

Chapter news

by Rhonda Peebles, Division of Member Services

To report your chapter's news, contact Rhonda Peebles toll-free, at 888/857-7545, or via e-mail at rpeebles@facs.org.

New Chapter in Turkey

The College now has 32 International Chapters, and the newest one is located in Turkey. On Saturday, October 9, the College's Board of Regents approved the formation of the Turkey Chapter. Cemalettin Topuzlu, MD, FACS, the Governor from Turkey, successfully shepherded the development of the Turkey Chapter, including conducting a poll of College members in Turkey for their approval, drafting bylaws, and coordinating the election of provisional officers. On October 10, the official charter for the Turkey Chapter was presented at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors (see photo, right).

The provisional officers of the new Turkey Chapter include: President, Kemal Alemdaroğlu, MD, FACS; Vice-President, Cemalettin Topuzlu, MD, FACS; Secretary, Gürsel Soybir, MD, FACS; Treasurer, Tansu Salman, MD, FACS; Governor-at-Large, Cemalettin Topuzlu, MD, FACS; At-Large-Member, Özdemir Aktan, MD, FACS.

The other International Chapters include Argentina, Australia-New Zealand, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico-Federal District, Mexico-Nor-Occidental, Mexico-Northeast, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

NY conducts practice management workshop

On October 2, the New York (NY) Chapter co-hosted a one-day practice-management workshop for surgical residents, which took place at the New York Athletic Club in New York City. Topics that were covered included New York State's professional discipline process, employment contracts and partnership agreements, and professional li-



Courtney Townsend, MD, FACS (left), Chair of the Board of Governors, presents the charter for the Turkey Chapter to Dr. Topuzlu.

ability insurance purchasing considerations. In addition to the New York State Chapter, other statewide specialty societies that also cohosted the education program included the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (District II), the New York Chapter of the American College of Physicians, New York State Academy of Family Practice, New York State Ophthalmological Society, New York State Society of Orthopaedic Surgeons, and New York State Thoracic Society.

New Jersey tackles new taxes on surgeons

The New Jersey legislature passed two new taxes to support uncompensated hospital care, and the New Jersey Chapter is actively advocating their repeal. The one new tax of 8.2 percent will be levied on nonhospital-owned outpatient surgical cen-



New Mexico Chapter officers, left to right (all MD, FACS): Don Fry, Past-President; Albert Kwan, Secretary; Jacob George, Vice-President; Stephen Haynes, Governor; Dr. Russell; Jorge Wernly, Chair, University of New Mexico department of surgery; Thomas Howdieshell, President-Elect; Ralph Macfarlane, President; Dr. Kridelbaugh; and Don Morris, Immediate Past-President.



Dr. Russell (right) presents the College's 2003 Distinguished Philanthropist Award to Dr. Kridelbaugh.

ters. The second new tax of 6 percent, which is a sales tax, will be levied on all nonreconstructive, elective, cosmetic procedures—such as Botox applications, liposuction procedures, breast procedures, and others. In a letter sent to all newspapers in the state, Paul LoVerme, MD, FACS, the Chapter President, pointed out that currently, New Jersey hospitals receive \$381 million dollars for charity care, while New Jersey physicians receive nothing. For more information about these new taxes, visit the New Jersey Chapter's Web site at <http://www.nj-acg.org/>, or call Art Ellenberger, Executive Director, at 973/239-2826.

In unrelated news, the New Jersey Chapter's 2005 Pilgrimage will be to the Quincentennial

(500th) Anniversary of the Royal College of Surgeon of Edinburgh, the oldest surgical society in the world. A variety of programs will be held as part of this special historic celebration. For more information, please visit the New Jersey Chapter Web site, or phone Mr. Ellenberger.

New Mexico conducts annual meeting

On August 6, the New Mexico Chapter conducted its annual meeting and education program in Albuquerque. During the meeting, in addition to electing new officers (see photo, top left), Thomas R. Russell, MD, FACS, the College's Executive Director, presented the 2003 Distinguished Philanthropist Award to William Kridelbaugh, MD, FACS. Dr. Kridelbaugh was the 14th recipient of this College recognition award, having established a Charitable Remainder Unitrust naming the College as a beneficiary (see photo, bottom left).

Chapter anniversaries

Month	Chapter	Years
November	Arkansas	52
	Chile	53
	Florida	51
	Indiana	53
	Kentucky	52
	Michigan	53
	Nebraska	53
	Bronx, New York	53
	Southwest Pennsylvania	52
December	Argentina	51
	Missouri	38

New Chapter Web site

The President of the Argentina Chapter, Alberto Cariello, MD, FACS, announced in August that the Argentina Chapter has developed a Web site to communicate with its members. The Web site is available online at <http://www.capituloargacs.org.ar>. The Web site includes information on the history of the Argentina Chapter, the Chapter Officers, the Argentina Committee on Trauma, and scholarships for surgeons.