 2006, May 15 - 19, 2006, September 18 - 22, 2006, November 20 - 24, 2006

UROLOGICAL SURGERY

- Intensive Courses in Laparoscopic Urological Surgery: (English-speaking courses) June 12 - 16, 2006, December 11 - 15, 2006
- Cours Intensifs en Chirurgie Laparoscopique Urologique: (French-speaking courses) January 16 - 20, 2006, October 2 - 6, 2006

ADVANCED COURSES 2006

GENERAL SURGERY

- Digestive Surgery: (English-speaking courses) March 30 - April 1, 2006, October 26 - 28, 2006
- Colorectal Surgery: (English-speaking courses) March 24 & 25, 2006, June 23 & 24, 2006, November 3 & 4, 2006
- Morbid Obesity Surgery: (English-speaking courses) June 2 & 3, 2006

UROLOGICAL SURGERY

- Laparoscopic Urological Surgery: (English-speaking courses) September 14 - 16, 2006
- Chirurgie Laparoscopique Urologique: (French-speaking courses) "Prolapsus": March 10 - 11, 2006, "Nephrectomie Radicale": May 12 - 13, 2006

PEDIATRIC SURGERY

- Laparoscopic Pediatric Surgery: (English-speaking courses) June 9 & 10, 2006, December 8 & 9, 2006

VASCULAR SURGERY

- Laparoscopic Aorto Iliac Surgery: (English-speaking courses) September 28 - 30, 2006

GYNAECOLOGY SURGERY

- Urogynecological Session: New Insights into Laparoscopic Treatment of Pelvic Floor Disorders: (English-speaking courses) February 6 - 8, 2006
- Advanced Techniques in Operative Gynecological Endoscopy: (English-speaking courses) March 6 - 8, 2006
- Gynecological Cancer and Laparoscopic Approach: State-of-the-Art: (English-speaking courses) April 10 - 12, 2006
- Current Techniques in the Treatment of Severe Endometriosis: (English-speaking courses) June 19 - 21, 2006
- Master Suturing: How to Overcome our Limits in Endoscopic Surgery: (English-speaking courses) September 6 - 8, 2006
- Laparoscopic Anatomy and Surgical Implications: (English-speaking courses) November 6 - 8, 2006
- Techniques Avancées en Endoscopie Gynécologique Opératoire: (French-speaking course) December 4 - 6, 2006

Institution: Washington University School of Medicine

Directors: Brent D. Matthews, MD, L. Michael Brunt, MD
Peggy Frisella, Course Administrator
Contact: Phone: 314-362-8371 Fax: 314-747-0591
e-mail: frisellap@msnotes.wustl.edu

Address: Washington University School of Medicine
Department of Surgery, 660 South Euclid
Box 8109
Saint Louis, MO 63100

Course Detail:

- Laparoscopic and Hand Assisted Colorectal Surgery: February 4, 2006, May 20, 2006, September 16, 2006, November 11, 2006
- Laparoscopic Ventral Hernia Repair: May 5, 2006
- Advanced Laparoscopic Ventral and Incisional Hernia Repair: February 11, 2006
- CME COURSES- please contact 1-800-325-9862 for information
- Refresher Course and Update in General Surgery: Ritz Carlton Hotel, Clayton, MO: February 22 – 25, 2006
- Laparoscopic Foregut Surgery: September 29, 2006
- Laparoscopic and Hand-assisted Colorectal Surgery: February 22, 2006

Institution: Harvard Medical School, Center for Minimally Invasive Surgery

Director: Daniel B. Jones, MD, FACS
Contact: Phone: (617) 667-5100 Fax: (617) 667-5125
e-mail: djones1@BIDMC.Harvard.edu
www.BIDMC.Harvard.edu/mis
Address: Center for Minimally Invasive Surgery
Shapiro Building
330 Brookline Ave., Boston, MA 02215

Course Detail:

- Basic Skills/FLS: January 13, 2006
- Bariatric Nursing: February 18, 2006
- Laparoscopic Hernia & Ventral Hernia: March 3, 2006
- MIS Esophagectomy: April 14, 2006
- Patient Safety in Obesity Surgery II: August 2006

Institution: Minimally Invasive Surgical Centre (MISC)

Directors: Davide Lomanto MD, PhD, Wei-Keat Cheah, MBBS, FRACS
Contact: Serene Tan
Phone: +65 67725264 Fax: +65 67754007
www.misc-asia.com
Address: 5 Lower Kent Ridge Road
119097 Singapore

Course Detail:

- Basic Laparoscopic Surgery Courses: January 20 & 21, 2006, June 16 & 17, 2006, November 10 & 11, 2006
- GP Symposium: February 18, 2006
- Minimally Invasive Urology: February 27 & 28, 2006
- Morbid Obesity: May 22 & 23, 2006
- Gynaecological Laparoscopy: June 26 & 27, 2006
- Hernia Repair: July 10 & 11, 2006

Institution: Mayo Clinic Scottsdale

Directors: Kristi Harold, MD; Tonia Young-Fadok, MD; Paul Andrews, MD
Contact: Phone: 480-301-4580
Address: Mayo Clinic Scottsdale
13400 East Shea Blvd., Scottsdale, AZ 85259

Course Detail:

- Laparoscopic Colon Surgery with Procedures for Fecal Incontinence: March 3, 2006
- Laparoscopic Ventral Hernia Repair: May 12, 2006
- Laparoscopic Colon Surgery: September 22, 2006, November 17, 2006
- Laparoscopic Nephrectomy: September 28 & 29, 2006

Institution: MOET Institute- San Francisco, CA

Director: Zoltan Szabo
Contact: Phone: 415-626-3400
http://www.moetinstitute.com

Course Detail:

Advanced Laparoscopic Suturing & Surgical Skills
Check with MOET Institute for dates.

Institution: Center for Advanced Laparoscopic Surgery (CALs), Tan Tock Seng Hospital

Director: Dr. Richard Sim, MBBS, FRCS

Contact: Phone: +65-6357-7661 Fax: +65-6357-7809

e-mail: gloria_seah@ttsh.com.sg
http://www.ttsh.com.sg

Address: No. 11 Jalan Tan Tock Seng
Singapore 308433

Course Details: Contact institution for upcoming courses.

Institution: Southwestern Center For Minimally Invasive Surgery (SCMIS)

Director: David Provost, MD
Contact: phone: 1-800-688-8678
http://www.swmed.edu/home_pages/cmisis/conted.htm
Address: Dallas, TX

Course Detail: Contact institution for upcoming courses.

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

Directors: Brian J. Dunkin, MD, FACS; Raymond J. Leveille, MD; Michael D. Hellinger, MD, FACS; Patricia M. Byers, MD; Fahim Habib, MD; Peter Takacs, MD, PhD; Jose M. Marti

Contact: Susan G. Mazzola
Phone: 305-326-6480 Fax: 305-326-6328
email: SMazzola@med.miami.edu
http://www.mis.med.miami.edu

Address: Center of Excellence for Laparoscopic and Minimally Invasive Surgery
University of Miami Miller School of Medicine
McKnight Research Building, Room 802
1638 N.W. 10th Avenue, Miami, FL 33136

Course Detail:

- Hand-Assisted Laparoscopic Nephrectomy Workshop: Director: Raymond J. Leveille, MD, March 25, 2006, October 28, 2006
- Laparoscopic Colon Surgery Course: Director: Michael D. Hellinger, MD, FACS, May 4 & 5, 2006, November 16 & 17, 2006
- Inguinal Hernia Symposium — Open, Laparoscopic, Mesh: Director: Brian J. Dunkin, MD, FACS, March 10, 2006, May 12, 2006
- Ventral Hernia Symposium — Open, Laparoscopic, Mesh: Director: Brian J. Dunkin, MD, FACS, February 11, 2006, May 6, 2006
- Allied Health Professionals — What to do when the lights go out!: Director: Brian J. Dunkin, MD, FACS, March 11, 2006, June 3, 2006
- Laparoscopic Techniques and Skills For OB/GYN Residents: Director: Peter Takacs, MD, PhD, April 22 & 23, 2006
- Stretta® Physician Hands-on Workshop – RF Treatment of GERD: Director: Brian J. Dunkin, MD, FACS, September 15, 2006
- Advanced Laparoscopic Urology Course: Director: Raymond J. Leveille, MD, June 10, 2006
- Surgical Controversies and Patient Management Issues in Bariatric Surgery: Director: Patricia M. Byers, MD, Dates: To be announced
- Advanced Trauma Operative Management course (ATOM): Director: Fahim Habib, MD, Dates: To be announced

Institution: University of California San Francisco

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

Course Detail:

- Advance Videoscopic Surgery Training Course: January 26 - 28, 2006, March 2 - 4, 2006, June 1 - 3, 2006

SAGES Annual Meeting to Feature Four Innovative Hands On Courses

Surgeon in the Digital Age: Advanced Video Acquisition and Editing Skills for Surgeons

By popular demand, SAGES is once more offering the award winning Surgeon in the Digital Age: Digital Video Editing Course.

This course is a hands on (2 to a station) Windows based course and workshop using the latest software designed to take users of at least modest computer facility through the nuts and bolts of digital video editing. Led in real time by an experienced surgeon facilitator, participants will import clips, edit them, create transitions and add sound tracks. Final products will be transcoded for a variety of purposes. A CD with the course files is included for latter practice. Once this course is completed, users should have the skills necessary to create edited digital videos for medical meetings, education or personal use.

Advanced Skills and Laparoscopic Techniques Hands On Course: Connecting with Suture, Staples and Snares

One of SAGES' most innovative "hands on" experience during its Annual Meeting is the Advanced Laparoscopic Techniques Course chaired by Drs. Daniel Jones and David Provost. The course skips the usual didactics and powerpoint slides, and instead tailors an intense three and a half hour hands on lab session rodeo. Renowned faculty will teach registrants of the course formal steps to intracorporeal suturing and endoloop lassoing using videotrainers and simulators. Participants will also be exposed to the latest technologies for dividing, gluing tissue and reinforcing staple lines.

Keep your boots on as the first half of lab covers Suturing, Energy Devices, Staple-line Buttress Materials, and Sealants. Attendees will then choose whether they want to saddle up to practice anastomosis in the animal lab or round up a stone doing common bile duct exploration using inanimate trainers.

SAGES/SLS Hands On Course: Establishing a Simulation and Training Center for Surgical Skills: What to do and How to do it.

The SAGES/SLS Hands-On Simulation Course is designed to inform Surgical and Perioperative Educators on the latest Simulation Technology and its use in the development of a Skills Training Center. Participants will learn how simulators are used as a teaching tool within an educational curriculum. Participants will also learn about current issues and concerns with regard to building a Skills Training Center. Participants will have the opportunity to use a variety of current simulators to teach assigned trainees provided for the Hands-On session.

Endoluminal Surgery Hands On Course

Endoscopy and endoluminal skills are essential in a comprehensive GI surgical practice, enabling surgeons to provide broad-based services for the diagnosis and treatment of GI diseases.

The 2006 Hands-On Endoluminal Course will have a refresher component for basic upper and lower endoscopic skills, coached by surgeons who are versatile in these procedures. Participants will have the opportunity to use endoscopy simulators to bolster their existing skills and receive immediate feedback. Advanced skills such as endoscopic mucosal resection and ablation, GERD treatment and endoluminal stenting will also be introduced. A primary focus will be to establish a set of skills that surgeons can readily apply when they return to practice (e.g. clips, dilators, snares, polypectomies, etc).

Although didactic sessions will be used to introduce the material, it is anticipated that most of the learning will occur at the skills stations by actual hands-on experience with the tools of the trade while shoulder-to-shoulder with recognized authorities in the field.

Space is limited for all hands on courses, so please reserve your spot soon by registering on-line at [http://sages.org/registration/!](http://sages.org/registration/)

Save these Dates!

SAGES Upcoming Annual Meetings

April 26 - 29, 2006 Dallas, TX with IPEG

Held consecutively with the ACS Spring Meeting

April 19 - 22, 2007 Las Vegas, NV

Held consecutively with the ACS Spring Meeting

March 26 - 29, 2008 Philadelphia, PA

Other Meetings & Congresses

10th World Congress of Endoscopic Surgery:

September 13 - 16, 2006 Berlin, Germany

Each hands on course lab has limited availability so register now to reserve a space. If you are unable or not interested in registering for the lab, a lecture only registration category is available for the Simulator and Endoluminal Courses.

THINK *spring*



SAGES

2006 ANNUAL MEETING

at the extraordinary
Wyndham Anatole Hotel, Dallas, Texas

APRIL 26 - 29, 2006

Surgical
SPRING WEEK

Program Chair: C. Daniel Smith, MD

- World Class Faculty, as usual!
- State-of-the-Art Postgraduate Courses
- Scientific Sessions
- Learning Center
- Technology Pavilion
- Exhibits debut the newest in minimal access and endoluminal technology and equipment
- The traditional (that means unconventional) SAGES Social Events and, of course, the SingOff
- IPEG (International Pediatric Endosurgery Group) will host its annual meeting concurrent with the SAGES meeting
- The ACS will convene its Spring meeting prior to the SAGES meeting
- Once again, it will be possible to attend three superb surgical meetings within one week.

Registration & Housing Early Deadline: March 31, 2006

Register on-line at www.sages.org/registration/

SAGES Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons

Phone (310) 437-0544 · Fax (310) 437-0585

11300 West Olympic Boulevard, Suite 600, Los Angeles, CA 90064

Email: SAGESweb@sages.org · www.sages.org

2006 SAGES Meeting Outline

Tuesday, 4/25/06

3:00 PM - 6:45 PM SAGES/IPEG Pediatric Fellows HO Course Lectures Chair: Tim Kane, MD

Wednesday, 4/26/06

7:30 AM - 12:00 PM SAGES/MIRA Robotics Course (Chairs: Scott Melvin, MD, Santiago Horgan, MD)

7:30 AM - 5:00 PM SAGES Bariatric PG Course (Chairs: Eric DeMaria, MD, Ninh Nguyen, MD)

8:00 AM - 12:15 PM SAGES/ACS Joint Programming: IBD, Education

12:15 - 1:30 PM Lunch Symposium on Patient Safety (Chair: C. Daniel Smith, MD)

1:15 PM - 5:15 PM SAGES Digital HO Course (Chair: Steven Schweitzberg, MD)

1:00 AM - 5:00 PM SAGES Pediatric Fellows HO Course Lab (Chair: Tim Kane, MD)

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM SAGES/IPEG Exhibit Opening Reception

6:30 - 8:00 PM International Teleconferenced Video Session (Asia) (Chair: Plato Esartia, MD)

Thursday, 4/27/06

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM SAGES/IPEG Video Breakfast (Chairs: Blair Jobe, MD, Mark Wulkan, MD)

7:30 AM - 11:00 AM SAGES Advanced Skills & Laparoscopic Techniques HO Course (lab only) (Chairs: Daniel Jones, MD and David Provost, MD)

8:00 AM - 5:30 PM SAGES Endoluminal HO Course (Chairs: Nat Soper, MD, Ed Lin, MD)

7:30 AM - 5:30 PM SAGES/SLS Simulation HO Course (Chairs: Randy Haluck, MD, Richard Satava, MD)

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM BREAK: Exhibits, Technology Pavilion

12:30 PM - 2:00 PM SAGES/Fellowship Council Lunch (Chair: Lee Swanstrom, MD)

2:00 PM - 5:30 PM SAGES Colon PG Course (Chair: Michael Holzman, MD)

6:15 PM - 8:30 PM SAGES Hernia Session (Chair: Todd Heniford, MD)
Bariatric Surgery Symposium (Chair: Matthew M. Hutter, MD)

Friday, 4/28/06

6:30 AM - 11:00 AM SAGES Scientific Session, including:
Plenary Session

Presidential Address:
Daniel J. Deziel, MD

Gerald Marks Lecture:
Gregory V. Stiegmann, MD

Inguinal Hernia Panel
(Chair: Maurice Arregui, MD)

SAGES/ASGE Transgastric Panel
(Chair: David Rattner, MD)

SAGES/IPEG Adolescent Bariatric Surgery Panel (Chair: Tom Inge, MD)

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM BREAK: Exhibits, Technology Pavilion, Posters (till 5 PM), Learning Center (till 5 PM)

2:00 PM - 5:30 PM SAGES Scientific Session, including:
Oral/Video Sessions

SAGES/ASCRS MIS Colon Panel
(Chair: John Marks, MD)

GERD Panel (Chair: Leena Khaitan, MD)

2:00 PM - 5:30 PM SAGES Resident's Day (Chairs: Emily Winslow, MD, Ben Poulouse, MD)

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM SAGES Meet the Leadership Reception

7:30 PM - 11:00 PM SAGES/IPEG Main Event & Sing-Off

Saturday, 4/29/06

6:30 AM - 8:00 AM SAGES International Teleconferenced Video Session (Europe) (Chair: Plato Esartia, MD)

8:00 AM - 11:30 AM SAGES Scientific Session, including:
Plenary Session

Karl Storz Lecture: Richard Satava, MD
Awards Ceremony

Reoperative Surgery Panel
(Chair: Keith Gersin, MD)

8:00 AM - 11:45 AM SAGES Allied Health Course (Chair: Ted Trus, MD)

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM BREAK: Exhibits (till 1:00), Technology Pavilion, Posters (till 5 PM), Learning Center (till 5 PM)

11:45 AM - 12:15 PM SAGES Business Meeting

12:30 PM - 2:00 PM SAGES Educator's Lunch (Chair: Raymond Onders, MD)

12:30 PM - 3:00 PM SAGES Emerging Technology Lunch/Session (Chair: Dan Herron, MD)

2:00 PM - 5:00 PM SAGES Scientific Session, including:
Oral/Video Sessions

Complications Video Panel
(Chair: Jo Buyske, MD)

Solid Organ Panel
(Chair: Mark Callery, MD)



IPEG International Pediatric Endosurgery Group
April 25 - 29, 2006 · www.ipeg.org



SAGES REGISTRATION FORM (PAGE 1)

REGISTRATION EARLY DEADLINE: MARCH 31, 2006

Please Register online at www.sages.org/registration/ or complete both pages of the registration form and mail/fax to:

2006 Surgical Spring Week Registrar, 11300 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 600, Los Angeles, CA 90064

Phone: (310) 437-0581 • Fax: (310) 437-0585 • E-mail: registration@sages.org

Dr. Mr. Ms. Mrs. Miss

▲FIRST/GIVEN NAME	▲LAST/FAMILY NAME		
▲ADDRESS			
▲CITY	▲STATE/PROV.	▲ZIP/POSTAL CODE	▲COUNTRY
▲PHONE (COUNTRY CODE, CITY/AREA CODE, PHONE #)		▲FAX (COUNTRY CODE, CITY/AREA CODE, PHONE #)	
▲E-MAIL ADDRESS			
Credit Card Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Amex <input type="checkbox"/> Check here if paying by check, which should be made payable to SAGES in US dollars and drawn on a US bank.			
▲CREDIT CARD NUMBER		▲EXP. DATE	
▲CARDHOLDER'S NAME		▲CARDHOLDER'S SIGNATURE	

Confirmation of registration will be sent within 15 days of receipt of registration. No confirmations will be sent after April 14, 2006. Please circle the appropriate registration category and course selections.

Course/Event	<i>SAGES Member</i>	<i>Surgeon Non-Member</i>	<i>SAGES Candidate Member</i>	<i>Resident Non-Member</i>	<i>Allied Health Non-member</i>	<i>Allied Health Member</i>	<i>Amount</i>
WEDNESDAY							
Bariatric Surgery Postgraduate Course (full day) Wed., April 26, 2006, 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM							
	\$370.00	\$510.00	\$165.00	\$295.00	\$295.00	\$275.00	
SAGES/MIRA Robotics Postgraduate Course (half day) Wed., April 26, 2006, 7:30 AM - 12:00 PM							
	\$195.00	\$280.00	\$90.00	\$160.00	\$160.00	\$125.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> SAGES/ACS Session: Inflammatory Bowel Disease Wed., April 26, 2006, 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM (check box to attend)							
							NO FEE
<input type="checkbox"/> SAGES/ACS Session: The Changing Face of Surgical Education Wed., April 26, 2006, 10:15 AM - 12:15 PM (check box)							
							NO FEE
SAGES Lunch Symposium on Patient Safety Wed., April 26, 2006, 12:15 PM - 1:30 PM							
	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	
Surgeon in the Digital Age Hands On Course (half day) Wed., April 26, 2006, 1:15 PM - 5:15 PM							
	\$325.00	\$425.00	\$215.00	N/A	N/A	\$215.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Evening International Video Symposium Wed., April 26, 2006, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM (check box to attend)							
							NO FEE
THURSDAY							
<input type="checkbox"/> SAGES/IPEG Video Breakfast Thursday, April 27, 2006, 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM (check box to attend)							
							NO FEE
SAGES/SLS Simulation Hands-On Course Lecture & Lab (full day) Thursday, April 27, 2006, 7:30 AM - 5:30 PM							
	\$700.00	\$900.00	\$550.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	
SAGES/SLS Simulation Hands-On Course Lecture Only (half day) Thursday, April 27, 2006, 7:30 AM - 11:00 AM							
	\$195.00	\$280.00	\$90.00	\$160.00	\$160.00	\$125.00	
Advanced Techniques Hands-On Course Lab (half day) Thursday, April 27, 2006, 7:30 AM - 11:00 AM (check module below)							
<input type="checkbox"/> CBD Module <input type="checkbox"/> Anastomoses Module	\$570.00	\$790.00	\$450.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Endoluminal Hands On Course Lecture & Lab (full day) Thursday, April 27, 2006, 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM							
	\$700.00	\$900.00	\$550.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Endoluminal Hands On Course Lecture Only (half day) Thursday, April 27, 2006, 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM							
	\$195.00	\$280.00	\$90.00	\$160.00	\$160.00	\$125.00	
Fellowship Council Lunch Thursday, April 27, 2006, 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM							
	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	
Colon Postgraduate Course (half day) Thursday, April 27, 2006, 2:00 - 5:30 PM							
	\$195.00	\$280.00	\$90.00	\$160.00	\$160.00	\$125.00	
						Subtotal	

SAGES REGISTRATION FORM (PAGE 2)



REGISTRATION EARLY DEADLINE: MARCH 31, 2006

Please Register online at www.sages.org/registration/ or complete both pages of the registration form and mail/fax to:

2006 Surgical Spring Week Registrar, 11300 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 600, Los Angeles, CA 90064

Phone: (310) 437-0581 • Fax: (310) 437-0585 • E-Mail: registration@sages.org

▲FIRST/GIVEN NAME	▲LAST/FAMILY NAME						
Course/Event	SAGES Member	Surgeon Non-Member	SAGES Candidate Member	Resident Non-Member	Allied Health Non-member	Allied Health Member	Amount
FRIDAY & SATURDAY							
Scientific Session Friday.& Saturday, April 28 & 29, 2006							
	\$360.00	\$495.00	\$160.00	\$295.00	\$295.00	\$270.00	
Admission to IPEG Scientific Session	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Residents Day Friday, April 28, 2006, 2:00 PM - 5:30 PM (check box to attend)							NO FEE
<input type="checkbox"/> Morning International Video Symposium Saturday, April 29, 2006, 6:30 AM - 8:00 AM (check box to attend)							NO FEE
Educator's Lunch Saturday, April 29, 2006, 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM							
	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	
Emerging Technology Forum/Lunch Saturday, April 29, 2006, 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM							
	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	
Registration for Guests, Social Events & Tours						Price	Amount
Guest registration includes Wednesday evening Exhibit Reception, Friday night Main event and access to Exhibit Hall. Guests MUST accompany a registrant. No Guest Only registrations.							
Guest 1 Name:	E-Mail:					\$120	
Guest 2 Name:	E-Mail:					\$120	
Events Included With Registration (You may reserve one ticket for yourself and each paid guest for the following):							
# _____	Attending Wednesday Exhibit Reception Tickets (1 ticket incl. with paid registrants and guests)					No Fee	
# _____	Attending Friday Night Main Event Tickets (reduced fee for paid registrants and guests)					\$10	
Tours and Additional Social Event Tickets:							
# _____	Additional Wednesday Exhibit Reception Tickets					\$25	
# _____	Additional Friday Night Main Event Tickets					\$90	
Tour 1: Up Close and Personal –The Kennedy Assassination – Wednesday, April 26, 1:30 PM						\$45	
Tour 2: Legendary Ladies – Thursday, April 27, 10:00 AM						\$87	
Tour 3: Cowgirl (Or Playgirl!) for a Day! – Friday, April 28, 10:00 AM						\$105	
Late Registration Fees:							
<input type="checkbox"/> After March 31, 2006						\$75	
After April 14, 2006, \$125 on-site registration fee will apply.						\$125	
Subtotal from previous page							
Total Amount Due							

Cancellations & Refunds: To receive a refund, less \$50 administration fee, cancellation must be in writing or by fax and must be received by April 14, 2006. Please make sure to book hotel reservations.

The SAGES cookbook

The SAGES cookbook includes:

Fabulous recipes:

- appetizers & hors d’oeuvres
- beverages/drinks
- breakfast & brunch
- desserts
- meats, fish, seafood, poultry
- pasta
- salads
- side dishes & vegetables
- soups & stews
- unique fare

Humorous vignettes:

- how they learned to cook
- how they perfected their recipes
- how they secretly throw out the bad batches of batter!

Delightful photos of the world’s leading surgeons trading in a trocar for a paring knife...Trading in a knot pusher for a whisk and other glories of the kitchen.



SAGES Education & Research Foundation
 11300 West Olympic Blvd., # 600
 Los Angeles, CA 90064

COOKBOOK ORDER FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Telephone: _____

Check enclosed. Make check payable to the **SAGES Education & Research Foundation.**

Credit Card #: _____

Credit Card Expiration Date: _____

Signature (for credit card orders): _____

NUMBER OF COOKBOOKS	AMOUNT	TOTAL
	\$40.00	
Shipping & Handling	\$5.00	
Additional donation to the SAGES Education & Research Foundation		
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President's Message continued from page 1.

societal collaborations on other fronts. With the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons (ASCRS), we have recently issued guidelines for the laparoscopic resection of colorectal cancer and for training courses in laparoscopic colectomy. In triple force with the ASCRS and the ASGE, a comprehensive document on bowel prep prior to colonoscopy has been developed. This April we will again feature Surgical Spring Week, as the American College of Surgeons (ACS) and the International Pediatric Endosurgery Group (IPEG) join SAGES at the same Dallas venue. In addition to SAGES usual outstanding scientific sessions and postgraduate courses, this meeting will showcase collaborative educational offerings with the ACS, IPEG, ASCRS, MIRA, ASGE, The Fellowship Council and The Society of Laproendoscopic Surgeons (SLS). Our society is

also fortunate to continue its close relationships with our fellow societies in GI surgery, the Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract (SSAT) and the American Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association (AHPBA), to explore educational opportunities for the mutual benefit of our members.

The archipelago of medical organizations has many separate atolls but they are inextricably linked. SAGES is a productive and sought after collaborator. As our links in the chain mature and new links are formed, we must, at the same time, work to assure that we are providing unique value to our membership and staying focused on our mission. Donne's meditation on individuality and commonality is both insight and admonition.

—Daniel J. Deziel, MD, President

Rural Surgeon Questionnaire

The SAGES Rural Liaison Group developed a brief questionnaire, listed below. Please take a moment to complete the questionnaire and fax it to the SAGES office at 310-437-0585 or complete on-line via the following link:
<http://www.sages.org/ruralsurvey>

If you completed the survey in October 2005, please send Jacqueline Narvaez your name and e-mail address to jacqueline@sages.org, but do not complete the survey again.

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Are you aware of the SAGES Rural Surgery Liaison Group?

- Yes
- No

How often are you able to attend SAGES meetings?

- Once every 5 years
- Twice every 5 years
- Three or more meetings every 5 years
- Other _____

What is the size of your referral population?

- less than 25,000
- 25,000-50,000
- 50,000-75,000
- 75,000-100,000
- more than 100,000
- Other _____

How close is the nearest tertiary hospital to you?

- less than 20 miles
- 20-50 miles
- 50-100 miles
- more than 100 miles
- Other _____

Do you read the SAGES website?

- Yes
- No

How do you obtain CME credits?

- Local CME events or meetings
- Travel to professional society meetings
- Travel to non-society CME meetings
- Journals
- SESAP (ACS)
- Other _____

What do you want SAGES to do for you?

- CME (local vs. travel)
- Clinical or business of medicine consultation services
- Medicolegal Advice
- Source of Proctors
- Source of Clinical Guidelines
- Other _____

Is there a GI physician in your area?

- Yes
- No

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