



AAST NEWS

Spring/Summer 2022

President's Perspective

- David Livingston, M.D.

Rejuvenated and refreshed! A perfect sentiment both as spring is finally here and I am on the way home from the AAST program and board meetings. This allowed me, as well as the board, to see a preview of the outstanding research that will be presented at our meeting in Chicago in September. It also allows me to reflect on the amazing amount of work and activities that come from the various committees that comprise the AAST. And the best part was that entire process returned to an in-person event. How wonderful it was to catch up with the leadership outside of a Zoom window! It was like 2019 all over again.

One of the themes of my time as president was to further continue the AAST's path on greater transparency in the workings of the organization and greater inclusion of all members. During the better part of my three decades that I have been fortunate to be an AAST member, the relative



What's Inside

President's Perspective	1
Secretary/Treasurer's Status Update	2
2022 Grand Rounds	2
Notes from the Executive Director	3
Board of Managers	3
Memo from the Program Chair-Recorder	4
R&E Fund Call to Action	6
MIT Committee Spotlight	7
AAST Staff Contact Information	8

opaqueness of how the organization operated has not been an uncommon theme. Under the leadership of our recent past presidents, this veil has gradually lifted and while I am certain there is a long way to go, I would like to take this opportunity highlight some of the ways we have further pushed the process along.

The first change has been related to opening the process to join and participate in committees. In the past, many members felt that getting on a committee appeared random or "difficult". This process was changed, and committee participation is now open to one and all. What is needed is to fill out the committee request form and you will be assigned to a committee. While you may not get your first choice due to numbers and distribution, anyone who wants to participate and contribute is welcome. Of course, getting on the committee is only the first step. It is your contribution

Continued on page 4



Secretary Treasurer's Status Update

– Kimberly A. Davis, M.D., M.B.A.

The AAST Board of Managers held its spring meeting on April 6th, 2022, in Chicago. This was our first in-person board meeting in two years, other than that held at the annual meeting in Atlanta. Despite two years of the pandemic, the esprit de corps of the Board of Managers, committee leadership and committee membership is very apparent. I am pleased to report that the organization is in excellent financial shape, which positions us well to continue to support our missions. The AAST reserve investments, along with the Research and Education fund investments are also robust. Thanks to the generosity of our members, the corpus of the Research and Education fund is over \$5M. We are proud to announce that four scholarships will be offered by the AAST, totaling a \$200,000 commitment to supporting budding surgeon scientists. We thank our membership for your ongoing commitment to the next generation of Acute Care surgeon-scientists.

The Scholarship Committee is in the process of reviewing sixteen research applications that we received this year. As per usual, those with the highest scores after review will be invited to present their proposals to the committee. Stay tuned for our next newsletter for the announcement of the 2022-2023 winners. I would like to remind you that our winners from 2021-2022 scholarship awardees, Drs. Samuel Carmichael from Wake Forrest, Mehreen Kisat from the University of Wisconsin and Christine Leeper from the University of Pittsburgh will present their research along with Dr. Lisa Knowlton, Stanford University from 2020-2021 during the annual meeting in Chicago in September.

Mark your calendars for the 81st Annual Meeting of the AAST and Clinical Congress of Acute Care Surgery, occurring on September 21-24, 2022, in Chicago. We continue to be very grateful to our Executive Director, Sharon Gautschi, and her wonderful staff at the AAST central office, for all that they do to support the mission and vision of this incredible organization.

2022 Grand Rounds

Grand Rounds take place approximately once a month. Grand Round sessions occur on Wednesdays from 4:00-5:00 PM CST. To view the most up-to-date schedule visit, www.aast.org/grand-rounds-webinars.

Date: June 15, 2022
Topic: **Experts on the Hot Seat: Challenging Critical Care Cases**

Date: July 20, 2022
Topic: **Pediatric Disaster Readiness**

Date: August 17, 2022
Topic: **Healthcare Economics**

September - None, see you at the AAST meeting in Chicago!

Date: October 26, 2022
Topic: **Experts on the Hot Seat: Challenging Military Cases**

Date: November 16, 2022
Topic: **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

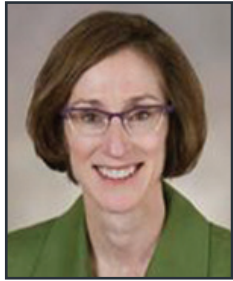
Date: December 14, 2022
Topic: **Associate Member Council**

Can't make a live Grand Round?

No worries – all Grand Rounds are archived and placed on the AAST website for viewing.

Scan the QR code below to learn more about TACS (Tools of Acute Care Surgery)





Memo from the Program Chair-Recorder

– Karen Brasel, M.D., M.P.H.

As I write this, I am sitting in the airport reviewing data for our upcoming Program Committee meeting next week (and hoping my flight is not further delayed). We had 480 abstracts submitted, from which we will choose 66 for oral presentation, 26 quickshots and 140 posters. We choose the best science, as adjudicated by the Program Committee, and also try to hear from as many people and institutions and possible. A single organization can have a maximum of three presentations from the podium: two oral presentations and one quickshot. Each person may only present one oral presentation. The AAST committees were also hard at work, submitting 50 proposals from which we will choose 12 lunch sessions, and 9 proposals for pre/optional sessions. AASTReview, the abstract mentorship program that was launched this year, had 12 mentees that requested mentorship with 16 AAST mentors that volunteered. I'm excited to see the results of this first year of the abstract mentorship program (spoiler alert—the preliminary results look fantastic!). Thanks to all who participated in helping junior members by reviewing, editing, and improving their abstracts ahead of submission. Also many, many thanks to Brea Sanders for her vision and commitment that brought this program into being!

It is abundantly clear that the 2022 AAST meeting in Chicago will be fantastic as the quality of the abstracts, lunch session proposals, and pre-session proposals submitted is outstanding. It definitely energizes and challenges me. to figure out

how we can continue to highlight all of the excellent work that is being done by our members and committees—if you've done the quick arithmetic in the above paragraph you know that we will be turning down some truly great content.

A reminder of the opportunity to volunteer—that is one of the ways that we will have chosen discussants and moderators for the meeting. This is YOUR organization, and we have room for everyone that wants to participate! The form is available on the AAST website. In addition, if you have suggestions for next year's program (hard to believe that's where we are already!) please feel free to contact me at any time.

Finally, a huge thank you to the Program Committee and the ad hoc consultants. Drs. Rachael Callcut, Susan Rowell, Tim Pritts, Jason Smith, Joseph Rappold, Christopher Michetti, Jonathan Meisozo, Kristan Staudenmayer, Ben Zarzaur. David Livingston, Kimberly Davis, Raul Coimbra, Eileen Bulger, Karyn Butler, Cherisse Berry, Jose Diaz, Tim Fabian, Susan Callahan, Lisa Knowlton, Ryan Dumas, David Zonies, Stephanie Bonne, and Aaron Jensen. THANK YOU!!!! They all reviewed more than a hundred abstracts each in teams of 4 or 5 and will be spending several hours reviewing and debating the results that the talented Rachel Sass has collated to create the best and most balanced program.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Chicago!

2021–2022 AAST BOARD OF MANAGERS

PRESIDENT

DAVID H. LIVINGSTON, MD
Rutgers-New Jersey Medical School
Newark, NJ

PRESIDENT-ELECT

EILEEN M. BULGER, M.D.
Harborview Medical Center
Seattle, WA

VICE PRESIDENT

ROXIE M. ALBRECHT, M.D.
University of Oklahoma
Health Science Center
Oklahoma City, OK

SECRETARY-TREASURER

KIMBERLY A. DAVIS, M.D., M.B.A.
Yale School of Medicine
New Haven, CT

RECORDER/PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON

KAREN J. BRASEL, M.D., M.P.H.
Oregon Health and Science University
Portland, OR

MANAGERS AT-LARGE

ROBERT J. WINCHELL, M.D.
New York-Presbyterian Weill Cornell
Medical Center
New York, NY

AJAI K. MALHOTRA, M.D., M.Sc., M.B.B.S.
University of Vermont Medical Center
Burlington, VT

JOSEPH M. GALANTE, M.D., M.B.A.
University of California, Davis
Sacramento, CA

CRITICAL CARE MANAGER AT-LARGE

CHRISTOPHER P. MICHETTI, M.D.
Inova Fairfax Hospital
Falls Church, VA

ACUTE CARE SURGERY

MANAGER AT-LARGE

STEPHANIE A. SAVAGE, M.D., M.Sc.
University of Wisconsin School of
Medicine and Public Health
Madison, WI

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

DAVID A. SPAIN, M.D.
Stanford University Medical Center
Stanford, CA

PAST PRESIDENTS

MARTIN A. CROCE, M.D.
University of Tennessee
Health Science Center
Memphis, TN

MICHAEL F. ROTONDO, M.D.
University of Rochester Medical Center
Rochester, NY



Notes from the Executive Director

– Sharon Gautschy

Spring is here and that means the AAST is in the middle of planning for the 81st Annual Meeting of AAST and Clinical Congress of Acute Care Surgery. Be sure to watch your email and check the website for the updated information.

Staying on the Annual Meeting theme, the Annual Meeting Scholarship system is open! Be sure to let your medical students, residents and in-training fellows know about this opportunity.

Have you signed up for TACS?! Be sure to check out the new AAST app for surgeons and other medical personnel. For more information see the TACS flyer in this newsletter.

We look forward to seeing you in Chicago! Remember, the most up-to-date information on AAST programs and events can be found at www.aast.org!



**81st ANNUAL MEETING of
AAST & Clinical Congress
of Acute Care Surgery**

**SAVE THE
DATE**

September 21- 24, 2022

CHICAGO

President's Perspective — continued from page 1

and participation that is noticed and will help, should you desire, to further leadership. So as we head into a new academic year, give some thought as to what committee you wish to be on and how you want to contribute to the AAST. You will be welcome.

The second change are the numerous volunteering opportunities we have created throughout the year. For some with limited time there are many “micro” volunteering opportunities with many committees. Multiple calls for volunteers for the upcoming annual meeting resulted in over three dozen members who will be invited discussants, poster professors or moderators. Another new and innovative opportunity was the creation of an abstract mentor program, AASTReview, to pair more senior members with those that wanted help with their abstract submission to the meeting. While only a minority of members chose to avail themselves of this initiative, those who did had an acceptance rate THREE TIMES greater than those who did not. While the p value may not be <0.05 due to small numbers (the classic Type II error), the program committee reviewed many abstracts with some crucial pieces of information missing that would have benefited from a “fresh pair of

eyes”. I am certain this initiative will grow in the future. Moreover, I know there is no better feeling than helping a junior colleague with an abstract that gets on a meeting and this initiative is just another excellent opportunity for more seasoned members to participate in the AAST.

Lastly and not to steal our esteemed Program Chair, Dr. Karen Brasel’s thunder, but I am incredibly excited about the program for our upcoming meeting. Under her leadership, the program is outstanding, diverse and includes the breadth and depth of our specialty. From the pre-sessions to the lunch sessions, papers to quickshots to posters, there is a wealth of educational material for everyone and demonstrates the best of what the AAST has to offer. We could not be in better hands under Dr. Brasel’s leadership.

As you can see there continues to be exciting changes ahead. Keep looking at the many and varied communications from the AAST for additional opportunities to get involved and to further understand the pathways to engagement and leadership. I continue to be honored and humbled to lead the AAST. Take care of yourselves and each other and best wishes on the close of this academic year.

2022 VIRTUAL JOB FAIR

American Association for the Surgery of Trauma (AAST), Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma (EAST), and Surgical Critical Care Program Directors Society (SCCPDS) will be hosting a virtual job fair November 10-11, 2022

VIRTUAL JOB FAIR

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH AT 9 AM TO 4 PM CST
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH AT 4 PM TO 9 PM CST

(times subject to change)



east

SCC
PDS



FOR JOB SEEKERS

There will be no charge to participate. The job fair is open to residents, in-training fellows, and junior faculty (within 5 years of finishing residency or fellowship). This will be an opportunity to engage with employers and leadership from respected institutions & universities, while also networking with your peers. Scan QR code to learn more.

FOR HIRING INSTITUTIONS

For the employer, this platform will give you the ability to broaden your reach for qualified candidates to fulfill multiple vacant positions by participating in this 2-day event. After the event, you will get a complete list of employers who visited the fair along with their contact information and CV.

In addition, your job postings will be hosted on all three association's career sections of their website! We have three package options that employers can choose from.

**SCAN HERE TO
LEARN MORE!**



Report of the Research and Education Fund Committee

More Ways To Make An Impact

– Andrew Bernard, M.D.

The AAST Research and Education Fund, Funds career – changing trauma research and brings students, residence, in-training fellows, and military colleagues to the annual meeting. These things, in turn, affect our patients-reducing death and disability from trauma. By giving your financial gifts, you make an impact. Over the next several months, we are going to provide you different ways to make an impact without financial strain:

- **Give Talent:** By contributing items or experiences to the annual REF Auction. Items/Experiences go on to make triple their value, tripling your gift to the REF. Contact me or Brea (breasanders@aast.org) to make a donation to the auction!
- **NEW! Give Time:** Industry to create opportunities for you to give your time, experience and expertise in trauma. By developing such strategic industry partnerships, AAST REF can take advantage of a membership that is accustomed to giving itself to patients and convert that into research and travel funding. More to come this year!
- **NEW! Financial Planning:** Making sure our families are taken care of after us is a luxury not all are able to attain. As an organization with access to financial counsel through the REF, we want to make sure our members have the same opportunity. The REF committee will be planning its first webinar focused on estate planning, charitable donations, and retirement planning this year with the help of our financial counsel.
- **Donate Appreciate Assets:** Check out this quarters donor spotlight.



DONOR SPOTLIGHT R&E FUND

Eric Ley, MD: Thanks to Dr. Ley's ingenuity AAST has a formalized process of donating stock options (and their value) to the AAST Research and Education Fund!

Maybe your stocks have appreciated greatly since you purchased them. Maybe a surge in value of one of your holdings has thrown your portfolio off balance. Maybe you just want to refocus on other investment categories. If you also give to charity, these scenarios should encourage you to review your investment portfolio with a donation strategy in mind.

Why? Because donating stock directly to charity is one of the most tax-smart ways to give!

- You can give more
- You can potentially reduce future capital gains
- You can give your portfolio a health check
- You can donate stocks without headaches with AAST



AAST MIT Committee Spotlight

– Joseph DuBose, M.D., MITC Chair

The AAST MITC continues to review and support the implementation of high-quality multicenter research efforts designed and led by our membership. Several great efforts are being developed that are open to enrollment and support from fellow AAST members. In this newsletter, we highlight one specific effort we hope you will consider contributing to.

TRAUMATIC INJURY IN PREGNANCY

Traumatic injury occurs in approximately 6-8.3% of pregnancies and it is the leading cause of non-obstetrical maternal death, accounting for 20-46% of maternal deaths during pregnancy. Efforts to examine the important clinical parameters associated with traumatic injury in pregnancy are hindered by limited sample sizes at individual institutions and lack of granular detail in TQUIP data. The American Association for the Surgery of Trauma invites you to join a new multi-institutional trial to evaluate traumatic injury in pregnancy. The aim is to build a robust database of traumatically injured pregnant patients to facilitate future research endeavors. Any pregnant female who sought evaluation at a trauma center can be enrolled. Patients may

be enrolled both retrospectively and prospectively. Currently, two studies are planned to begin following enrollment – validation of the shock index and ABC score in traumatically injured pregnant patients. Initial triage and clinical assessment of the trauma patient must rely on presenting vital signs, Glasgow Coma Scale, and mechanism of injury to prioritize trauma team response, detect hemorrhagic shock, and guide early resuscitation efforts. However, use of isolated vital signs alone can be unreliable for detection of early stages of hemorrhagic shock. Shock index and ABC score are validated tools to detect need for massive transfusion in adults, but have never been validated in pregnant patients. Given the normal physiologic changes of pregnancy, the optimal cut off for shock index as a predictor of mortality and need for massive transfusion is likely higher than the non-pregnant adult.

For additional information or to enroll your trauma center, please contact Tyler Simpson, MD, Research Fellow, (jsimpson3@tulane.edu) or Patrick McGrew, MD, FACS, Principal Investigator (pmcgrew@tulane.edu).

Network with surgical peers, utilize educational resources, and so much more on...

AASTCONNECT + TOOLS FOR ACUTE CARE SURGERY (TACS)

Join the AASTConnect + TACS App Today!

Two apps in one! AASTConnect serves as a message board and networking tool for you to meet and share ideas with your peers. Tools for Acute Care Surgery (TACS) houses medically relevant, clinical content; including medical calculators, procedural videos, and so much more!

SCAN TO JOIN TODAY!



AAST CONTACT INFO

American Association for the Surgery of Trauma (AAST)

633 N. Saint Clair St. #2600 • Chicago, IL 60611

Toll Free: 800-789-4006 • Fax: 312-202-5064

Email: aast@aast.org Website: www.aast.org

SHARON GAUTSCHY - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Phone: 312-202-5252

Email: sgautschy@aast.org

Staff Liaison for:

Journals Oversight Committee

Palliative Care Committee

Healthcare Economics Committee

Nominating Committee

Executive Committee

RACHEL SASS - EDUCATION MANAGER

Phone: 312-202-5792

Email: rsass@aast.org

Staff Liaison for:

Program Committee

Critical Care Committee

Disaster Committee

Education Development Committee

Trauma Guidelines Repository Work Group with ACS-COT

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity Committee

Ad Hoc Committee

Emergency Surgery Course Steering Committee

JERMICA M. SMITH - SENIOR MANAGER, OPERATIONS and MEMBER SERVICES

Phone: 312-202-5553

Email: jsmith@aast.org

Staff Liaison for:

Membership Committee

Scholarship, Awards and Development Committee

Geriatric Trauma/ ACS Committee

Multi-Institutional Trials Committee

BREA SANDERS - MEMBER SERVICES ASSOCIATE and ADMINISTRATOR, ASSOCIATE MEMBER COUNCIL

Phone: 312-202-5554

Email: breasanders@aast.org

Staff Liaison for:

Associate Member Council

Communications and Social Media Committee

International Relations Committee

Patient Assessment Committee

R & E Fund Sub Committee

Manages all AAST Associate Social Media Accounts

BRIDGET McLAUGHLIN LINDBLOOM - ACS COMMITTEE LIAISON

Phone: 800-789-4006

Email: blindbloom@aast.org

Staff Liaison for:

Acute Care Surgery Committee

ACS Program Directors Committee

ERIN LILLIS - MARKETING CONSULTANT **email: erinlillisaast@gmail.com**

Manages all AAST social media accounts

JTACS social media and website

Manages all AAST Marketing

AFIA JONES - MEMBER SERVICES and COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR, EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Phone: 312-202-5750

Email: ajones@aast.org

Staff Liaison for:

Pediatric Trauma Surgery Committee

Prevention Committee

Military Liaison Committee