

2025 ASC Hot Topic & Committee Sessions

Hot Topic Session: “Investment Invasion: Private Equity’s Role in Shaping Surgical Services”

Moderator: Adrian Diaz, MD, MPH

Delve into the rapidly expanding role of private equity (PE) firms in the healthcare sector, specifically focusing on surgical care. With a growing number of surgical practices being acquired by PE firms, it is crucial to understand the implications of these acquisitions on patient care, healthcare costs, and the overall practice of surgery. This session aims to provide a balanced perspective, featuring insights from leading surgeons, healthcare economists, and industry experts. Attendees will gain a comprehensive understanding of the benefits, challenges, and ethical considerations associated with private equity investment in surgical care.

At the conclusion of this session attendees will be able to:

- Evaluate Data on the increase of PE acquisitions in surgical practices & Financial motivations behind these investments.
- Compare healthcare costs pre- and post-PE acquisition, Impact on insurance, billing practices, and patient affordability.
- Convey evidence-based analysis of patient outcomes in PE-owned practices, Case studies highlighting both positive and negative impacts, Discussion on quality of care, patient satisfaction, and safety concerns.

Introduction

Adrian Diaz, MD, MPH

Financial Impacts and Operational Implications of Private Equity Acquisition

Marcelo Cerullo, MD

Private Equity Investment in Surgical Care

Adrian Diaz, MD, MPH

Use of REITS by PE

Thomas Tsai, MD, MPH

Q&A

Committee Session: “Leadership in Action: Tales from the Trenches”

Moderators: Joseph Phillips, MD & Ashley Holder, MD

This session will feature real life stories of leadership struggles with a focus on perseverance and creative solutions to solving. Problems from multiple levels of leadership in academic surgery. Students, trainees, and surgeons at all levels who are interested in enhancing their leadership skills should attend.

A Dean’s Perspective

Melina Kibbe, MD

A Dean’s Perspective

Adil Haider, MD, MPH

A Chair’s Perspective

Karl Bilimoria, MD, MS

A Division Chief’s Perspective

Lesly Dossett, MD, MPH

A Program Director’s Perspective (Civilian)

Cary Aarons, MD, MSED

A Program Director’s Perspective (Military)

Byron Faler, MD

Q&A

At the conclusion of this session attendees will be able to:

- Articulate current issues faced by leaders in academic surgery from a variety of institutions and leadership levels.
- Identify similar issues faced by their own institutions and begin to develop strategies for creative

solutions to these issues.

- Apply and/or adapt creative strategies employed by others to leadership issues at their home institutions.

Committee Session: "The Ethical Deployment of AI in Healthcare: Maintaining Accountability and Protecting Patient Safety in 2025"

Moderators: Carrie Peterson, MD, MS & Rachel Morris, MD

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is revolutionizing healthcare with its potential to enhance diagnostics, streamline clinical workflows, and personalize patient care. However, as AI technologies proliferate, it is crucial to address the ethical implications of their deployment to ensure accountability and protect patient safety. This session will explore the ethical considerations, practical challenges, and strategies for responsibly integrating AI into healthcare systems through interactive case-based presentations and discussions. Attendees will be provided with introductory knowledge to responsibly consider integrating AI technologies into their practices, ensuring that the benefits of AI are realized without compromising ethical standards.

Introduction

Carrie Peterson, MD, MS

Case #1: Artificial Intelligence in Clinical Decision Making and Treatment Decisions

Nicole Meredyth, MD, HEC-C

Case #2: Artificial Intelligence in Education and the Operating Room

Grace Kim, MD

Case #3: Artificial Intelligence in Trauma

Krista Haines, DO, MA

Panel Discussion/Q&A

At the conclusion of this session attendees will be able to:

- Evaluate the ethical implications of using AI in various healthcare settings, including issues of bias, inequality, and transparency.
- Identify ways to protect patient safety when incorporating AI into practice and education.
- Recognize the concerns of accountability when incorporating AI into practice, including robust validation, continuous monitoring, and reporting and regulatory frameworks.

AAS Committee Session: "So You Want to Be a Surgeon" Session

Moderators: Reagan Collins, BA & Jennifer Ku, BA

This session offers medical students a comprehensive overview of a career in surgery, covering topics such as different types of residency programs, strategies for crafting a successful residency application, and insights into surgical residency match statistics. Attendees will gain practical advice and have the opportunity to participate in a Q&A session led by faculty.

Introduction: So You Want to be a Surgeon

Jennifer Ku, BA

Picking a Program That's Right for You

Luke Funk, MD, MPH

Crafting a Standout Personal Statement for Residency Applications

Tania Arora, MD

Building a Competitive Residency Application: LOR and CV

Allison Martin, MD, MPH

Insights into Match Statistics

Reagan Collins, BA &
Gopika SenthilKumar, PhD

Q&A

At the conclusion of this session attendees will be able to:

- Evaluate the critical factors that influence your choice of a surgical residency program, such as program structure, research opportunities, and long-term career alignment.
- Develop a strategy for crafting a competitive residency application, including writing a compelling personal statement, strengthening the CV, effectively showcasing research, and securing strong letters of recommendation.
- Learn about match statistics and how specific trends contribute to successful matches in surgical residency.

Hot Topic Session: “Confronting the DEI Backlash: Finding a Path Forward”

Moderators: Chelsea Dorsey, MD & Douglas Wood, MD

There is increasing concern around the rapidly changing landscape of diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in medical education. Since 2023 the number of anti-DEI state laws being introduced has increased exponentially with 9 states signing bills into law. At the national level, we are witnessing a politicization and reversal of progress on many fronts including admissions processes in higher education, women’s rights, transgender rights, and, most recently, DEI in medicine. In this Hot Topics Session, DEI leaders and institutional stakeholders will participate in an open discussion about how best to ‘confront’ the current DEI backlash. The aim is to equip academic surgical departments and their leaders with the tools necessary to navigate this contentious space in a way that puts our surgical community in the best position to provide the highest quality and most equitable care to our most vulnerable patients.

Introduction

Chelsea Dorsey, MD

The Evolving Landscape of DEI Efforts: The Impact of DEI-related State and Federal Laws on Graduate Medical Education

Chelsea Dorsey, MD

The Case for and Against Abandoning the Term ‘DEI’

Tracy Wang, MD, MPH

A Practical Approach to Managing DEI Backlash

Randi Smith, MD

Integrating Advocacy into Residency Training: Strategies for Success

Anthony Douglas, MD

Advice for Practicing Surgeons interested in Functioning in the Advocacy Space

Brian Williams, MD

Q&A

At the conclusion of this session attendees will be able to:

- Describe anti-DEI state and federal laws that have been introduced and passed around the country and how they impact medical education.
- Outline the case for and against abandoning the term ‘DEI’.
- Describe best practices for integrating advocacy into residency training.
- Identify best practices for practicing surgeons interested in functioning in the advocacy space.
- Develop a practical framework for managing DEI backlash.

Hot Topic Session: “Going for FLARE: Financial Literacy Advancement and Resource Management for Surgeons”

Moderator: Ming-Li Wang, MD

During surgery residency training, there's no formal financial literacy training, leaving many trainees unprepared for managing their finances when they transition to their first job as attending physicians. Residents, program directors, medical students, junior faculty, and any other stakeholders in resident training and physicians' well-being are invited to attend this session to navigate difficulties in understanding compensation systems, assessing the time value of money, and dealing with the financial burdens of residency and medical training.

Budgeting and Student Debt
The First Job
Retirement and Time Value of Money
Q&A

Bryce Roberts, MD
Martha Godfrey, MD, M.Ed
Vinay Rai, MD

At the conclusion of this session attendees will be able to:

- Identify and apply practical budgeting strategies to current career phase.
- Differentiate between RVU-based, Straight Salary, and Collection-based compensation systems.
- Apply the concept of time value of money to financial decisions.

Committee Session: "Authorship Equity in Academic Surgery"

Moderators: Barnabas Alayande, MBBS, PgDTh, MBA, FMCS & Olamide Alabi, MD

Authorship inequity remains a pervasive issue in academic surgery, with significant disparities evident across gender, race, academic level, and geographic regions. Despite advances in recognizing and addressing broader inequities in academia, authorship remains a critical area where disparities continue to undermine the integrity and inclusivity of surgical research. This session will bring together experts to discuss the inequities in authorship, highlighting specific challenges faced by underrepresented groups and proposing innovative solutions to promote fairness and equity. Topics will include double-blinded reviews, novel low-cost crowd-sourced open access publishing models like <https://jogs.one>, and the development of standardized authorship guidelines by journals.

Breaking Barriers: Achieving Gender Parity
in Surgical Authorship
Beyond Borders: Addressing Global Disparities in Surgical
Research Authorship
Climbing the Ladder: Navigating Authorship Inequities Across
Academic Levels
Rewriting the Rules: Innovative Solutions for Authorship Equity
in Surgery
Q&A

Juliet Emamaulle, MD, PhD, FRCSC
Margaret Tarpley, MD
Jaclyn Gellings, MD
Alexandra Istl, MD MPH

At the conclusion of this session attendees will be able to:

- Identify Inequities: Recognize and describe the current inequities in authorship within academic surgery, focusing on gender, race, academic level, and global disparities.
- Explore Solutions: Evaluate potential solutions to mitigate authorship inequities, including double-blinded review processes and open access publishing models.
- Implement Guidelines: Discuss and advocate for the implementation of standardized authorship

guidelines by academic journals to ensure fair recognition of contributions.

- Promote Inclusivity: Develop strategies to promote inclusivity and equity in authorship within their own research teams and institutional practices.

Hot Topic Session: “A Behind the Scenes Look at Journal Publishing – Everything I Wish I Knew Early in My Career”

Moderator: Melina Kibbe, MD

Panelists: Herbert Chen, MD; Justin Dimick, MD, MPH;

Susan Galandiuk, MD; Scott LeMaire, MD; Douglas Smink, MD, MPH

During this session, editors from 6 diverse surgery journals will share information about how journals are managed behind the scenes, including useful information for authors and peer-reviewers. This session will be of interest to surgical trainees and faculty alike. The journals represented in this session include JAMA Surgery, Journal of Surgical Research, Journal of Surgical Education, Surgery, American Journal of Surgery, and American Journal of Transplantation.

Introduction

Melina Kibbe, MD

Behind the Scenes Look at Journal Publishing

Melina Kibbe, MD

Panel Discussion: Understanding How Different Editors Triage Manuscripts

Panel Discussion: Perspectives on How to Artfully Respond to Reviewer

Comments to Get Your Paper Accepted

Panel Discussion: What You Need to Do to Get on an Editorial Board

Panel Discussion: The Do's and Don'ts of Communicating with a Journal

Question and Answer

Q&A

Conclusion

Melina Kibbe MD

At the conclusion of this session attendees will be able to:

- Be able to articulate how peer-review surgery journals are managed.
- Employ strategies to optimize engagement with peer-review surgery journals.

Committee Lunch Session: Interactive Mentoring Lunch to Advance Your Career for Residents, and Junior Faculty

Moderators: Monica Dua, MD & Kevin Mollen, MD

Grab your lunch and enjoy an interactive round table with AAS/SUS leaders who will discuss how to prepare for and navigate early career advancement as a resident or as junior faculty. The topics will facilitate understanding of transitioning into the next career phase by providing insights to future challenges and tools for successful navigation of those transitions. Each attendee will interact with two roundtables within the level appropriate to their career status, have the opportunity to ask questions and network in a small group setting.

At the conclusion of this session attendees will be able to:

- Organize a method to create wellness in residency and strategies for time management.
- Recognize how to prepare a fellowship application and understand the basics of first job negotiations.

- Plan how to organize financial income and assets to prepare for first time home purchase and retirement.

Hot Topic Session: “EPAs Beyond Engagement: Tools for Optimizing Your Feedback”

Moderators: Brenessa Lindeman, MD, MEHP & Karen Brasel, MD

Join this Hot Topic Session which seeks to equip faculty with tools to utilize EPAs in order to up their game when it comes to providing feedback, based on real-world examples. The goal of this session will be to identify the lessons learned and highlight strategies for increasing both number of EPAs completed and qualitative feedback provided to surgery trainees.

Using EPAs as a Front-Line Faculty Member
Optimizing Your Use of EPAs as a Trainee
Maintaining EPA Engagement in Your Program
Optimizing EPA Use as a Surgical Leader
Q&A

Rebecca Williams-Karnesky, MD
Erin White, MD
Amy Holmstrom, MD
George Sarosi, MD

At the conclusion of this session attendees will be able to:

- Identify best practices for integrating EPAs into educational practice as a faculty member or learner.
- Describe tactics that trainees, faculty, and education leaders can use to maintain engagement using EPAs at their own residency programs.
- Analyze strategies for effective integration of educational innovation from a leadership perspective.

2024 ASC Hot Topic & Committee Sessions

Hot Topic Session: “Surgeons as Administrators: Leading an Institution”

Moderators: Sandra Wong, MD, MS & Thomas Varghese, MD, MS

Surgeons have been increasingly called upon to lead their respective institutions in a variety of administrative appointments ranging from Academic Dean, CEO, Medical Center or Health System President, or University President. In this session surgeons at all levels (trainees, junior faculty, division chiefs, chairs, etc.) will have the opportunity to sit down with a diverse group of surgical leaders as they discuss successfully navigating being academic and administrative surgeons.

Building a Department and Turning it into an Institution: Barbara Bass, MD
Running a University while Caring for Patients with Cancer: Wayne Frederick, MD, MBA
CEO and CAO: Managing a Major Health System: Julie Freischlag, MD
Question and Answer Session

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this session attendees will be able to:

- Recognize opportunities or experiences that can prepare them for future roles in administration.
- Construct short- and long-term plans that can help them achieve their long-term leadership goals.

- Integrate lessons shared by the speakers into their current leadership skills/style.
- Demonstrate an understanding of how to balance their responsibilities as an administrator but also an academic surgeon.

Hot Topic Session: “Getting Started in Leadership: Mindsets and Skillsets for Leading in Complex Systems”

Moderators: Janet (Dombrowski) Pinkerton & Lesly Dossett, MD, MPH

Many of the beliefs and paradigms that serve surgeons well in clinical practice can create unforeseen barriers in approaching the multi-faceted and interdependent leadership challenges of today. This session will provide new and emerging leaders with the opportunity to explore new ways of thinking about leadership through the lenses of 1) leading without a title; 2) being effective in matrix organizations; 3) translating strong non- technical skills into leadership; 4) investing in self-development early and 5) deep challenging of mindsets.

Complex Systems Demand Different from Leaders: Janet Dombrowski,
 Leading without a Title – Knowing and Using Your Sources of Power/Influence: Callisia Clarke, MD, MS
 Matrix Leadership: Creating Coordinate Movement in Multi-Disciplinary Teams: Lesly Dossett, MD, MPH
 Translating Critical Operative Non-Technical Skills from the Operating Room to the Boardroom: Caprice Greenberg, MD, MPH
 Self Development as a Leader: Early and Often: Joceline Vu, MD
 How You Actually Grow as a Leader – Challenge Your Mindset: Justin Dimick, MD, MPH
 Question and Answer Session

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session attendees will be able to:

- Differentiate the leadership requirements in complex systems from historical leadership needs.
- Identify and challenge mindsets of surgeons that can create barriers to leadership success.
- Choose among new skillsets and mindsets discussed to approach leadership challenges in a new way.

Hot Topic Session: “AI Unleashed: Ethical Implications and Transformative Potential of Language Models in Academic Surgery”

Moderators: Haytham Kaafarani, MD & Brenessa Lindeman, MD

The session will explore AI's role in academic writing, shedding light on effective practices for manuscript and grant writing support. It will also discuss how AI can ease the clinical documentation burden. Attendees will gain insights into successful intellectual property creation and retention strategies in university environments facilitated by AI.

However, the use of AI necessitates stringent ethical guidelines, particularly in manuscript and grant writing. This session will tackle these ethical considerations, such as data privacy and security, quality and timeliness of training data, strategies to prevent medical misinformation and bias, and the necessity for transparency in AI's use. The aim is to equip our surgical community with the knowledge to navigate

this emerging field responsibly.

Navigating the Ethical Terrain: AI in Manuscript Development: David Schneider, MD
Preserving Integrity: The Role of AI in Grant Writing: Jamie Robinson, MD, PhD
AI and Clinical Documentation: Efficiency Meets Privacy: Anai Kothari, MD
Unlocking Intellectual Property: AI in University Settings: Anne Stey, MD, MSc
Decoding Ethical Dilemmas: The AI Paradigm in Healthcare: Krista Haines, MA
Panel Discussion

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session attendees will be able to:

- Explore the ethical considerations and advantages associated with employing AI technologies in the development and publication of academic manuscripts.
- Explore AI strategies to lessen clinical documentation load while preserving patient data privacy.

Hot Topic Session: “Going for Broke: Current Topics in Residency Financial Wellness”

Moderators: Jed Calata, MD & Melissa Drezdzon, MD

This session will highlight the current state of resident compensation, its impact on residents themselves, and the ways programs are trying to mitigate the financial burdens of residency. Residents, program directors, medical students, and any other stakeholder in resident training and physician wellbeing are invited to attend.

Introduction: Jed Calata, MD

GME Compensation Structure - A Basic Outline: Melissa Drezdzon, MD

The Impact of Cost of Living on Resident Stipend Value: Melissa Drezdzon, MD

Question and Answer/Brainstorming Session - How Can We Improve Residency Compensation? Should We?

Impact of Financial Strain on Residents: Gentian Kristo, MD, MPH and Katherine He, MD, MS

Unionization, What it Means for Residents and Faculty: Gerald Gantt, MD and Erin Risotta-Urbanowicz, MD

Question and Answer

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session attendees will be able to:

- Describe the GME compensation structure and recognize how the residency job market differs from the standard open market.
- Evaluate how financial difficulties impact the lives of residents and how this may affect the overall training environment.
- Identify opportunities to improve residency compensation or other means to improve residency financial wellness.

Committee Session: “Resident Unionization: Pros, Cons, and Stakeholder Perspectives”

Moderators: Christopher Scally, MD & Sophia McKinley, MD, EdM

There is increasing interest in resident and housestaff unionization, with residents at prominent healthcare systems recently completing or beginning the process. The promise of resident unionization includes better working conditions for trainees as a result of collective bargaining. Others believe unions

are ineffective or even detrimental to resident education. Surgical residents have unique educational needs relative to other specialties and may not be adequately informed regarding the potential educational benefits or risks of resident unionization. The purpose of this educational session is to share information regarding the unionization process and share examples of union activities so that surgical trainees can be better informed regarding their decision to participate in the unionization process or not.

Speaker Introductions: Christopher Scally, MD, and Sophia McKinley, MD, EdM

Resident Unionization: Resident Perspective: Zoe Fullerton, MD

Resident Unionization: The Program Perspective: Stephanie Nitzschke, MD

How Do You Start a Union? Getting Involved: William Weir, MD

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this session attendees will be able to:

- Describe the process of housestaff unionization.
- Describe consequences of housestaff unionization based on real-world examples.
- Articulate arguments both for and against housestaff unionization in order to develop their own perspectives.

Committee Session: “The Evolution of JEDI Leadership in Academic Surgery”

Moderators: Tracy Wang, MD, MPH & Yue-Yung Hu, MD, MPH

With the increased focus on social justice, equity, diversity, inclusion, and belonging that emerged after the start of the pandemic in 2020 and the death of George Floyd, many academic institutions and departments created leadership roles, such as a Vice-Chair of DEI. As momentum has waned and in the wake of recent events at both the state and national legislative and judicial levels, continued support for these roles is uncertain. In this ASC Hot Topics Session, DEI Leaders and stakeholders in academic surgery will reflect on the origins of DEI Leadership Roles in Departments of Surgery, achievements, and the future of DEI efforts and leadership opportunities amidst economic and social change.

The Importance of a Vice-Chair of DEI in a Department of Surgery: A Chair’s Perspective: Julie Ann Sosa, MD, MA

Surgical Excellence in Action: The Role of Vice-Chair of DEI in a Department of Surgery: Chelsey Dorsey, MD

The Impact of DEI Leadership Roles in a Professional: Colin Martin

DEI Leadership Opportunities for Surgery Residents: Imani McElroy, MD

Navigation of the Defunding of DEI Programs at the State Level: Marie Crandall, MD, MPH

Panel Discussion

Question and Answer Session

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session attendees will be able to:

- Reflect on the background, intentions, and etiology of leadership roles in DEI within academic institutions and departments of surgery.
- Discuss the impact of the Vice-Chair of DEI role and initiatives implemented within a department of surgery.

- Describe the benefits and disadvantages of DEI leadership roles in a professional career.
- Identify the best practices and opportunities for surgical residents engaged in DEI efforts.
- Outline the barriers to DEI efforts as a result of political and legislative actions, and how to navigate obstacles to change efforts.

Committee Session: Interactive Mentoring Lunch to Advance Your Career for Medical Students, Residents, and Junior Faculty

Moderators: Monica Dua, MD & Christopher Scally, MD

Enjoy an interactive round table lunch with AAS/SUS leaders who will discuss how to prepare for and navigate early career advancement as medical students. The topics will facilitate understanding of transitioning into the next career phase by providing insights to future challenges and tools for successful navigation of those transitions. Each attendee will interact with two roundtables within the level appropriate to their career status, have the opportunity to ask questions and network in a small group setting.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session attendees will be able to:

- Organize a method to create wellness in residency and strategies for time management.
- Recognize how to prepare a fellowship application and understand the basics of first job negotiations.
- Plan how to organize financial income and assets to prepare for first time home purchase and retirement.

Committee Session: “Writing for Impact”

Moderators: Jennifer Plichta, MD, MS & Lesly Dossett, MD, MPH

This session is designed to help anyone looking to get their work published. It will feature experts at all stages of their careers who will discuss writing in multiple formats, publishing in multiple forums, and identify members of the editorial team that make it happen.

Introduction: Jennifer Plichta, MD, MS and Libby Weaver

Structuring Your Manuscript for Impact: Jennifer Plichta, MD, MS

Selecting the Most Impactful Forum: Picking the Best Journal: Herbert Chen, MD

Methods for Adding Impact: Andrew Ibrahim, BA

Impact Behind the Scenes: From a Journal’s Perspective: Caitlin Hicks, MD, MS

Impactful Non-traditional Formats: Oluwadamilola Fayanju, MD, MA, MPHS

How I Do It, While Still in Training: Dimitrios Moris, MD

Question and Answer Session

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session attendees will be able to:

- Implement the strategies suggested, which will lead to successful publications of their research.
- Identify and utilize non-traditional formats for sharing their research, ideas, and insights.
- Convey the work conducted by editorial team members and apply that perspective to their own work.

2023 ASC Hot Topic & Committee Sessions

Hot Topic Lunch Session: Stronger Together: A Conversation with SAAS & SBAS on Diversity in Surgery:

Description: An examination of challenges unique to each group, challenges that are shared by both groups, and strategies to overcome these challenges and support each other Introduction

Speakers: Colin Martin MD; Karl Bilimoria MD, FACS, MS; Tracy Wang MD, MPH; Cherisse Berry MD; Lindsay Kuo MD, FACS, MBA; Carla Pugh MD, PhD; Allan Tsung MD; Oluwadamilola Fayanju MD, MA, MPHS

Hot Topic Lunch Session: M&M: Mental Health, Wellness, Depression & Suicide Among Physicians

Description: The stressors of a modern surgeon's life are leading to increased burnout, depression, and even suicide. This session will address different facets of this problem as it relates to students, trainees, and practicing physicians, highlight issues facing minority populations, and provide individual and organization-based resources.

Speakers: Joseph Sakran MD, MPH; Jessica Gold MD; Erica Hodgman MD; Mary Brandt MD; Imani McElroy MD; Randeep Jawa MD

Hot Topic Session: Preparing for Competency Based Education: Launch of Entrustable Professional Activities

Description: Our current model of surgical education determines promotion and trainee completion based largely on surrogate measures of competence such as case logs, standardized test performance, faculty evaluations, and a final attestation by the program director.

Unfortunately, these surrogate measures do not allow for a demonstration and understanding of trainee performance as they complete their training period, which has led to heterogeneity in readiness for unsupervised practice.

Beginning in July 2023, the American Board of Surgery is launching use of 18 Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) for General Surgery in all training programs across the United States. This work builds on a pilot study of 5 at 28 surgical programs from July 2018-June 2020. This pilot demonstrated feasibility of EPA use in addition to providing important lessons to guide next steps. The July 2023 EPA launch will require education and engagement of trainees, faculty, training program and department leadership, all key audiences in attendance at the Academic Surgical Congress (ASC).

This proposed ASC Hot Topics Session would provide these critical stakeholders additional information and guidance about what this quickly approaching critical initiative is and what they are going to be expected to do. Additionally, the session further cements the ASC as a sought-after venue and important convening body for American surgery to discuss issues that impact the specialty of surgery broadly.

Speakers: Joshua Mammen, MD; Gurjit Sandhu, PhD; Jacob Greenberg, MD, EdM; John D. Mellinger MD, FACS; Brenessa Lindeman, MD; Taylor M. Coe, BS

Learning Objectives

- Define competency-based education, EPAs, and communicate the rationale for their implementation
- Identify the best practices and lessons learned from the ABS General Surgery EPA pilot
- Analyze tactics that faculty and program directors can use to implement EPAs at individual residency programs
- Brainstorm strategies for residents to make EPAs an integral and productive part of their surgical training

Committee Lunch Session: Data Science in Academic Surgery: Leveraging Real World Data & Capitalizing on Opportunities in Artificial Intelligence

Description: Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become integral in our daily lives. Advanced data science approaches, including machine learning and deep learning, have created major paradigm shifts in every industry. This has led to much discussion about the potential applications of these technologies into surgical research, quality improvement, and clinical practice. Some examples of this include developing machine learning models and deploying them to predict surgical outcomes, high level image processing and computer vision to augment laparoscopic and robotic surgery, and improving electronic data capture to enhance secondary use.

With all of this promise comes potential for misuse, unrecognized biases, and other unintended consequences when source data systems are not well understood. Poor quality or non-representative data can lead to inaccurate algorithms and predictions, undermining the added value of AI beyond usual human inference. As a result, a significant limitation of utilizing AI in healthcare is the lack of data standardization and accuracy. Moreover, data are being misappropriated with administrative metrics often being inappropriately assigned and used for clinical and research purposes and vice versa. Despite these potential cautions, AI and machine learning are being driven into surgical practice at a rapid pace by commercial entities, hospital administration, and regulatory agencies with minimal to no involvement of surgeons. This necessitates significant change in the way surgeons think about, collect, and utilize data.

This session will introduce surgeons to the aforementioned core concepts in data science that are relevant to their daily practice and academic work. The following topics will be discussed:

- Current and future legislative requirements for clinical data standards and how they will impact surgeons and patients.
- The creation of data elements and standards and how they can be implemented to improve and systematically standardize care.
- Potential implications for improved healthcare and surgery-specific data in AI.

Speakers: Heather Lyu, MD; Jaime Robinson, MD, PhD; Anai Kothari, MD; Rachael Callcut, MD; Matthew Harold Katz, MD.

Committee Lunch Session: Innovations and Underused Existing Recommendations to Stimulate Randomized Clinical Trials in Surgery

Description: Randomized clinical trials in surgery are often viewed skeptically, surgeons wonder how the results apply to individual patients, and most surgeons apply a dichotomous worldview around the p value of 0.05 to the results. This session will offer encouraging information to all surgeons regarding making randomized trials more relevant to individual patients, will review current recommendations to stop using the phrase "statistically significant" based on the p value, and will review solutions to other barriers of surgical randomized trials.

Speakers: Rebecca Snyder MD, MPH; Mehul Rayal MD, MS; Mayur Patel MD, MPH; Lillian Kao MD, MS; Martin Blakely MD

Committee Lunch Session: Coaching as a Leadership Competency

Description: As surgeons we know what needs to be done. We teach others how to do it and we evaluate their performance. Command and control is the name of the game. As leaders, we simply don't have all the right answers, particularly in the increasingly complex environments of leadership. To cope with this new reality, leaders are moving away from traditional command- and-control practices and toward a model in which they give support and feedback rather than directives. In this new model, employees are challenged to adapt to constantly changing environments in ways that unleash fresh energy, innovation, and commitment. The role of the leader, in short, is becoming that of a coach. Effective coaching—the kind that creates a true learning organization—is ongoing and executed by those inside the organization. It's work that all leaders should engage in with all their people all the time, in ways that help define the culture of surgery and advance its mission. An effective leader-as-coach asks questions instead of providing answers, supports employees instead of judging them, and facilitates their development instead of dictating what has to be done.

Speakers: Lesly Dossett MD, MPH; Justin Dimick MD, MPH; Kyla Terhune MD; Janey Dombrowski MD; Julie Ann Freischlag MD; David Joseph Phillips MD

Committee Lunch Session: The Intersection of Surgery, Climate Change and Equity

Description: Climate change is a significant and rising challenge that affects human health and health equity. If not done with a focus on sustainability, delivery of surgical care is deleterious to the environment. This session explores how the surgical community can unite to reduce the carbon footprint of surgical services and subsequently augment health equity and decrease surgical disease.

Speakers: Sarah Greenberg MD, MPH; Hannah Cockrell MD; Elizabeth Hansen MD

Committee Session: Academic Surgery Post Roe vs. Wade

Description: Clinical issues: Injuries and sequelae from unsafe abortion attempts that may be encountered by the practicing surgeon. History pre-Roe, current abortion numbers, predictions for the future, impact of medical abortifacients and possible complications, differential impact on rural or deployed surgeons. International experience with restrictive abortion laws and the impact on women's health will also be addressed. Ethical issues: Pregnant patients may have other pathology; treatment such as chemotherapy, surgery, radiation therapy, or immunotherapy could impact a fetus. How to navigate those discussions with patients in states with restrictive laws. What are the legal implications for a practicing surgeon (Optimal patient care vs. fetal effects)? Professional issues: What should be the role of an academic surgeon with respect to advocacy in this area? Should we be silent because of our professional identity or impact on our institution? Or do we have a moral obligation to advocate and use our voice as educated professionals? Pro/con debate touching on social media, professional identity, patient choice, responsibility of surgical societies.

Speakers: Marie Crandall, MD, FACS, MPH; Anthony Charles, MD, MPH; Clara Lee MD, MPP; Peter Angelos MD, PhD, FACS; Heena Santry MD, MS

2022 ASC Hot Topics

HOT TOPIC COMMITTEE SESSION: Emerging from the Pandemic: How Will Academic Surgery Change

Session Chairs: Luke Funk, MD, MPH, FACS and Pam Choi, MD

Academic surgery has changed along with the rest of the world in response to the Covid- 19 pandemic. With nearly two-thirds of the U.S. population at least partially vaccinated against Covid-19, we are slowly but steadily making progress. Surgeons, academic surgery departments, health systems, and trainees are all attempting to establish new normals in various domains – clinical, research, teaching, and in their personal lives.

How has the pandemic changed these areas? What will revert back to pre-pandemic practices, and what may never be the same in academic surgery? What can we learn from the military experience, which offers a helpful perspective on how military members change their lifestyles during deployment and assimilate back into civilian life upon re-entry?

Considerations of a New Surgery Chair Post-Pandemic - KMarie King, MD, MS, MBA How Departments of Surgery May Change Post-Pandemic - Keith Lillemoe, MD What will be Different from the American Board of Surgery's Perspective - Joshua Mammen, MD, PhD

Re-entering Life After Deployment and Lessons from Pandemic Emergence - Meghann Nelles, MD

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

- Discuss how surgery departments, medical schools, and academic medical centers will need to change post-pandemic.
- Understand how surgical training and surgery board certification may change given the pandemic.
- Identify how we can learn from the military experience.

HOT TOPIC COMMITTEE SESSION: How to Write a Paper that will be Accepted for Publication: Tips from the Editors of Surgery and Journal of Surgical Research

Session Chairs: Scott LeMaire, MD and Kevin Behrns, MD

During this session, seven journal editors will help academic surgeons at all levels— medical students, residents, fellows, and faculty members—become more successful in getting their scientific papers accepted for publication. Attendees will learn how to follow best practices and avoid common pitfalls while writing each of the four major sections of a manuscript: Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion.

Introduction - Scott LeMaire, MD

The Foundation: Crafting a Compelling Introduction - Colin Martin, MD Getting the Methods Right - Shimul Shah, MD

Effectively Communicating Your Results - Dawn Coleman, MD

The Discussion Section: Conveying the Impact of Your Work - Barbara Miller, MD Interactive Discussion - All Faculty

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

- Describe the best practices and common pitfalls in writing the Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion sections of a scientific manuscript.
- Apply advanced considerations when planning study methodology and communicating results, and understand how these approaches will increase the chance of having a manuscript receiving a favorable review.

- Improve their success in getting their scientific papers accepted for publication by anchoring the Introduction with a strong objective and hypothesis.
- Report data effectively by creating well-designed tables, figures, and graphs.

HOT TOPIC COMMITTEE SESSION: M&M: Mental Health, Wellness, Depression, and Suicide Among Physicians

Session Chairs: Joseph V. Sakran, MD, MPA, MPH, Randeep Jawa, MD, and Erica Hodgman, MD

The stressors of a modern surgeon's life are leading to increased burnout, depression, and even suicide. This session will address different facets of this problem as it relates to students, trainees, and practicing physicians, highlight issues facing minority populations, and provide individual and organization-based resources.

Moderator - Joseph V. Sakran, MD, MPA, MPH The Scope of the Problem - Erica Hodgman, MD
Moral Injury and Wellness - The Impact on Mental Health - Mary Brandt, MD Twice as Hard, for Half as Much – Issues Facing URMs - Andrea Hayes-Jordan, MD The Impact of Mental Health on Trainees - Imani McElroy, MD, MPH

The Impact of the Pandemic on Mental Health - Not Just This Moment! - Jessica Gold, MD, MS

Concluding Thoughts and Future Directions - Randeep Jawa, MD

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

- Identify ways in which organizations can destigmatize mental illness and support those seeking treatment.
- Discuss approaches to addressing the underlying sources of physician burnout.
- Discuss ways to support a person with mental health issues and what to do if you're worried.

HOT TOPIC COMMITTEE SESSION: Modifiable Drivers of Surgical Inequity: Addressing the Social, Moral, and Political Determinants of Health for Optimal Surgical Care Delivery

Session Chair: Andrew P. Loehrer, MD, MPH

While considerable attention has been given to how the social determinants of health, including the roles that poverty, living environment, education, and food availability influence health in general, there are considerable gaps in our efforts to address these gaps for optimal surgical care. In this session, we will discuss the social, moral, and political determinants of health, provide specific examples of how these modifiable factors influence inequity, and outline policies and programs that can mitigate inequity in surgical care.

Moral, Political, and Social Determinants of Health Framework - Andrew P. Loehrer, MD, MPH

Racism and Other Modifiable Factors Drive Inequity - Oluwadamilola Fayanju, MD, MA, MPHS

Legacy of Residential Redlining on Current Surgical Inequity - Adrian Diaz, MD, MPH Influence of Firearm

Policy on Our Nation's Health and Inequity - Ashley Hink, MD Policies and Programs to Mitigate Inequity

- John Scott, MD, MPH

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

- Understand the social, moral, and political determinants of the health framework.
- Describe how modifiable factors including racism, structural inequalities, and policy contribute to inequity.
- Understand how policies and programs can mitigate inequity.

HOT TOPIC COMMITTEE SESSION: Development of DEI Leadership Skills – Allyship, Coaching, Mentorship, and Sponsorship

Session Chair: Thomas K. Varghese Jr. MD, MS

All leaders committed to DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) have the capacity to initiate and sustain change for the better at the local, institutional, regional and national levels. This session will deliver evidence-based leadership practices from content experts, especially four skill sets that have emerged as critical for leaders committed to DEI efforts - Allyship, Coaching, Mentorship and Sponsorship.

Inclusive Leadership: Transitioning from Bystanders to Allies - Thomas K. Varghese Jr. MD, MS
Surgical Coaching for Performance Improvement - Caprice Greenberg, MD, MPH
Structured Team-Based Mentoring Program - Lesley Dossett, MD, MPH
Best Practices in Sponsorship - Carla Pugh, MD, PhD
Panel Discussion - All Faculty

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

- Reflect on the evolution of leadership principles, and the importance of inclusive allyship.
- Describe the benefits of surgical coaching for improvement of technical skills, and the components to consider when building a coaching program.
- Outline the benefits of a structured, team-based mentoring approach that facilitates equitable access, as well as tailored to early (Launch Teams) and mid-career (Boost Teams) surgeons.
- Identify the best practices of sponsorship that are better at diversifying pipelines for leadership.

HOT TOPIC COMMITTEE SESSION: Translating the Value of the Academic Surgeon into Salary, Time, and Resources

Session Chairs: Mehul Raval, MD, MS and Christina Roland, MD, MS

This session will provide perspectives and strategies to ensure compensation and resources needed to foster the success of contemporary Academic Surgeons. Our esteemed panel will share candid stories of early-career choices, mid-career negotiations, and perspectives of academic surgical leaders while including opportunities for audience-based questions.

Junior Faculty Perspective - Angela Ingraham, MD, MS
Mid-Career Faculty Perspective - Catherine Hunter, MD
Chair Perspective - Herbert Chen, MD

Dean Perspective - Julie A. Freischlag, MD, FACS, FRCSEd(Hon), DFSVS
Panel - All Faculty

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

- Identify key resources (e.g. protected time, research funds, salary support) needed to optimize success as an Academic Surgeon.
- Plan for negotiations that value the Academic Surgeon's role in the Department of Surgery and School of Medicine.
- Create compensation plans that allow for more transparency in regards to academic productivity.

HOT TOPIC COMMITTEE SESSION: Pregnancy, Infertility, and Obstetric Complications: The Challenges of Parenthood for Women Surgeons

Session Chairs: Erika Rangel, MD and Eugene Kim, MD

Women surgeons have elevated risks of miscarriage, infertility, and pregnancy complications. In this session, we discuss risk factors associated with adverse obstetric outcomes, discuss barriers women face against having children early in their surgical career, review the risks of infertility, and suggest future directions for policy change to better support surgeons starting families. The audience will gain additional perspective from real-life examples of pregnancy and obstetric complications, and from content expertise provided by a Maternal-Fetal Medicine specialist. This session is designed for those with an interest in improving the health and wellbeing of pregnant surgeons, and those interested in supporting compatibility between family and career priorities.

The Evidence for Infertility and Pregnancy Complications Among Female Surgeons - Erika Rangel, MD
Pregnancy During Residency from the Trainee Perspective: Barriers, Stigma, and Postpartum Challenges - Rachel Atkinson, MD

A Personal Story of IVF, Preeclampsia, and Stroke, and the Journey Back to Practice- Eveline Shue, MD, FACS, FAAP

High-Risk Pregnancies and Modifiable Risks for Surgeon - Katherine Economy, MD
Developing a Supportive Workplace for Childbearing Surgeons - Eugene Kim, MD

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

- Identify the barriers and challenges trainees and early career surgeons face related to family planning, pregnancy, and postpartum support.
- Understand the increased risk of infertility and pregnancy complications among female surgeons.
- Learn how workplace policies and culture can be changed to better support maternal and fetal health among pregnant surgeons.

Hot Topic Committee Session: Stronger Together: A Conversation with SAAS and SBAS on Diversity in Surgery

Session Chairs: Oluwadamilola Fayanju, MD, MA, MPHS, Lindsay Kuo, MD, MBA

An examination of challenges unique to each group, challenges that are shared by both groups, and strategies to overcome these challenges and support each other.

Common Myths/Stereotypes and Why They Are Harmful – Anai Kothari, MD and Tracy Wang, MD, MPH
Advancement (Or Lack Thereof) in Academic Surgery – Cherisse Berry, MD and Susan Tsai, MD, MHS
The Urgent Need for Physician Workforce Diversification – Paris Butler, MD, MPH and Callisia Clarke, MD, MS

Overcoming Hurdles and the Role of Both Identity-specific and National Societies in Supporting Diverse Surgical Trainees and Faculty – Allan Tsung, MD and Carla Pugh, MD, PhD

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

- Delineate current trends in representation of AAPI and Black surgeons in surgical training, as part of surgical departments, and as leaders in American surgery
- Compare challenges between and among Black and AAPI surgeons with regards to inclusion and advancement within surgery
- Implement diverse, nuanced systemic strategies to redress barriers to inclusion and advancement of Black and AAPI individuals in surgical training and practice

2021 ASC Hot Topics

HOT TOPIC/COMMITTEE SESSION 1: “Making Surgical Training Anti-Racist”

Session Chairs: Grace Chao, MD, Bellal Joseph, MD & Brenessa Lindeman, MD, MEHP

Throughout their careers, underrepresented in medicine (URiM) physicians face discrimination and microaggressions from patients, colleagues, and supervisors. This session will be a panel discussion by experts with insights into these issues, who will address different components of this problem, present unique considerations in supporting URiM physicians and trainees, and conclude with take-away points that program leaders, front-line faculty, and trainees can put into place in their own working and learning environments.

Introduction - Bellal Joseph, MD & Brenessa Lindeman, MD, MEHP

Structural Racism and Its Effect on Surgical Training - Tanya Zakrison, MD, MPH An Anti-Racism

Framework - Shakirat Lara Oyetunji, MD, MPH

A Medical Student Lens - Lauren Gaston-Hawkins, MPH Residents: Mentors and Mentees - Grace Chao, MD Departmental Leadership in Anti-Racism - Julie Ann Sosa, MD, MA

Moderated Q&A - Bellal Joseph, MD & Brenessa Lindeman, MD, MEHP

At the end of the session, participants will be able to:

- Recognize elements unique to the training experiences of surgical trainees that are part of under-represented in medicine (URiM) groups.
- Elucidate effective strategies to move toward becoming anti-racist and anti-discriminatory in their thinking and behaviors.
- Implement strategies and policies that training programs and surgical departments have used to foster an inclusive learning environment.

HOT TOPIC/COMMITTEE SESSION 2: “Tool Kit for Basic and Translational Research by Surgeon Scientists”

Session Chairs and Moderators: Vikas Dudeja, MD & Allan Goldstein, MD

In this session, surgeons with successful basic/translational research programs will provide insights on the value of surgeon-basic scientists to departments of surgery, strategies for obtaining NIH funding, and pearls and pitfalls to becoming a successful researcher. The session is intended for students, trainees, and faculty pursuing a surgeon-basic science career.

Welcome and Introduction - Vikas Dudeja, MD Current State of Affairs - Allan Goldstein, MD

RVUs vs RO1s: Chair's Perspective - Herbert Chen, MD

Pearls and Pitfalls for Success in Basic Science Research - Katherine Gallagher, MD Inside Study Section:

Where Rubber Meets the Road - Malcolm Brock, MD Lessons I've Learned as a Surgeon-Scientist -

Sundee Keswani, MD, FAAP Moderated Question & Answer - Vikas Dudeja, MD

At the end of the session, participants will be able to:

- Understand the perspective of surgical leadership toward supporting surgeon scientists.
- Learn common pearls and pitfalls for success as a surgeon scientist.
- Identify actionable strategies to improve your success in achieving extramural funding.

HOT TOPIC/COMMITTEE SESSION 3: “Flexibility and Leadership in Uncertain Times: Pandemics, Prejudices and Principles”

Session Chairs: Catherine Velopulos, MD, MHS, AAS Leadership Chair; Luke Funk, MP, MPH, AAS Leadership Co-Chair, Lorena Gonzalez, MD; Michael O’Leary, MD; Jason Bingham, MD, AAS Military Taskforce

Recognizing that we can no longer uphold the status quo, particularly in a time where medical and public health issues have been politicized, surgical leaders are increasingly finding a voice to address a variety of charged, but necessary issues, and surgeons play an important role in addressing problems that call for flexibility and agility. As an entity proactively addressing uncertainty in everyday operations, the military experience offers a useful perspective on developing leadership frameworks on which to proceed.

Welcome - Catherine Velopulos, MD, MHS

Speaker Introductions - Lorena Gonzalez, MD & Michael O'Leary, MD

The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Field of Surgery, Training and Academic Productivity - Timothy Pawlik, MD, MPH, PhD

The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Field of Surgery and Academic Productivity - Melina Kibbe, MD, FAHA

Speaker Introduction - Luke Funk, MD, MPH

Public Health Crisis: Addressing Racism and Health Inequity from the Top - Brian Williams, MD Speaker Introduction – Jason Bingham, MD

Timeless Principles: Military Perspective in Flexible Leadership – Diego Vicente, MD Question & Answer

At the end of the session, participants will be able to:

- Discuss the impact of the pandemic on management of surgical disease as well as the health safety of both patients and healthcare providers.
- Describe the impact of the pandemic on surgical training, junior faculty career development and academic surgeon productivity.
- Understand the importance of adapting leadership styles, particularly in times of crisis.
- Learn how leadership informs advocacy and health policy to address public health issues.
- Identify how military leadership experience can inform academic leadership.

HOT TOPIC/COMMITTEE SESSION 4: “Mobile Health Technology – An Opportunity to Measure What Matters Most”

Session Chair: Nikhil Panda, MD, MPH

Mobile technologies – smartphones, wearables, physiologic sensors – are already in the hands of many of our patients, and there is a growing interest in harnessing the capabilities of these technologies to improve the quality of surgical care delivery. And yet, with all the technological sophistication and “big data” mobile health technology provides, implementation has been varied. The purpose of this session is to introduce the clinical applications of mobile health technologies and discuss potential barriers and pitfalls associated with implementation.

Background of Mobile Health Technology and Introduction of Speakers – Nikhil Panda, MD, MPH Remote Digital Measurement of Health-Related Quality of Life and Patient-Reported Outcome Measures – Andrea Pusic, MD

Opportunities for Enhanced Recovery Monitoring Using Smartphone Sensor Data – Alex Haynes, MD, MPH

Mobile Health Technology and the 2020 Pandemics – Numa Perez, MD Patient-Facing Mobile Health Technologies – Feibi Zheng, MD, MBA Moderated Question & Answer - Nikhil Panda, MD, MPH

At the end of the session, participants will be able to:

- Recognize clinical applications of mobile health technologies during pre- and postoperative surgical care.
- Identify facilitators of and barriers to implementation of mobile health technologies at patient, provider, and health system levels.

HOT TOPIC/COMMITTEE SESSION 5: “Emotional Regulation in Surgery: Fostering Well-Being, Performance, and Leadership”

Session Chairs: Carter Lebares, MD

The purpose of the session is to present the sound body of data supporting the value of emotional regulation training in surgery, and to explain the applicability of this skillset across residency training and throughout a surgeon's career. Speakers are surgeons/leaders who have successfully embraced this frontier and will discuss evidence-based practices, real-life utilization, and the practical aspects of implementation including hurdles, hidden resources, and concrete steps for moving forward. Residency program leadership, surgical wellbeing champions, and anyone interested in emotional regulation/mental skills training in surgery should attend.

Introduction - Carter Lebares, MD

Evidence behind Enhanced Stress Resilience Training for Surgeons - Carter Lebares, MD Implementing Basic Skills Training from The Bottom Up - Veronica Sullins, MD and Tim Donahue, MD Implementing Basic Skills Training from The Top Down - Varuna Sundaram, MD, Pierre Saldinger, MD, and Celia Divino, MD

Evidence Behind Mental Skills Training in Surgery - Nicholas Anton, MD Implementation Pearls and Pitfalls - Dimitrios Stefanidis, MD, PhD

The Role of Systems in Wellbeing - Linda Reilly, MD Evidence-Driven Systems Change - Richard Egan, MD Implementing Joy in Work - Kristen Beales, MD

Litigation, Leadership and Longevity: How to Prepare? - Taylor Riall, MD, PhD

Modelling Emotional Regulation in Independent Practice - Nancy Ascher, MD, PhD, and Quan-Yang Duh, MD

Developing a Longitudinal Wellbeing Program - Rita Mukhtar, MD and Kenzo Hirose, MD Moderated Question & Answer - Carter Lebares, MD

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

- Distinguish the various applications of emotional regulation skills across the trajectory of surgical training and practice.
- Articulate the evidence supporting emotional regulation-based interventions to improve wellbeing, performance, and job satisfaction.
- Formulate a plan for implementation of emotional regulation-based interventions at their home institution.

HOT TOPIC/COMMITTEE SESSION 6: “How to Review a Paper for a Scientific Journal: Insights from the Editors of *Surgery* and *Journal of Surgical Research*”

This special session sponsored by Elsevier is designed for faculty members and surgical trainees interested in understanding the peer-review process and in improving their skills in reviewing manuscripts for scientific journals. During the session, three current journal editors will provide insights regarding the importance of participating in the peer-review process and best practices for conducting a review and writing a constructive critique. The session will include time for attendees to ask the panel of editors questions regarding all aspects of the journal peer review process.

Why Reviewing Manuscripts is an Essential Part of Your Academic Career – Caitlin Hicks, MD, MS The Peer-Review Landscape: 2021 – Scott LeMaire, MD, FAHA, FCCP

How to Evaluate a Manuscript and Write a Critique – Ben Nwomeh, MD, MPH

What Do Editors Expect from Their Reviewers? – Steven Wexner, MD, PhD (Hon), FACS, FRCS (Eng), FRCS(Ed), FRCSI (Hon), Hon FRCS (Glasg)

Interactive Discussion – Panel and Attendees

At the end of the session, participants will be able to:

- Gain an understanding of why reviewing manuscripts is an important component of their careers in academic surgery and identify how reviewing papers for journals will strengthen their own science, foster their career advancement, and enable them to contribute to a fundamental academic process.
- Develop a perspective on how to incorporate peer-review into schedules that are already packed with your clinical, research, and teaching obligations.
- Learn about different models of journal publishing (traditional vs. open access), article transfer, and peer-review (single-blind vs. double-blind vs. open).
- Understand of how journals are addressing challenges related to diversity, equity, and inclusion in editorial leadership and the review process.
- Know what an editor wants from reviewers and gain an understanding of how to use the different sections of the review to optimize communication to the editor and the authors, and they will learn how to critically evaluate clinical research papers and basic science papers.
- Identify the reasons an author chooses to submit to a particular journal and the related expectations an author has of a reviewer and an editor.

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 & Risk Modeling/Prediction: A New Era of Decision-Making in Surgery? – Majed El Hechi, MD 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, MSci, 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

HOT TOPIC SESSION 1: “Overcoming Hostile Work and Learning Environment in Academic Surgery: Tools for Change at Every Level”

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

Panel Discussion – Danny Chu, MD, Julie Freischlag, MD, Mary Hawn, MD, Benjamin James, MD, MS, and Tara Kent, MD, MS

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”

Session Chairs: Jane Zhao, BA, MD and Gretchen Jackson, MD, PhD

Speakers: Raquel Forsythe, MD Gretchen Jackson, MD, PhD, Alexander Langerman, MD, MS, Genevieve Melton-Meaux, MD, MA, and David Schneider, MD

Clinical informatics is 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.

Introductions of Clinical Informatics (and What it is NOT) and Making the EHR Work for Surgeons – David Schneider, MD

Pathways to Becoming a Clinical Informatician and the Various Opportunities Available for Surgeon Informaticians – Raqual Forsythe, MD

Informatics From the Perspective of a Clinician Researcher, Informatics Educator, and Industry Scientist – Gretchen Jackson, MD, PhD

Interoperability and Human-Computer Interaction in the Operating Room – Alexander Langerman , MD, MS

Perspectives from a Chief Data and Health Informatics Officer: Leveraging Informatics to Advocate for Surgeons – Genevieve Melton-Meaux , MA, MD

Question and Answer – All Speakers

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

Public Health Initiatives in Trauma Surgery – Jamie Coleman, MD

Social Media and the Science of Cancer – Deanna Attai, MD

SoMe in Surgery – what is the future? – Thomas K. Varghese Jr., MD, MS

Roundtable Discussion/Debate – Moderated by Christian Jones, MD

Question and Answers – All Speakers

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

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

- Understand the basic concepts of digital scholarship, including novel techniques such as the visual abstract that influence “impact factor” in advancing science.
- Assess the changing paradigms in Surgical Education, and how one can utilize Social Media in the constructs of curriculum development and simulation research.
- Recognize the barriers in engaging the Public at large on advocating for surgical issues, such as Trauma and Cancer, and how engaging with patients, providers and policy makers can be done in an academic career.
- Describe future trends in Social Media and their impact on the field of Surgery.

HOT TOPIC LUNCH SESSION: “Integrated Residencies and Early Specialization Programs: A Threat to General Surgery Training or Innovative Approaches to Surgical Education?”

SESSION CHAIRS & MODERATORS: 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.

2017 ASC Hot Topics

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

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.

Principles of Academic Global Surgery: How Can Mission Trip Actually be Anything Academic? –
Fiemu Nwariaku, MD

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

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

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.

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 Boccanfuso, 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

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 Lemaire, MD MODERATOR: KMarie Reid, MD, MS

Increasingly our profession is coming to terms with the often undiscussed 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.

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

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

Academic Departments of Surgery: A Historical Perspective – E. Christopher Ellison, MD

Multidisciplinary Institutes: Patient-Centered Care Model – R. Matthew Walsh, MD

Pancreas Centers of Excellence as a Model for Multidisciplinary Collaboration: A Non-Surgeon Point of View – Darwin Conwell, MD, MS

The Role of the Department of Surgery in the Academic Medical Center of the Future – Robert E. Michler, MD

Panel Discussion/Questions

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.

HOT TOPICS SESSION: “High-Risk Surgery Under Emerging Payment Mechanisms: What Do Accountable Care Organizations, Bundled Payments, And Global Budgets Imply For The Future Of Surgery?”

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 Leighn, 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 individual’s 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., as platforms for information dissemination), and to describe ways to integrate an eQective 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
3. (including how to develop “elevator speeches”);
4. Learn the importance of a social media presence;
5. 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?
 - a. Pro: Yes It Will Decrease Disparities In Health Care Rachel Kelz , MD
 - b. Con: No It Will Worsen Access And Actually Harm Patients Karl Y. Bilimoria, MD
 - c. Rebuttals
 - d. Questions and Vote
2. Proposed Gun Control Laws: Will They Actually Decrease The Number of Trauma Patients We See?
 - a. Con: No, We Have Had Plenty of Laws and None of Them Jeffrey S. Upperman, MD Have Decreased Violence
 - b. Pro: We Need These Laws to Decrease the Number of Ali Salim, MD Trauma Patients We Have To Pronounce Dead

- c. Rebuttals
- d. Questions and Vote

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

- Understand the current provisions in Obamacare that are designed to enhance access to health care including surgical care;
- 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;
- Identify opportunities for surgeons to become involved in the roll out and further modification of the new health care law;
- Understand the current gun control laws at the federal level and proposed laws regarding: magazine sizes, gun types and gun sales;
- 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;
- 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:

- Be familiar with issues that led to the development of Acute Care Surgery and the argument for its need.
- Be familiar with the current content of the Acute Care Surgery Fellowship curriculum and the status of Fellowships.
- Be familiar with the opinions of current surgical residents and attendings on Acute Care Surgery.
- 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:

- Understand currently available data used to assess surgical quality.
- Describe the state of patient care in academic centers considering issues related to surgical education and resident participation.
- Illustrate recent changes in accreditation requirements and external pressures motivating change in the surgical training paradigm.
- 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

Bleeding in the Setting of Trauma: Lessons in Hemostatic Resuscitation from the Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq: Lt. Col. Jeremy W. Cannon, 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:

- Identify clinical factors placing patients at high risk for perioperative bleeding.
- 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.
- Understand the differences in transfusion strategies in civilian and military trauma compared to elective or semi-elective operations.
- Understand options for handling massive transfusion and treatment of intractable bleeding in the civilian and military settings.
- 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:

- 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.
- Provide a rationale for the involvement of the academic surgical community in these global health endeavors.
- Outline methods to develop surgical capacity in the third world in which the academic surgical community can play a vital and much needed role.
- Delineate the clinical and research avenues where the involvement of the academic surgical community can be beneficial.

2012 ASC Hot Topics

HOT TOPIC SYMPOSIUM: “A NEW BEGINNING OR THE BEGINNING OF THE END? SURGERY IN THE ELDERLY AND PATIENTS NEAR THE END OF LIFE”

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:

- Understand the impact of frailty on surgical morbidity and mortality in elderly patients.
- Reflect on the unique challenges posed by advance directives in surgical patients.
- Understand how integrating the principles of palliative medicine with surgical treatment can improve care for patients at the end of life.

HOT TOPIC SESSION: “MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY – LAPARO-ENDOSCOPIC SINGLE SITE (LESS) SURGERY: A STATE-OF-THE-ART UPDATE”

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:

- Introduce new emerging technology for foregut and colorectal surgery and understand this new surgical technique.
- Describe patient selection criteria and their impact on clinical outcomes.
- Identify potential benefits, risks, and challenges of LESS foregut, bariatric, and colorectal surgery.
- Describe appropriate access methods and toolbox such as multi-trocar ports, instruments, and optics.
- Implement changes and improvements in surgical practice based on clinical evidence and case studies.
- 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.

An Introduction to the Challenges of Molecularly-Based Personalized Cancer Care John C. Mansour, MD
Biobanking and Tissue Repositories William E. Grizzle, MD, PhD
A Randomized Trial Employing Molecular Individualization Laura J. Esserman, MD
Taking Molecular Individualization from the Bench to Industry to the Clinics Mark Lee, MD, PhD
Panel Discussion All Panelists

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

- Define what is currently known about standards for tissue handling, tumor profiling techniques, and study design.
- Define the opportunities for novel research relevant to the unique questions raised by individualized cancer therapy research.
- 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.

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

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

- Define what is currently known about standards for tissue handling, tumor profiling techniques, and study design.
- Define the opportunities for novel research relevant to the unique questions raised by individualized cancer therapy research.
- 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:

- Conceive of products based upon your research and clinical practice.
- Create a business model and attract initial rounds of financing to further develop the product.
- Determine what ideas are worth supporting.
- 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

Robotic Approaches to Thoracic Disease Bernard J. Park, MD

Results of Robotic Assisted Complex Pancreatic Hepatobiliary Procedures A. James Moser, MD

Robotic Assisted Liver Resection Alan Tsung, MD

Single Port Robotic Assisted Surgery: Future is Now Sri C. Chalikonda, MD

Endoluminal Robotics: A Glimpse at the Future Julianne Bingener-Casey, MD

Virtual Robotic Training Devices Myriam Curet, MD

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

- Define the indications for Robotic Assisted approaches to thoracic diseases.
- Understand short term and long-term outcomes in robotic assisted thoracic surgery.
- Describe robotic approach to complex gastrointestinal surgical procedures.
- Discuss short term and long-term outcomes in robotic assisted complex gastrointestinal surgery.
- Describe and understand the principles behind single port robotic platform.
- 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.