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

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ACS – YFA Liaison
Board of Governors Domestic Chapters Workgroup
Objectives

- To describe the Young Fellows Association (YFA) and its vision
- Discuss the changes in the YFA this year
- 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?

- All Fellows of the College who are under age 45
- NOT residents
- NOT associate fellows (pre-FACS)
- Surgeons of all disciplines
“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)
    • Robert Winfield, MD FACS
    • Paula Ferrada, MD FACS
  – Standing workgroup chairs
    • Advocacy and Issues: Jennifer Bishop, MD, FACS
    • Communications: James Suliburk, MD, FACS
    • Education: Edie Chan, MD, FACS
    • Membership: Josh Mammen, MD, FACS
    • Quality, Research, and Patient care: Joseph Sakran, MD, FACS
  – Board of Governors Liaison
  – 11 at-large members
Achieving the YFA Vision
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

Communication:

• YFA Newsletter

• Social media: #YFAACS

• Manages YFA on communities
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

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
YFA GC and liaison reporting structure and Timeline

- Member services, advocacy, and communications reports & Liaison reports discussed at Exec GC meeting

OCTOBER
Clinical Congress

Chair to host Call includes all Vol. YFA(affiliate) members for that workgroup

Dec-Jan:
YFA working groups Teleconfs

Jan-Feb:
Exec GC Teleconfs

Chair to host Call includes all Vol. YFA(affiliate) members for that workgroup

Apr:
Leadership Meeting, DC

May-Jun:
Liaison Reports Due

Jun-Jul:
YFA working groups Teleconfs

Chair to host Call includes all Vol. YFA(affiliate) members for that workgroup

Jul-Aug:
Exec GC Teleconfs

Aug-Sep:
QROPC, Education, And Chair-elect reports & Liaison reports discussed at Exec GC meeting

Nov:
Liaison Reports Due
YFA Representative/ liaison 
Responsibility

- Attend Committee/Council meetings (at ACS-CC) *
- Attend committee/council phone meetings *
- Submit bi-annual reports (Nov & May) to your YFA-GC pillar/workgroup chair (follow attached template)
- Contact YFA-GC pillar/workgroup chair and Alison Powers in the last year of your term to discuss interests and (possible) transition.

- While reports are due bi-annually (Nov & May), pls contact the YFA-GC chair assigned for your committee (first slide) at anytime with any urgent or important request
- Your assigned YFA-GC chair will respond to request/action items in your report after the exec-GC meeting that follows your report (see slide 2)
- Cross-committee discussions are encouraged. Please include your YFA-GC chair.
- * notify Your YFA-GC pillar/workgroup chair if unable to attend and suggest and alternate.
YFA liaison Bi-Annual report template

- Name of Liaison, Current email, Current Cell phone
- Name of Committee, Committee Chair, Last meeting (physical/phone)
- Three highlights from committee proceedings since the prior report
  - Including “active”/“ongoing” project even if not new
- Three things that the YFA can do aid you (liaison) and your committee moving ahead.
  - Submit ideas for how YFA can better engage with your committee on a national/local/international level in your report
- “optional” : Announcement/Message for YFA Membership at large
- “optional” : Announcement/Message for YFA Newsletter

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- Your assigned YFA-GC chair will respond to request/action items in your report after the exec-GC meeting that follows your report (see slide 2)
- Cross-committee discussions are encouraged. Please include your YFA-GC chair.
Why have a YFA Member on the Chapter Council?

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.”
Why have a YFA Member on the Chapter Council?

1. To ensure young surgeon representation in chapter activities and committees.
2. To encourage new membership within the chapter, to retain existing members, and to ensure a pipeline of new leadership in the years ahead.
3. To encourage the distribution of information among the younger membership.
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.
2018 Chapter Rep Survey

• 14 Responded, several are planning events for their chapter
  – 11/14 are on their state council
  – Jeopardy
  – Mock oral examinations
  – Young surgeon breakfast
  – State education day
  – State advocacy day
  – Medical student and resident day—issues important in medicine/surgery
  – Meet n’ greets
• Most attend Clinical Congress
2018 Chapter Rep Survey

• Need help with
  – Connecting to state chapter
  – Recruiting residents to chapter meeting
  – Understanding what is their role in relation to YFA
How we are going to help

• Focus group with successful chapter liaisons
• Facilitate 2 way communication with Governing Council
  – Establish GC rep to oversee state chapter liaisons
• Create Accountability
  – Biannual reports
  – Meeting attendance at Clinical Congress
• Market YFA rep as an early entry into state council and important leadership experience
• Provide Toolkit
  – Online, to mirror chapter handbook
• Connect YFA reps with one another
  – Regular “touch base” conference calls – “Hangouts”
  – Online community to discuss events
Young Fellows Association (YFA) chapter representatives are asked to provide activity reports each year to the Governing Council of the YFA. The purpose of the report is to learn more about the role of the YFA Representative on the Chapter Council. Best practices based on the information provided will be shared with other YFA Representatives by the Governing Council.

Contact Information

Name:  
Chapter:  
Phone #:  
Email Address:  

1. Does the YFA Representative have voting rights on the Chapter Council?
   - Yes
   - No

2. Is there an established Committee in the Chapter representing YFA members?
   - Yes
   - No

3. Were special events/sessions held during the year that were intended for YFA members in the Chapter?
   - Yes
Young Fellows Association (YFA) Chapter Representative

YFA representatives on Chapter Councils is a priority initiative of the Board of Governors and ACS. The YFA serves as an inclusive organization representing all Fellows of the American College of Surgeons (FACS) who are 45 years old and younger and provides opportunities to be involved with College activities. All members of the College who are active in surgical practice are automatically members of the YFA upon receiving the designation of FACS.

Why should a Chapter have a YFA Representative of the Chapter Council?:

1. To ensure young surgeon representation in chapter activities and committees;
2. To encourage new membership within the chapter, to retain existing members, and to ensure a pipeline of new leadership in the years ahead;
3. To encourage the distribution of information among the younger Fellows;
4. To encourage an *esprit de corps* among the younger Fellows;
5. To serve as a resource for residents and medical students who seek a career in surgery.

What are some of the roles and responsibilities of the YFA Chapter Representative:

1. Attend chapter council meetings and present reports about the YFA activities they are providing to chapter members;
2. Organize at least one event annually for YFA members in the chapter. Consider pairing an event with RAS or AWS, or hosting or sponsoring an event at the chapter meeting (jeopardy, mock oral exams, networking breakfast, etc);
3. Attend your chapter meeting and promote YFA networking at the session;
4. Be available to answer questions or for YFA members in your chapter to reach out with questions about the ACS;
5. A resource for individuals applying to FACS;
6. Participate in succession planning for the next YFA Chapter Representative;
7. Serve as a resource and encourage young fellows in your chapter to apply for YFA roles and participate in national YFA pillar workgroups;
8. Submit an Activities Report ([will include hyperlink Activities Report once finalized](#)) to the YFA Governing Council;
9. If possible, attend the YFA annual meeting at Clinical Congress, the Leadership & Advocacy Summit, and promote YFA activities on social media.
Chapters without reps!

Eastern Long Island Chapter
Alaska Chapter
Guam Chapter
New Mexico Chapter
Jacksonville Chapter
Northwestern Pennsylvania Chapter
Nevada Chapter
Southwest Missouri Chapter
Metropolitan Washington DC Chapter
Western New York Chapter
North Dakota Chapter
Florida Chapter
Arizona Chapter
Mississippi Chapter
Connecticut Chapter
Hawaii Chapter
South Dakota Chapter
Missouri Chapter
Illinois Chapter
Arkansas Chapter
New Hampshire Chapter
Vermont Chapter
Rhode Island Chapter
San Diego Chapter
Kentucky Chapter
Nebraska Chapter
Utah Chapter
Montana and Wyoming Chapter
Idaho Chapter
Alabama Chapter
Alberta Chapter
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
Summary

- https://www.facs.org/member-services/yfa/leadership