

## Governors' Committee on Chapter Activities:

An update

by Kevin P. Lally, MD, FACS

**T**he Board of Governors' Committee on Chapter Activities works to support the U.S., Canadian, and international chapters of the College. The activities of the committee are largely carried out by the four standing subcommittees, and the committee's focus is on improving chapter membership and function in support of the overall goals of the American College of Surgeons (ACS).

The International Activities subcommittee organized a strategic planning session at the Clinical Congress in October 2009. In addition to the international Governors, the session was attended by members of the International Relations Committee (IRC). A close working relationship with the IRC and focus on the role of the international chapters were widely agreed upon as important steps during the meeting. The group plans to focus on increasing international membership by developing recruiting strategies and expanding membership by young surgeons. Several members of the IRC will be working

with the Board of Governors' subcommittee on this item.


Other action items include the facilitation of international speakers, and working with the College to better coordinate activities and educational programs for international members. The Board of Regents also approved some changes regarding standardized requirements for international memberships. This change was necessary due to the differences in training around the globe.

The Meetings and Organization subcommittee is chaired by Gary L. Timmerman, MD, FACS. This subcommittee has been actively working on a new and revised checklist for chapter activities to help determine what defines a high-quality chapter. We planned to survey the chapters and use the feedback to provide more focused support for those chapters. This survey (<http://web.facs.org/chapterchecklst/default.htm>) was e-mailed to the chapters on June 4.

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## Members of the Governors' Committee on Chapter Activities

Kevin P. Lally, MD, FACS, Chair  
William G. Cioffi, Jr., MD, FACS, Vice-Chair  
Gerard V. Aranha, MD, FACS  
David W. Dexter, MD, FACS  
Ernest L. Dunn, MD, FACS  
Henri R. Ford, MD, FACS  
Jamal J. Hoballah, MD, MBA, FACS  
David G. Jacobs, MD, FACS  
Daniel S. Johnson, MD, FACS  
Danielle A. Katz, MD, FACS  
Matthew B. Martin, MD, FACS  
John D. Nicholson, MD, FACS  
Raymond R. Price, MD, FACS  
John P. Rioux, MD, FACS  
Valerie W. Rusch, MD, FACS  
Hilary A. Sanfey, MB, BCh, FACS  
Christian Charles Shults, MD  
Michael E. Stark, MD, FACS  
Gary L. Timmerman, MD, FACS  
Bruce J. Waring, MD, FACS

added to the subcommittees, and they will be actively working on the issues outlined in this update. We hope to expand membership both nationally and overseas, and to expand chapter functions, especially in areas such as state advocacy. 

The subcommittee on Advocacy and Coalitions is chaired by John D. Nicholson, MD, FACS. This group worked actively to propose a chapter advocacy grant program that would be funded by the College. A number of chapters supported this proposal. The Board of Regents agreed that this is an important program and has authorized grants for up to five chapters to plan annual advocacy days at local state capitals. The subcommittee will be working with ACS staff to implement these grants. For more information on this program, refer to the Advocacy advisor column on page 33 of this issue.

Hilary A. Sanfey, MB, BCh, FACS, chairs the subcommittee on Membership and Diversity. This subcommittee is working with the Meetings and Organization subcommittee in an effort to expand membership and activity in the College by women and underrepresented minorities. The committee has also updated the College's online Speakers Bureau.

A number of new Governors have been

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