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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITED STATES SECTION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

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From the PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dinesh Ranjan, MD, FICS

This past June the United States Section held its 73rd Annual Surgical Update in conjunction with the ICS 42nd North American Federation Congress in the majestic Pacific Northwest city of Portland, Oregon and it was an incredible success. The designated theme of the meeting was "Trauma and Critical Care" and several sessions provided highly informative multidisciplinary lectures that engaged the audience from start to finish.

During these sessions we were privileged to have several very special guests who made extremely interesting and informative presentations. On Thursday during the Opening Session, the Keynote Presentation, "The Impact of Healthcare Reform on Surgery," was presented by Dr. Donald D. Trunkey. He is a past Honorary Fellowship recipient and world renowned Trauma Surgeon, who is also a Professor of Surgery at Oregon Health & Science University, Section of Trauma and Critical Care. On Saturday, the 2011 Honorary Fellowship recipient and my mentor, Dr. Byers W. Shaw from the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha presented, "Transitions," an enlightening look into the various challenges in a surgeon's life, particularly those related to aging, illness, and retirement. The Dr. Arno A. Roscher Endowed Lecture was also presented on Saturday by Dr. Ira A. Shulman from the University of Southern California. His presentation entitled, "Critical Bleeding and Coagulopathy Following Trauma; Implications for Blood Product and Coagulation Factor Replacement Therapy," was part of the Trauma: What's New session.

In addition to the aforementioned presentations, there was also a dynamic session that included presentations by 11 Surgical Residents and Medical Students who competed in our annual scholarship competition. Three prizes were awarded to the individuals who were judged not only on their research papers, but also on the oral presentation of their research. Visit www.ficsonline.org to see a list of the winners and to view their papers.

The inclusion of younger and newer members of the College was an integral part of my plan as the meeting program was developed. From an expanded scholarship program for future members to the addition of newer members as moderators for each session, it has been my belief that since these individuals will one day run this organization they should be afforded the opportunity to become involved early on and participate fully in this diverse group.

The remainder of the meeting was of course very educational and also provided a bit of social diversion. The Alliance, chaired this year by my wife Ratna, worked with staff to present a variety of entertainment options for our families. We were fortunate to be in Portland during their annual Rose Festival and were privileged to have the Conchord's Chorale provide an excellent musical interlude during



News from Headquarters

Annual Meeting Update

During the recent Annual Surgical Update in Portland, the House of Delegates met for their annual session to conduct the formal business of the US Section. As customary, the final agenda item that required action by the House was to elect officers for the coming term beginning January 1, 2012. The **President Elect position went unanimously to Dr. Gazi Zibari**, the current Treasurer. Dr. Zibari is a Transplant Surgeon practicing in Shreveport, Louisiana. He has been a member of the US Section since 1996 and is extremely active in humanitarian activities having led a team annually to Kurdistan in Northern Iraq for more than 10 years. He has also served as Secretary, Vice President and Chair of the Board of Regents.

Other key Executive Council positions acted on included **Ari Halldorsson from Lubbock, Texas for Treasurer** and **Uretz Oliphant from Urbana, Illinois for Secretary**. To see a list of all those elected to positions for 2012 visit FICS Online and click on "News."

Help Wanted

Volunteers are needed to fill vacancies in several states for the State Regent position. All states have availability for Municipal Regent and Institutional Regent positions. While Municipal and Institutional Regents do not receive a vote in the House of Delegates, these positions are stepping stones to State Regent. Visit FICS Online and login to members only to find out more about becoming involved in leadership positions of the College.

Member Survey

During the various business meetings of the Section in Portland discussion included the development of a member survey to determine the needs and opinions of the membership related to a variety of topics. A brief survey was circulated to meeting attendees that has provided interesting information. A slightly longer survey is now available on FICS Online. All members are encouraged to visit **www.ficsonline.org/survey** and complete this questionnaire that will allow your Section leadership to make more informed decisions. Results will be posted to FICS Online later this year.

Board of Regents Meeting

Dr. Chand Ramaiah, the current Chair of the Board of Regents, led a lively discussion related to the membership concerns of not only the ICS, but many other organizations as well. During the meeting Dr. Ramaiah updated the Board concerning the "Drive to 125" recruitment program that was implemented last year by **Dr. Uretz Oliphant**, for the members of the Board of Regents. This project, which focused on the members of the Board of Regents each recruiting at least 2 new members during the period between the 2010 and 2011 meetings, had positive results. **Dr. Francis Podbielski** the Regent from Massachusetts was honored as the Regent of the Year for successfully recruiting the most new members.

Over the years the US Section has worked with Guardian Publishing to provide financial advice articles to members. In addition, access to a wealth of financial information is available to ICSUS Fellows through DocWorthy, a website that provides considerable resources to assist in financial planning and practice management. Visit **www.ficsonline.org** and click on the DocWorthy link to learn more.

Recently two new articles have been posted to FICS Online under the NEWS tab. The following articles are now available:

Beware of Your CPA's Advice on Asset Protection The Advice you Get May be Inaccurate

Don't Sell Your Soul to the Hospital Yet! Higher Profit & Lower Taxes Still Possible in Private Practice

These articles and more are only available to members of the US Section by logging in to the "Members Only" section of our website. Your ID number will be needed and can be found above your name and address on this newsletter.

Members In the News

Clara Raquel Epstein, MD, FICS received an Honorary Recognition by Christopher M. Loftus, MD, FACS, Chair of the 2011 AANS International Outreach Committee of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) for her International Neurosurgical Leadership Role as Chair of Neurosurgery of the International College of Surgeons, US Section at the AANS International Reception & Award Program, 79th AANS Annual Scientific Meeting, Hyatt Regency, Denver, CO, April 11, 2011.

Gazi Zibari, MD, FICS (Shreveport, LA) and **Professor Refaat Kamel, FICS** (Cairo, Egypt) were honored for their numerous contributions to humanitarian causes during the 73rd Convocation and Presidential Recognition Ceremony in Portland on June 11th. This was the second year that the ICSUS/Pfizer Humanitarian Service Awards were bestowed on those who have given back to those less fortunate around the world. To learn more about Dr. Zibari and Prof. Kamel visit FICS Online and click on "Members in the News."

The ICS-US Section plans to continue its recognition of those who regularly provide aide to those in need around the world. If you know an ICS colleague who has dedicated their life to giving back contact US Section Headquarters to find out how to nominate a future recipient.

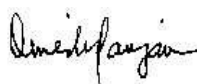
From the President's Desk (continued from front cover)

the Gala Dinner on Saturday evening. These events rounded out a meeting that I will remember for years to come.

I wish to acknowledge the participation of the American Academy of Neurological and Orthopaedic Surgeons. Through this affiliation we have been able to include substantial Neurosurgical and Orthopaedic programming for our members for several years. Drs. Kazem Fathie, William Mathews, Maxime Coles and Clara Epstein, all members of ICS as well, should be commended for their efforts. It is also my desire to express my sincere thanks to all those who made the Congress a success – from the members of the planning committee and speakers to all our families and staff.

In the coming months my attention will turn to member recruitment and the development of new online CME offerings. Continuing my goal of new member involvement at all levels I have engaged several of our younger Fellows to assist in these projects. As our membership demographic shifts to the young it has become apparent that these electronically aware surgeons need better and faster communication. While many of you have provided email addresses we still only have email contact information for approximately 50% of all active members. We are moving towards less printed material being circulated via regular mail and I encourage everyone to provide this information to Headquarters as soon as possible to avoid missing out on what is happening in your College.

In closing, I encourage you to remain or become active in ICS and participate at whatever level you can. We are making significant progress and this is due to each and every member's input and assistance. Every contribution makes a difference.



Dinesh Ranjan, MD
President
US Section, ICS

2011 Scholarship Winners

Each year the ICS-US Section conducts a research scholarship competition for surgical residents, fellows in training and medical students. The winners were selected based on their submitted research papers as well as their oral presentations made during the Annual Surgical Update in Portland. Following are the winners.

Grand Prize was awarded to; **Jasneet Singh Bhullar MD**, Resident-General Surgery, Department of General Surgery, Providence Hospital & Medical Centers, Southfield, MI for **Intra-Tumoral Acetic Acid Injection Eradicates Human Prostate Cancer Tumors In A Murine Model**.

First Place was awarded to; **Deepa Taggarshe, MD, MRCS, M Phil**, Resident in General Surgery, Providence Hospital and Medical Centers, Southfield, MI, for **Clinicopathological Significance Of Expression Of Estrogen Receptor-Beta (ErB), Progesterone Receptor(PR) And Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor-A (VEGF-A) In Colorectal Cancer**.

Honorable Mention was awarded to **Gabriela Vargas MD**, 4th year Surgery Resident, University of Utah, Department of Surgery, Salt Lake City, Utah, for **Cholecystectomy On The Steppe: Sustainable Laparoscopy In Mongolia**.

Noteworthy Congresses

African Federation Congress

November, 2011
Cairo, Egypt

European Federation Congress

November 11-12, 2011
Rome, Italy

Asian/Pacific Federation Congress

March 2012
Brisbane, Australia

74th Annual Surgical Update

United States Section
June 6-9, 2012
Atlanta, Georgia, USA

38th Biennial World Congress

2012
India

For additional information regarding meetings, please call (800) 766-FICS, extension 3129 for meetings in North America and extension 3106 for international meetings. Or visit the website at [www. FICSONLINE.org](http://www.FICSONLINE.org)

Dont Forget!

In order to keep you informed of Section news & business. We need your e-mail address. Just send an e-mail to Paul Pancer at ppancer@ficsonline.org today. We'll add you to our database, or call 312.787.6274 ext. 3126.

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