



# THE SURGEON

NEWS BULLETIN PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ABDOMINAL SURGEONS, INC.

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JANUARY 2017

## 55th Clinical Congress held November 4–6, 2016 in Tampa, Florida

The American Society of Abdominal Surgeons, Inc. provides a highly diversified continuing medical education program associated with the specialty of abdominal surgery for physicians and other healthcare professionals. This year's program offered not only discussions on surgical practice and procedures but included talks on the multidisciplinary approach to the treatment of patients during pre-surgery and post-surgery. Designed to raise the standards of surgical practice and procedures, bridge learning gaps, reinforce strategies learned by medical professionals, and improve the safety and care of the surgical patient, the 55th Clinical Congress proved to be another success.

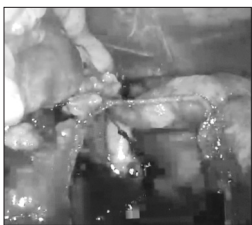


This year, participants represented six countries and included a blend of surgeons, residents, medical staff and medical students.



The hallmarks of the program were outstanding live, interactive surgery; hands-on task training; didactic learning opportunities; and round table discussions with peers on relevant surgical practices and procedures.

The Friday morning program began with live-televised-interactive surgery at Florida Hospital Tampa-Pepin Heart & Research Institute. Attendees were able to rotate through the O.R. observation room to view two live surgeries: Robotic Distal Pancreatectomy and Splenectomy and Laparoscopic Nissen Fundoplication.



The afternoon round-table discussions provided a terrific opportunity for attendees to engage in Q&A and network with peers. The program further enhanced participation and improved clinician learning through task training, enabling attendees to

gain first-hand experience on the use of a robotic simulator dual console. The demonstration focused on transoral incisionless fundoplication for GERDS followed by an interactive operative video and Q&A Session to round out the Friday afternoon program. The Society hosted a "Welcome Reception" at the hotel for all attendees and their guests at the close of Friday's program.

The Saturday and Sunday educational lectures were held at the Embassy Suites Downtown Convention Center. Round table discussions and lectures on related disciplines of medicine provided

lively Q&A and networking opportunities. After the adjournment of Saturday's program, attendees and guests road the trolley to the world famous Columbia Restaurant in Ybor City to enjoy an evening filled with fine cuisine and a thrilling Flamenco dance show. Founded in 1905 by Cuban immigrant Casimiro Hernandez, Sr., the Columbia Restaurant is Florida's oldest restaurant and the largest Spanish restaurant in the world.



**Distinguished Service Award presented to Dr. Scott F. Gallagher**  
Each year The American Society of Abdominal Surgeons, Inc. recognizes and awards a plaque for Distinguished Service to a doctor, who has dedicated himself to quality patient care, outstanding contributions in teaching and research and commitment to the

educational endeavors of the American Society of Abdominal Surgeons, Inc. This year, the Society awarded this plaque to Dr. Scott F. Gallagher, Founding Director of Novant Acute Care Surgery Program at Novant Health Forsyth Medical Center in Greensborough, North Carolina. Dr. Gallagher has been a valued conference lecturer and participant of ASAS in past years.

## ASAS Director of CME Steps Down after 16 Years

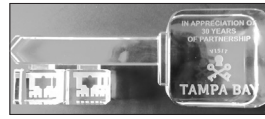
During the 55th Clinical Congress, it was announced that Diane Pothier would be stepping down from her long-time position as Director of CME. The American Society of Abdominal Surgeons presented Diane with a certificate of appreciation for her tireless dedication in providing members with quality service and excellence in Continuing Medical Education Programs. Diane will not be stepping totally away as she plans to remain with the Society in a part-time role. Darlene M. Janis was appointed by the Society to serve as the new Director of CME.



**American Board of Abdominal Surgery, Inc. acknowledges and congratulates Dr. Leonidas R. Ahumada and Dr. Win Maw Kyi**  
The American Board of Abdominal Surgery, Inc. would like to acknowledge and congratulate Dr. Leonidas R. Ahumada and Dr. Win Maw Kyi for completion of their Re-certification as Diplomates of the American Board of Abdominal Surgery, Inc. at the 55th Clinical Congress in Tampa, Florida, November 4, 2016. We strongly recommend that all Diplomates of our Board, re-certify every ten years in order to maintain the highest of professional standards in the practice of abdominal surgery.

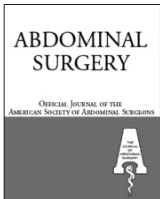
We are now accepting applications for both certification examinations and re-certification oral interviews for the American Board of Abdominal Surgery, Inc. The American Board of Abdominal Surgery offers comprehensive examinations both written and oral, to strengthen the proficiency of surgeons in all phases of diagnostics and surgery within the abdominal cavity. The examination covers the basic sciences, anatomy, physiology, pathology, radiology and clinical surgery in the abdominal cavity, its walls and orifices including gynecologists, vascular surgeons, urologists and possibly other medical fields performing at least 51% of their surgery in the abdominal cavity.

The American Society of Abdominal Surgeons, Inc. receives special commendation from the City of Tampa Bay



The Society was awarded a “crystal key” by the City of Tampa Bay in October 2016 in appreciation for 30 Years of Partnership promoting awareness of continuing medical education. The Society hosts its annual clinical congress in Tampa, bringing physicians and other medical professionals together to participate in cutting edge CME programs while they and guests also have an opportunity to experience the city’s local charm and history.

**We will continue to bring physicians the best-of-the-best in cutting edge learning experiences.**



**ASAS Journal “Call For Abstracts”:** Authors are welcome to submit abstracts for the 2017 annual Medical Journal of the American Society of Abdominal Surgeons, Inc. The journal is distributed to our members in good standing and to selected medical school libraries, teaching hospitals and larger hospitals throughout the country. Guidelines for Authors can be found on the ASAS web site <http://www.abdominalsurg.org/guide.html>.

#### Other ASAS and ABAS News

Fellows of the American Society of Abdominal Surgeons and Diplomates of the American Board of Abdominal Surgery can assist us in keeping these organizations strong by forwarding newsletters and emails, posting registrations in the doctor’s lounge and inviting colleagues to our world class conferences. A discounted rate is available to the new colleague registering for conferences and the referring physician will receive a \$50 discount per colleague who registers. Colleagues can sign up on our website to receive email notification of future meetings.

**“Spread the Word!!”** Join our mmail list For meetings & newsletter by simply visiting [www.abdominalsurg.org](http://www.abdominalsurg.org) or send an email request to [office@abdominalsurg.org](mailto:office@abdominalsurg.org).

#### **FUTURE MEETINGS**

##### **56<sup>TH</sup> Clinical Congress**

November 3–5, 2017  
Tampa, Florida

##### **57<sup>TH</sup> Clinical Congress**

November 2–4, 2018  
Tampa, Florida



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