

# Blending Cultures: the merger of the Wisconsin Surgical Society and the Wisconsin Chapter of the American College of Surgeons

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# Wisconsin Surgical Society

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- Established in 1946
- Largely a response to itinerant surgery
- Membership was open to any surgeon who
  - Belonged to the State Medical Society
  - Certified by the American Board of Surgery
  - Fellow of the American College of Surgeon

# Wisconsin Surgical Society

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- Concentrated on
  - Resident education
  - Academic practice
  - Patient care issues

# American College of Surgeons Wisconsin Chapter

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- Concentrated on economic and political issues surrounding surgical practice

# WHAT CHANGED?

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- The ACS seemed to have a more inclusive attitude.
- Realization by members of the Wisconsin Surgical Society that economic and political issues could not be avoided.
- Some of the old guard retired and passed away.

# Resulting in

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- A combined society with an active core membership
- An inclusive society that has courted and tried to encourage student and resident participation
- The sense that political and economic issues have a place in surgical practice but that our core duties are not limited to money and power.

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