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From the PRESIDENT'S DESK

Michael J. Jacobs, MD, FICS

In June, the United States Section held its 78th Annual Surgical Update in Troy, Michigan located in the beautiful Southeast part of my home state. The designated theme of the meeting was "Complex Surgery in a Minimally Invasive Era" and sessions that were presented included content that focused on this theme.

The sessions were well attended and based on a preliminary review of the submitted evaluations; the scientific program was rated positively by attendees. During the meeting we were privileged to have several very special guests who made extremely interesting and informative presentations. Following is a short review of who made our meeting special and what you missed if you weren't at the meeting.

On Thursday during the Opening Session, we began with a Keynote presentation by Dr. Mark Orringer the distinguished Thoracic Surgeon and Professor from the University of Michigan who presented, "Transhiatal vs Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy - Value Added?" I am extremely delighted that Dr. Orringer accepted my invitation to join us. He was certainly the right person to kick off our scientific program and everyone in the room seemed to echo this sentiment.

Following Dr. Orringer's keynote lecture was our Annual Research Scholarship competition where four residents and one medical student orally presented their research that was previously evaluated by the Scholarship Committee. After all scores were tabulated (for both written and oral presentation of the data) the winners were identified. It is my pleasure to congratulate Dr. Ahizechukwu C. Eke from Michigan State University who won the Grand Prize for his paper entitled, "Intrauterine Cleaning After Placental Delivery at Cesarean Section: A Randomized Controlled Trial." Also of note is the runner up, who was a medical student when she submitted her paper earlier this year and is now a MD from the University of Kentucky in Lexington, Dr. Sooyeon Kim. Her presentation of "Efficacy and Cost Effectiveness of Iliac Stenting in the Operating Room and Cath Lab" prompted quite a bit of discussion and was deserving of an award. Special thanks and congratulations are extended to the other competitors as well for a job well-done.

The final session of the day focused on the future of Resident Education. During this session I was tremendously grateful that my mentor and former ICS US Section President, Dr. Vijay Mittal honored us with his presence and presented, "Surgical Simulation for the 21st Century, a Necessity for Future Surgeons." The information he presented was a true eye-opener for us all. It looks like the world of surgery will need to change in order to keep pace with technology and further improve patient care.

Friday and Saturday included several sessions that were focused on a variety of surgical specialties and included not only members of the US Section and local invited speakers from Michigan, but also several colleagues from other ICS Sections around the world. On Friday we started with a presentation by Professor

From the President's Desk (continued from front)

Clement Chan from Hong Kong who presented, "Fertility Preservation Surgeries 2016" and then later that morning Dr. Frank Schultze from Germany presented, "Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy in Portal Vein Thrombosis and Cavernous Transformation." Both these individuals are members of the ICS International Executive Council and their participation and friendship is appreciated. On Saturday our international guests included, Professor Hisakazu Yamagishi from Japan and Dr. Karl-Heinz Dietl from Germany. Their respective presentations, "A Novel Method for Esophagectomy" and "Acute Visceral Vascular Emergencies" added significant value to each of the sessions in which they participated. I extend my thanks to each of them for joining us. Our final international guest to present was none other than our ICS World President, Professor Yik-Hong Ho from Australia. Professor Ho made the long trip from Australia again this year and presented, "Global Surgery and the WHO/Adapted Surgical Safety Checklist" during our Global Surgery session that wrapped the meeting on Saturday afternoon. The increased focus of both the US Section and the ICS World Body on Global Surgery is an important part of the future of our organization and we all thank Professor Ho for his leadership to help take ICS forward into the 21st century.

A major component of the meeting was presented on Saturday during the HPB Symposium where speakers and participants came from around the country and around the world. A fair number of local participants joined the US Section to get a comprehensive overview of topics related to HPB surgery, including the use of minimally invasive techniques for both common and complex procedures.

As part of the Symposium, this year's recipient of the Dr. Andre Crotti Award for Distinguished Service to the Profession of Surgery made a special lunchtime presentation entitled, "Reflections on Three and One Half Decades of Necrotizing Pancreatitis." The Crotti award was presented to Dr. Michael Sarr from the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota who in addition to his extensive work related to the treatment of Pancreatitis is also the long-time editor of the journal "Surgery." Following his presentation, Dr. Sarr was also given an ICS Honorary Fellowship to go along with the Crotti Award. Congratulations to Dr. Michael Sarr, our newest Honorary Fellow and a true friend who attended every session during the meeting and made himself available to one and all. Thank you so much for joining us in Troy.

Backing up a bit I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge our benefactor, Dr. Arno Roscher from California, who once again identified an outstanding speaker for his Endowed Lecture. On Friday afternoon the 8th annual Dr. Arno A. Roscher Endowed Lecture was presented by Jonathan Epstein, MD from the Perlman School of Medicine in

Philadelphia. His presentation entitled, "Regenerating the Broken Heart: Hope or Hype?" was mesmerizing and provided important information on a cutting edge topic that was a highlight of the meeting. Dr. Roscher has already secured his speaker for next year and we know that the presentation will once again be terrific. The US Section thanks 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 sessions 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 new Chair of the Board, Dr. Craig Clark, for his leadership and also Dr. Lucia Zamorano the Academy's Scientific Organizing Committee Chair who lead the development of these excellent sessions. Both are ICS Fellows and I appreciate their participation and hard work. Visit the Academy website at www.aanos.org to read about their sessions, speakers and activities in Troy.

Of course the entire meeting was not just about CME. On Friday the Honors Luncheon recognized New Fellows and acknowledged several other individuals. Included was the installation of my successor, Chand Ramaiah, who will officially take over on January 1, 2017 as the US Section's next President. Chand has already started working on his meeting in Seattle and based on what he has put together thus far the meeting promises to be extraordinary. We wrapped things up on Saturday night with a banquet that featured a famous local band, "Motor City Soul" that helped us celebrate a successful conference.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to all those who made this meeting a success – the members of the planning committee, the speakers, our families and of course the US Section staff from Chicago. I especially wish to thank all the local speakers for actively participating in our entire program. The more than 35 presentations by these colleagues from Providence Hospital as well as other local institutions in the Troy area 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 to make our College better and every member's input and assistance is important for us to be a success. **Your efforts 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.

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