

# RAS-ACS News



A Quarterly Update from the Resident and Associate Society of the American College of Surgeons



**September 2006**

## ***Special Edition: 2006 Clinical Congress Planning Guide***

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## **ACS Clinical Congress Planning Guide**

This edition of the *RAS-ACS News* is devoted to the 92<sup>nd</sup> Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons (ACS). It is intended to help you plan your participation in the meeting and take advantage of all the things that the Clinical Congress has to offer. Following are highlights of some of the sessions that we think will be of particular interest to surgical residents and young surgeons.

### ***Sunday, October 8***

#### **RAS Annual Meeting**

8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, Regency Ballroom C

During this meeting, Resident and Associate Society (RAS) members analyze the accomplishments of the prior year, create the agenda for the following one, and elect the new RAS secretary, who will eventually become Vice-Chair and then Chair of our society. You can also volunteer to join any of the standing committees (Membership, Education, Issues, and Communication) of RAS and start to actively participate on our activities. For more information, [see the news story below](#).

#### **RAS Symposium: Acute Care Surgery: Improving Outcomes or Fragmenting Care?**

1:00 – 4:00 pm

Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, Regency Ballroom AB

This year's RAS-sponsored symposium will examine the issue of "acute care surgery" as a solution for the current ongoing crisis in trauma care. The symposium will explore the advantages and pitfalls of increasing the trauma surgeon's scope of practice, its potential effect on the role of other surgical subspecialists, and optimal care of the patient. For more information, [see the news story below](#).

***Monday, October 9***

**ACS Surgery Resident Program (Part I)**

9:45 am – 2:30 pm

Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, Regency Ballroom AB

This special session for residents, organized by the ACS Division of Education, is designed to assist surgical residents with some of the essential non-clinical issues that they face during residency and the transition to their post-training career. See details below.

**General Sessions**

- GS12. Marketing Your Surgical Practice: Would You? Could You? Should You? (10:00 – 12:00) Sponsored by the Committee on Young Surgeons and the Resident and Associate Society, Lakeside Center, E353c
- GS26. Surgical Errors and Adverse Outcomes: Impact on Surgical Residents (3:00 – 5:00 pm), Sponsored by the Committee on Resident Education, McCormick Place South, S406a

***Tuesday, October 10***

**ACS Surgery Resident Program (Part II)**

8:00 am – 12:30 pm

Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, Regency Ballroom AB

(See Part I under Monday, October 10).

**General Sessions**

- GS41. Grant-Writing Symposium for New Investigators (10:00 am – 1:00 pm), Sponsored by the Forum on Fundamental Surgical Problems, McCormick South, S502b

***Wednesday, October 11***

**General Sessions**

- GS93. Emerging Technologies in Surgical Education (3:30 – 5:00 pm), Sponsored by the Resident Associate Society, Lakeside Center, E353a

***Thursday, October 12***

**General Sessions**

- GS108. Pregnancy During a Surgical Career: Strategies for Making It Work in Residency, Academics, and Private Practice (10:00 am – 12:00 pm), Sponsored by the Committee on Women's Issues, McCormick South, S405ab

## **RAS-ACS Call for Nominations**

The executive committee and Officers of the Resident and Associate Society of the American College of Surgeons (RAS-ACS) are seeking **nominations for the position of Secretary**. This position succeeds itself to become Vice-Chair and then Chair over a three-year term. Nominees should have at least three years of eligibility for membership as Resident Members or Associate Fellows. Nominees ideally are in their last year of training and have been active in the activities of RAS-ACS. They should submit a statement of intent along with a letter of support from their Program Director for residents or Department Chair for Associate Fellows to Peg Haar at [phaar@facs.org](mailto:phaar@facs.org). Nominees should be prepared to attend the ACS Clinical Congress, where presentations of candidates and elections will be held during the **Council of Representatives Meeting, 8:00 AM – 12 Noon on Sunday October 8, Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, Regency Ballroom C.**

During the Council of Representatives meeting, our annual business meeting, other key positions within RAS-ACS will be determined as well. These positions include appointments to **ACS Specialty Advisory Councils, the RAS-ACS Executive Committee, RAS-ACS working committees, and other committee appointments throughout the ACS.** Individuals who are interested in becoming more involved or learning more about RAS-ACS should plan to attend.

## **RAS Annual Business Meeting**

The **annual business meeting** of Resident and Associate Society of the American College of Surgeons will take place the morning of **Sunday, October 8, 2006**, from 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon at the Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, Regency Ballroom C, as part of the 92<sup>nd</sup> ACS Clinical Congress in Chicago. During this meeting, we will review the activities and accomplishments of the past year and set goals for the upcoming year. **Everyone is encouraged to volunteer for one of the standing committees of RAS** (Issues, Education, Communication, and Membership). In addition, **election of the new secretary** of RAS will take place. Your input is important in this process because this person will then become Vice-Chair and then Chair.

If your colleagues are not Resident or Associate Fellow members, contact Peg Haar ([phaar@facs.org](mailto:phaar@facs.org)) for application materials or go online to <http://www.facs.org/memberservices/documents.html>. RAS members get **FREE** registration for the Clinical Congress! We look forward to seeing you in Chicago!!

## **Special Program for Surgery Residents at the ACS Clinical Congress**

Surgery residents from all PGY levels are invited by the ACS Division of Education to participate in this year's Surgery Resident Program entitled "**Essential Skills for Surgical Practice: A Primer for Residents.**" This special program will be held in conjunction with the Clinical Congress on Monday, October 9, from 9:45 am to 2:30 pm, and Tuesday, October 10, from 8:00 am to 12:30 pm at the Hyatt Regency McCormick Place in Regency Ballroom A & B. The program is specifically designed to assist surgery residents with essential non-clinical issues they face during residency and the transition to their post-training career. The program will feature sessions on personal financial planning and debt management, job-seeking strategies and negotiation skills, reduction of liability risks, practice management issues, and stress management in personal and professional relationships. Join residents from other programs and interact with experts who can share techniques for managing the residency experience more effectively and being better prepared for life after residency.

To register for the Clinical Congress and to attend the Surgery Resident Program, visit <http://www.facs.org/clincon2006/registration/reg.html>. Early registration is encouraged, as space is limited. Residents must be enrolled in an ACGME-accredited program in order to participate. The general registration fee for the Clinical Congress will be waived for resident members who are participants in the Resident Program. Resident non-members will be required to pay a registration fee. For additional information regarding the Surgery Resident Program, contact Cherylann Sherman at (312) 202-5424 or [cshepherd@facs.org](mailto:cshepherd@facs.org).

**Ajit K. Sachdeva, MD, FACS, FRCSC**  
Director, ACS Division of Education

**Patrice Gabler Blair, MPH**  
Associate Director, ACS Division of Education

**Cherylann R. Sherman, BS**  
Administrative Associate, ACS Division of Education  
Chicago, IL

### **RAS-ACS Symposium: "Acute Care Surgery – Improving Outcomes or Fragmenting Care?"**

Each year, RAS sponsors a symposium on a topic targeted at surgery residents, young surgeons, and fellows. This year's presentation, to be held on **Sunday October 8, 2006, from 1 to 4 pm**, will examine the issue of the paradigm shift to "acute care surgery" as a solution for the current ongoing crisis in trauma surgery. The aim is to provide insight into the future of the specialty, including the proposed change in scope of practice and how the acute care surgery concept would impact current surgeons, surgical subspecialists, trainees, training programs, and societal needs. The symposium will explore the possible

**advantages and pitfalls of increasing the trauma surgeon's scope of practice, its potential effect on the role of other surgical subspecialists, and the optimal care of the patient.**

The speaker panel for this year's symposium consists of many well-respected, distinguished leaders in their specialties. We trust they will provide thought-provoking insight into the effects of "acute care surgery" from a variety of aspects and will generate a stimulating and timely discussion. The speakers for the 2006 Symposium are: Dr. Michael Rotondo (Professor and Chairman of Surgery, Chief of Trauma and Surgical Critical Care, Brody School of Medicine East Carolina University); Dr. David Hoyt (Professor and Chairman of Surgery, Chief of the Division of Trauma and Critical Care, University of California, Irvine School of Medicine); Dr. Alex Valadka (Professor and Vice-Chairman of Neurosurgery, University of Texas, Houston); Dr. Bruce Browner (Professor and Chairman of Orthopedic Surgery, University of Connecticut School of Medicine); and Dr. R. Shayn Martin (RAS-ACS Representative to the ACS Committee on Trauma).

Attendance is open to all RAS members as well as all residents, fellows, and medical students. An open-microphone discussion will promote audience participation and a lively discussion of the issues. We hope to see you there.

**Richard C. Baynosa, MD**  
Chair, RAS-ACS Issues Committee  
Las Vegas, NV

**And While You're in Chicago, Your Kids Can Attend Camp ACS**

An exciting on-site program tailored especially for the children of attendees at the Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons has been arranged for this year's meeting in Chicago. The College will once again be partnering with ACCENT on Children's Arrangements, Inc., a nationally recognized professional child care company organized to provide on-site children's activities in a nurturing, safe, and educational environment. **From Sunday, October 8, through Wednesday, October 11, your child(ren) can participate in activities such as arts and crafts, active games, movies and much, much more.** It is ACCENT's goal to entertain your child(ren) in a safe environment so you can attend the Clinical Congress with the peace of mind that they are being taken care of and having a great time too. Children ages six months to 12 years are welcome to participate in Camp ACS. For further information, visit <http://www.facs.org/clincon2006/social/campacs.html>.

**Grant Writing Symposium to Be Held for New Investigators**

The Surgical Forum Committee is sponsoring a **Grant Writing**

**Symposium** during the 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Clinical Congress in Chicago. To be held on **Tuesday, October 10, from 10 am to 1 pm**, the symposium will consist of a plenary session featuring lectures by Drs. B. Mark Evers, Richard Hodin, John Birkmeyer, and Leigh Neumeyer; provide an overview of the peer-review grant process. The session will be followed by smaller group break-out meetings chaired by Drs. Richard Hodin, Frank Sellke, Avery Nathens, and Leigh Neumeyer. These sessions are intended to deliver some specifics about grant writing using a "hands-on" approach.

The symposium is directed towards senior-level surgical residents, surgical research fellows, and junior surgical faculty. This symposium is part of the regular program of this year's meeting and is intended to help integrate career development issues for young academic surgeons into the Annual Meeting of the College. It is requested that directors of surgical programs encourage the appropriate individuals in their Department to attend.

**Kathryn Koenig-Matousek**

Administrative Assistant, ACS Surgical Forum/Educational Programs  
Chicago, IL

**About RAS-ACS**

The Resident and Associate Society of the American College of Surgeons (RAS-ACS) is an organization within the American College of Surgeons that was formed to benefit young and future surgeons through involvement in the College's activities. Membership in the RAS-ACS is automatic when you become a member of the Candidate Group or an Associate Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. Candidate Group membership is open to all surgical residents enrolled in an accredited graduate educational program, surgical research, or fellowship program. Associate Fellow membership is open to young surgeons who are currently engaged in a second surgical residency, a research or a fellowship program, a surgical specialty practice, and are within five years of graduation from formal surgical residency training. Currently, over 2,700 Associate Fellows and 4,400 Candidate Group members are part of the RAS-ACS.

**Benefits of becoming a RAS-ACS member:**

- free *Journal of the American College of Surgeons* subscription
- free *Bulletin of the American College of Surgeons* subscription
- free online *ACS Surgery Textbook*
- free Clinical Congress and Spring Meeting registration and access to CME credit
- reduced pricing for selected postgraduate courses at the Clinical Congress
- information on clinical and research fellowship opportunities
- free access to the College's job and resume databank
- electronic newsletter, Web site, and Web portal
- educational materials to meet requirements for board certification

- opportunities to serve on various College committees
- opportunities for local chapter affiliation
- access to ACS-sponsored insurance programs (life, health, disability)
- a voice in advocacy and policy-making issues concerning residents and young surgeons

**Join today!**

**Be Sure to Visit These Important Areas of the ACS Web site:**

RAS-ACS Homepage: <http://www.facs.org/ras-ac/s/index.html>

How to Join RAS-ACS: <http://www.facs.org/ras-ac/s/membership/membership.html>

Job Bank:

[http://www.healthcareers.com/site\\_templates/ACS/index.asp?aff=ACS&SPLD=ACS](http://www.healthcareers.com/site_templates/ACS/index.asp?aff=ACS&SPLD=ACS)

ACS Homepage: <http://www.facs.org>

ACS Spring Meeting:

<http://www.facs.org/springmeeting2006/index.html>

**Your Feedback Is Important to Us**

We are interested in making sure that the content of *RAS-ACS News* meets the interests and responds to the needs of surgical residents and newly practicing surgeons across the country. Your feedback and ideas are important to us. Please send your comments about this newsletter and your ideas for articles to the Editor at [ras-news@facs.org](mailto:ras-news@facs.org).

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For additional information regarding the benefits and activities of the RAS-ACS, please contact Peg Haar at [ras-news@facs.org](mailto:ras-news@facs.org)



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