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# International U.S. Surgeon

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

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## From the PRESIDENT'S DESK

Uretz J. Oliphant, MD, FICS

In June the United States Section held its 77th Annual Surgical Update in one of the most historic parts of the country and home to the US Naval Academy - Annapolis, Maryland. The meeting was well attended and in my humble opinion, extremely successful. The designated theme of the meeting was "Controversies in Surgery" and several sessions that were conducted certainly had presentations included that sparked a great deal of debate, both during the session and afterward.

During the meeting we were privileged to have several very special guests who made extremely interesting and informative presentations. Assisting with local faculty selection were Jonathan Efron from Johns Hopkins in Baltimore and Adrian Park from the Anne Arundel Medical Center in Annapolis. The success of the meeting is due in no small part to the assistance of these two surgeons.

On Thursday during the Opening Session, we began with a debate on Resident Education (Are Residents Ready?), received valuable information about options for change from the Executive Director of the American Board of Surgery, Dr. Frank Lewis and then had a lively panel discussion.

We then changed things up a little and held the Honors Luncheon where New Fellows were recognized and several other individuals acknowledged. Included was the installation of my successor, Mike Jacobs, who will officially take over on January 1, 2016 as the US Section's next President. Mike has already started working on his meeting in Troy, Michigan and based on what he has put together thus far the meeting promises to be extraordinary. The new venue for recognition and awards replaces the old Convocation Ceremony. This format appears to have been very well received by all in attendance.

Later in the day we focused on our primary organizational mission; Humanitarian Activities. The "Global Surgery Summit" included the participation of key individuals from ICS (Professor Yik-Hong Ho the World President from Australia joined us) the American College of Surgeons (Germa Tefera the new Director of Operation Giving Back), the World Health Organization (Meena Cherian the Lead of the Emergency & Essential Surgical Care Program), AmeriCares (Julie Varughese their new Medical Officer), the World Surgical Foundation (our own Dom Alvear who founded this active group), and our local Annapolis colleague Adrian Park who has been extremely active with surgical education in Africa working with the Pan African Association of Christian Surgeons. Each of these individuals made highly informative presentations and then participated in a panel discussion that will help us set goals as we work to fulfill our mission in the future. On behalf of all who were in attendance, I extend a very heartfelt thanks to all these individuals for helping me realize my vision for this important session during the meeting.

Friday provided attendees with a morning of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery presentations that culminated with a special presentation by Tom Scalea from the University of Maryland Cowley Shock Trauma Center. Following at lunch was the presentation of the new Crotti Lecture. This year's recipient of the Andre Crotti Ward for Distinguished Service to the Profession of Surgery was none other than John Cameron from Johns Hopkins. This giant of surgery presented a stellar historical review entitled: William Stewart Halsted: Our Surgical Heritage to a standing room only audience. Following his presentation we surprised Dr. Cameron with an Honorary Fellowship to go along with the Crotti Award. Congratulations to Dr. John Cameron, our newest Honorary Fellow.

Saturday morning began with a session that was near and dear to me, Bariatric and General Surgery. In addition to presentations by our own Fellows and faculty from Johns Hopkins I was extremely delighted to have Michel Gagner from Montreal provide an update on Sleeve Gastrectomy.

After lunch the 7th annual Dr. Arno A. Roscher Endowed Lecture was presented by Ara Tilkian. His presentation entitled, "Takotsubo-Stress Cardiomyopathy," was fascinating and provided a new perspective on a topic that many did not know even existed. Dr. Roscher has already secured his speakers for next three years and we know that those presentations will once again be awesome. The US Section extends its gratitude to Dr. Roscher for his generous donation to establish this important named lecture.

The remainder of the meeting was of course also very educational and included sessions for Orthopaedic and Neurological Surgeons on Friday and Saturday. These ses-

sions were produced with the support and cooperation of the American Academy of Neurological and Orthopaedic Surgeons and the members of their Scientific Organizing Committee, most of which are also ICS Fellows. Special thanks are extended to the Academy's Chair of the Board, Dr. William Mathews, for his leadership in developing these excellent sessions and for sponsoring the Keynote Presentation by Sergio Canavero. This special session was the first time both ICS and the Academy joined together in the same room during a major scientific presentation. Visit the Academy website at [aanos.org](http://aanos.org) to read about their sessions, speakers and activities in Annapolis.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to all those who made the meeting a success – the members of the planning committee, speakers, our families and of course the US Section staff from Chicago. I especially wish to thank all the speakers from Johns Hopkins for actively participating in our entire program. Over 12 faculty members from Hopkins joined us in Annapolis and made this a truly amazing meeting for all who were lucky enough to be with us.

In closing, I encourage you to be as active in ICS as you can. We are all working through a challenging time in medicine and every member's input and assistance is important for the College's success. Your contribution can make a difference.

Visit our Facebook page to see pictures taken by various members of the College. If you have any photos you wish to share please contact Maggie Kearney in Chicago ([mkearney@ficsonline.org](mailto:mkearney@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 [info@ficsonline.org](mailto:info@ficsonline.org) today. We'll add you to our database, or call 312.787.6274.**

## Mark Your Calendar

**77th Annual Surgical Update**  
United States Section  
June 16-18, 2016  
Troy, Michigan, USA

**September 9-12, 2015**  
Jubilee World Congress Celebrating the 80th  
Anniversary of the Founding of ICS  
Prague & Pilsen, Czech Republic