An introduction to:
The American College of Surgeons
Young Fellows Association

Robert D. Winfield, MD, FACS
ACS – YFA Liaison
Board of Governors Domestic Chapters Workgroup
Objectives

• To describe the Young Fellows Association (YFA) and its vision

• To highlight the goals of the YFA

• To explain why you should have a YFA member on your Chapter Council
The YFA – who is a member?
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- Young, but not residents, not associate fellows (RAS-ACS)
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- Surgeons in all disciplines who have attained Fellowship in the American College of Surgeons
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- Surgeons in all disciplines who have attained Fellowship in the American College of Surgeons
- Aged 45 years and younger (young at heart welcome as well)
“The YFA exists to promote the interests and support the needs of young Fellows within the ACS in all aspects of their professional endeavors. The YFA seeks active feedback and participation from Young Fellows to better understand their needs and concerns.”
Achieving the YFA Vision

• Governing Council
  – YFA Executive Committee (Chair and Vice-Chair)
  – Four standing workgroup chairs
    • Advocacy and Issues
    • Communications
    • Education
    • Membership
  – Immediate past RAS Chair (ex-officio)
  – Board of Governors Liaison
  – 11 at-large members
Achieving the YFA Vision
YFA Goals
YFA Goals

Education:

• Provide opportunities for young surgeons to expand their knowledge regarding aspects of surgical practice

• Promote educational opportunities for peers and future surgeons.

• Offer educational programming at ACS Clinical Congress on topics that are relevant to young surgeons.
YFA Goals

Research and Optimal Care:

• Provide opportunities to explore the dynamic practice of surgery, focusing on the needs of young surgeons and the surgical patient.

• Identify areas of investigation that are particularly relevant to young surgeons
YFA Goals

Advocacy and Health Policy:

• Represent the interests of young surgeons and their patients.

• Educate the College and public on concerns specific to all surgeons.

• Educate and empower young surgeons to be more effective advocates locally and nationally.
YFA Goals

Member Services:

- Develop methods of providing services needed by the young surgeon and endeavor to include all young surgeons under the umbrella of the College.

- Appoint interested Young Fellows as liaisons to College committees and workgroups
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ACS Chapter Guidebook (Chapter Council):

“Representative young surgeons should also be included in the Chapter Council, including an ACS Young Fellows Association representative (YFA) and a Resident and Associate Society (RAS) representative.”
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4. To encourage an esprit de corps among the younger members.
5. To serve as a resource for residents and medical students who seek a career in surgery.
Summary

• The YFA exists to give new Fellows of the College an outlet for their interests and opportunities for participation

• The YFA seeks to involve members through a broad variety of opportunities in a number of areas that mesh well with Chapter best practices

• Having a YFA member on your Chapter Council is a win-win-win for the YFA Member, your Chapter, and the American College of Surgeons