



American Surgical Association NEWSLETTER

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July, 2005

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American Surgical Association
900 Cummings Center, Suite 221-U
Beverly, Massachusetts 01915
(978) 927-8330
(978) 524-8890 FAX

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125th Annual Meeting of the American Surgical Association



Hiram C. Polk, Jr., M.D.

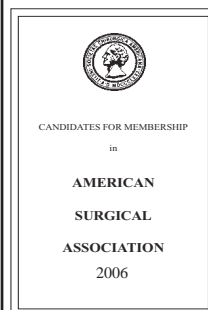
The 125th Annual Meeting was held on April 14-16, 2005 at The Breakers in Palm Beach, Florida with more than 680 physicians and spouses in attendance. Thirty-two papers were presented during the Scientific Sessions and Dr. Richard L. Gamelli and the Program Committee are to be congratulated for selecting an excellent scientific program for the meeting from the record number of 187 abstracts submitted for consideration. The Association also appreciates the efforts of Dr. Richard C. Karl, Chair of the Committee on Arrangements for planning an entertaining spouse/guest program.

Dr. Hiram C. Polk, Jr. gave an outstanding Presidential Address entitled "Quality, Safety and the Avoidance of Medical Error." Dr. Polk noted that the public's attitudes regarding quality, safety and medical error were media-driven and supplemented by the plethora of information available on the Internet. Dr. Polk reported on the results of the Surgical Care Improvement Program (SCIP) noting that surgical patient safety was enhanced by the use of report cards for public reporting and ultimate transparency. Dr. Polk's take away message was the encouragement of his surgical colleagues to take an active role in surgical patient safety. In closing, Dr. Polk recommended that the ASA Foundation consider Fellowship awards to those surgeons studying safety and quality issues in addition to health services research.

The scientific program also included an informative Forum Discussion on "Quality and Safety in Surgical Care" which picked up on the theme of Dr. Polk's presidential address and plumbed even further depths on the topic. Moderated by Dr. Polk, the panel

(continued inside)

CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP BOOKLET ENCLOSED



The **Candidates for Membership** booklet enclosed lists the names of those to be considered at the next meeting of the Advisory Membership Committee. From these candidates a ballot for election will be developed to be presented to the membership at the 126th Annual Meeting of the Association. Members are urged to send letters of support for any of these candidates, **no later than August 15, 2005 to:** Michael W. Mulholland, M.D., Secretary, American Surgical Association, 900 Cummings Center, Suite 221-U, Beverly, MA 01915 / (978) 927-8330/Fax: (978) 524-8890/E-Mail: asa@pri.com

Members are encouraged to propose candidates to be considered for membership in ASA. The ASA Council is committed to increasing representative membership by surgical subspecialties and minorities. Proposal for Membership Forms may be obtained from the ASA Offices, 900 Cummings Center, Suite 221-U, Beverly, MA 01915 (978) 927-8330 / Fax: (978) 524-8890 / E-Mail: asa@pri.com or by going to the Membership Section of the ASA Website at www.americansurgical.com.

The American Surgical Association Foundation

Fellowship Award Applications

The ASA Fellowship commences on July 1st. 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, 2006, 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, 2005**.

All applications will be reviewed, and interviews with applicants conducted during the American College of Surgeons' Clinical Congress in October, 2005.

Your Opportunity to Make A Difference

The assets of the Foundation have grown primarily through the generous individual contributions from ASA Fellows. These contributions, combined with monies from Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, have enabled the Foundation to fund outstanding research projects and support exceptional young academic surgeons.

Please consider a contribution, gift, legacy or endowment to the ASA Foundation. Please contact the Foundation's Administrative Office to obtain a Support Form.

CURRENT FELLOWS

James C. Y. Dunn, M.D.
UCLA School of Medicine
"Intestinal Tissue Engineering for Treatment of Short Bowel Syndrome"

Daniel A. Saltzman, M.D.
University of Minnesota
"Mechanisms of Tumor Prevention for Attenuated Salmonella"

NEW FELLOWS (commencing July 1, 2005)

Nita Ahuja, M.D.
Johns Hopkins University
"Methylation Profiles in Colorectal Cancer-Utility in Prognosis and Diagnosis"

Christopher K. Breuer, M.D.
Yale University
"Investigating the Growth Potential of Tissue Engineered Venous Conduits in a Juvenile Lamb Model"



The Annals of Surgery

ASA members are entitled to a 20% discount on a subscription to the *Annals of Surgery*, published by Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.

NEW MEMBERS

The following surgeons were elected in April, 2005:

ACTIVE MEMBERS

Michael M. Abecassis, M.D. Chicago, Illinois
David B. Adams, M.D. Charleston, South Carolina
Nasser K. Altorki, M.D. New York, New York
Manjit S. Bains, M.D.* New York, New York
Joseph E. Bavaria, M.D. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
John W. Brown, M.D.* Indianapolis, Indiana
Duke Edward Cameron, M.D. Baltimore, Maryland
Ralph V. Clayman, M.D. Orange, California
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Kenneth Ouriel, M.D. Cleveland, Ohio
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Grace S. Rozycki, M.D. Atlanta, Georgia
David J. Schoetz, Jr., M.D. Burlington, Massachusetts
Vernon K. Sondak, M.D. Ann Arbor, Michigan
Vaughn A. Starnes, M.D. Los Angeles, California
Lee L. Swanstrom, M.D. Portland, Oregon
Thomas F. Tracy, Jr., M.D. Providence, Rhode Island
Selwyn M. Vickers, M.D. Birmingham, Alabama
Brad W. Warner, M.D. Cincinnati, Ohio
Michael A. West, M.D. Chicago, Illinois
Douglas E. Wood, M.D. Seattle, Washington

* Senior Member

HONORARY MEMBERS

Bruce H. Barraclough, M.B. Sydney, Australia
James May, M.D. Sydney, Australia
Zhao-You Tang, M.D. Shanghai, China

125th Annual Meeting

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included Dr. David Hunt of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Baltimore, and Dr. John Birkmeyer of the University of Michigan, Dr. R. Scott Jones, Professor, University of Virginia and Director of Research and Optimal Patient Care for the ACS, Dr. Bruce Barraclough, Professor of Surgery at the University of Sydney, Australia, and Dr. Anthony P. Whittemore, Professor, Harvard University and Medical Director for the Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston.

The Flance-Karl Award was given to Alexander W. Clowes, M.D. of Seattle, Washington for his fundamental contributions in the field of Vascular diseases.

The President's Banquet on Saturday evening was capped with an informative talk by Dr. George McGee of Forest General Hospital of Hattiesburg, Mississippi who shared the successes of the Mississippi State Medical Association on tort reform issues in Mississippi.

Three new Honorary Fellows were also introduced: Bruce H. Barraclough, M.B., FACS, Sydney, Australia; James B. May, M.D., Sydney, Australia; Zhao-You Tang, M.D., Shanghai, China

Council Meeting Highlights

The following are action and informational items from Council meetings held over the past year:

- ♦ Successfully negotiated a new contract with Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins for the publication of the ASA abstracts and *The Transactions* beginning January 1, 2005. The new five-year contract will provide the Association a stable source of revenue over the next five years, which will enable the Association to provide support for an expansion of the Foundation's Fellowship program and other initiatives.
- ♦ Agreed to support an ad hoc Task Force on Surgical Curriculum convened by the American Board of Surgery which would develop a broad-based effort involving multiple stakeholder organizations for the purpose of defining the need for curricular alteration of general surgical residency and develop the specific content of a new and innovative curriculum.
- ♦ Current membership totals 1,220 members including 396 Active Members, 758 Senior Members, and 66 Honorary Fellows.
- ♦ *The Annals of Surgery* has maintained its volume of manuscript submissions as well as its preeminent status in publishing – ranking first in a field of over 140 surgery journals worldwide. The most recent impact factor as published by the Science Citation Index was 6.0 - the highest ever for *The Annals*.



The 2004-05 ASA Council



The Class of 2004 Members are formally inducted at the Opening Session.



Past presidents R. Scott Jones (L) and Murray F. Brennan (R) escort newly elected ASA president Carlos A. Pellegrini to the podium.



Michael W. Mulholland delivered the Secretary's Report.



L. D. Britt provided the Audit Committee Report.



Newly elected Honorary Member Zhao-You Tang of Shanghai, China.



Flance/Karl Award recipient Alexander W. Clowes of Seattle accepting his award.

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Enrique Moreno Gonzalez, M.D.
Mehmet Haberal, M.D.
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John Wong, M.D.
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Thomas S. Reeve, M.D.
Russell W. Strong, M.D.
Zhao-You Tang, M.D.
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FUTURE ASA MEETINGS

April 20-22, 2006
Westin Copley Place
Boston, Massachusetts

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