



# American Surgical Association NEWSLETTER

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

September, 2008

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## Annual Meeting Highlights

The 128<sup>th</sup> ASA Annual Meeting was held at the Waldorf=Astoria in New York City with 669 physicians and 156 spouses and guests in attendance marking a record-breaking, highly successful return to this metropolitan location. Thirty-two outstanding papers were presented during the two full days of Scientific Sessions.

During the Opening Session, three new Honorary Fellows were introduced: Miguel A. Mercado, M.D., Tlalpan, Mexico; Yuji Nimura, M.D., Nagoya, Japan; and Norman S. Williams, London, England.

A highlight of Thursday's program was the Presidential Address by Courtney M. Townsend, Jr., M.D. Dr. Townsend gave a fascinating and comprehensive history and biographical tribute of Samuel D. Gross, the acknowledged founding father of the ASA.



*(continued inside)*

## 129<sup>th</sup> ASA ANNUAL MEETING

**April 23-25, 2009**

The Hyatt Grand Champions, Indian Wells, California

## EUROPEAN SURGICAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

The American Surgical Association has recently entered into an agreement with the European Surgical Association (ESA) to allow members of both organizations to participate in each other's annual meetings as members, without the requirement of an invitation by members of the respective organizations.



The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the ESA will be held from April 17-18, 2009 at the Radisson SAS Palias Hotel in Vienna, Austria. Registration and additional information can be found on the website [www.eurosurgical.info](http://www.eurosurgical.info).

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## Highlights of the ASA Annual Meeting

*(continued from page one)*

The Scientific Program also included an informative forum discussion during Friday's program. "Value-Based Health Care Delivery" was moderated by Dr. Townsend, with forum presenters Professor Michael E. Porter, of the Harvard Business School and Dr. Raphael E. Pollock, of the University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center. The session addressed the deficiencies inherent in our current healthcare delivery system, the difficulties involved in transitioning to a patient-centered multidisciplinary system, and the challenges in implementation of this revised delivery system. As well, the Medallion for Scientific Achievement was awarded to Dr. Josef E. Fischer of Boston, Massachusetts, for his outstanding role as a statesman, a clinician, an academic leader and a voice for all of surgery.

At the Executive Session, the Flance-Karl Award was given to Dr. Timothy R. Billiar of the University of Pittsburgh. The Flance-Karl Award is given to recognize outstanding basic science contributions by surgeons who have reached maturity to the degree that they have had an important impact on clinical practice.



## ASA COUNCIL ACTIONS

The ASA Council met on January 19, 2008, on Wednesday, April 23, 2008 and via conference call on June 9, 2008. The following are action and informational items of note that took place:

- ♦ It was agreed that the Samuel Gross pin would be given to each newly elected Honorary Fellow each year as well as to the current members of the Samuel Gross level of contributions to the ASA Foundation. It was further agreed that the pin would be made available for a contribution of \$50 to the ASA Foundation similar to the contribution of \$100 for ASA ties and scarves.
- ♦ Agreed to participate in the American College of Surgeons Joint Health Policy Scholarship Program for 2008-2010 and awarded the first Joint Scholarship to Dr. Michael Abecassis of Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois.
- ♦ Reaffirmed the Association's commitment to support the American Board of Surgery's SCORE initiative with a \$50,000 grant for the next two years.
- ♦ Voted to provide a \$250,000 grant from the Association to the ASA Foundation in support of its Fellowship Program.
- ♦ Finalized negotiations with the publisher of the *Annals of Surgery* for the continuing publication of the papers presented at the Association's Annual Meeting as well as the annual publication of the Association's *Transactions* for the period January 1, 2010 – December 31, 2019.
- ♦ Voted to recommend amending language to Sections 3 and 9 of Article 3 – Membership of the ASA Bylaws, to reflect expanding the current Active membership level from 400 to 460 over a three year period and to streamline the membership consideration process on an annual basis.
- ♦ Agreed to enter into an arrangement with the European Surgical Association so that members of each organization would be able to register for each other's annual meetings without the requirement of an invitation.
- ♦ Agreed to discontinue the mid-winter dinner in January
- ♦ At the Annual Meeting last year, proposed bylaw amendments were read before the membership and subsequently published in the July 2007 issue of the Association Newsletter and posted on the Association's website for comment. These bylaw amendments eliminated the two Vice Presidential positions and created a President-Elect position which will automatically ascend to the Presidency and a Vice Presidential position.
- ♦ The ASA Foundation Board of Directors met on October 9, 2007 and April 23, 2008 and awarded three Foundation Fellowships to run from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2010.
- ♦ Current membership totals 1,272 including 400 Active Members, 771 Senior Members, and 64 Honorary Fellows.
- ♦ Dr. Layton F. Rikkers, Editor-in-Chief of *The Annals of Surgery*, reported that *The Annals* has maintained its preeminent status in publishing – ranking first in a field of over 137 surgery journals worldwide with an impact factor of 7.67 which is an increase from 6.3 in 2006.

## NECROLOGY

- Mark B. Adams, M.D., Milwaukee, Wisconsin**  
**Martin Allgower, M.D., Basel, Switzerland**  
**Henry H. Balch, M.D., Washington, DC**  
**Sven-Erik Bergentz, M.D., Malmo, Sweden**  
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**M. Judah Folkman, M.D., Boston, Massachusetts**  
**Joseph G. Fortner, M.D., New York, New York**  
**Robert Freeark, M.D., Maywood, Illinois**  
**Stanley Friesen, M.D., Prairie Village, Kansas**  
**William J. Fry, M.D., Ann Arbor, Michigan**  
**Edwin W. Gerrish, M.D., Watertown, South Dakota**  
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**George Johnson, Jr., M.D., Chapel Hill, North Carolina**  
**Ivan D.A. Johnston, M.D., Gloucestershire, England**  
**Ellis L. Jones, M.D., Atlanta, Georgia**  
**H. Myron Kauffman, Jr., M.D., Midlothian, Virginia**  
**Jin-Pok Kim, M.D., Seoul, Korea**  
**John H. Landor, M.D., New York, New York**  
**Stephen J. Mathes, M.D., San Francisco, California**  
**Garland Perdue, Jr., M.D., Suwanee, Georgia**  
**Martin I. Resnick, M.D., Cleveland, Ohio**  
**Cletus W. Schwegman, M.D., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**  
**Roger T. Sherman, M.D., Atlanta, Georgia**  
**G. Tom Shires, M.D., Las Vegas, Nevada**  
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**John Y. Templeton, III, M.D., Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania**  
**James C. Thompson, M.D., Galveston, Texas**



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Keith D. Lillemoe, M.D., Recorder

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Yuman Fong, M.D.

## 2008 AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS / AMERICAN SURGICAL ASSOCIATION HEALTH POLICY SCHOLARSHIP



The first ACS/ASA Health Policy Scholarship was awarded to Michael Abecassis, M.D., MSc, MBA, FRCSC, FACS from the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University in Chicago, Illinois. The scholarship allowed Dr. Abecassis to attend the "Leadership Program in Health Policy and Management" at Brandeis University in June, 2008. In addition to providing reports to the ACS and ASA, Dr. Abecassis has agreed to provide a year of health policy-related assistance to both organizations.

The deadline for applications for the 2009 award is February 1, 2009. Additional information is available on the ASA website [www.americansurgical.info](http://www.americansurgical.info) and on the ACS website [www.facs.org](http://www.facs.org).



## NEW MEMBERS, *elected April 25, 2008*

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*Tlalpan, Mexico*

**Yuji Nimura, M.D.**

*Nagoya, Japan*

**Norman S. Williams**

*London, England*

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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, women, 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@prri.com](mailto:asa@prri.com) or by going to the Membership Section of the ASA Website at [www.americansurgical.info](http://www.americansurgical.info).

AMERICAN SURGICAL ASSOCIATION

# 129<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

APRIL 23-25, 2009

THE HYATT GRAND CHAMPIONS  
INDIAN WELLS, CA

**CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2008 • [WWW.AMERICANSURGICAL.INFO](http://WWW.AMERICANSURGICAL.INFO)**



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