



# Southeastern Surgical Congress

America's largest regional organization for general surgeons



## PRESIDENTIAL UPDATE

**David V. Feliciano, MD**

*President, 2016-2017*

Welcome to the first quarterly Newsletter from the Southeastern Surgical Congress, the largest regional general surgery society in the United States. The newsletter has been initiated as so many changes have occurred in the direction of the Congress

over the past 2+ years under Past Presidents Don Nakayama and David Cole, and it is important for the members to understand their impact.

As you have heard, the Congress changed from state-based and At Large Councilors to a Committee-based system much as in other surgical societies with the revision of the Bylaws during Don Nakayama's year. A brief summary of the current structure is as follows: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—President, Immediate Past President, President-Elect, First Vice President (rises to President over 2 years), Second Vice President (does not rise), Executive Director Tim Farrell, MD, CME Chair, and one representative among the chairs of the following Standing Committees: Finance, Surgical Practice, Communications, Fellow-Resident-Medical Student, Young Surgeons, Rural Surgery, and Women in Surgery. The COUNCIL includes the Chairs or Co-Chairs of the Committees (CME, Communications, Fellow-Resident-Medical Student, Finance, Membership, Rural Surgeons, Surgical Practice, Women in Surgery, and Young Surgeons) as well as the members of the Executive Committee. And, the Congress continues to have REPRESENTATIVES to the American Board of Surgery, American College of Surgeons (Governor), and the ACS Advisory Council for General Surgery. The Committees have defined goals, rotating memberships, and report at the annual meeting in February and at the Council Meeting in August.

Based on our expanding activities, a decision was reached during David Cole's year to change to formal professional management. A number of proposals were presented at the ACS Clinical Congress in Chicago in October, 2015, and discussed by the Executive Committee. We chose our Association Management team from LP etc based in Westwood, Kansas, under the direction of Nonie Lowry. LP etc has extensive experience in managing surgical societies and has been the management group for our sister organization, the Southwestern Surgical Congress for years. Tragically, Nonie Lowry died just two months ago, shortly after the members of the Executive Committee had met her. Because of her dedication to the Southwestern, a special award will now be given in her name each year and a foundation was set up in her name. Jill Wilhite and Marjorie Malia, now co-owners of LP etc, have taken over during the current SESC transition period with incredible professionalism and will assume direction of the Southeastern in July. On a related note, we will be closing our current office in Cumming, Georgia, selling off the equipment we can, moving

the hard cover copies of The American Surgeon to the journal office at the University of Louisville, and deciding where we will archive our historical records which are currently unsorted and in boxes.

Bobbie Jo Moore, our longtime Executive Secretary, will be leaving her position in June. It is difficult to describe all the contributions Bobbie has made to the development and ongoing management of the Southeastern, and what a wonderful friend she has been to many of us in leadership positions. Her dedication and loyalty have been exemplary as has been her attention to the members and their many requests and questions. I have bothered her with so many issues over the past 5 years and cannot think of one time when she did not respond quickly and take care of the problem. Bobbie does not want a lot of fanfare surrounding her impending departure, but, if you have worked with her, a phone call or note to express your gratitude would be very nice.

We have contracted with Ms. Jessica R. Edelen in the office of The American Surgeon to take on the publishing activities of the journal which were formerly based in the office in Cumming, Georgia, under Bobbie Jo Moore's direction.

Because of the overlap of Abstract dates with the Southern Surgical Association (July 1) and Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma (July 1), the Executive Committee agreed to MOVE THE ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DATE TO TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2016, AT 11:59 PM. This will still give the CME (Program) Committee time to review the Abstracts before their meeting in Atlanta on Saturday, August 27. The hope is that members, others, fellows, residents, and medical students will have more time to prepare Abstracts without the issues related to the traditional July 1 date. Please prove us right!

The 2017 Annual Meeting will be at the Renaissance Hotel in Nashville, TN, from Saturday, February 25, through noon on Tuesday, February 28. Our invited speakers will be Gary L. Dunnington, MD, Grosfeld Professor and Chair of Surgery, Indiana University School of Medicine, my boss and an extraordinary surgical educator (Henry L. Laws, II Lecture); Juan M. Sarmiento, MD, W. Dean Warren Distinguished Chair of Surgery (Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic), Emory University School of Medicine (A. Hamblin Letton Lecture); and Amy J. Goldberg, MD, Surgeon-in-Chief, Temple University Health System, Chair and Professor, Department of Surgery, Temple University School of Medicine (Roger Sherman Lecture). I have known each of these individuals for over 25 years and know that you will enjoy their named lectures. In addition, we'll have the Residents' Forum on Saturday, February 25, another Surgical Jeopardy session after last year's incredible success, another Complex Case Panel, and a variety of other educational activities. BE THERE!

I am honored to be your President for the 2016-2017 year. Call me anytime with suggestions, concerns, questions, etc. at cell 404-550-3506. Submit your best work on August 9th and don't miss the meeting in Nashville.



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*President*

**David Feliciano, MD**

*President Elect*

**David Adams, MD**

*Immediate Past President*

**David Cole, MD**

*1st Vice President*

**Kevin Behrns, MD**

*2nd Vice President*

**Rebecca Britt, MD**

*Executive Director*

**Timothy Farrell, MD**

*CME Committee Chair*

**Emmanuel Zervos, MD**

*Council Representative*

**Alan Marr, MD**



## COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

**Alan Marr, MD**, *Communications Co-Chair*

**John Stewart IV, MD**, *Communications Co-Chair*

The SESC meeting app was a great success. There were over 350 downloads, and attendees found it easy to use and helpful at both keeping up with meeting activities and connecting with other attendees through social media. The CME offering through the app will offer ease of access as we continue to use it going forward.

The communications committee is currently exploring updates to the SESC website. The website will eventually be redesigned by the end of June with further enhancements planned in the coming months to provide members with a more meaningful experience.

Finally, SESC is expanding its presence on social media on both Twitter and Facebook to enhance our organization's ability to stay in touch with members and keep them abreast of useful information.

## CME UPDATE

**Emmanuel Zervos, MD**, *CME Chair*

The CME committee is working hard to provide the best program to-date for the SESC 2017 meeting in Nashville. Highlights include:

- Postgraduate course on application of minimally invasive surgery in oncologic surgery
- An encore performance of the Resident Jeopardy program
- Invited guest speakers including Henry L. Laws, II Lecture - Gary L. Dunnington, MD, A. Hamblin Letton Lecture - Juan M. Sarmiento, MD, Roger Sherman Lecture - Amy J. Goldberg, MD.
- Pro/Con session: Employed versus traditional model for surgical practice featuring Dr. Timothy Patselas (Jacksonville, NC) and Dr. Ellis Tinsley (Wilmington, NC)
- Video sessions incorporated into scientific program and in an informal, evening session
- A robust scientific program including the Gold Medal Forum Resident Paper Competition and a designated best medical student presentation award

**Please submit your abstracts electronically by August 9th, 2016.**



### MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

**David Adams, MD, Membership Chair**

The recent Atlanta meeting was a premier meeting for residents and students. We have always welcomed surgeons in training to make podium presentations or participate in poster rounds with senior surgeons from the Congress. As always, oral and poster presentations including case reports are welcomed for submission to SESC's *The American*

*Surgeon* journal. Each year, the majority of the attendees are residents and students. This year, 257 residents and 50 students joined 222 surgeons. There was a great buzz amongst the young men and women as they learned the joys of professional camaraderie with friends, colleagues, and mentors. For many, the SESC is the first time they attend a clinical meeting, gaining an appreciation for what our profession offers. There were many popular sessions in Atlanta, including Surgical Resident Jeopardy, Video Sessions and the Advances in Hernia Care Postgraduate Course. We are busy planning what promises to be a vibrant program with your help. We look forward to resident submissions and hope to see the residents at next year's meeting February 25-28, 2017 in Nashville. The deadline date for abstract submissions is Tuesday, August 9, 2016. We look forward to enriching our membership with both surgical residents and their program directors.

### NEW WEBSITE COMING SOON!

**END OF JUNE 2016**



### SESC 2016 MEMBERSHIP DUES PAY ONLINE TODAY!

Thank you for your continued support of the Southeastern Surgical Congress. It is time to renew your SESC membership and pay your 2016 membership dues. Your membership dues include online access to *The American Surgeon* and an option to purchase a print subscription. The billing cycle is July - June. Membership in the SESC provides you with an opportunity to interact with top surgeons, scientists, clinicians and trainees to promote and advance the study and practice of surgery. We encourage you to bring in new members to our premier surgical association.

### PAY ONLINE

OR Send Check to:

**Southeastern Surgical Congress**

PO Box 219191

Kansas City, MO 64121-9191

The SESC values your membership and we thank you in advance for your continued involvement and participation.



**Southeastern  
Surgical  
Congress**

**2017 Annual Scientific Meeting**

**February 25 - 28, 2017  
Renaissance Nashville**

**ABSTRACT DEADLINE: AUGUST 9, 2016**

The Southeastern Surgical Congress has contracted with LP etc for management services starting July 1, 2016. Our Executive Secretary, Bobbie Jo Moore, has served the Congress ably and with a level of dedication that is unmatched. We express our deepest gratitude for her guidance over the years, and welcome our new Directors Marjorie Malia and Jill Willhite.

### QUESTIONS?

**Southeastern Surgical Congress**  
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