

**AAST Program Directors Subcommittee Phone Conference**

**Monday, April 24, 2023**

**Notes**

Nancy Parks

Allison McNickle

Alexander Colonna

David Feliciano

Dina Filiberto

Jasmeet Paul

Laura Haines

Linda Maerz

Lou Magnotti

Edward Kelly

Nathan Mowery

Rita Brintzenhoff

Stephanie Savage

Steve Gondek

Douglas Fraser

Nick Nash

Annie Moore

Mark Falimirski

Nina Glass

Ziad Sifri

Raeanna Adams

Jen Knight Davis

Ron Tesoriero

Luke Hofmann

Caroline Park

Nishant Merchant

Jonathan Parks

Jonathan Gates

Bryan Cotton

Kaz Matsushima

Jarrett Santorelli

Neils Martin

Kevin Harrell

Bridget Lindbloom

1. Resource Limited Sub Track

Dr. Kevin Harrell represented the Resource Limited Subtrack. His slides are attached.

1. SCCPDS Liaison

Eric Toschlog who has been serving as a liaison to the SCCPDS is stepping down and we will need a new representative. If you are interested, please let Nancy Parks, Tom Carver, or Bridget Lindbloom know.

1. ACS Committee Updates
   1. Sub Tracks – addressed above
   2. Boot Camp – we are planning meetings for focus groups composed of PDs and Fellows. The BOM wants it to be a pilot program, not mandatory at this time
   3. Policies/Requirements – staff is developing a new PD only page on website for sharing policies, program requirements, best practices, etc. The committee discussed developing a small group for mentoring newer PDs/APDs – provide more structure and each session would be about a particular topic.
   4. Exam – PDs were surveyed on how to proceed with the fellowship exam. The committee discussed moving the in service and final exams further apart. However, they want to make sure this doesn’t conflict with the other board exams. Ultimately, the ACS Committee wants to make the exam more meaningful for the PDs – to help show where fellows need to focus, to ensure fellows are learning what they should be learning and to provide feedback on the education the program is providing.
   5. SAGES course – SAGES is offering a flexible endoscopy course on September 7-9, 2023. It will be led by SAGES physicians at USC. There is no registration fee, but programs will be responsible for travel and accommodations. Space is limited. For more information: <https://www.sages.org/mis-fellows-course/>
2. Program Directors Projects Updates
   1. Didactic Curriculum – This project is in progress. We are building a two year curriculum using all educational resources we have available to support the topics. This provides a guideline for programs and ensure that all the necessary topics are being covered.
   2. Fellow Exchange – This is an opportunity for fellows to get experiences at other programs where there are more cases in a particular area. There are many details to be worked out. The committee had concerns that this would become a month long interview for Fellows. In addition, while this is great for programs that have something unique to offer, will it leave out smaller programs.
3. Program Spotlight: University of San Diego, Laura Haines

* 4 main locations – UC San Diego, Jacobs Medical Center, Rady Children’s, Kaiser Permanente
* Wide breadth of faculty associated with fellowship including Navy and VA doctors
* 2 ACS fellows and 1 SCC Fellow
* First class graduated 2021
* Burn fellowship available separately
* Day to day
  + EGS

Rotations: Trauma, Vascular, Hepatobiliary, Thoracic

Electives: burns, SCC, peds, research, mis-robotic (Kaiser)

* + Clinical Day – 6:45am handover with all services, including faculty EGS/Trauma/SICU; 5pm sign-0ut on call faculty/fellow
  + EGS - Operative days Tues/Thurs; Wed afternoon follow up clinic; Friday AM new patient clinic
  + Call – 2-3 Fridays a month on average; restructuring for next year to increase to ¾ month
* Supervision
  + 1st and 2nd year on call fellow is always listed as the attending

Responsible for: Trauma, SICU, EGS, transfer calls; Back up for OB emergencies/deliveries at night

* + 1st year, SCC fellow: In-house call: Thur, Sat or Sun; Back-up call M-Th
  + 2nd year, ACS fellow: In-house call: Fri; occasional weekdays depending on service; goal 3-4 calls per month
  + 1st year: Level 1 supervision – first to all, all consults & resident questions always on with faculty in-house
  + 2nd year
    - Phase I (2-3 months): with faculty in-house (credentialing/proctoring period)

After credentialing is complete: Faculty meet and all must agree they are ready to advance. Fellows take in-house call with attending back up from home; fellow touch base with faculty for all operative cases; faculty will often come in to ensure adequate resources//trauma bay coverage; 3-6 months: Direct supervision for all complex EGS cases defined as those listed in the operative curriculum

* + - Phase II: (month 4-9): All complex general surgery/trauma operations, or any EGS operative curriculum case not done previously; low acuity type IIA/B or III
    - Phase III (last 3 months): low to moderate complex EGS/Trauma – level II A/B, III; All complex/high acuity EGS/Trauma or curriculum cases not previously logged require direct supervision.
  + Elective surgical clinic concomitant with EGS faculty of the week
* Education and Conferences
  + Tuesdays: Biweekly Division meeting; trauma and EGS PI, Meet the Mentors, Monthly Radiology Case review; monthly EM/Trauma conference
  + Wednesday: Department of General Surgery MM/Grand Rounds; Ethics Rounds
  + Thursday: Didactic/Case Review Conference: trauma, EGS topics
  + Thursday: Journal Club (SCC/EGS); research meeting
  + Friday: ortho/trauma conference
* Funding Structure
  + Salary & Benefits are paid by the division
  + Clinical Instructors with full privileges: Fellow bills hospital visits, critical care, consults, procedures/cases; Elective practice: out patient visits; elective surgical cases
  + Potential for bi-annual bonus
* Strengths
  + Strong core faculty with broad interests clinically and academically
  + Strong support from subspecialty services, invested in the program
  + Elective surgical practices
  + Independent call and autonomy
  + Fellow and Chief residents are not assigned to services together
* Struggles
  + Need to make them take more call
  + Strengthen the ultrasound/echo experience
  + MIS/Robotics experience
* Unique
  + Direct to OR resuscitation
  + Trauma center separate from the ED
  + Heart, lung, liver, kidney transplant exposure and procurements
  + Pediatric elective
  + Burn experience
  + Huge breadth of simulations: ATLS, ATOM, ASSET, BEST, METiman Patient Simulator, Disaster management and emergency preparedness course; point of care ultrasound specialty certification

1. Reminders and Upcoming Dates:
   1. 2022 Graduated Fellow Survey – Please make sure your 2022 Fellow has completed the survey
   2. Final Exam – June 2023
   3. Meet the Mentors
      1. May 23 – Matthew Martin
      2. May 30 – Kenji Inaba
      3. July 18 – Walter Biffl
   4. Annual Meeting – September 20-23, 2023
   5. Caselog system access fee due – August 1, 2023
   6. Bootcamp - 2024
   7. Next Program Directors’ Meeting – May 22, 2023