



# Southern Association for Vascular Surgery

# NEWSLETTER

www.savs.org

Spring 2014

## 2014 - 2015 OFFICERS

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Ali F. AbuRahma, MD  
*Charleston, West Virginia*

### PRESIDENT-ELECT

Scott L. Stevens, MD  
*Knoxville, Tennessee*

### SECRETARY-TREASURER

Eric D. Endean, MD  
*Lexington, Kentucky*

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*Winston-Salem, North Carolina*

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*Little Rock, Arkansas*  
Spence M. Taylor, MD  
*Greenville, South Carolina*  
Thomas S. Huber, MD  
*Gainesville, Florida*

### REPRESENTATIVE TO SVS

John William Hallett, Jr., MD  
*Charleston, South Carolina*

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

I trust everyone has survived this rather harsh winter and is looking forward to spring (hold on, we're almost there)! The 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery was held at a landmark resort in Palm Beach, Florida (The Breakers) on January 15-18, 2014. It was a huge success and offered new insights into the advances in vascular and endovascular surgery. The success of this meeting would not be possible without the leadership of our Past President, Tom Huber; our Secretary-Treasurer, Eric Endean, who kept everything running so smoothly; the Local Arrangements Committee Chair, Dr. Robert Feezor; and, of course, April Conti and the staff at PRRI.

The total number of registered physicians was the highest ever this year. The Society continues its success in attaining corporate sponsorships from industry. Our SAVS Mock Oral Exam continues to be a success and represents the largest such exercise in the United States for our specialty. In fact, 35 candidates were examined and I want to thank the examiners for volunteering



Ali F. AbuRahma, MD

(continued on page 10)

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2014 ANNUAL MEETING



Additional photo highlights of the Annual Meeting appear inside.

## UPCOMING SAVS ANNUAL MEETINGS

2015

January 14 - 17

Fairmont Scottsdale Princess  
Scottsdale, Arizona

2016

January 13 - 16

The Ritz-Carlton  
Cancun, Mexico

# Southern Association for Vascular Surgery

Highlights of the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Meeting / January 18, 2014 / The Breakers, Palm Beach, Florida

The Annual Business Meeting of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery was called to order on Saturday, January 18, 2014 at 11:50 a.m. at The Breakers, Palm Beach, Florida with President Tom Huber presiding. The minutes from the 2013 Annual Business Meeting at the Atlantis, Paradise Island, Bahamas were approved unanimously without revision as written online in the spring newsletter.

## Executive Council Meeting Report

As directed in Article III, Section 3 of the Constitution and Bylaws, Secretary-Treasurer Endean submitted the following report of the Executive Council meeting held on January 15, 2014 to the membership:

The Executive Council of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery was called to order on Wednesday, January 15, 2014 at 4:32 pm with President Tom Huber presiding. The minutes from the Executive Council meeting held on May 30, 2013 at the Marriott Marquis in San Francisco, California were approved.

## PRRI Report

April Conti, Meeting Coordinator from PRRI, Inc., presented a written and oral report. One-hundred twenty one total abstracts were submitted by the September 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline and the Program Committee reviewed and scored the abstracts on-line. Reports were provided for the September 26<sup>th</sup> conference call. The Committee selected the manuscript entitled "Percutaneous Endovascular Aortic Aneurysm Repair (PEVAR): Results from the First Prospective, Multicenter Randomized Trial" by Peter R. Nelson from Gainesville, FL for the 2013 S. Timothy String Presidential Award. The Program Committee, under the Chairmanship of Mohammed M. Moursi, selected the paper entitled, "Improved Systems Based Analysis of p27kip1 as the Driver for Pathologic Vein Graft Remodeling" by Kenneth DeSart from University of Florida, Gainesville, FL for the 2014 Founders' Award.

As of January 8, 2014, we had 145 members, 25 candidate members, 24 guest physicians, 24 non-member presenting authors, 18 residents, 6 allied health, and 81 spouse/guests pre-register for a total of 323 pre-registrants. 65.29% of the attendees registered on-line. Ms. Conti informed the Council that the total number of registered physicians is the highest ever for the Annual Meeting. The contracted room block at The Breakers is 660 sleeping room nights. On January 6<sup>th</sup> we had picked up 827 room nights. We obviously do not anticipate any attrition problems for 2014. A summary of the hotel pick up versus the block from 2000 to 2014 was provided.

We have 87 exhibit personnel (25 companies) pre-registered. The Registration Desk opened this morning and will remain open through Saturday morning. Two additional companies asked for space on site. This year, the Association attained pledges from industry of \$90,000, representing continued success for corporate sponsorship for the Association. Platinum sponsor was WL Gore and Associates (\$30,000). Gold level sponsor was Cook Medical, Inc (\$27,000). Other sponsors included Medtronic (\$15,000), Boston Scientific (\$7,500), Vascutek (\$5,000), Edwards Life Sciences (\$3,000) and Endologix, Inc (\$2,500).

The 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 14-17, 2015 at Fairmont Scottsdale Princess in Scottsdale, AZ. We have a guaranteed room rate of \$289.00 single/double occupancy. The site for the

40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting had been the Ritz-Carlton in Puerto Rico. The Ritz-Carlton, San Juan gave us a room rate of \$389.00 PLUS 16% resort fee per room per day (\$62.24) PLUS \$2 room attendant fee per day per room (\$4.00) TOTALLING \$455.24 per night PLUS \$10 baggage fee on arrival and \$10 baggage fee upon departure. I tried negotiating the resort fee and there is ZERO flexibility. After reviewing all the additional costs, I felt this should be reviewed again by the Council before moving forward with this property.

Other options discussed (inclusive of all taxes and fees) were Atlantis, Paradise Island, Bahamas @ \$307.90 (Coral Tower) plus \$12 baggage fee or \$356 (Royal Tower) plus \$12 baggage fee and Wyndham Grand Rio Mar Beach Resort and Spa, Rio Grande, Puerto Rico @ \$267.10 plus \$14 baggage fee. The Executive Council discussed these options and agreed that the Ritz-Carlton cost was too high. When the SAVS last held the Annual Meeting at the Rio Mar, there was concern that the facility needed upgrading. April stated that the pools, guestrooms, hallways, roof and the exterior have been renovated. The Executive Council instructed April Conti to visit the facility to assure that the renovations are complete and that the facility has been adequately renovated. If the resort meets our standard, the Council recommended that we secure it for the 2016 meeting, otherwise return to Atlantis. Ms. Conti will report her findings to the Council as soon as she has made an on-site visit.

The Council briefly discussed options for the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual meeting in Florida for 2017. Suggestions included venues in Naples, Marco Island, or other areas in southern Florida. April Conti will bring suggestions to the Council Meeting in June for further discussion.

The Council thanked April and PR/RI for their continued excellent work on behalf of the SAVS.

## Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Secretary-Treasurer Endean was present and gave a written and oral report on Membership and Finance.

The current membership stands at 168 active members and 90 candidate members, with 294 senior members; 123 of whom are retired members. There are 24 honorary members. At the January 2014 Annual Meeting, 9 members advance to senior status. Thirteen members will advance to senior status in January 2015, 9 members will advance in January 2016, and 14 in January 2017. There are 12 active members currently residing out of the geographic area of The Southern Association for Vascular Surgery, representing 7.1% of the total active membership, below the 10% allowed by the Constitution and By-laws. With the approval of the 38 Candidate applicants, candidate membership will stand at 128 candidate members. Without a change in the Association Constitution and Bylaws, we will be in violation.

Secretary-Treasurer read the names of members who have passed away during the past year: Morris D. Kerstein of Philadelphia, PA, John C. Bowen of New Orleans, LA, David S Sumner, Springfield, IL, Hyung M. Lee, Richmond, VA, and Franklin G Norris, Orlando, FL. Four honorary members also recently passed away including Geoffrey H. White, George F. Sheldon, Roy Greenburg and Robert B Rutherford. President Huber asked the members to stand for a moment of silence in remembrance of these members. *(continued on next page)*

## Annual Business Meeting *(continued from previous page)*

Twenty-seven active members have missed two consecutive meetings. They will be notified by the Secretary-Treasurer that they must attend the 2015 Annual Meeting to maintain their membership. Eighteen active members have missed three consecutive meetings, who will be notified by the Secretary-Treasurer that they must attend the 2015 Annual Meeting or risk forfeiting their membership.

Thirty-nine members have still not paid their annual dues as of January 2014, and each has been contacted. Failure to pay dues by October 1, 2014 will result in forfeiture of membership. There have been no requests made of this office for excused absence of the 2014 Annual Meeting.

As of December 31, 2013, the total financial assets of the Association were: \$837,129.42. Treasurer's fund: \$618,114.64 (\$117,171.57 Central Bank Checking; \$390,353.89 Central Bank Money Market; \$110,589.18 Jesse Thompson CD); PR/RI, Inc. Account: \$219,014.78. This compares favorably to \$807,958.95 in the treasury as of December 31, 2012.

The Council asked Secretary-Treasurer Endean to inform the membership of its decision to contribute to the SVS Foundation. The SVS Foundation supports research efforts of its membership. The Council felt that this activity falls within the mission of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery in that the SAVS was "established to promote the art and science of vascular surgery and to further education in the comprehensive care of vascular disease, including disorders of the arteries, veins, lymphatics and microcirculation exclusive of the heart and brain." As such, the SAVS has pledged \$25,000 to be given over five years.

## Local Arrangements Committee

Local Arrangements Committee Chair Feezor was present and provided an oral report. Working with April Conti, arrangements have been made for a 5K run (Thursday morning), Women's Tennis (Thursday afternoon), Men's Tennis (Friday afternoon), and a Golf Tournament (Friday afternoon). Sporting Clays is not offered this year as the closest venue is about an hour from the hotel.

## Archives Committee Report

Archivist Sheehan was present and provided a written and oral report.

As historically done, a contribution of \$1000 was made to the Atlanta Historical Society for maintaining and managing the Association's archives. The archives have been updated with the following additions: In March 2013 - Program books from the 2005 - 2012 annual meetings, as well as Executive Council Meeting Minutes from January and June meetings and Annual Business meetings for the same years were submitted. The 2010 March Executive Council Meeting minutes were also submitted at the same time. In July 2013 the 2013 annual meeting Program Book, 2013 Annual business report from January, and 2013 Annual Executive Committee meeting minutes from January and June were all submitted as well. The Archives should be up to date at this time.

Archivist Sheehan reported that the Committee, consisting of Past Presidents Perler, Naslund, and Hansen met and approved that Lazar Greenfield be awarded the Rudolph Matas Award.

## Budget Committee Report

Budget Committee Chair Neville was present and provided the following update.

As of December 31, 2013, the total financial assets of the Association were: \$837,129.42.

Treasurer's Fund:

Central Bank Checking	\$117,171.57
Central Bank Money Market	\$390,353.89
Jesse Thompson CD	<u>\$110,589.18</u>
Treasurer's Fund Total	\$618,114.64
PR/RI, Inc.	<u>\$219,014.78</u>
Total SAVS assets	\$837,129.42

This compares favorably to \$807,958.95 in the treasury as of December 31, 2012. This meeting is projected to have a surplus of \$3,300.

Based on the financial status of the organization, an increase in dues is not needed. The Council is pleased that the financial status of the organization is solid, but also discussed that the purpose of the organization is to hold the Annual Meeting and as such should consider options for using these funds for the members such as decreasing registration fees, assisting with room costs, etc.

## Report of Representative to the SVS Executive Council

Representative Hallett was present. Due to the timing of the meeting and election to the SVS Executive Council, no report is available at this time.

There was no unfinished business.

## New Business

1. Secretary-Treasurer Endean and Recorder Edwards noted that there are individuals who take the Mock Oral Examination, and attend the Annual Meeting without paying a registration fee. With the excellent financial status of the Association, this practice can be easily absorbed but clarification regarding policy was requested. The Council instructed Recorder Edwards and Secretary-Treasurer Endean to develop a policy and bring it to the Council at the June meeting.

2. Recorder Edwards discussed how the popularity of the Mock Oral Examination has continued to increase. In the future, the number of examinees my need to be limited, giving priority to Candidate members and senior trainees.

3. Secretary-Treasurer Endean informed the Council that the cost for obtaining CME through Cine-Med will increase from \$5,000 to \$8,000 per year. Secretary-Treasurer Endean stated that Cine-Med has been much easier to work with than the ACS. The Council agreed that this is money well spent.

4. President Huber brought up the issue that some members were unable to secure a room at the Breakers because the room allocation quickly filled. Ms. Conti agreed that meeting attendance has been rising and that she would recalculate the number of contracted rooms for future meetings. Secretary-Treasurer Endean stated that the Association would pay for parking for attendees who have off-site hotels and drive. The hotel also agreed to allow these members and their family to have access to the Breaker property if wearing their meeting badge.

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## **Annual Business Meeting** *(continued from previous page)*

5. One of the industry sponsors asked permission to hold an industry-sponsored meeting during an afternoon. The Council discussed the policy regarding industry-sponsored gatherings held during the Annual Meeting. The Council felt that there is good and appropriate access to industry during the meeting and decided that we would not permit such activities.

There being no further new business, the Executive Council Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.

### **Program Committee Report**

Program Committee Chairman Mohammed Moursi was present and gave an oral report. The program committee consisted of Gene Langan, Matt Edwards, Rick Endean, Scott Berceli, President Huber and myself.

A total of 121 abstracts were submitted to the program committee for consideration to this year's meeting. This compares favorably with other meetings as well as previous Florida meetings. Of the 121 abstracts submitted, 112 were free papers or case reports and 9 were for consideration of the founder's award. There also were 6 video submissions.

Forty-five abstracts were selected for submission. The lowest accepted score was 3.4. The following is a breakdown of accepted abstracts: 23 free papers; 1 basic science; 4 open case reports; 4 endo case reports; 1 founder's award; and 12 posters

Abstracts were selected based on the average scores from all of the committee members as well as an effort to ensure a balance of subject matter in the various aspects of vascular surgery. We also ensured that no more than two presentations were selected from any given institution.

A discussant was also selected for each free paper presentation as well as the members of the panel discussion.

The committee deemed that no video presentation met the standard for presentation. There were also concerns that video presentations do not allow for submission to JVS.

After the free papers and case presentations were chosen the next 12 highest scoring abstracts were chosen for poster presentations. One was subsequently withdrawn and we have chosen not to replace that slot in order to give us a bit more time during the moderated poster session.

This year the program committee has created a new session, which consists of the top 3 poster presentations. The poster session will be moderated and judged. The top 3 posters will give podium presentations on Saturday morning.

President Huber thanked Chairman Moursi and the Program Committee for the work they did in putting together an outstanding program.

### **Audit Committee Report**

President Huber appointed the following members to the Audit Committee at the opening session of the Annual Meeting: Hernan Bazan, Ehab Sorial, and Patrick Stone. Dr. Bazan was present and gave an oral report. The financial data that was supplied to the Audit Committee by Secretary-Treasurer Endean was reviewed. The financial status of the Association appears to be strong and the books are in order.

### **Constitution and Bylaws Committee**

Constitution and By-Laws Chair Goldman was present and provided an oral report. Due to the potential increase of Candidate Membership that will exceed the 100-member limit as specified by the current bylaws, the proposed change to the bylaws is to delete the sentence "Candidate membership shall be open to 100 members." This change was included in the fall newsletter and the change was also made available to the membership during the meeting:

"The membership shall consist of active, senior, honorary, candidate and corresponding members.

Active membership shall be open to 200 members. Corresponding membership shall be limited in number to 25% of the active membership."

Active members shall automatically become senior members of the Association when they have held membership for 15 years or have reached the age of 60. Senior members shall have all the privileges of active members. Honorary members shall be elected from time to time, but shall not be eligible for election as officers or councilors. Candidate and corresponding members shall not be eligible for election as officers or councilors.

A motion was made to accept the changes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

### **Membership Committee**

Membership Committee Chairman Lin was not present and Secretary-Treasurer Endean gave his report. Applicants are considered based on two categories: a) Active Member Applications, and b) Candidate Member Applications. Recommendations regarding these applicants were based on inputs from SAVS Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Eric Endean, and members of the SAVS Membership Committee including Drs. Peter Lin, Larry Sprouse, and John Rectenwald.

Regarding Active Member Applications, a total of 34 physicians requested membership applications. Among them, 15 physicians completed their applications, and all of them met the membership criteria. The Membership Committee therefore recommends all of these 15 physicians to be accepted in the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery. The names of these physicians in the Active Member Applications category are listed on page 5.

The Executive Council approved all applicants for Active membership.

Regarding Candidate Member Applications, a total of 60 physicians requested membership applications, and 38 physicians submitted complete applications. Among them, 35 physicians met the candidate membership criteria. The Membership Committee therefore recommends all of these 35 physicians to be accepted in the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery. The names of these physicians in the Candidate Member Applications category are listed on page 5.

Three physicians with Candidate Membership Applications did not meet the eligibility criteria as they are currently residing in states outside the geographic regions of SAVS. Additionally, these physicians are currently general surgery residents who are scheduled to enter vascular surgery fellowship at a later date. The Membership Committee recommends that their applications to be deferred to 2014-2015 until they are relocated within the geographic regions of SAVS when they start their vascular surgery fellowship training.

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## Annual Business Meeting (continued from previous page)

The Executive Council approved the recommended applicants for Candidate membership and also approved deferring membership for the three applicants who are currently residing out of the Southern Vascular geographic area.

### Recorders Report

Recorder Edwards was present and provided the following oral report.

As of January 13, 2014 a total of 28/37 possible manuscripts from presented clinical papers, basic science papers, case reports, videos, and the Presidential address were submitted for publication to the *Journal of Vascular Surgery* from the 2013 SAVS Annual Meeting. Notably, 19/19 Free Paper manuscripts have been submitted as were the Founders' Award paper and the Presidential address. Three of the four Basic Science presentations, two of the eight case reports, two of four video presentations, and five of the twelve posters resulted in manuscripts that were submitted to *the Journal of Vascular Surgery* for review.

As of January 4<sup>th</sup>, 79% of the manuscripts with a complete editorial decision were accepted for publication including 81% of the Free Papers. Three free paper submissions have been revised according to editorial review and are still under consideration by *the Journal*. Dr. Taylor's Presidential Address and the Timothy String President's Award paper addressing percutaneous endovascular aortic aneurysm repair (first author Peter Nelson) were accepted for publication. Unfortunately, the Founder's award paper from the group at University of South Florida was rejected by *the Journal* after editorial review. Three free paper submissions, one case report submission, and one poster-based submission were rejected by the *Journal of Vascular Surgery* following complete review. One basic science manuscript was withdrawn by the authors during the review process. A complete breakdown of the various submissions is provided in the table at the end of this report. All Invited Discussions and Authors' Responses were transcribed, collected, edited, and submitted to the Journal. I would like to thank my support staff (Ms. Wendy Reedy and Mrs. Johnnie Gentry) and Ms. Crystal Gilliam from the Editorial Office of the *Journal* for her assistance in transcribing, collating, tracking, and processing all of the submissions.

The winner of the 2014 Founder's Award will be awarded to Dr. Kenneth DeSart from the University of Florida (senior author Scott Berceci) for his paper entitled "Systems based analysis of p27kip1 as the driver for pathologic vein graft remodeling." The 2014 S. Timothy String President's Award for the outstanding paper at our annual meeting will be selected after review of the manuscripts corresponding to the best presentations from this meeting as identified by a Committee comprised of President-elect Ali AbuRahma, Program Committee Chairman Mohammed Moursi, Secretary Eric Endean and myself. We anticipate having that decision finalized within the next 6-8 weeks.

Earlier today, a total of 35 Examinees took the Mock Oral Examinations with an overall pass rate of 47%. We again utilized the updated VSB scoring guidelines and provided immediate post exam one-on-one feedback from the examiner teams for the examinees regarding their examination performance. An itemized breakdown of the individual results will be sent to each of the Examinees and their respective Program Directors as well as a detailed summary of their

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## NEW ACTIVE MEMBERS

Juan Ayerdi, MD, Macon, GA  
Carlos Bechara, MD, Houston, TX  
Jayer Chung, MD, Dallas, TX  
Alexander Hou, MD, Ashland, KY  
Melissa Kirkwood, MD, Dallas, TX  
Christopher LeCroy, MD, Pensacola, FL  
Mahmoud Malas, MD, Baltimore, MD  
Daniel Martin, MD, Albany, GA  
Jeffrey Pearce, MD, Athens, GA  
Ravi Rajani, MD, Atlanta, GA  
Michael Rohrer, MD, Memphis, TN  
Salvatore Scali, MD, Gainesville, FL  
Edic Stephanian, MD, Garland, TX  
Britt Tonnessen, MD, Charleston, SC  
Stephen White, MD, Shreveport, LA

## CANDIDATE MEMBERSHIP

Ryan Abdul-Haqq, MD  
Marcus Barber, MD  
Andrea Barker, MD  
Ryan Buckley, MD  
Christopher Busken, MD  
John Craig, MD  
Francis Cuozzo, MD  
Daniel Daneshfar, MD  
Saga Gandhi, MD  
Gurpreet Gill, MD  
George Hipp, MD  
Arsalla Islam, MD  
Kelly Kempe, MD  
Anne Klemens, MD  
Martyn Knowles, MD  
Issam Koleilat, MD  
Linda Le, MD  
Allen Lee, MD  
Joseph Liechty, MD  
Chandler Long, MD  
Mark Lytle, MD  
Jesus Matos, MD  
Erin Moore, MD  
Sourabh Mukherjee, MD  
Nathan Orr, MD  
Adam Richter, MD  
Melanie Rose, MD  
Reagan Ross, MD  
Jeanie Ruddy, MD  
Joseph Stinson, MD  
Vincent Sudimak, MD  
Richard Teed, MD  
Erik Wayne, MD  
David Williams, MD  
H. Richard Yoon, MD

## Annual Business Meeting (continued from previous page)

performance on the examination. The SAVS Mock Oral Exam represents the largest such exercise in the United States for our specialty and our organization has been asked to discuss this program at the upcoming Vascular Annual Meeting.

The Mock Oral Examinations will again be given at the 2015 Annual Meeting. Given the logistics difficulties that have occurred with our last minute efforts to accommodate demand, we are proposing a number of changes to the registration process for future examinations. With the generous support of W.L. Gore, we are planning to maintain the examinee pool at 30, anticipating slightly lower demand for the examination at our western locale next year. We propose 1) to discuss the examination number at each June executive council meeting to set the examination numbers to try and meet projected demand at each upcoming meeting, 2) to establish a firm cutoff date for registration at least 30 days in advance of the meeting date, 3) to establish a priority system for accepting examinees (Candidates with a scheduled certifying examination within the year following the meeting will be first priority followed by Candidate members and resident/fellows in their final year of training), 4) to require each examinee to register for the meeting, and 5) to establish a nominal fee for the exercise for non-candidate members. We will continue to update the excellent examination materials assembled by Drs. Naslund, Taylor, and Huber and encourage any member with high quality case materials or images to please send them to me at [medwards@wakehealth.edu](mailto:medwards@wakehealth.edu) for inclusion. Letters of invitation for the 2015 Mock Orals will be sent out to the Program Directors in the geographic regions represented by the SAVS and to all appropriate Candidate Members and/or Vascular Surgical Fellows. Anyone interested in participating as an Examiner should contact me.

I would like to again formally thank Mr. Jeff Wiggins and Mr. Mel Loftis from W. L. Gore for providing yet another expanded pool of scholarships to offset the Examinees travel expenses and for their continued support in 2014. Furthermore, I would like to formally thank the Examiners that participated in the exercise, especially those who stepped in to fill the roster in late January to allow us to expand the pool to meet demand from our trainees and recent graduates. Clearly, the exercise would not have been possible without their efforts.

The content of the SAVS website has been updated and all the links searched to confirm that the information is accurate. The website is being actively managed by PRRI.

## Continuing Medical Education Committee Report

Continuing Medical Education Committee Chair Pearl was present and provided an oral report.

The Continuing Education Committee consisting of David Cull, Geoffrey Risley, Eric Endean and myself met by conference call on 5/9/13. Topics discussed for the post-graduate course topic included cerebrovascular disease, lower extremity disease - endo and open; employment models for physicians; dialysis, and venous disease. The committee reviewed prior Post-graduate course topics and topics of interest as identified through member surveys. Venous disease and vascular, with an emphasis on practical application to everyday practice was chosen. The Committee identified experts in the field to be invited speakers, focusing on the expertise within the Southern region.

Earlier today, I presided over the 2014 Post Graduate Course entitled: "Current Therapies for the Treatment of Venous Disease and Dialysis Access". Topics of interest were selected from surveys of the membership and selected for presentation based on their clinical importance and applicability to problems typically encountered by the practicing clinician.

The learning objectives of the Postgraduate Course are to:

- Discuss treatment modalities for venous disease and dialysis access
- Debate open versus endovascular treatments
- Describe current treatment options and protocols
- Employ and develop treatment options for clinical practices

President Huber thanked Chairman Pearl and the committee for the excellent Post-graduate program.

## Special Recognition

President Huber recognized and commended Councilor-at-Large W. Charles Sternbergh II, MD of New Orleans, LA for his three years of service. Councilor-at-Large Sternberg was presented a plaque commemorating his efforts.

## Unfinished Business

President Huber called for unfinished business and entertained none.

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### Summary of SAVS Annual Meeting 2013:

NOTES: S. Timothy String Award (submitted and accepted by the *Journal of Vascular Surgery*) / \* Three manuscripts remain in review. Acceptance rate of 81% for papers with complete editorial process.

Manuscript Type	Total #	# Submit	% Submit	# Accept	% Accept	# Reject	% Reject	# Review	% Review
Free Paper	19	19	100	13	68*	3	16	3	16
Basic Science	4	3	75	2	67	0	0	0	0
Case	8	2	25	1	50	1	50	0	0
Presidential	1	1	100	1	100	0	0	0	0
Founder's	1	1	100	0	0	1	100	0	0
Video	4	2	50	2	100	0	0	0	0
Poster	12	5	42	4	80	1	20	0	0
Totals	49	33	67	23	70	6	18	3	9

## Annual Business Meeting (continued from previous page)

### New Business

President Huber called for unfinished business and entertained none.

### Nominating Committee Report

Past President Rush and Chairman of the Nominating Committee provided a report of the Nominating Committee. He first recognized outgoing President Huber and thanked him for the service he provided to the Association for the past year. President Huber was presented with a commemorative gavel plaque while at the podium. Additionally, a Southern Association for Vascular Surgery commemorative captain's chair and silver Revere bowl engraved with the seal of the Association have been sent to President Huber's home.

The Nominating Committee consisted of Past Presidents Rush, Eidt and Taylor. The following slate of officers for 2014 was presented to the membership:

**President:**

Ali F. AbuRahma, Charleston, WV

**President-Elect:**

Scott L. Stevens, Knoxville, TN

**Secretary-Treasurer:**

Eric D. Endean, Lexington, KY

**Recorder:**

Matthew S. Edwards, Winston-Salem, NC

**Councilor-at-Large (2015):**

James H. Black, III, Baltimore, MD

**Councilor-at-Large (2016):**

Cynthia K. Shortell, Durham, NC

**Councilor-at-Large (2017):**

Gilbert R. Upchurch, Jr., Charlottesville, VA

**Representative to the SVS Executive Council:**

John William Hallett, Charleston, SC

There were no further nominations from the floor. President Huber asked for a motion of approval and the slate was unanimously approved by the membership. President Huber then installed Ali AbuRahma as the 38<sup>th</sup> President of The Southern Association for

Vascular Surgery and passed him the Matas and Nashville gavels. President-elect AbuRahma graciously accepted his role as President and expressed his thanks for the honor of serving. He recognized the contributions of President Huber.

President AbuRahma announced the following committee appointments for 2014-2015:

**Budget and Finance Committee:**

Ali Azizzadeh (Chairman),  
Mell Burrell Welborn, III, Mark G. Davies

**Constitution and By-Laws Committee:**

Mitchell H. Goldman, Eric D. Endean

**Government Relations Committee:**

Leila Mureebe,

**Archivist:**

Maureen K. Sheehan

**Local Arrangements Committee:**

Samuel R. Money

**Membership Committee:**

L. Richard Sprouse II (Chairman)  
John E. Rectenwald, Marc A. Passman, Eric D. Endean

**Program Committee:**

Eugene M. Langan III (Chairman)  
Scott A. Berceci, Patrick A. Stone, Eric D. Endean

**Continuing Medical Education Committee:**

David L. Cull, (Chairman)  
Geoffrey L. Risley, Mark A. Farber, Eric D. Endean

**Communications Committee:**

Ravi K. Veeraswamy (Chairman)

There being no further business, the 2014 Annual Business Meeting of The Southern Association for Vascular Surgery was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eric D. Endean, MD  
Secretary-Treasurer

## SPORTING EVENT WINNERS

### 5k RUN

1<sup>st</sup> Place Female: Jill Zink (24:28)  
1<sup>st</sup> Place Male: David Cull (24:28)

### TENNIS TOURNAMENT

1<sup>st</sup> Place Female: Indira Chervu  
1<sup>st</sup> Place Male: Hernan Bazan

### GOLF TOURNAMENT

1<sup>st</sup> Place Foursome: L. Richard Sprouse  
Trey Sprouse  
Ryan Sprouse  
Mark Fugate  
Closest to the Pin: L. Richard Sprouse  
Longest Drive: Mark Fugate



## Photo Highlights from the 2014 Annual Meeting



Please visit the SAVS website: [www.savs.org](http://www.savs.org) for additional photos from the 2014 Annual Meeting.

### **THANK YOU** to the following companies for their support:

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**2015 ANNUAL MEETING**

The 39th Annual Meeting of The Southern Association for Vascular Surgery will be held January 14 – 17, 2015 at Fairmont Scottsdale Princess, in Scottsdale, AZ. 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.

**Abstracts**

All abstract submissions will be on-line at <http://savs.vascularweb.org>. For additional information please contact the Association's Administrative Office, 500 Cummings Center, Suite 4550, Beverly, MA 01915 (978) 927-8330 / Fax: (978) 524-0498. Submission deadline for abstracts for the 2015 Annual Meeting is Tuesday, September 2, 2014.

**S. Timothy String President's Award**

The S. Timothy String President's Award will recognize the best overall paper presented during the 2015 Annual Meeting. The award consists of \$5000 and will be presented at the 2016 Annual Meeting at the Ritz-Carlton in Cancun, Mexico.

**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 \$5,000, will be presented at the 39th Annual Meeting in Scottsdale. Eligibility is extended to programs located in states comprising the membership of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery.

**Postgraduate Course on a Current Vascular Topic**

A postgraduate course will be held on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 and will feature a current vascular topic to be decided. Please contact the SAVS office at (978) 927-8330 or [savs@prri.com](mailto:savs@prri.com) for further details.

**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. Individuals interested in either taking the examination or serving as an examiner should contact Dr. Matthew Edwards at (336) 713-5256 or [medwards@wfbmc.edu](mailto:medwards@wfbmc.edu).

**Guests**

Members who wish to invite non-member physicians as their guests should contact the office of Eric D. Endean, MD, Department of Surgery, University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center, 800 Rose Street, Lexington, KY 40536-0293, (859) 323-6346 x243 / [edende0@uky.edu](mailto:edende0@uky.edu). Invited guests will receive a letter of invitation and the necessary reservation forms, as well as meeting information.

**Active, Candidate, and Corresponding Memberships**

If you wish to sponsor a colleague for SAVS Membership, an application form 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 (the bylaws allow for up to 10% of members to reside outside the geographical area of the SAVS);
2. Applicants must have been in practice for three years, be certified by the American Board of Surgery (ABS) and/or the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, with Fellowship in the American College of Surgeons, and, with rare exception, be graduated from an approved vascular surgery training program and be certified by the Vascular Surgery Board of the ABS;
3. Applicants not certified by the Vascular Surgery Board of the ABS 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 following completion of training.

**Qualifications for Corresponding Membership:**

1. Corresponding membership consists of those surgeons residing outside the United States recommended by the Executive Council.
2. Applicants must meet the requirements for Active Membership in Article I, Section 5(a) of the bylaws.
3. Certification in Vascular Surgery from the American Board of Surgery or its equivalent is highly desirable.
4. The application must be accompanied by letter of sponsorship (1) and endorsement (2) by three members in good standing of the Association. All application materials should then be returned to the office of the Secretary-Treasurer, Eric D. Endean, MD, Department of Surgery, University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center, 800 Rose Street, Lexington, KY 40536-0293, (859) 323-6346x243 / [edende0@uky.edu](mailto:edende0@uky.edu)

## From the President

(continued from page one)

their time in this important task and W. L. Gore for their generous support of this endeavor. In fact, we have been asked to discuss this program at the upcoming Vascular Annual Meeting.

One of the highlights of this meeting was the impressive scientific sessions covering important topics in vascular/endovascular treatment. Thank you, Dr. Moursi, for a job well done. In fact, we should all be very proud of our scientific sessions over the past several years, especially since our society continues to have the highest acceptance rate for publication in the *Journal of Vascular Surgery* of all of the regional vascular societies. Of course, another highlight was the Presidential Address on *Professionalism and the Work-Life Balance* by Dr. Tom Huber. What a timely address for all of us and future generations in vascular surgery. I presume this is the life of a vascular surgeon, which all of us cherish.

I also want to thank Dr. Huber for choosing two of our vascular surgery leaders for awards and commend them for their outstanding presentations. Dr. Lazar Greenfield was awarded The Rudolph Matas Lifetime Achievement Award and Dr. Gerald Zelenock was awarded The Jesse E. Thompson, M.D. Distinguished Guest Lecturer Award. Dr. Zelenock's topic was *Trends in Vascular Surgery Education and Practice: A Nod to the Past and a Wave to the Future*.

I have been a member of the SAVS for 24 years, and after serving on the Executive Council, Budget Committee, and Program Committee over the past ten years, it is indeed an honor to serve as President of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery. As we embark on this new year, I am looking forward to working together with all of you to keep our Society strong and vibrant and to seeing all of you at the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting on January 14-17, 2015 at the Fairmont Scottsdale Princess in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Finally, on behalf of the Executive Council and myself, I would like to thank our industrial partners for their generous support for this activity.

## SVS FOUNDATION PARTNERS WITH VASCULAR CURES WYLIE SCHOLAR PROGRAM

The SVS Foundation is now partnering with Vascular Cures on its Wylie Scholar Program (<http://vascularcures.org/research/wylie-scholar-program>). The Wylie Scholar Program provides a crucial career development award to outstanding surgeon-scientists conducting innovative academic research. This three-year, \$150,000, grant is awarded to one promising vascular surgeon-scientist in North America annually. Vascular Cures established the Wylie Scholar Program in 1996. The partnership with SVS Foundation reflects the shared commitment of both organizations to advancing the field through development of the next generation of leading vascular surgeon-scientists.

The Vascular Cures Wylie Scholar Program created a network of 16 talented surgeon-scientists at 13 institutions around the country who are transforming patient care and who have become leaders in vascular surgery and research at major medical centers. This award has played an important role in the awardees' careers. They have, on average, received \$2.8 million in subsequent national research funding! To learn more about the impact of the Wylie Scholar Program visit (<http://vascularcures.org/research/wylie-scholar-program>).

The SVS Foundation supports a comprehensive grant program. Learn more about SVS Foundation awards at [SVSFoundationsite.org](http://SVSFoundationsite.org).

### 2014 Founders' Award



**Kenneth DeSart, MD**  
University of Florida, Gainesville

***Systems Based Analysis of p27kip1 as the Driver for Pathologic Vein Graft Remodeling***

### S. Timothy String Award



**Salvatore T. Scali**  
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

***Critical Analysis of the Mid-term Results after Chimney EVAR: Cause for Concern***

# CALL FOR ABSTRACTS/ VIDEOS

DEADLINE: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2014, 11:59 p.m. EDT

Go to [www.savs.org](http://www.savs.org) for further information and to submit your abstract(s).

Abstracts can be submitted as a:

- Free Paper
- Case Report
- Video

Abstracts are limited to 500 words unless being submitted for the Founders' Award, which allows for an extended abstract of no more than 1,500 words.

## VIDEO SUBMISSION

If submitting a video, you MUST submit an abstract via the abstract submission site. All submissions must include an abstract with a maximum of 500 words. Videos may not exceed 5 minutes in length. Complete submission guidelines can be found online at [www.savs.org](http://www.savs.org).

## RESIDENT POSTER COMPETITION

For abstracts to be considered as a part of the Resident Poster Competition, the author must meet all of the following criteria:

1. The author is a Resident at the time of submission.
2. The Resident must be the first author on the paper.
3. The author will be present at the 39th Annual Meeting should the paper be accepted.

Any abstracts accepted as a participant in the Resident Poster Competition will be eligible for cash prizes.

Abstracts not selected for the Resident Poster Competition Presentation are still eligible for inclusion within the general scientific program. Only one abstract submission is necessary.

## ABSTRACT AWARD OPPORTUNITIES

### S. TIMOTHY STRING PRESIDENT'S AWARD

The 2015 award will consist of \$5,000 and will be presented at the 40th Annual Meeting, January 13-16, 2016, at The Ritz-Carlton, Cancun in Cancun, Mexico.

#### Eligibility

Eligibility for this award includes ALL ACTIVE MEMBERS. The President's Award Committee will choose the best overall manuscript from those presented at the 2015 Annual Meeting. To be eligible for the award, an abstract must be accepted by the Program Committee for presentation during the Scientific Sessions. A manuscript, suitable for publication in the *Journal of Vascular Surgery*, is required at the time of presentation. Someone other than the member may present the accepted paper, but the member must close the discussion. The quality of the presentation and discussion are major considerations for the award.

#### Manuscript

The content of the manuscript must represent original work relating to clinical material, clinical research, or basic investigation on peripheral arterial, venous or lymphatic disease. The material must not have been presented,

submitted, or published elsewhere. The manuscript should be prepared according to the *Journal of Vascular Surgery* guidelines.

### FOUNDERS' AWARD

The 2015 award will consist of \$5,000 and will be presented at this year's meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona.

#### Submission Guidelines

An Extended Abstract not to exceed 1,500 words, representing original research on a basic science or clinical vascular subject should be submitted by a Trainee (student, resident or fellow) currently in a program located in one of the states comprising the membership of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery.

The material must concern peripheral arterial, venous or lymphatic disease and must not have been presented, submitted or published elsewhere. A manuscript suitable for publication in the *Journal of Vascular Surgery* will be required at the time of presentation. Judging will be based on the quality of the extended abstract and the submitting author will be notified prior to this year's meeting.

## VASCULAR SURGERY MOCK ORAL EXAMINATIONS

In an effort to prepare Candidate Members and Vascular Surgery Fellows in training from the SAVS region for the Vascular Surgery Qualifying Examination, Mock Oral Examinations are planned for the 2015 Annual Meeting on Wednesday, January 14th. These mock oral examinations will be organized by Dr. Matthew S. Edwards. Broad participation from the SAVS membership is needed to provide the best examination possible. If you are interested in serving as an Examiner, please email Dr. Edwards at [medwards@wfubmc.edu](mailto:medwards@wfubmc.edu).