

September 2009

Special Edition: 2009 Clinical Congress Planning Guide

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Message from the Chair

As Clinical Congress approaches and with it the end of my tenure as Chair of the Resident and Associate Society of the American College of Surgeons (RAS-ACS), I wanted to take this opportunity to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of all the volunteers that have contributed to a wildly successful year for the RAS-ACS.

This coming Clinical Congress in Chicago, IL, will boast no less than **seven RAS-sponsored programs** and sessions, an all-time high. The RAS-ACS Symposium, created by the Issues Committee and led by **Suzanne Cutter, MD, and Brian Santin, MD**, will explore the role of the generalist surgeon in today's complex health care environment. It promises to be an engaging, thought-provoking session.

"Surgical Jeopardy," one of the most eagerly anticipated events at College meetings has traditionally been single-handedly orchestrated by Mark Bowyer, MD. This year, the RAS has teamed up with Dr. Bowyer, and under the leadership of **Awori Hayanga, MD**, has provided 350 new questions for this great Clinical Congress tradition.

Our Communications Committee led by **Carlos Mery, MD, MPH, and David Cooke, MD**, has also been incredibly productive. The June issue of the *ACS Bulletin*, located at http://www.facs.org/fellows_info/bulletin/2009/jun09bullet.html, has been incredibly well received, and is widely considered to be the best RAS-sponsored issue yet. Numerous other RAS-sponsored articles have also appeared in the *Bulletin* and the College's monthly newspaper *Surgery News*. In addition, the contributions of **Heena Santry, MD**, to the format and content of our community on the Web portal have been outstanding.

Our Membership Committee, led by **Raphael El Youssef, MD, and Melissa Rader, MD**, continues to make important strides in strengthening our membership on all fronts, to ensure that the future of RAS and the College itself remains bright.

This has been a banner year for RAS, and it has been an absolute pleasure and privilege to serve as Chair. Again, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all of the RAS members who have

contributed by joining our conference calls and contributing to our mission. I would also like to thank our Vice-Chair, **Joshua Broghammer, MD**, and our Secretary, **Joshua Mammen, MD**, for their leadership, and **Peg Haar** for her outstanding administrative support. Finally, I would like to invite and encourage all of you to become involved and engaged in the RAS and our activities. Please attend our business meeting, which is open to the entire membership, on Sunday, October 11, at 9:00 am. The meeting will be held at Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, Room CC23BC.

Respectfully,

Jacob Moalem, MD
RAS-ACS Chair
Rochester, NY

Message from the Communications Committee

This edition of the *RAS-ACS News* e-newsletter is devoted to the American College of Surgeons 95th Annual Clinical Congress in Chicago, IL. It is intended to help you plan your participation in the meeting and help you to take advantage of all the things that the Clinical Congress has to offer. In this issue you will find a list of those sessions that we believe are of particular interest to residents and Associate Fellows and some logistical details that can make your visit to Chicago more productive. We hope to see you there!

Carlos M. Mery, MD, MPH
Chair, RAS-ACS Communications Committee

David T. Cooke, MD
Editor, *RAS-ACS News*

Message from the ACS Division of Education

Dear RAS members,

Would you be willing to share some of your experiences and insights with medical students who are interested in pursuing a career in surgery? If so, join the Division of Education for an informal reception along with interested medical students on Monday, October 12, at the ACS Clinical Congress in Chicago. The students will be participating in the Medical Student Program sponsored by the ACS Division of Education. This program provides a great opportunity for residents to participate in medical students' education and contribute to a positive Clinical Congress experience for all of them.

There will be a poster session for medical students from 3:30 to 4:30 pm on Monday, October 12, during which students will have the opportunity to present research in basic science, clinical investigations, and educational research. This event will be followed by the special reception for residents and medical students from 4:30 to 5:45 pm. Both events will take place in McCormick Place West, Room 190AB.

If you are able to attend one or both of these events, RSVP to laurameyer@facs.org. We hope you will join us!

Laura R. Meyer
ACS Division of Education

Lecture Highlight: Ravdin Lecture to Focus on Regenerative Medicine

"Reparative, Replacement and Regenerative Medicine" will be the topic of the I.S. Ravdin Lecture in Basic Sciences, to be presented on Wednesday, October 14, from 2:30 to 3:15 pm during this year's Clinical Congress in Chicago, IL.

The named lecture will be given by Michael T. Longaker, MD, FACS, director, children's surgical research, department of surgery, Stanford (CA) University School of Medicine. Dr. Longaker's work in regenerative medicine has centered on the scarring process and why wounds from injury scar rather than regenerate. The current status of stem-cell biology and potential ways for locating and deriving stem cells will be explored as well as the connection between the trend toward less invasive surgery and regenerative medicine.

The I.S. Ravdin Lecture has been sponsored by the I.S. Ravdin Surgical Society since 1964 to honor I.S. Ravdin, MD, FACS, by promoting the application of the basic sciences to surgery.

For more information, visit <http://www.facs.org/clincon2009/scientific/lectures.html>.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THESE MEDICAL STUDENT, RESIDENT, AND ASSOCIATE FELLOW SESSIONS OF INTEREST AT THE ACS CLINICAL CONGRESS

Saturday, October 10, 2009

RAS-ACS Executive Committee Meeting

Officers, Advisory Council Representatives
1:00-5:00 pm
Hilton, Conference Room 5E

Sunday, October 11, 2009

RAS-ACS Annual Meeting

Officer Elections, Committee Formation
Come and volunteer!
Continental breakfast included
9:00 am-12 noon
Hyatt Regency at McCormick Place, Room CC23BC, Level 2

RAS-ACS Symposium

Is the Generalist Surgeon Obsolete?
1:00-4:00 pm
McCormick Place, West, W-375 A, Level 3

Monday, October 12, 2009

RAS-ACS Program Liaisons Breakfast – Invitation Only

7:00-9:00 am
American College of Surgeons Headquarters Office, 633 N St. Clair St, 28th floor

Surgery Resident Program

10:00 am-4:00 pm
Hyatt Regency at McCormick, Regency Ballroom D/E

Medical Student Program and Reception

3:30-6:00pm
McCormick Place West, W-190 AB, Level 1

This program provides the opportunity for students to meet and interact with prominent surgeons from a variety of specialties and network with program directors, residents and other medical students.

Register by September 25, at <http://www.facs.org/clincon2009/registration/>. For more information, contact laurameyer@facs.org or call 312-202-5335.

Cardiothoracic Surgery in the Future: Technology Overview for Residents and Medical Students

Monday, October 12, 2009

5:00-9:00 pm

McCormick Place South, S103

This course will give a hands-on introduction to residents and medical students on minimally invasive procedures that are available to cardiothoracic surgeons today, as well as addressing what new technologies will be available in the future.

There is a **\$25 fee that includes dinner. To register, visit <http://www.facs.org/clincon2009/registration/>. For more information, contact dmarquis@sts.org or call 312-202-5813.**

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

RAS-ACS Town Hall Meeting

Resident Duty Hours Restriction

7:00-7:45 am

McCormick Place West, W-185 AB, Level 1

Spectacular Cases from Residents

8:00-11:15 am

McCormick Place West, W178AB

The Drive to Teach Residents: An Unintended Casualty of the 80-Hour Workweek?

2:30-4:00 pm

McCormick Place West, W-185 AB, Level 1

Mentoring Under-Represented Minority Faculty and Residents: Can we bridge the gap?

Sponsored by the Committee on Diversity Issues

2:30-4:00pm

McCormick Place West, W185AB

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Cardiothoracic Town Hall Meeting

Innovations in Cardiothoracic Resident Training: The 6-year Comprehensive Integrated Training Program

7:00-7:45 am

McCormick Place West, W176ABC

Surgical Jeopardy

8:00-11:15 am

McCormick Place West, W-375 C, Level 3

Practicing Medicine in the Information Age: Are You Prepared for What's on the Internet?

Co-sponsored by RAS and Young Fellows Association (YFA)

11:30 am-1:00 pm

McCormick Place West, W-175 ABC, Level 1

Thursday, October 15, 2009

How to Succeed in the Highly Competitive World of Grant Funding

8:00-11:15 am

McCormick Place West, W185CD

For more info on RAS-ACS events at the ACS Clinical Congress, contact Peg Haar at phaar@facs.org or visit, <http://www.facs.org/clincon2009/>.

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 Resident Member or an Associate Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. Resident 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 2,600 Associate Fellows and 8,000 Residents 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 Clinical Congress advance 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-acs/>

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

Job Bank: http://www.healthcareers.com/site_templates/ACS/index.asp?aff=ACS&SPLD=ACS

ACS Web portal: <http://efacs.org/residents>

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

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.

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Peg Haar, Staff Liaison, phaar@facs.org; 312-202-5312

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

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