



# American Surgical Association NEWSLETTER

[www.americansurgical.info](http://www.americansurgical.info)

February, 2006

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[www.americansurgical.info](http://www.americansurgical.info)

## 126<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Surgical Association

### Dates and Location

The 126<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Surgical Association will be held at the Westin Copley Place in Boston, Massachusetts from April 20-22, 2006. The Committee on Arrangements, chaired by Dr. Stanley W. Ashley, welcomes you to this elegant hotel and historic city.

### Annual Meeting Program

The Program Committee, chaired by Dr. Richard P. Cambria, has finalized the program and selected 32 outstanding abstracts for presentation. Please see the Preliminary Program included for additional details. The program is also available for viewing on the ASA Website: [www.americansurgical.info](http://www.americansurgical.info).

### Guests at the Annual Meeting

#### ***New Procedure to "Invite a Colleague"***

*Each Fellow may invite one or more guest physicians to attend the Annual Meeting, including the Annual Banquet. Your guest must register as a participant at the meeting and must submit a registration fee.*

In addition to the standard process to invite a guest to attend the Annual Meeting, you may now access the "Invite A Colleague" section on the ASA website, enter your colleague's name and address information and an invitation will be forwarded to that individual.

Or you may send your guest's full name and address to: Michael W. Mulholland, M.D., Secretary, American Surgical Association, 900 Cummings Center, Suite 221-U, Beverly, MA 01915, Fax: (978) 524-8890. An invitation will be forwarded accompanied by the appropriate registration information. Residents are welcome when a Fellow extends their guest privilege.



## Meeting Registration

You may register for the meeting on the ASA Website: [www.americansurgical.info](http://www.americansurgical.info) or by completing the registration form included in this mailing. The registration fee for Fellows and Guest Physicians includes the cost of the Annual Banquet (black tie preferred).

## Hotel Reservations

Hotel Registration forms are included or you may make your reservations directly from the ASA Website:

[www.americansurgical.info](http://www.americansurgical.info). We encourage you to make your hotel reservations now.

**The ASA deadline is March 21, 2006.**

## The Discussion of Papers

Fellows are reminded of the following guidelines regarding discussion of papers during the meeting:

1. Each paper will have one official discussant, identified by the presenting author.
2. The discussant, as provided by the Program Chair, will be listed in the program book as the sole invited discussant.
3. The discussant will be limited to 3 minutes. No slides are allowed.
4. All other discussion will be entertained from the floor and will be limited to two minutes per discussant.

## The Westin Copley Place in Boston's Back Bay

The Westin Copley Place is an idyllic urban retreat offering stunning views of the city and excellent on-site amenities including outstanding restaurants, retail shopping, and high-speed Internet access from every room.

The Westin Copley Place is set in the center of one of Boston's historic neighborhoods - Back Bay. Famous for its stately brownstones and spacious promenades, the Back Bay boasts eclectic upscale shops, sidewalk cafes, art galleries and people from all walks of life. Other areas of interest are Copley Square, the Boston Public Library, the Public Garden, John Hancock Building, Prudential Center, Copley Place, Commonwealth Avenue, and the beautiful Christian Science Plaza. Many of Boston's best restaurants, hotels, shopping and night life, can be found within walking distance of the Westin.

## 2006 Annual Meeting Program Highlight

**FORUM DISCUSSION: *To Err is Human... Or Is It?***  
Friday, April 21, 2006 / 10:30 am - 12:00 noon

**Moderator: Carlos A. Pellegrini, M.D.**  
University of Washington School of Medicine  
Seattle, Washington

***"Nature and Inevitability of Human Error"***

Sir Alfred Cuschieri, M.D.  
Scuola Superiore S'Anna di Studi Universitari, Pisa, Italy

***"When Good Docs Go Bad: A Systems Problem"***

Lucian L. Leape, M.D.  
Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Massachusetts

***"Building Safer Surgical Systems"***

Lawrence W. Way, M.D.  
University of California, San Francisco, California

***"ACS Efforts—Error Prevention and Patient Safety"***

Thomas R. Russell, M.D.  
American College of Surgeons, Chicago, Illinois

## OBJECTIVES

This session will enable attendees to:

- ♦ Identify the genesis and the origin of errors in the practice of surgery, including specific pre-dispositions in the human mind.
- ♦ Describe how aging and other performance variables affect the commission of errors.
- ♦ Understand how to create systems that prevent or minimize the occurrence of errors.
- ♦ Discuss the practical information the American College of Surgeons provides to surgeons to decrease the number of errors in their practice.
- ♦ Surgeons who implement this information on understanding the nature of human error should be able to develop strategies directed to decreasing the number of errors in their practices.

## UPCOMING ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE ASA

### 2007 ANNUAL MEETING

**April 26-28, 2007**  
*The Broadmoor*  
*Colorado Springs, Colorado*

### 2008 ANNUAL MEETING

**April 24-26, 2008**  
*The Waldorf Astoria*  
*New York, New York*

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## ASA MEMBERSHIP

*The vitality and continuity of the American Surgical Association is dependent upon the active and continuous participation of young members of the surgical community with a diversity of backgrounds. In an effort to increase the involvement of young leaders from a variety of surgical specialties, we encourage you to propose your colleagues for ASA Membership. Information on how to propose a candidate for ASA membership is noted below.*



### Candidates for Membership

The name of a candidate proposed for membership may be read at the April 21, 2006 Annual Meeting only if the application is complete in every detail and has been received by the Secretary by March 17, 2006.

Proposal for Membership forms may be obtained from Michael W. Mulholland, M.D., Secretary, through the Administrative Office in Beverly, Massachusetts or go to the ASA website [www.americansurgical.info](http://www.americansurgical.info) and click on Membership. The requirements are:

1. Applications shall be completed and signed by three Fellows.
2. Supporting letters from each of the three Fellows shall accompany the application.
3. One copy of a complete curriculum vitae in required format to include a bibliography in Index Medicus form.
4. Reprints of each of the three most outstanding contributions to surgery (listed on the application form) shall be included with the application.

## Visit the ASA Website!



## American Surgical Association

*The oldest surgical association in the United States*  
Established in 1880

**[www.americansurgical.info](http://www.americansurgical.info)**

The American Surgical Association invites you to visit the Website. Members may use the website as a significant resource for Association information, including:

- ◆ **126<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Program and Registration Information**
  - ◆ **"Invite a Colleague" to the Annual Meeting**
  - ◆ **Latest News from the Association and the ASA Foundation**
  - ◆ **Foundation Giving Opportunities**
  - ◆ **Award Information, Applications & Recipients**
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## ASA Foundation Needs Your Support

The American Surgical Association has fostered advancement in surgical procedures for 125 years. Over the past two decades we have witnessed extraordinary advances in surgery, advancements that have transformed surgery and greatly enhanced the treatment and recovery of our patients. Research and education programs are paramount to maintaining and even accelerating these advances in the years ahead.

Over twenty years ago the ASA established the American Surgical Association Foundation to serve as the ASA's fund raising arm and, more importantly, insure that our research award programs would have the financial wherewithal to support new and exciting initiatives that would lead to further advancements. Thanks to the generous support of the ASA members, the Foundation has built an impressive record of accomplishment and has accelerated its levels of research since its founding.

Since 1982, the Foundation has awarded 25 Research Fellowships to truly gifted, remarkable surgeon-scientists. Many of these recipients have been elected to ASA membership. All have received peer-reviewed funding. Their academic and professional accomplishments have been impressive. Our return on investment in these surgeon-scientists has been significant.

We need to insure that the ASA will continue to make these types of wise investments in the future of surgery and in better care for our patients. The Foundation Board of Trustees asks you to consider two ways in which you can play an important role in the future of surgery. First, support the Foundation through a donation to the Annual Campaign. Make a donation to the ASA Foundation now. Second, consider a planned gift to the ASA Foundation, if not now then in the future. A wide variety of planned giving opportunities exist that will allow you to make a very substantial donation to the ASA Foundation with little or no impact on your disposable income. For information on planned giving, or to make an immediate gift to the Foundation, contact Joe Webber (jwebber@prri.com), Director of Development, at the Foundation offices.

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### CURRENT FELLOWS

**Nita Ahuja, M.D.**

Johns Hopkins University

*"Methylation Profiles in Colorectal Cancer-Utility in Prognosis and Diagnosis"*

**Christopher K. Breuer, M.D.**

Yale University School of Medicine

*"Investigating the Growth Potential of Tissue Engineered Venous Conduits in a Juvenile Lamb Model"*

### NEW FELLOWS

*(commencing July 1, 2006)*

**Marc G. Jeschke, M.D., Ph.D.**

Shriners Burns Hospital for Children

*"Insulin Administration Improves Hepatic Structure and Function via The P13K/Adt/Wnt/B-catenin"*

**Christopher E. Touloukian, M.D.**

Indiana University

*"Enhancing Tumor Immunity by Altering Systemic Antigen Expression"*

### FELLOWSHIP AWARD APPLICATIONS

The ASA Fellowship commences on July 1<sup>st</sup>. During its first year the Fellowship Award is \$75,000 per year. Funding for the Fellowship for a second year is subject to review by the Foundation Trustees and is an additional \$75,000.

Applications for the ASA Foundation Fellowship (supported by the American Surgical Association and Lippincott Williams & Wilkins Publishers), commencing July 1, 2007, are available from the Secretary, Michael W. Mulholland, M.D. at the Foundation's administrative offices. Applications should be completed with all appropriate documentation and received by **August 15, 2006**.