



Southern Association for Vascular Surgery

NEWSLETTER

www.southernvascular.org

Spring 2004

2004 - 2005 OFFICERS

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Knoxville, Tennessee

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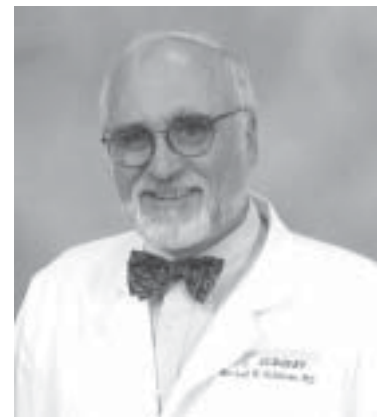
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FROM THE PRESIDENT

There has been, over the past few years, a leitmotif in American Surgery, almost dirge-like, that has permeated the sensibilities of the practice of medicine and has distorted the underlying harmonies that have made caring for the sick a joyous profession. It is the recurrent notion that things are harder now, more frustrating, less enjoyable and even unrewarding. A leitmotif, because, just as in the recurring themes of the romantic composers, the *idée fixe* resonates in the conversations in the surgeons lounge, across the operating room tables, on the golf greens and wherever physicians meet to take note of their lives and livelihoods. Recurrent, because the subjects are not new; training, quality, commitment, independence, territory and remuneration. If you read the deliberations of our predecessors, you realize that the difference between then and now is one of intonation and tempo and not content. We still conduct our calling confronted the maladies of medical practice and as individuals, even as small groups we feel the beat of the issues and oft times enveloped by the complexities to the point that we are left with a cacophony of loose strains.

It is in the context of this dissemblance that societies, particularly The Southern Association for Vascular Surgery, play a major compositional role. Acting as a contrapuntal motif to the dissonance of the forces that disrupt our synchronization, the Southern, as we are wont to call it, refocuses, by giving the opportunity, usually in an idyllic environs, to exchange ideas, techniques and trends, to formulate solutions to the problems that vex, to participate and espouse the issues that confront, to teach, to learn and to begin and renew friendships. The founders of our Association, long ago, set the tone and provided the score that we have followed, adhering variations on the theme of fellowship, informality, learning and the promotion of the good of our specialty and our patients. Last year, we were educated in the nuances of vascular surgery, entertained by a delightful discussion of modern art, danced the Puerto Rican night away and demonstrated our athletic prowess, all, in a luxurious and glorious setting. This years meeting will be no different-a wonderful sonata of camaraderie, learning and relaxation. The program committee is working hard to make this year's opus as fantastic as before. The oral examiners are preparing to prepare the fellows and board candidates through the mock orals. The venue, Marco Island, is a great place to luxuriate. Invite your friends and colleagues. Join the players and add music to your January.



Mitchell H. Goldman, M.D.

2005 ANNUAL MEETING

29TH ANNUAL MEETING

January 19-22, 2005

Marco Island Resort

Marco Island, Florida



Southern Association for Vascular Surgery

Highlights of the 28th Annual Business Meeting

January 17, 2004 / Rio Grande, Puerto Rico

ACCME Accreditation for the meeting was secured through the SVS. Registration for the meeting has been 128 members, 50 guest physicians, 102 spouses/guests and 72 exhibitors, for a total of 178 physicians and a total attendance of 352.

The meeting was supported by our long-standing sponsors.

- Boston Scientific Vascular provided a generous unrestricted educational grant
- W. L. Gore sponsored the Welcoming Reception and the S. Timothy String Presidential Award
- Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, Inc. sponsored, in part, the General Reception
- Bard Peripheral Vascular sponsored the President's Reception
- Vascutek USA, Inc. sponsored the Founders' Award
- InterVascular, Inc. sponsored the Men's and Women's Tennis Tournaments.

In addition, there were twenty-one exhibitors present and their presence was integral to the success of the meeting (see list on page 5).

The 2005 Annual Meeting will be held at the Marco Island Marriott Resort, Golf Club and Spain Marco Island, Florida, January 19-22, the customary dates of our Annual Meeting. The resort has undergone a recent 80 million dollar renovation. The 2006 Annual Meeting will be held at Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort and Spa in Phoenix, Arizona, January 18-21. A tentative contract for the 2007 Annual Meeting has been made with The Westin Rio Mar Beach Resort and Spa in Rio Grande, Puerto Rico, maintaining the same per diem room rate as the 2004 meeting. This contract allows for cancellation, if accommodations and final charges for the 2004 Annual Meeting are not considered satisfactory.

On-line abstract submission was adopted this year without difficulty. The on-line process allowed for prompt distribution of abstracts to the Program Committee. On-line meeting registration was available this year and roughly, half of the registration process occurred on-line.

Strategies for continued industry sponsorship of our Association's Annual Meeting were discussed at length. President Snyder and President-Elect Goldman created a Resource Development Committee to be chaired by Alan Lumsden to identify industry sources for unrestricted educational grants.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

The Secretary Treasurer's report noted that the current membership stands at 168 active members and 25 candidate members, with 209 senior members (95 of whom are retired members) and 21 honorary members. One new honorary member, Michael B. Silva, M.D. will be added this year. Since January 2003, one active member resigned his membership citing practice demands, five additional senior members retired, and four candidate members forfeited membership due to relocation out of the Association's region. Eleven members will advance to senior status at this meeting; 10 will advance in January 2005, and 19 will advance in January 2006. There are currently 16 active members residing out of the geographic area, representing 9.5% of the total active membership, which is within the 10% allowed by the constitution and bylaws. Finally, three senior members died in the past

year – Drs. Arthur Beall, James Hardy and Bernard Thompson. President Snyder requested a moment of silence in honor of these members.

Nineteen active members have missed two consecutive meetings; one will be advancing to senior status at this meeting. Fifteen were pre-registered for this Annual Meeting and the remainder have been notified by the Secretary-Treasurer that they must attend the 2004 Annual Meeting to maintain their membership. Ten active members have missed three consecutive meetings and one will advance to senior status at this meeting. Nine were pre-registered for this Annual Meeting and the remaining member will advance to senior status at the 2005 annual meeting. Five active members have missed four consecutive meetings and one will advance to senior status at this meeting. Two were pre-registered for this Annual Meeting. After discussion by the Executive Council, it was recommended that the two remaining members who have missed four consecutive meetings will forfeit their membership if they did not attend this 2004 Annual Meeting. Six persons elected to membership have failed to attend the Annual Meeting. Four have missed one meeting since election and two have missed two meetings.

There were two requests for excused absences from the 2004 Annual Meeting. After discussion by the Executive Council, neither of these requests were considered an extraordinary or extenuating circumstance and neither request for an excused absence was granted.

Twenty members have failed to pay their 2004 dues despite several reminders from the Secretary-Treasurer and their memberships will be terminated unless they pay their dues by March 30, 2004.

As of November 30, 2003, the total financial assets of the Association were \$343,290.37, which compares favorably to the \$302,197.19 in January 2003.

Constitution and Bylaws Committee

Constitution and By-Laws Committee Chairman and Past President Robert B. Smith, III introduced a bylaws change, which was discussed at the June 2003 Executive Council meeting. The proposed bylaws change was presented, discussed and unanimously approved by the Executive Council. This bylaws change requires a newly elected member to attend one of the first three annual meetings after election or forfeit membership. The proposed change is as follows: *Article I, Section 6, addition after second sentence: "Individuals elected to membership who fail to attend one of the three Annual Meetings following election shall forfeit their membership."* This proposed change was read at the Opening Session and was available in written form for membership review. President Snyder called for a vote from the membership regarding this bylaws change. The change was approved by the membership.

Report of the Archivist

Archivist Daniel S. Rush noted that materials relating to the 2003 Annual Meeting were transferred to the Atlanta History Center. Past

(continued on next page)

President Archie provided extensive documents pertaining to the Presidents of the Association during its first 25 years. The role of a professional photographer at our annual meeting was discussed. Rather than incur the additional cost of a professional photographer, it was proposed and adopted that Archivist Rush would provide the photographs for the annual meeting. A standard description of the SAVS history, purpose, and goals for possible press release was discussed. A preliminary version was provided and will be considered after revision at the June 2004 Executive Council meeting.

Budget and Finance Committee

Budget and Finance Committee Chairman David L. Cull reported that he had reviewed the 2006 contract with the Sheraton Wild Horse Pass and felt that the contractual negotiations were in order. He had reviewed the finances of the Association over the past year and the budget for the 2004 Annual Meeting and found them to be in order.

Representative to the Society for Vascular Surgery Executive Council

Representative to the Society for Vascular Surgery Executive Council Elliot L. Chaikof summarized several strategic goals of the SVS to be implemented over a six to twelve month trajectory. These included a modified training paradigm for vascular surgeons and SVS educational programs in cerebral angiography coordinated by Dr. Kim Hodgson and educational programs in carotid stenting coordinated by new honorary member Dr. Michael Silva. Representative Chaikof noted increased PAC activity, the creation of a consensus document for hospital credentialing for vascular and endovascular procedures, and the emphasis of the role of the vascular surgeon and vascular specialists in the care of vascular disease. Efforts to coordinate an improved industry focus will be coordinated by Dr. Gregory Sicard. Finally, Representative Chaikof felt that the regional societies continue to receive appropriate representation at the level of our national society.

Government Relations Committee

Past President and Chairman of the Government Relations Committee Hugh H. Trout, III noted that the planned 4% reduction in physician reimbursement was averted by the recent passage by the United States Congress of the Medicare Innovation Responsiveness Act of 2003. Despite this positive outcome, he noted a lack of public perception of the healthcare problem and apathy of policymakers to recognize those specialties who care for the sick. The American College of Surgeons was taking an activist approach to gain medical liability reform. The President of the United States and the United

States House of Representatives favor medical liability reform. However, several US Senate seats will be required for passage of legislation relating to medical liability reform. The ACS plans to aggressively target Senate seats with advertising campaigns in 2004.

Communications Committee

Communications Committee Chairman and Newsletter Editor William D. Jordan, Jr. provided a written report. There were two editions of the Association Newsletter published in the past year. The spring edition highlighted the January 2003 meeting in Tucson, Arizona. The second newsletter, mailed in December of 2003, highlighted plans for the 2004 Annual Meeting. Both newsletters included a message from President Snyder. Chairman Jordan's written report noted that the semi-annual newsletters were important in conveying the events of our annual meeting. Secretary-Treasurer Hansen noted that an initiative for expanding our mailings to members of state vascular societies who are not yet members of our Association was planned. This initiative will require at least one or two mailings per year.

S. Timothy String President's Award

Secretary-Treasurer Hansen reviewed the newly created S. Timothy String Presidential Award. Created at the June 2003 Executive Council meeting, this award will recognize the best overall paper presented during the Annual Meeting, as selected by the President-Elect, the Program Chairman, and the Recorder. The total amount of the award is \$5000 and supported by W.L. Gore and Associates, Inc. The President's Award will also serve as the "Best of the Regionals" presentation at the June meeting.

Program Committee

Chairman of the Program Committee Alan B. Lumsden reported that the committee reviewed a total of 127 abstracts submitted for presentation at the 2004 Annual Meeting. This included 25 abstracts submitted for case reports and 102 abstracts submitted as free papers. Twenty-two abstracts were accepted as free papers to be presented at the Scientific Sessions, four abstracts were chosen as case reports for panel discussion, and four abstracts were chosen for a special case conference regarding endovascular intervention. This latter case conference was held at 7:00 am Friday morning prior to the Scientific Session and was moderated by Dr. Samuel R. Money. A special basic science conference was held at 7:00 am Saturday morning and was moderated by Dr. Randolph L. Geary. The special topics session this year dealt with contemporary management of trauma to the aorta and great vessels and was presented at 8:00 am on Saturday morning. Dr. James Dennis moderated this session, which contrasted conventional open management with endovascular management. Chairman Lumsden noted that the program also included President Stanley O. Snyder, Jr.'s Presidential Address, "Vascular Surgery – Is Our Name Mudd or Quasimodo?," the Distinguished Guest Lecture given by Michael B. Silva, Jr., M.D., "Endovascular Surgery and Art of the 1940's", and the Lifeline Foundation's William J. von Liebig Resident Award Paper, "Silyl-Heparin Bonding Improves the Patency and In Vivo Thromboresistance of Carbon-Coated Polytetrafluoroethylene Vascular Grafts" by James Laredo, M.D., Ph.D. from Loyola University Medical Center. This von Liebig Resident Award was presented by Dr. Bauer Sumpio.

(continued on page 7)





Highlights of the 28th Annual Meeting

January 14-17, 2004

The Westin Rio Mar Beach Resort & Spa / Rio Grande, Puerto Rico

THE DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURE

Michael B. Silva, Jr., M.D.

"Endovascular Surgery and the Art of the 1940s"

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Stanley O. Snyder, Jr., M.D.

"Vascular Surgery - Is Our Name Mudd or Quasimodo?"

THE 2004 FOUNDER'S AWARD

Eleftherios S. Xenos, M.D.

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

"The Effect of Fluvastatin on Endothelial Cell Adhesion Molecule Expression: The Role of Nitric Oxide"



THE FOURTH S. TIMOTHY STRING TRAVELING FELLOWSHIP

Ramesh Paladugu, M.D.

Baylor College of Medicine

THE 2004 LIFELINE FOUNDATION'S WILLIAM J. VON LIEBIG RESIDENT AWARD

James Laredo, M.D., Ph.D.

Loyola University Medical Center

"Silyl-Heparin Bonding Improves the Patency and In Vivo Thromboresistance of Carbon-Coated Polytetrafluoroethylene Vascular Grafts"



THE 2003 PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Albert G. Hakaim, M.D.

Jacksonville, Florida

"Mid-Term Results of Distal Flare Technique for Endovascular Aneurysm Repair (EVAR)"

SPECIAL TOPICS SESSION: TRAUMA OF THE AORTA AND GREAT VESSELS

James W. Dennis, M.D., Moderator

UPCOMING ANNUAL MEETINGS

JANUARY 19-22, 2005

MARCO ISLAND MARRIOTT RESORT, GOLF CLUB AND SPA
MARCO ISLAND, FLORIDA

JANUARY 18-21, 2006

SHERATON WILD HORSE PASS RESORT AND SPA
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

2007 ANNUAL MEETING

THE WESTIN RIO MAR BEACH RESORT AND SPA
RIO GRANDE, PUERTO RICO

Sporting Events Winners - Congratulations.....

5K FUN RUN

1st Place

Eleftherios Xenos
Tammy Goff

2nd Place

Burt Smith
Julie MacNeill

GOLF TOURNAMENT

1st Place Team

Paul Boshser
Julie Boshser
Jeffrey Rubin
Janis Rubin

Closest to the Pin

Andy Olinde

TENNIS TOURNAMENT

1st Place

Brad Johnson
Susan Elliott

2nd Place

Paul Citrin
Kathy Paren

Longest Drive

Michael Rosenthal
Sunny Lawson



2004-2005 Committees

Archives Committee

Daniel S. Rush, M.D., Archivist
Jock R. Wheeler, M.D.
Hugh H. Trout, III, M.D.
Joseph P. Archie, Jr., M.D.

Budget and Finance Committee

Richard L. Feinberg, M.D., Chairman
Anthony Katras, M.D.
Ali F. AbuRahma, M.D.

Constitution and By-Laws Committee

Robert B. Smith, III, M.D.

Government Relations Committee

Hugh H. Trout, III, M.D., Chairman

Local Arrangements Committee

Jeremiah H. Holleman, M.D., Chairman

Membership Committee

C. Keith Ozaki, M.D., Chairman
Brad L. Johnson, M.D.
Eric D. Endean, M.D.

Program Committee

Thomas S. Huber, M.D., Chairman
Mellick T. Sykes, M.D.
Michael B. Freeman, M.D.

Committee on Research & Resources

Mark R. Jackson, M.D, Chairman
Scott L. Stevens, M.D.
George H. Meier, III, M.D
Randolph L. Geary, M.D.

Communications Committee

William D. Jordan, M.D.,
Chairman and Newsletter Editor
John H. Matsuura, M.D.

Resource Development Committee

Alan B. Lumsden, M.D. Chairman

Representative to the AVA PAD

Screening Program

John D. Martin, M.D.

THANK YOU

The Southern Association for Vascular Surgery would like to thank the following companies

FOR CONTINUED EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND SOCIAL PROGRAM.

**Boston Scientific Vascular
Bard Peripheral Vascular
InterVascular, Inc.**

**Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, Inc
W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc.
Vascutek, USA, Inc.**

FOR SUPPORT AS EXHIBITORS.

**Abbott Laboratories
AngioDynamics, Inc.
Artegraft, Inc.
Bard Peripheral Vascular
Baxter BioSurgery
Boston Scientific
Cook**

**CryoLife, Inc.
Hancock Jaffe Laboratories
Implantable Devices
Intervascular Inc.
Le Maitre Vascular, Inc.
Medical Media Systems, Inc.
Medtronic**

**SSI Ultra Specialty Surgical Instruments
Synovis Surgical Innovations
Uresil LP
VNUS Medical Technologies, Inc.
Vascular Architects
Vascutek, a Terumo Company
W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc.**

2005 Annual Meeting

The 29th Annual Meeting of The Southern Association for Vascular Surgery will be held January 19-22, 2005 at the Marco Island Resort, Marco Island, Florida. Details regarding the meeting and hotel registration information will be mailed in the Fall. We encourage you to make your airline reservations early in order to secure the best possible fares and itinerary to this beautiful resort.

Abstracts

All abstract submission will be on-line at <http://savs.vascularweb.org>. For additional information please contact the Association's Administrative Office, 900 Cummings Center, Suite 221-U, Beverly, MA 01915 (978) 927-8330 / Fax: (978) 524-0498. Submission deadline for abstracts for the 2005 Annual Meeting is September 10, 2004.

Case Reports Accepted for Panel Presentation at the 2005 Annual Meeting

Case Reports will be solicited for panel presentation during the 29th Annual Meeting. In addition to an abstract, a maximum of two slides or angiographic films may be submitted for the Program Committee to review. If selected for presentation, a manuscript is optional and will not be required.

S. Timothy String President's Award

The S. Timothy String President's Award will recognize the best overall paper presented during the 2005 Annual Meeting. The award consists of \$5000 and will be presented at the 2006 Annual Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona. This paper will also represent The Southern Association for Vascular Surgery during "The Best of the Regionals Session" at the 2005 SVS Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois.

Founders' Award

The Founders' Award is for original clinical or basic science papers presented by a trainee (Residents, Fellows or Students). This award, which consists of \$5000, will be presented at the 29th Annual Meeting in Marco Island, Florida. Three copies of an extended abstract (not to exceed 1500 words) should be submitted on-line at <http://savs.vascularweb.org>. Eligibility is extended to programs located in states comprising the membership of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery.

Mock Oral Board Examinations

Mock oral board examinations will be offered to individuals preparing for the Vascular Surgery Certifying Examination. Examinees should reside in the states comprising the SAVS region. Interested individuals should contact Dr. Spence Taylor at (864) 455-7886.

Guests

Members who wish to invite non-member physicians as their guests should contact the office of Kimberley J. Hansen, M.D., Secretary-Treasurer, The Southern Association for Vascular Surgery, Department of General Surgery, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Medical Center Boulevard, Winston-Salem, NC 27157-1095, Telephone: (336) 713-5256, Fax: (336) 716-9758, E-Mail: kjhansen@wfubmc.edu. Invited guests will receive a letter of invitation and the necessary reservation forms, as well as meeting information.

Active & Candidate Memberships

Deadline for new member application and supporting information is **October 1, 2004**. Application forms must be requested from the Secretary-Treasurer by the *sponsoring member*.

Qualifications for Active Membership: 1. The active membership consists of those surgeons recommended by the Executive Council from the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, DC; 2. Applicants must be certified by the American Board of Surgery and/or the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, with Fellowship in the American College of Surgeons; 3. Applicants must document at least fifty (50) major peripheral vascular reconstructive procedures in each of the three years preceding application, exclusive of residency and fellowship training; 4) The application must be accompanied by letters of sponsorship (1) and endorsement (2) by three members in good standing of the Association. One of these members must be from the Applicant's home state.

Qualifications for Candidate Membership: 1. The candidate membership consists of Fellows in approved Vascular Surgery training programs, General Surgery residents accepted into approved Vascular Surgery training programs, or Vascular Surgeons who do not yet meet the requirements for active membership within the region of the SAVS; 2. A letter of sponsorship is required from either the applicant's Program Director or a member in good standing of the Association from the applicant's home state; 3. Candidate membership has a maximum term of five years. All application materials should then be returned to the office of the Secretary-Treasurer, Kimberley J. Hansen, M.D., SAVS, Department of General Surgery, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Medical Center Boulevard, Winston-Salem, NC 27157-1095.

Highlights of the 27th Annual Business Meeting

(continued from page 3)

Recorder's Report

Recorder Thomas C. Naslund reported that 27 manuscripts were submitted from the 2003 Annual Meeting to the *Journal of Vascular Surgery*. Sixteen were accepted for publication and eleven have been rejected. The 2003 Annual Meeting represented the first year of electronic manuscript submission to the *Journal of Vascular Surgery* from our Association's Scientific Sessions. Problem areas in this process included tardiness of submission and the lack of invited discussion in an electronic format. This year, specific instructions to both presenting authors and invited discussants were made well in advance of the annual meeting. The nature of the William J. von Liebig Award has changed. This is currently an award jointly funded through the Lifeline Foundation and the William J. von Liebig Foundation as a \$5000 award to the author. There is no cash award for the mentoring laboratory.

Research and Resources Committee

Research and Resources Committee Chairman Mark R. Jackson reported that the recipient of the 2004 Founders' Award was Eleftherios S. Xenos, M.D. from the University of Tennessee Medical Center at Knoxville for his work entitled, "The Effect of Fluvastatin on Endothelial Cell Adhesion Molecule Expression: The Role of Nitric Oxide".

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee reviewed the financial information provided to them and found the finances and monies of the Association appropriately accounted and invested. Committee member Kevin Zirkle noted a treasury in excess of \$340,000 and questioned the need for these funds. Secretary-Treasurer Hansen noted that our single greatest financial liability is the block room commitment made to the resort for the annual meeting. If a number of members leave the annual meeting before its conclusion, an unmet block room obligation to the Association can result in a substantial fee. All members were urged to attend the annual meeting and to remain for the entire meeting.

Unfinished Business

Councilor-at-Large R. James Valentine reported on the proposed corresponding membership category suggested at the June 2003 Executive Council meeting. President Snyder had formed a special subcommittee consisting of Councilor-at-Large Valentine as Chair, Past President Seeger, and K. Wayne Johnston to report on the feasibility of a corresponding membership. The Executive Council discussed issues of membership criteria, the election process, responsibilities, dues, and eligibility for office in the Association. The Constitution and Bylaws Committee Chairman was instructed to incorporate these issues into proposed bylaws change recognizing a corresponding membership.

Councilor-at-Large Spence M. Taylor reported on the mock oral examinations. At the June 2003 Executive Council meeting, the need for a mock oral examination was noted and Councilor-at-Large Taylor and President-Elect Goldman volunteered to assess appropriate testing methods, establish a time for testing, and establish a method for notification of both examinees and program directors of test results. The program directors of each accredited program within our region were notified of our plans for a mock oral examination and initially, 24

potential examinees were identified. A group of mock oral questions was created in each of the three major testing categories and examiners were recruited. The examination was constructed and conducted to reflect the features of the certifying examination. Of the 24 potential examinees initially identified, ten examinees committed to the mock oral and eight were examined. The pass rate was 75%, with a 25% failure rate. Councilor Taylor will summarize the performance of each individual and provide this summary to both the examinee and the appropriate Program Director. The Executive Council discussed the merits of this program at length. It was decided that the mock oral examinations should continue on an annual basis. Future modification of the examination may include a nominal fee for the examinees, oversight of the examination through the Research and Resources Committee, and the search for industry sponsorship for regional attendance for eligible vascular fellows.

Secretary-Treasurer Hansen reported on state vascular societies from our region. As directed by the Executive Council, SAVS members from each of our regional states were contacted to identify state vascular surgery societies. Three states in our region have no regional society. Five regional rosters have been obtained and six regional rosters have been requested but are, at this time, outstanding. When all rosters are obtained, they will be cross-referenced to the SAVS membership roster and those non-members will be included in our mailing list for notification of the Annual Meeting.

Secretary-Treasurer Hansen reported on the status of VascularWeb.org. After discussion, the Executive Council decided to postpone selection of a web manager until the editorial structure of VascularWeb.org was better defined.

Past President Seeger reported on the recent American Board of Surgery retreat. The Vascular Board of the American Board of Surgery will make a request of the American Board of Medical Specialists to recognize Vascular Surgery as a primary certificate. Currently, Vascular Surgery exists as a secondary certificate, requiring General Surgery qualification and certification. This initiative has the support of the Executive Director and Secretary-Treasurer of the ABS, Frank R. Lewis, Jr., M.D., who felt this request would be successful in 2005. The request has training implications with 3/3 and 4/2 training programs a possibility. Past President Seeger noted that the change in training paradigm acknowledging Vascular Surgery as a primary certificate would first apply to within-institutional programs. However, a core curriculum for General Surgery is currently being developed. With core training in General Surgery defined, this would allow for between-institution 3/3 or 4/2 training paradigms to be successful. Past President Seeger noted that the final impact on Vascular Surgery training is unclear. Since Plastic Surgery adopted a 3/3 program, only 20% of accredited programs have adopted this training paradigm. The remaining accredited program have retained a 5/2 structure. Finally, the Early Specialization Program was briefly discussed. To date, only two applications for ESP have been received.

Government Relations Committee Chairman and Past President Hugh H. Trout, III provided the 2004 nomination for The Rudolph Matas Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. George Johnson, Jr. was nominated and accepted unanimously. A formal presentation will be made at the 2005 Annual Meeting.

Past-President and Member of the Nominating Committee David Rosenthal recognized President Snyder's contribution to the SAVS both as Recorder and as President. He presented an inscribed paperweight and captain's chair to commemorate these contributions.

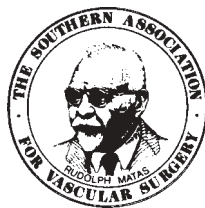
2004 New Members

ACTIVE MEMBERS

Anthony J. Avino, M.D., *Savannah, Georgia*
Scott A. Bercelli, M.D., *Gainesville, Florida*
Christopher A. Carsten, M.D., *Greenville, South Carolina*
E. Jerome Cohn, M.D., *Savannah, Georgia*
William S. Dallas, M.D., *Oak Ridge, Tennessee*
Stuart A. Harlin, M.D., *Pensacola, Florida*
Nancy L. Harthun, M.D., *Charlottesville, Virginia*
Steven A. Kagan, M.D., *Raleigh, North Carolina*
Karthikeshwar Kasirajan, M.D., *Atlanta, Georgia*
Louis F. Knoepp, M.D., *Anderson, South Carolina*
W. Anthony Lee, M.D., *Gainesville, Florida*
Tracy A. Lowery, M.D., *Huntsville, Alabama*
Fred S. Stucky, M.D., *Huntsville, Alabama*

CANDIDATE MEMBERS

Shelly L. Bledsoe, M.D., *Little Rock, Arkansas*
Christopher S. Callicutt, M.D., *Memphis, Tennessee*
Adam B. Levitt, M.D., *Atlanta, Georgia*
Bernardo Mendoza, M.D., *Norfolk, Virginia*
K. Todd Piercy, M.D., *Knoxville, Tennessee*
Douglas Ruese, M.D., *Houston, Texas*
Ellis J. Salloum, M.D., *Memphis, Tennessee*
Kevin L. Schoepel, M.D., *Charlottesville, Virginia*
L. Richard Sprouse, M.D., *Norfolk, Virginia*
Majid Tayyarah, M.D., *Gainesville, Florida*
William A. Tierney, M.D., *New Orleans, Louisiana*
Eric D. Wellons, M.D., *Atlanta, Georgia*
David B. Wilson, M.D., *Winston-Salem, North Carolina*
Aamir M. Zakaria, M.D., *Durham, North Carolina*



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