2020 ASC Hot Topics

HOT TOPIC SESSION 1: “Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning & Surgical Science: Reality vs. Hype”
Session Chairs: Haytham Kaafarani, MD, MPH and Georgios Tsoulfas, MD

AI is ubiquitous in our lives. From Siri, Alexa and “ok Google” and face-recognition technology to self-driving cars, we all interact with AI on a daily basis. There is rarely a surgical conference these days that does not feature a study using AI techniques. The great increase in the use of AI and machine learning for biomedical applications is often accompanied by claims and impacts that are not realistic given the limitations of the technology. There is a need to increase the general level of understanding of these methods for surgical researchers so that the same degree of critical analysis they apply to other research topics can also be used to evaluate work in this area. This session will aim to present the opportunity of using AI in surgery but will also discuss its pitfalls and shortcomings.

Introduction – Haytham Kaafarani, MD, MPH
AI and Image Recognition: A Video is Worth a Thousand Words – Thomas Ward, MD
AI: “You keep using that word. I don’t think it means what you think it means.” – Gary An, MD

Question and Answer

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
• Recognize the strengths and limitations of machine learning and artificial intelligence.
• Distinguish between appropriate and inappropriate claims from machine learning and artificial intelligence projects.
• Critically evaluate a machine learning or artificial intelligence projects.

HOT TOPIC SESSION 2: “The ACA at 10 Years: Evaluating the Evidence and Navigating an Uncertain Future”
Session Chairs and Moderators: John Scott, MD, MPH and Thomas Tsai, MD, MPH

Passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) in 2010 has resulted in the most sweeping changes to US healthcare since the establishment of Medicare. Academic medical centers have a unique role in the delivery of healthcare in the US as they serve as referral centers for highly complex patients, function as safety-net facilities that care for uninsured and under-insured patients, and train the next generation of surgeons. As such, academic surgeons, surgical departments, and our patients have been particularly affected by the ACA’s reforms that have focused on increasing insurance coverage, improving quality of care, and reducing costs. The actual impact of the ACA on surgical care is variable, and ongoing policy proposals ensure that more changes are on the way. Surgeons practicing today must be equipped with the knowledge and the tools to ensure high-quality care delivery, world-class resident education, policy-relevant research, and financial solvency.

Impact of ACA’s Medicaid Expansion on Surgical Access, Cost, and Quality – John Scott, MD, MPH
Impact of the ACA on Disparities in Surgery – Regan Bergmark, MD
Accountable Care Organizations and Surgical Value – Hari Nathan, MD, PhD
Impact of ACA-Related Payment Reform on Surgical Care in the US – Thomas Tsai, MD, MPH
Applied Policy-Analysis for Surgeons: Hospital Readmissions Reduction Program – Andrew Ibrahim, MD

Question and Answer
At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:

- Identify gaps in access to surgical care in the US and anticipate how health reform policies may limit or expand access.
- Compare the ways in which health policy interventions will impact the cost, quality, and value of surgical care in the US.
- Evaluate ongoing health reform legislation, understand anticipated impact, and also anticipate unintended consequences.

HOT TOPIC SESSION 3: “Moving the Needle on Surgical Quality: A Focus on Vulnerable Populations”

Session Chairs: Thomas Robinson, MD and Sandhya Lagoo-Deenadayalan, MD, PhD

Vulnerable patients from both physiologic and social standpoints are particularly susceptible to poor surgical outcomes. This session will address surgical assessment, decision-making, and outcome measurement in this population with an emphasis on developing high quality surgical care processes for frail older adults.

Patient-Reported Surgical Outcomes in Vulnerable Populations – Lola Fayanju, MD
Recognition of the Vulnerable Older Adult: Frailty and Beyond – Meixi Ma, MD
High-Stakes Surgical Decisions in Frail Older Adults: “Best Case/Worse Case” – Gretchen Schwarze, MD
Accounting for Patient-Centered Care as a Quality Measurement – Rachel Greenup, MD
Measuring Quality Surgical Care to Answer the Question – National and Local Implementation – Lindsey Zhang, MD
Engaging Stakeholders to Develop Surgical Care Models for Older Adults – Sandhya Lagoo-Deenadayalan, MD, PhD

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:

- Understand the importance of including patient-reported surgical outcomes in the surgical care of vulnerable population.
- Develop care process to recognize and optimally manage frail older adults.
- Learn how to develop quality care programs on both a local and national level to systematically improve surgical care for vulnerable populations.

HOT TOPIC SESSION 4: “Firearm Violence: A Domestic and International Problem”

Session Chair: Carlo Contreras, MD
Moderators: Carlo Contreras, MD and Benedict Nwomeh, MD, MPH

The goal of this session is to understand the unique challenges that faced in the United States and across the globe in deciphering the causes of firearm violence and potential population-level interventions. The target audience includes trauma specialists and non-trauma specialists interested in broadening their perspectives.

Role of Limiting Firearm Access: Does Restricting Availability Decrease Firearm Violence? – Stephen Wilkinson, MBBS, MMed, MSc, MD, MLaw, FRACS
Alternate Policy Strategies for Reducing Firearm Violence – Peter Masiakos, MD
Identifying Individuals at Risk of Future Acts of Firearm Violence – Laurie Punch, MD

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
• Evaluate whether restricting firearm availability decreases firearm violence.
• Identify individuals at risk of future acts of firearm violence.
• Explore other policy strategies for reducing firearm violence.

HOT TOPIC SESSION 5: “Coach Them Up! Mental Skills Training for Surgeons”
Session Chairs: Dimitrios Stefanidis, MD, PhD and Nicholas Anton, MS

The goal of this session is to provide an interactive forum to help surgical faculty and residents understand the effects of stress and other psychological barriers on surgeons’ performance and wellbeing, discuss the potential benefits of applying mental skills and mindfulness-based skills with surgeons to mitigate stress and optimize performance, and practice mental skills (i.e., energy and attention management skills, and mindfulness-based techniques) for peak surgical performance. It is our goal that participants of this session will be able to learn or refine existing strategies to limit their performance deterioration under stressful conditions, and enhance their wellbeing and executive function.

Effects of Stress and Other Psychological Barriers on Surgical Performance – Dimitrios Stefanidis, MD, PhD
Neurocognitive and Physiological Mechanisms and Effects of Mental Skills Training – Carter Lebares, MD
Mental Skills Training for Surgeons- Applied Practice – Nicholas Anton, MS

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
• Identify the effects of psychological barriers on surgeons’ performance and wellbeing.
• Recognize the potential applications of mental skills for surgeons to maintain optimal performance during acutely challenging clinical situations, and enhance their wellbeing and executive function.
• Practice several mental skills such as energy and attention management strategies, and mindfulness-based techniques in this interactive session.

2019 ASC Hot Topics

Session Chairs: Danny Chu, MD and Tara Kent, MD, MS
Speakers: Waddah Al-Refaie, MD, Julie Freischlag, MD, Mary Hawn, MD, Benjamin James, MD, MS, Tara Kent, MD, MS, and Rebecca Minter, MD

This session is designed for those members of academic surgical departments, who are invested in improving the learning and working environment for both trainees and faculty of all levels. A panel including key stakeholders of the surgical team will be assembled to discuss perspectives and initiatives to address this sensitive, but timely and important issue.

Session Introduction – Tara Kent, MD, MS
Perspective of Someone Within and Without – Julie Freischlag, MD
Chair’s Perspective – Mary Hawn, MD
Empowering Others – Waddah Al-Refaie, MD
Tips and Tools – Rebecca Minter, MD
LEARNING OBJECTIVES
At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
• Define mistreatment and the role of hostility and abuse in creating a negative working and learning environments; understand the impact of a hostile work/learning environment on professional satisfaction, career advancement, mental health and well-being.
• Understand the concepts relating to behavior in the hospital/academic department as components of professionalism.
• Modify or tailor behavior and professional interactions to avoid mistreatment/professional bullying and to create a more positive environment.
• Identify means of addressing or reporting professional bullying/hostility or abuse in the workplace from leadership perspective, and from the victim’s perspective.

HOT TOPIC SESSION 2: “Global Surgery – Pro: A Pathway to Bilateral Academic Success!” Vs “Global Surgery –Con: The Bold New Face of Colonialism?”
Session Chairs: Randeep Jawa, MD and Benedict Nwomeh, MD
Moderators: Randeep Jawa, MD and Jennifer Rickard, MD, MPH
Speakers: Abebe Bekele, MD, FCE, Anthony Charles, MD, MPH, Tamara Fitzgerald, MD, PhD, Enrique Ginzburg, MD

This session will focus on how to develop a bilateral (LMIC and high-income country (HIC)) pathway to educational and research success while recognizing the potential pitfalls and unintended effects on local health systems. Students, residents, attendings, and other practitioners who are interested in global surgery should attend.

Introduction to Session and Pro Side - Randeep Jawa, MD
Leveraging Academic Institutions to Extend the Educational Mission in Resource-Poor Contexts - Abebe Bekele, MD, FCE
Building the Evidence for Change: How to Establish Long-Term Research Collaborations with LMIC Partners - Enrique Ginzburg, MD
Introduction to Con Side of Debate - Jennifer Rickard, MD, MPH
The Learning Curve - Tamara Fitzgerald, MD, PhD
Local Health System Effects - Anthony Charles, MD, MPH
Definition and Introduction to Panel Discussion - Randeep Jawa, MD
Panel Discussion – All Speakers

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
• Define the main models of global surgery programs: resident rotations, educational partnerships, research collaborations, or a hybrid-model.
• Create an academic objective specific to their global surgery program that benefits the low- or middle-income country partner as well as the academic mission of the based institution.
• Recognize the potential for “a learning curve” when trainees/practitioners from HIC rotate in LMIC.
• Understand the potential adverse effects on local health systems by affiliation of a LMIC facility with a HIC academic center.

HOT TOPIC SESSION 3: “The Surgeon Informatician: Both Surgeon Scientist & Surgeon Advocate”
Clinical informatics is a board-certifiable subspecialty that arose as a result of the perceived need for educated clinicians capable of interpreting the data and making informed decisions to influence the selection and implementation of different information systems and technologies, and at a higher level, drive policy changes. Surgeons have unique perspectives and workflow needs. These distinctions are why more surgeons need to be aware of the discipline of clinical informatics and why we need more surgeon informaticians. This is a session that will be beneficial to all surgeons, since technology and big data will be the drivers of healthcare for the next several years.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
• Explain what informatics is and the role it plays in education, patient safety, research, administrative operations, innovation, and policy. Distinguish informatics from computer science, statistics, and health services research.
• Recognize the barriers that exist due to a lack of surgery representation in informatics
• Recognize the return in investment in pursuing dedicated informatics training and the career advancement opportunities in store for surgeon informaticians. Future trends for surgeon informaticians.

2018 ASC Hot Topics

HOT TOPIC SESSION: “#SoMe 2.0 – Building an Academic Career in the World of Social Media”
MODERATOR: Niraj Gusani, MD, MS & Christian Jones, MD
SPEAKERS: Justin Dimick, MD, MPH, Amalia Cochran, MD, Joseph V. Sakran, MD, MPA, MPH, Jamie Coleman, MD, Deanna Attai, MD, & Thomas K. Varghese, Jr. MD, MS
Social media has revolutionized the way we network and engage with the public. This Hot Topic will focus on how social media can be used in your academic careers, with illustrative examples in Digital Scholarship, Surgical Education, Public Health Initiatives in the Trauma Surgery, Cancer Awareness, and Future Trends in Social Media Platforms.
• Introduction – Niraj Gusani, MD, MS
• The Science of Digital Scholarship – Justin Dimick, MD, MPH
• Social Media and the Science of Education – Amalia Cochran, MD
• Engaging the Public in Areas of Debate – Joseph V. Sakran, MD, MPA, MPH
HOT TOPIC LUNCH SESSION 2: GRAND BALLROOM 6-8 “Integrated Residencies and Early Specialization Programs: A Threat to General Surgery Training or Innovative Approaches to Surgical Education?”

SESSION CHAIRS & MODERTORS: Brigitte K. Smith, MD & Jacob A. Greenberg, MD, EdM

SPEAKERS: Mary E. Klingensmith, MD, John E. Rectenwald, MD, Jennifer N. Choi, MD, Malachi Sheahan, MD, Thomas K. Varghese Jr., MD, MS, & Douglas S. Smink, MD, MPH

At this Hot Topic Session, surgical education leaders in Vascular and Cardiothoracic Surgery will debate with General Surgery leaders on key issues related to restructuring graduate surgical training, the merits of the integrated and early specialization programs, and the impact of these paradigms on general surgery training. Following the debates, attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a panel question and answer session.

• Introduction – Brigitte K. Smith, MD & Jacob A. Greenberg, MD, EdM
• Changing paradigms in graduate surgical education, past, present and future: update from the ABS – Mary E. Klingensmith, MD
• Sweeping changes to long-standing training models: Why and How VS and CTS implemented Integrated and ESP programs – John E. Rectenwald, MD
• The Lived Experience: How Should Interactions between General Surgery and Vascular and Cardiothoracic Surgery Training Programs be Managed?: General Surgery Perspective – Jennifer N. Choi, MD
• The Lived Experience: How Should Interactions between General Surgery and Vascular and Cardiothoracic Surgery Training Programs be Managed?: VS/CTS Perspective – Malachi Sheahan, MD
• Question and Answers – Brigitte K. Smith, MD & Jacob A. Greenberg, MD, EdM
• The Future of Graduate Surgical Education: What is the Optimal Training Paradigm?: VS/CTS Perspective – Thomas K. Varghese, Jr., MD, MS
• The Future of Graduate Surgical Education: What is the Optimal Training Paradigm?: General Surgery Perspective – Douglas S. Smink, MD, MPH
• Question and Answers – Brigitte K. Smith, MD & Jacob A. Greenberg, MD, EdM

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
• Discuss the history of efforts to re-structure graduate surgical training, barriers that have impacted the implementation of proposed changes in the past, and current and future trends.
• Understand why and how Vascular Surgery and Cardiothoracic Surgery created integrated and ESP training programs, including unique features of these specialties that may have impacted their ability to make these changes.
• Explain the impact of the VS and CTS Integrated and ESP programs on GS residency programs and trainees, both positive and negative, including strategies to manage negative impacts.
• Discuss how these training models could inform the future of GS training.

HOT TOPIC SESSION: “Making Research Feasible for Busy Surgeons Through Infrastructure Support: Pros, Cons, and Lessons Learned the Hard Way”
MODERATORS: Scott A. LeMaire, MD & Barbara W. Trautner, MD, PhD
SPEAKERS: Timothy R. Billiar, MD, Mary Hawn, MD, Melina R. Kibbe, MD, FAHA, & Barbara W. Trautner, MD, PhD
This session is designed for anyone interested in increasing surgical participation in research, including their own participation. Leaders of four academic surgical programs will present examples of how they provided departmental-wide support for surgical research, followed by a panel discussion.
• Introduction – Barbara W. Trautner, MD, PhD
• Creating a Culture that Supports and Values Research – Melina R. Kibbe, MD, FAHA
• Creating an Educational and Training Resource of Housestaff and Young Faculty – Timothy R. Billiar, MD
• Establishing a Surgical Health Services Research Center – Mary Hawn, MD
• Building Infrastructure for Research Support – Barbara W. Trautner, MD, PhD
• Panel Discussion – All Speakers

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
• Engage in strategic thinking about what resources are needed to support surgical research.
• Appreciate the diversity of approaches that can meet surgeons’ research support needs.
• Understand some of the challenges to building research infrastructure in a surgical department.
• Know how to conduct a planning meeting in which departmental research support staff assist faculty members in launching an industry-sponsored clinical trial.
HOT TOPICS SESSION: “Global Surgery: Just a Hobby or a Viable Academic Career Path?”
SESSION CHAIRS & MODERATORS: Benedict C. Nwomeh, MD and Sudha Jayaraman, MD, MSc
- Surgical Training and the Bidirectional Benefits of International Surgery Rotations for Both Visiting US Trainees and Hosting International Trainees – Marissa Boeck, MD, Sam South, MD, and Selma Siddigui, MD
- Advocacy as a Surgeon and the Role of #REVERSEMENTORING – Issy Marks, Varshini Cherukupalli, and Waruguru Wanjau
- Building a Successful Academic Global Surgery Program – Ray Price, MD
- Recruiting an Academic Global Surgeon: Institutional ROI – Sudha Jayaraman, MD, MSc
- Getting Promoted as an Academic Global Surgeon – Sanjay Krishnaswami, MD
- Panel Discussion and Q&A – All Faculty

Attendees will hear surgeons who are leaders in academic #globalsurgery discuss pathways to success in the new field. A unique aspect of this session is the presentation by medical students and residents discussing their role in #reversementoring of their mentors.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
- Understand how academic global surgery fits the 4 cardinal areas of academics: education, research, development, and advocacy
- Identify the role of international rotations as a part of academic surgical training to improve deficiency identified by residents and program directors.
- Identify ways for surgeons to improve communication and dissemination in the realm of Global Health
- Prepare to develop a global surgery program in your surgery department and to succeed as an academic global surgeon

HOT TOPICS SESSION: “Industry-Academic Innovation Partnerships: Where is the Pendulum?”
SESSION CHAIR & MODERATOR: Mark S. Cohen MD
Introduction to Session – Mark S. Cohen, MD
- Developing the First Surgery Department Certified Research Organization for Improved Industry Engagement – Michael W. Mulholland, MD, PhD
- The University-Industry Demonstration Partnership (UIDP) and Its Role in Educating Physicians Who Want to Engage with Industry – Anthony Boccanguso, PhD, Executive Director, UIDP
- How Industry is Engaging in Improved Academic-Industry Partnerships – Bruce Gingles, Vice President, Global Technology Assessment & Health Policy, Cook Medical & Christine Mauro, MD, MMSc, Director of Medical Affairs, Medtronic
- Institutional Approaches to Industry Engagement (East to West) – Ronald Tompkins, MD, ScD & Hamin Lee, MD, PhD
Panel with 6 Case Discussions
1. Researcher Seeking Additional Funding
2. Resident Inventor
3. Program Director Educator Seeks Resources
4. Medical Student Innovator
5. Developing CME Program
6. Industry Reaching Out to Academia

This session is for all surgery faculty, residents, and medical students who want to develop a better understanding of how to engage their innovative ideas with industry partners and how academic-industry relationships can be fostered in today’s surgical culture.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
• Articulate the Sunshine Laws and how they came into being as well as current interaction policies
• Evaluate methods academic surgeons and trainees can approach industry for new surgical innovations including contracts, partnerships, grants, and collaborations for trials
• Evaluate how to advance Industry-Academic partnerships through education and the University-Industry Demonstration Partnership (UIDP) and how the pendulum is moving back toward collaboration.

HOT TOPICS SESSION: “Surgeon Workplace Injury: The Unspoken Experience”
SESSION CHAIRS: KMarie Reid, MD, MS and Valerie Lemaine, MD
MODERATOR: KMarie Reid, MD, MS
• Framing the Topic – KMarie Reid, MD, MS
• Workplace Injury: Who, Where, Why – Ramon Berguer, MD
• Interventions to Avoid Injury: What Does the Research Show – Susan Hallbeck, PhD
• Disability Insurance: Don’t Wait Till It’s Too Late – Blake Woodard, Woodard Insurance, LLP
• Discussion and Q&A – All Faculty

Increasingly our profession is coming to terms with the often undisputed toll on our minds and body. While burnout is manifested mentally it can also manifest physically with overuse injuries (cervical spine 38%, musculoskeletal fatigue 36%, hand/forearm 20%). We are all at risk. Practicing surgeons and trainees need attend.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
• Illustrate the most common workforce injuries experienced by surgeons and risk factors for injury.
• Demonstrate ideal ergonomics in the operating room and office and how to reduce the risk of injury.
• Recommend steps to protect your career from the repercussions of injury.

2016 ASC Hot Topics

HOT TOPICS SESSION: “The Academic Medical Center of the Future: Transition from a Department-Oriented Infrastructure to a Multidisciplinary Disease-Specific Approach”
MODERATORS: W. Scott Melvin, MD & Peter Muscarella, MD
SPEAKERS: Marwan S. Abouljoud, MD, E. Christopher Ellison, MD, R. Matthew Walsh, MD, Darwin Conwell, MD, MS, & Robert E. Michler, MD
INTRODUCTION: W. Scott Melvin, MD & Peter Muscarella, MD
• Departments, Centers, Institutes, and Service Lines: “What does it all mean?” – Marwan S. Abouljoud, MD
LEARNING OBJECTIVES
At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
• Review the structure and history of academic departments of surgery with emphasis on the benefits of this model.
• Define the various terms used when referring to multidisciplinary centers for patient care.
• Review the rationale for, and structure of, various models for patient-centered health care delivery.
• Infer on the structure of academic surgical centers of the future and how surgeons of today can influence their development.

MODERATOR: Lauren Hersch Nicholas, PhD, MPP
SPEAKERS: Jim Dupree, MD, MPH & Thomas Tsai, MD, MPH
• Overview of Session – Lauren Hersch Nicholas, PhD
• Accountable Care Organizations – Jim DuPree, MD
• Bundled Payments – Thomsas Tsai, MD, MPH
• Global Budgeting – Speaker TBD
• Audience Question and Answer

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
• Compare the incentives under current surgical reimbursement strategies with those represented by accountable care organizations, bundled payments, and global budgeting.
• Predict potential effects of alternative reimbursement schemes on surgical revenue and quality of care.
• Develop strategies for maintaining and improving quality of care in a challenging financial environment.

HOT TOPICS SESSION: “The Role of Professional Coaching in Developing Emotional Intelligence and Preventing Burnout in Surgery”
SPEAKERS: Taylor S. Riall, MD, PhD & Tambre Leihn, MA, CPC, PCC, ELI-MP
• The Challenges We Face in Academic Surgery
• The Statistics on Burnout Among Surgeons
• The Role of Professional Coaching in Recovering from and Preventing Burnout
• A Unique Coaching Model That Helps Create Mindfulness, Emotional Intelligence, and Wellbeing
• Live Coaching Demonstrations/Practical Application of These Tools
• Question and Answer Period

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
• Discuss the challenges in academic surgery that contribute to burnout.
• Define emotional intelligence, mindfulness, and wellbeing.
• Understand tools that professional coaches use to help individuals increase self-awareness.
• Understand the role of the Energy Leadership model in developing mindfulness and emotional intelligence.
• Discover that:
  - They can be at the cause and not the effect of their lives.
  - Every day, in every situation, they have a choice.
  - They can consciously respond rather than react to their environment.

2015 ASC Hot Topics

“WHEN DO QUALITY IMPROVEMENT (QI) STUDIES TRANSITION INTO HUMAN SUBJECTS RESEARCH (HSR)? WHAT IS THE ROLE OF IRB APPROVAL FOR QI WORK?”
MODERATOR: Mehul Raval, MD, MS
PANELISTS: Melina Kibbe, MD, Peter Angelos, MD, Clifford Y. Ko, MD, John F. Sweeney, MD, & Monica Lopez, MD
JUNIOR FACULTY DEBATE LEADERS: Joseph Sakran, MD, MPH & Stephanie Nitzschke, MD
LEARNING OBJECTIVES
At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
• Clearly define QI and HSR.
• Review ethical principles that must be adhered to as QI transitions into HSR.
• Define the role of the IRB in QI.
• Determine when editors will require review of QI projects for publication.
• Provide an algorithm to navigate the distinction between QI and HSR.

“EXPLORING THE ROI OUTSIDE OF R01S”
MODERATORS: Niraj Gusani, MD, MS & Sandra Wong, MD
SPEAKERS: Amalia Cochran MD, Ben Nwomeh, MD, Tomer Davidov, MD, Tom Varghese, MD, Sam Finlayson MD, MPH & Jeff Matthews, MD
LEARNING OBJECTIVES
At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
• Describe and understand traditional (R01-funded basic/translational/clinical research) and emerging paths in academic surgery.
• Describe the study of surgical education, including curriculum development and research on simulation.
• Understand how to move beyond mission trips (service) to an academic career focused on the study of global surgery.
• Describe how innovation and invention leads to scientific advancement and a viable career in academic surgery.
• Understand ways to define and measure the academic “impact factor” of advancing technology (e.g.,
platforms for information dissemination), and to describe ways to integrate an effective presence on social media into an academic career.

- Review ways that “alternative” academic pursuits add value to a department’s academic portfolio, and to review ways to make these academic pursuits a part of a surgeon’s promotion and tenure package.

“FUNDING FOR GME IN AMCS - A PROPOSED MODEL FOR THE EVOLVING HEALTH CARE ENVIRONMENT”
MODERATORS: Chandrakanth Are, MBBS, FRCS & David W. Mercer, MD, FACS
SPEAKERS: Jeffrey P. Gold, MD, William Dinsmoor, MD, Michael Wadman, MD & Chandrakanth Are, MBBS, FRCS
LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
- Develop an understanding of the current status of funding for graduate medical education.
- Recognize issues associated with maintaining sustainable funding streams for graduate medical education.
- Be appraised of what the future holds for funding of graduate medical education.
- Compare and apply the novel funding model for graduate medical education at their campus.

2014 ASC Hot Topics
HOT TOPIC SESSION: “PUTTING YOUR BEST FOOT FORWARD: PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT THROUGH PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT”
Moderators: Jennifer F. Tseng, MD, MPH and Sandra Wong, MD, MPH
- Introduction Jennifer F. Tseng, MD, MPH and Sandra Wong, MD, MPH
- Meet the Press: Media Training and Improving Your Presentation Style Rhonda Mann, MD
- Social Media 101 Niraj Gusani, MD
- Audience Participation Jennifer F. Tseng, MD, MPH and Sandra Wong, MD, MPH

At the end of the session, participants will be able to:
1. Better understand how to interact with reporters (press releases and interviews);
2. Understand the importance and content of different presentation styles (including how to develop “elevator speeches”);
3. Learn the importance of a social media presence;
4. Understand how to establish and maintain an effective professional presence on various social media platforms (e.g., Twitter, blogs).

HOT TOPIC SESSION: “RVU-ONOMICS: HOW THE INCENTIVES AND DISINCENTIVES OF RELATIVE VALUE UNITS IMPACT A CAREER IN ACADEMIC SURGERY”
Moderator: Robert Canter, MD
- RVUs and Measuring Productivity: Steven Chen, MD, MBA
- How Did We Get to this Point and Where Do We Go From Here?
- The Business Side of Medicine: RVUs and More Kiran K. Turaga, MD, MPH
- RVUs/DRGs and the Bottom Line: Michael F. Rotondo, MD, FACS
- How do RVUs and DRGs Impact Hospital Budgets
- How Do RVU’s Impact Departmental Budgets? David Wisner, MD

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:
1. Understand the how’s and why’s of RVUs, work RVUs, DRGs, departmental and hospital budgets;
2. Understand how RVUs do and do not impact the “bottom line” of departmental and hospital budgets;
3. Understand how RVUs do and do not reflect the “productivity” of academic surgeons;
4. Discuss how these issues affect the current and future careers of academic surgeons.

HOT TOPIC SESSION: “SBAS SPONSORED POLICY DEBATES: OBAMACARE AND GUN CONTROL LAWS”
Moderator: Adil Haider, MD

(1) Obamacare - Will It Help Eradicate Healthcare Disparities OR Further Worsen Them?
   • Pro: Yes It Will Decrease Disparities In Health Care Rachel Kelz, MD
   • Con: No It Will Worsen Access And Actually Harm Patients Karl Y. Bilimoria, MD
   • Rebuttals
   • Questions and Vote

(2) Proposed Gun Control Laws: Will They Actually Decrease The Number of Trauma Patients We See?
   • Con: No, We Have Had Plenty of Laws and None of Them Jeffrey S. Upperman, MD
     Have Decreased Violence
   • Pro: We Need These Laws to Decrease the Number of Ali Salim, MD
     Trauma Patients We Have To Pronounce Dead
   • Rebuttals
   • Questions and Vote

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:
1. Understand the current provisions in Obamacare that are designed to enhance access to health care including surgical care;
2. Understand how Obamacare may in fact limit impact access to surgeons and the potential advantages and disadvantages it associated with the current version of this law;
3. Identify opportunities for surgeons to become involved in the roll out and further modification of the new health care law;
4. Understand the current gun control laws at the federal level and proposed laws regarding: magazine sizes, gun types and gun sales;
5. Understand data and research emanating from previously enacted legislation designed to decrease violence and injuries that surgeons across the country are called upon to treat;
6. Develop a knowledge of opportunities for Surgeons to get involved in the political process, especially at the state level and discuss impact of community involvement by surgeons in the past.

2013 ASC Hot Topics

HOT TOPIC SYMPOSIUM: “ACUTE CARE SURGERY – NOW THAT WE’VE BUILT IT, WILL THEY COME AND WHY SHOULD THEY?”
Moderator: Thomas Esposito, MD
• Why was it built? Overview of the evolution of this new discipline. Thomas Esposito, MD
• What is it? Overview of the Acute Care Surgery Fellowship Curriculum and status of fellowships nationally. Thomas Esposito, MD
• Who might consider it and why? Presentation of results of published opinion surveys of residents and attendings on Acute Care Surgery Fellowships and other training issues. Jamie Jones, MD
• Why consider it and what can you do with it? Discussion of different practice models of Acute Care Surgery and testimonials from those who have finished the Fellowship and are now practicing. David Efron, MD & Paula Ferrada, MD
At the end of the session, participants will be able to:
1. Be familiar with issues that led to the development of Acute Care Surgery and the argument for its need.
2. Be familiar with the current content of the Acute Care Surgery Fellowship curriculum and the status of Fellowships.
3. Be familiar with the opinions of current surgical residents and attendings on Acute Care Surgery.
4. Be familiar with the current practice models of Acute Care Surgery and the benefits it offers as a career.

HOT TOPIC SESSION: “SURGICAL OUTCOMES DATA: THE NEXT FRONTIER IN SURGICAL EDUCATION”
Moderator: Rachel Kelz, MD
• The Academic Report Card: How Do We Measure Up and How Do Residents Affect These Results? Justin B. Dimick, MD, MPH
• A Brave New World in Surgical Education: How Can Outcomes Data Help with the Core Competencies and the Milestones Project? James Hebert, MD
• Building a Culture of Commitment: The Next Generation of Surgeons Clifford Ko, MD
• Let the Data Speak to Your Residents Rachel Kelz, MD

At the end of the session, participants will be able to:
1. Understand currently available data used to assess surgical quality.
2. Describe the state of patient care in academic centers considering issues related to surgical education and resident participation.
3. Illustrate recent changes in accreditation requirements and external pressures motivating change in the surgical training paradigm.
4. Develop strategies to integrate outcomes data into surgical education.

HOT TOPIC SESSION: “BLEEDING IN THE OPERATING ROOM – WHY IT’S BAD AND HOW TO STOP IT!”
Does Intraoperative Blood Transfusion Help? What is the evidence? Victor Ferraris, MD
• Bleeding in Cardiac Surgery: Lessons Learned and Translation to Elective and Emergency Surgery Todd Rosengart, MD
• Bleeding in the Setting of Trauma: Lessons in Surgical Hemostasis from the Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq Lt. Col. Gerald R. Fortuna, MD, USAF, MC
• Management of Bleeding in the Non-Surgical, Non-Trauma Patient: A Transfusion Medicine Perspective Lawrence (Tim) Goodnough, MD

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:
1. Identify clinical factors placing patients at high risk for perioperative bleeding.
2. Gain comfort in the multi-modality approach to blood conservation that broadens the focus from limiting blood transfusion to a more comprehensive strategy that includes maintaining adequate hemoglobin concentration, optimizing hemostasis, and minimizing blood loss in order to limit transfusion.
3. Understand the differences in transfusion strategies in civilian and military trauma compared to elective or semi-elective operations.
4. Understand options for handling massive transfusion and treatment of intractable bleeding in the civilian and military settings.
5. Learn the value of a multidisciplinary approach to management of blood resources, especially as it relates to uncontrolled bleeding.

HOT TOPIC SESSION: “GLOBAL HEALTH AND ACADEMIC SURGERY: PRACTICAL PERSPECTIVES”
Moderators: Chandra Are, MD & Purvi Parikh, MD
• Resident’s Perspective (Clinical Aspects) Paul Kolkman, MD
• Resident’s Perspective (Research Aspects) Megan Frost, MD
• Junior Faculty’s Perspective Randeep Jawa, MD
• Senior Faculty’s Perspective Ray Price, MD
• Program Director’s Perspective Chandra Are, MD

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:
1. Provide practical perspectives and knowledge on global surgical healthcare, as part of surgical educational curricula and as volunteer or outreach work for the academic surgical community.
2. Provide a rationale for the involvement of the academic surgical community in these global health endeavors.
3. Outline methods to develop surgical capacity in the third world in which the academic surgical community can play a vital and much needed role.
4. Delineate the clinical and research avenues where the involvement of the academic surgical community can be beneficial.

2012 ASC Hot Topics

Moderator: Zara Cooper, MD
• If They Can’t Walk Into Your Office, They Probably Won’t Dance Out Either Thomas Robinson, MD
• I Never Would Have Operated If I Knew They Were Going to Give Up So Soon… Margaret L. Schwarze, MD
• It Is Always Too Early Until It’s Too Late: The Delicate Balance Between Cure and Comfort Anne C. Mosenthal, MD

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:
1. Understand the impact of frailty on surgical morbidity and mortality in elderly patients.
2. Reflect on the unique challenges posed by advance directives in surgical patients.
3. Understand how integrating the principles of palliative medicine with surgical treatment can improve care for patients at the end of life.

Moderator: Sharona Ross, MD
• LESS Foregut Surgery Sharona Ross, MD
• LESS Bariatric Surgery Ninh T. Nguyen, MD
• LESS Colorectal Surgery Todd Wilson, MD
• LESS Training and Certification Alexander Rosemurgy, MD

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:
1. Introduce new emerging technology for foregut and colorectal surgery and understand this new surgical technique.
2. Describe patient selection criteria and their impact on clinical outcomes.
3. Identify potential benefits, risks, and challenges of LESS foregut, bariatric, and colorectal surgery.
4. Describe appropriate access methods and toolbox such as multi-trocar ports, instruments, and optics.
5. Implement changes and improvements in surgical practice based on clinical evidence and case studies.
6. Gain information regarding training and certification for LESS surgery.

**2011 ASC Hot Topics**

**HOT TOPIC SYMPOSIUM: TISSUE-BASED INDIVIDUALIZED CANCER CARE: FROM PROMISES TO PRACTICE**

**Moderators:** John C. Mansour, MD and Roderich E. Schwarz, MD, PhD

The age of genomic signatures, preomic profiling, high throughput information systems, and powerful statistical analysis has introduced opportunities for predicting the behavior of individual tumors. Without surgical involvement in the discovery process, these advances will be impossible. Surgeons must participate in the collection of tissue for analysis, the basic science research investigating biologically relevant questions, the design of relevant pre and postoperative trials, and the identification of patients in need of trial-based therapy.

11:30 AM - 11:40 AM An Introduction to the Challenges of Molecularly-Based Personalized Cancer Care John C. Mansour, MD

11:40 AM - 12:00 PM Biobanking and Tissue Repositories William E. Grizzle, MD, PhD

12:00 PM - 12:20 PM A Randomized Trial Employing Molecular Individualization Laura J. Esserman, MD

12:20 PM - 12:40 PM Taking Molecular Individualization from the Bench to Industry to the Clinics Mark Lee, MD, PhD

12:40 PM - 1:00 PM Panel Discussion All Panelists

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
1. Define what is currently known about standards for tissue handling, tumor profiling techniques, and study design.
2. Define the opportunities for novel research relevant to the unique questions raised by individualized cancer therapy research.
3. Examine the current leading edge of the clinical trials incorporating tissue-based personalization using examples of currently accruing protocols.

**HOT TOPIC SYMPOSIUM: CURBSIDE VASCULAR CONSULT, ANSWERS TO COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Moderator:** Jason M. Johanning, MD

The purpose of the Vascular Hot Topic session is to provide the audience with commonly encountered clinical scenarios for which Vascular Surgeons are commonly asked to comment on during the course of hospitalization. The goal of the session is to present a distinct clinical entity and provide a clear and concise picture current treatment approach as based upon current evidence. The rapid fire presentation approach was chosen to allow for presentation of multiple scenarios.

11:30 am - 11:40 am Should We Treat Tibial DVT? Peter K. Henke, MD
11:40 am - 11:50 am Should We Remove that Vena Cava Filter? John A. Curci, MD
11:50 am - 12:00 pm My Patient Has Heparin Induced Thrombocytopenia, What Do I Do Now? Panagiotis Kougias, MD
12:00 pm - 12:10 pm How Long Should I Wait to Operate on a Patient after a Coronary Stent? Alan Dardik, MD, PhD
12:10 pm - 12:20 pm Is Endovascular Repair Now the Gold Standard for Traumatic Aortic Transection? Iraklis I. Pipinos, MD
12:20 pm - 12:30 pm Should I Use Ultrasound of Central Venous Access? Jason M. Johanning, MD
12:30 pm - 12:40 pm My Patient Has a Significant Carotid Stenosis and Needs a Major Operation: Operate, Stent or Do Nothing? Peter R. Nelson, MD
12:40 pm - 12:50 pm What is the Best Study for My Patient...CTA/MRA/Anigography? Gale L. Tang, MD
12:50 pm - 1:00 pm Q&A All Panelists

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
1. Define what is currently known about standards for tissue handling, tumor profiling techniques, and study design.
2. Define the opportunities for novel research relevant to the unique questions raised by individualized cancer therapy research.
3. Examine the current leading edge of the clinical trials incorporating tissue-based personalization using examples of currently accruing protocols.

HOT TOPIC SYMPOSIUM: DEVELOPMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY AND MEDICAL DEVICES
Moderator: George P. Yang, MD
As physician-scientists, academic surgeons are involved in the process of performing basic and clinical research with the goal of improving patient care. Part of the process of translation is the actual process of creating a product, securing intellectual property, obtaining funding, and performing the testing required to get the product to the market. This session will address the basic steps and approaches to commercialization.
Speakers: Mitchell Fink, MD, Geoffrey C. Gurtner, MD, Kris Kieswetter, PhD, and Matthew Pollman, MD

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
1. Conceive of products based upon your research and clinical practice.
2. Create a business model and attract initial rounds of financing to further develop the product.
3. Determine what ideas are worth supporting.
4. Determine the factors involved in obtaining FDA approval for new products.

HOT TOPIC SYMPOSIUM: ROBOTIC ASSISTED MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY
Moderators: A. James Moser, MD and Herbert J. Zeh, MD, PhD
12:00 pm - 12:15 pm Robotic Approaches to Thoracic Disease Bernard J. Park, MD
12:15 pm - 12:30 pm Results of Robotic Assisted Complex Pancreatic Hepatobiliary Procedures A. James Moser, MD
12:30 pm - 12:45 pm Robotic Assisted Liver Resection Alan Tsung, MD
12:45 pm - 1:00 pm Single Port Robotic Assisted Surgery: Future is Now Sri C. Chalikonda, MD
1:00 pm - 1:15 pm Endoluminal Robotics: A Glimpse at the Future Juliane Bingener-Casey, MD
1:15 pm - 1:30 pm Virtual Robotic Training Devices Myriam Curet, MD

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
1. Define the indications for Robotic Assisted approaches to thoracic diseases.
2. Understand short term and long-term outcomes in robotic assisted thoracic surgery.
3. Describe robotic approach to complex gastrointestinal surgical procedures.
4. Discuss short term and long-term outcomes in robotic assisted complex gastrointestinal surgery.
5. Describe and understand the principles behind single port robotic platform.
6. Understand the current limitations to robotic assisted surgery and discuss future potential applications of robotic assisted surgery.

**2010 ASC Hot Topics**

**HOT TOPIC SYMPOSIUM: CLINICAL TRIALS AND ACADEMIC CAREER DEVELOPMENT: THE ACOSOG EXPERIENCE**

Introduction Tara M. Breslin, MD
Correlate When You Inoculate: The Importance of Incorporating Laboratory Based Studies in the Design of a Breast Cancer Vaccine Trial Elizabeth A. Mittendorf, MD
Extending the Value of ACOSOG Clinical Trials: Funding Opportunities for Correlative Studies John A. Olson, Jr., MD, PhD
Developing Your Academic Career Through a Clinical Trial: Z9001 Experience David M. Ota, MD

Objectives: At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
• To understand how to develop a clinical trial with a correlative science investigations.
• To understand how a clinical trial can lead to peer-reviewed funding.

**HOT TOPIC SYMPOSIUM: CURRENT CONCEPTS IN THE PREVENTION OF SURGICAL SITE INFECTIONS (SSIs)**

Moderator: Walter L. Biffl, MD
Surgical Site Infections and the Surgical Care Improvement Project Donald E. Fry, MD
Surgical Site Infections and Their Prevention William G. Cheadle, MD
Surgical Site Infection in Colorectal Surgery - What’s New? Kamal F. Itani, MD

Objectives: At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
• Understand the basic concepts and definitions of SSIs.
• Recognize the impact of SSIs on patient outcomes and the impact on costs of care.
• Understand the evidence for preventive measures.

**HOT TOPIC SYMPOSIUM: HERNIA –“EXPERT UPDATE: COMPONENT SEPARATION: WHAT’S NEW”**

Moderators: Attila Nakeeb, MD and C. Max Schmidt, MD, PhD, MBA
Anatomical and Patient Factors Should Dictate
Ventral Hernia Operative Approach, Technique and Reinforcement William A. Wooden, MD
Component Separation: Pros and Cons of Open Vs. Laparoscopic Mike J. Rosen, MD
Dynamic Abdominal Wall Reconstruction J. Scott Roth, MD
Component Separation: Autologous Tissue Transfer, Any Role In Biologic Era? Ron P. Silverman, MD
Panel Discussion All Panelists

OBJECTIVES: At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to:
• Acquire general knowledge of abdominal wall anatomy and physiology as it relates to ventral hernia repair and component separation.
• Acquire general knowledge of indications for component separation in ventral hernia repair.
• Acquire general knowledge of open and minimally invasive techniques for ventral hernia repair and component separation.
• Acquire general knowledge of indications and use of synthetic, biologic and native tissue reinforcement for ventral hernia repair and component separation.

HOT TOPIC SYMPOSIUM: LIVER TUMORS —“EXPERT UPDATE: EMERGING APPROACHES TO PRIMARY AND SECONDARY MALIGNANCIES”

Moderators: Timothy M. Pawlik, MD, MPH
Colorectal Liver Metastasis: Defining the Role of Resection, Local and Systemic Chemotherapy. Is There a New Paradigm of Care? Yuman Fong, MD
Making Decisions for the Patient With Hepatocellular Carcinoma: Resection, Transplantation, Intra-Arterial Therapy or Nexavar? Steve Curley, MD
Imaging the Liver:
Promising Novel Pre- and Intra-Operative Imaging Modalities David Geller, MD
Treating Primary and Secondary Hepatic Malignancies with Radiofrequency or Microwave Ablation: Patient Selection and Outcomes Robert Martin, III, MD
Panel Discussion All Panelists

OBJECTIVES: At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to:
• Define resectability criteria for colorectal liver metastasis.
• Present data on the role of pre-operative chemotherapy as neo-adjuvant and conversion therapy.
• Detail the short-term benefits and risks of chemotherapy for the surgical patient with colorectal liver metastasis.
• Present data on factors associated with peri-operative outcome following resection of hepatocellular carcinoma (MELD, HPVG, Child-Pugh-Turcotte score, etc).
• Present data on the relative morbidity and long-term outcome of transplantation, resection, or ablation for early hepatocellular carcinoma.
• Present data from the SHARP trial on sorafenib for advanced hepatocellular carcinoma.
• Discuss emerging novel pre- and intra-operative imaging modalities in liver surgery.
• Understand the role of ablative therapies in the management of patients with primary and secondary liver malignancies.
• Define the relative benefits of radiofrequency versus microwave ablation.