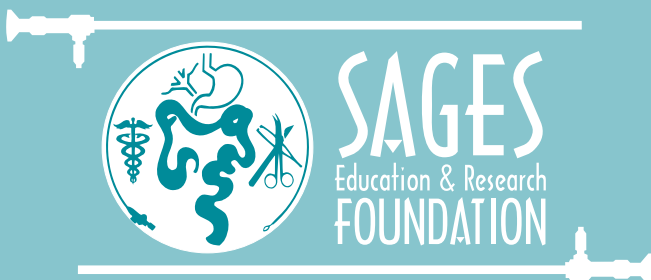




SAGES
EDUCATION & RESEARCH
FOUNDATION

2006 ANNUAL REPORT
& NEWSLETTER



APRIL 2007

A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDATION PRESIDENT



Frederick L. Greene, MD, FACS

Dear Members of the SAGES Family,

In 2006, it became my great honor to assume the position as President of the SAGES Foundation. I have benefited greatly from the wisdom of my predecessor, Greg Stiegmann, who served so admirably as the leader of the Foundation over the last several years. As we move into 2007, it is so valuable to always look back at our beginnings and to appreciate many of the faithful SAGES members who were instrumental in launching and supporting our SAGES Foundation initiative. I certainly pledge to continue that momentum and to harness the energy of many within the SAGES family.

One of the truly outstanding additions to our Foundation's structure in 2006 was the opportunity to bring our new executive director, Teresa Chien, on board in our Los Angeles office. Teresa has brought an exciting and vibrant approach to our SAGES administration and has complimented beautifully the hard work and vision that Barbara Berci has given to our SAGES Foundation since it's inception. There is no doubt that, under Teresa's creative guidance, our Foundation will continue to achieve our vision that operative procedures should be accomplished with the least possible physical trauma, discomfort and loss of productive time for our patients. This lofty goal is driving our Foundation to support the best and the brightest in their research initiatives for 2007 and beyond.

As this annual report exemplifies, we can only meet our goal through the generosity of all who share our vision. In this era when so many organizations are asking for our generous support, it is vitally important to understand the principles that guide individual foundations. Our goals are clear and relevant to everything we do. Our mission is to advance laparoscopic, endoscopic and other minimal access surgical methods by supporting reproducible scientific research and outcome studies, graduate and postgraduate education, and public information.

The dictum of William Osler is as meaningful and challenging today as when he espoused it over 100 years ago – *"Diseases that harm call for therapies that harm less."* Please join with me in assuring that our SAGES Foundation reaches our important goals.

Frederick L. Greene, MD, FACS
President, SAGES Foundation

RENEW YOUR PLEDGE!

When you made your first pledge to the Foundation, you wanted to support the work and vision of the SAGES Education & Research Foundation. Now that commitment is complete. You've fulfilled the pledge and you are gratified that you have met your responsibility. Right? Not quite!

Like every other good cause, the needs of the Foundation continue. We hope your support will continue, too. Please complete a new pledge form and continue to meet the challenge.



TRIBUTE DINNER

On April 27th, the SAGES Foundation held a special tribute dinner during the 2006 SAGES Annual Meeting in Dallas, Texas, to honor the commitment and contributions of Kenneth and Kay Forde. The event gave several presenters, including Drs. Jeff Ponsky, Gerry Marks, and Larry Whelan, an opportunity to share with everyone how the Fordes provided the framework for which SAGES and endoscopic surgery has been built.

Kenneth Forde served as President of SAGES between 1983 and 1984. He was a vital force in the founding of SAGES and has been its guiding voice of wisdom and reason for almost twenty-five years. He served SAGES as its first Membership Committee Chairman, then went on to become the Journal Editor for more than ten years, Credentials Committee Chair, the ACS Governor, and is now a Director Emeritus of the SAGES Foundation.

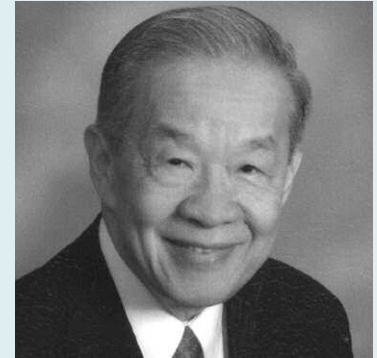
But no one can accomplish as much as they do for a cause or any organization without the support of a partner, and what a partner he has! Kay was an early supporter of the SAGES vision. She served as editorial assistant for five years and never missed a SAGES meeting until 2004, when understandably, she remained home to recover from surgery. A nurse by profession, she has been a pillar in the growth of both the Society and the Foundation.

Thanks to all the event guests and their tremendous support, the tribute dinner was a wonderful success. Funds raised from the event go directly to the SAGES Foundation to support future programs that shape minimal access surgery. Special acknowledgment must be given to the following companies who helped make the event such a success.

Autosuture Valleylab
Fleet Pharmaceuticals
Olympus Surgical
Springer-Verlag
Karl Storz Endoscopy
Stryker Endoscopy

NEW CORPORATE SUPPORTERS

The SAGES Education and Research Foundation thanks and welcomes both **W.L. Gore & Associates** and **Microline Pentax** for granting \$50,000 each and joining other respected industry leaders in the organization's circle of friends. And thanks to all who gave generously last year, as of December 2006, the SAGES Foundation has raised more than \$4.9 million toward the goal of \$10 million.



SPECIAL DONOR RECOGNITION: DR. PON SATITPUNWAYCHA

The SAGES Foundation supporters are truly some of the most devoted donors of any organization. Dr. Pon Satitpunwaycha is certainly an example of that. A SAGES member since 1994, Dr. Pon (as he likes to be called) made his first pledge to the Foundation in 1999, the same time he joined the Membership Committee. Giving regularly and loyally every year, he surprised us all with a \$100,000 donation this past October! When asked about such a significant and generous gift, he responded simply, "The SAGES Foundation is very important to the work that we do. Without SAGES, I don't know where I would be. I would like to support our profession as much as I can. And we must set an example for others to give as well." Dr. Pon has most certainly set an example, and we wholeheartedly thank him for his wonderful gift!

GRANT AWARDS

The SAGES Foundation awarded its first grant in 2003 and has allocated nine more since. We have given research funding for a variety of subjects and program funding to innovative projects that are shaping the minimally-invasive surgical field. While some programs are still in their early stages, others have already begun making a significant impact on patient care. Here is a look at some of the Foundation's "investments."

PROJECT GRANTS

Fundamentals of Laparoscopic

Surgery (FLS) – FLS is a comprehensive education module that teaches the physiology, fundamental knowledge, and technical skills required to perform basic laparoscopic surgery. The module includes a visual CD-ROM study guide, a hands-on laparoscopic training box with surgical instruments, and an assessment examination. The purpose for developing FLS was to address a long-standing issue with traditional medical training – to create a more effective and measurable alternative to the "watch and do" method. SAGES developed a method of standardizing laparoscopic surgery, definitively quantifying surgeons' cognitive and manual skills, and training candidates to reduce patient risk. Since its initial development, FLS has become the gold standard for laparoscopic surgery. Over 700 modules have been purchased so far from surgeons, surgeons-in-training, and medical institutions from all over the U.S. and other countries.

Outcomes Registry – Also developed by SAGES, the Outcomes Registry is a web-based repository for surgeons to enter the details and outcomes of each surgery they perform. Because the results are posted anonymously and can be reported in aggregate, it provides an infrastructure for self-assessment and education through comparative performance. The registry has not only been a useful tool in documenting and

improving the quality of patient care, but the protection of both patient and physician has also been a positive side effect.

Robotics Guidelines – Robotic surgery has moved from experimental research to standard surgical practice. However, there are no guidelines for its definitions, metrics, training, clinical indications, or expected outcomes. Experts from SAGES and the Minimally Invasive Robotics Association (MIRA) convened to delineate these areas of need through a consensus conference on Training and Implementation of Surgical Robotics. The conference focused on developing guidelines in training, clinical indications and practices, risk and cost benefit, and research. A final report is due to be published in the April issue of Surgical Endoscopy and will also be presented at the 2007 SAGES Annual Meeting.

RESEARCH GRANTS

Project: "Influence of In-Vitro Fibroblast Pre-Seeding of Polyglactin 910 Mesh on Host Tissue Integration in a Rat Ventral Hernia Model"

Researcher: Justin Burns, MD

Institution: Carolinas Medical Center

Project: "Prospective Evaluation of Intra-Abdominal Pressure in Patients at High-Risk for Failure of Abdominal Hernia Repair"

Researcher: Dimitrios Stefanidis, MD

Institution: Tulane University Health Sciences Center

Project: "Competency Assessment of Advanced Laparoscopic Skills: Development of an Intraoperative Evaluation Tool for a Laparoscopic Nissen Fundoplication"

Researcher: Jeffrey Hagen, MD

Institution: University of Southern California, Keck School of Medicine

VISION

The SAGES Foundation was created with the vision of a healthcare world in which all operative procedures are accomplished with the least possible physical trauma and discomfort, and with the greatest quality of care and safety for the patient.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the SAGES Foundation is to advance endoscopic, laparoscopic, and emerging minimal access surgical methods and to maintain the highest possible quality of care by supporting reproducible scientific research, graduate and postgraduate education, and public information.

SAGES FOUNDATION AWARDS LUNCHEON

For the first time, many of the SAGES awards and grants will be presented at a luncheon benefiting the SAGES Education and Research Foundation. The inaugural event will be held on Thursday, April 19, 2007, from noon to 1:00 pm at the Paris Hotel. The luncheon will recognize leaders for their work in minimally invasive surgery and raise funds that will keep patient safety in the forefront. Individual tickets are \$95 each with tables of ten discounted to \$900.

The following awards will be presented.

**The SAGES Pioneer in Endoscopy Award – John Abele, Founder,
Boston Scientific**

**The Distinguished Service Award – Desmond H. Birkett, MD,
SAGES Past President**

The Young Researcher Award – Atul Madan, MD

The Karl Storz / IRCAD Fellowship Award – Kevin Reavis, MD

SAGES Education and Research Foundation Grant Awards

Industry Research Grant Awards

To attend, please contact Teresa Chien at (310) 437-0544 x114 or teresa@sages.org for reservations and further information. On-site registration is limited by available seating, so please register in advance. A portion of your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

PLANNED GIVING (A WILL WILL WORK WONDERS)

Developing a will is the single most critical component when it comes to protecting your assets and securing your family's future. It is your legacy. It allows you to distribute your assets to family and friends who will value and benefit from receiving them, and this includes the causes and organizations that are important to you during your lifetime. By making a bequest in your will to the SAGES Foundation, you perpetuate your giving for decades to come. There are several easy ways to make such a bequest.

- ◆ **List a specific dollar amount**
- ◆ **Select a fixed percentage of your estate**
- ◆ **Leave the residue – that which is left after providing for all other beneficiaries**
- ◆ **List the SAGES Foundation as part of a life income plan**

Without a will, your legacy falls under the control of a court-appointed executor. To ensure that your plans truly reflect your intentions, contact a tax advisor, attorney, or financial expert to assist in your estate planning goals. For general questions, you may also contact the office at foundation@sages.org to receive further information.

THIRD PARTY EVENTS

Third party events are events sponsored and organized by individuals, companies, or community groups to benefit the SAGES Foundation. Anyone with a great idea can put together a fundraising event, great or small. A few examples of third party events are listed below. If you have a unique idea and want to benefit the SAGES Foundation, contact the office at (310) 437-0544 x114.

Tailgate Party

Host a tailgate party before a major game by inviting friends, neighbors, colleagues, and family. Sell hot dogs, burgers, beverages, popcorn, and anything else you can think of to raise funds. This can work for any sporting event!

Designer Scrubs Contest

Hold a contest that tests everyone's creativity! Encourage surgeons, residents, and nurses to obtain pledges from family and friends to support their entry into a Design-Your-Scrubs Contest. Competitors may decorate their scrubs any way they like and model it on the day of the contest. Pre-selected judges vote on the most "well-designed" scrubs and may win the "Scrub Designer of the Year" title or a donated prize. Funds raised from the pledges are donated to the SAGES Foundation.

Baby Match Game

Give people an opportunity to test their visual recognition skills. Ask faculty to bring in a baby picture and a recent picture of themselves. Place all baby photos on one column of a board or wall and the recent adult photos on the other column. Charge any participants \$1 (or more, depending on your preference) donation to the SAGES Foundation to try their luck at matching the correct baby photo with the correct adult. Those who match correctly may be entered into a drawing to win a donated prize.

2006 DONORS

Honorable Mention (\$100,000)

Pon Satitpunwaycha, MD

Legacy Benefactor (Lifetime commitment of \$1,000 or more)

Desmond Birkett, MD

Diamond Patron (\$10,000 and above)

Barry Salky, MD

Benefactor (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

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Carlos Pellegrini, MD
Steven Wexner, MD

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Shuichi Ohashi
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Contributor (\$250 - \$499)

Gerald Larson, MD

Contributor (\$100 - \$249)

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Abdulsalam Ahmed Al-Taie, MD
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Maurice Arregui, MD
Robert Bailey, MD
Rodney Barker, MD
Steven Brower, MD
Youn Baik, MD
Bipan Chand, MD
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Eugene Cho, MD
Uyen Chu, MD
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Juan Contreras, MD
Raul Cutait, MD
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Louis De Canniere, MD

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Fumihiko Fujita, MD
Terrence Fullum, MD
Debra Gama Lima, MD
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Guru Ghanta, MD
Anargyros Giaglaras, MD
Hurry Gopal, MD
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Ichiro Uyama, MD
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Vic Velanovich, MD
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Patrick White, MD
Daniel White, MD
Hideo Yamade, MD
Panduranga Yenumula
Debbie Youngelman, MD
Natan Zundel, MD

CUMULATIVE GIVING

\$100,000 or more

Pon Satitpunwaycha, MD

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Bruce D. Schirmer, MD
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Tarik J. Wasfie, MD
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Paul F. Montany, MD
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Donald W. Moorman, MD
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Kevin P. Moriarty, MD
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Rodney Cameron Morris, MD
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Joseph J. O'Donnell, MD
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Olympus Surgical	\$250,000
Stryker Endoscopy	\$250,000
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Applied Medical	\$120,000
Microline Pentax	\$50,000
W. L. Gore & Association	\$50,000
Cook Surgical	\$25,000
Taut, Inc.	\$25,000
Lexion Medical	\$15,000
Synovis Surgical Innovations	\$15,000

Total Corporate Pledges \$3,491,000.00

Total Individual Pledges to Date: \$482,245.00
One Time Donations: \$224,807.00

Funds from SAGES to Date: \$573,967.00

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SAGES FLS Grant	(2003)	\$66,000.00
SAGES FLS Grant	(2004)	\$34,000.00
SAGES FLS Grant	(2006)	\$15,000.00
SAGES Research Grants	(2004)	\$15,000.00
SAGES Research Grants	(2005)	\$45,000.00
SAGES Research Grants	(2006)	\$15,000.00
Strategic Retreat	(2004)	\$10,000.00
SAGES FES Grant	(2005)	\$20,000.00
Outcomes Registry	(2005)	\$20,000.00

Total Collected to Date: \$4,290,178.00

Total Pledged and Donated to Date: \$4,923,019.00

INDIVIDUAL PLEDGES

FUNDS RECEIVED

We are at 4.9% of our \$10,000,000 goal.

DONOR CATEGORY	PLEDGE OR CONTRIBUTION	BENEFITS OF CATEGORY
Legacy Benefactor	\$1,000.00 or more per year until retirement (This requires a 10 year commitment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledgment of participation as a Legacy Benefactor in Foundation Newsletter • Acknowledgment on Foundation website • Recognition in SAGES' Mini-Scope e-newsletter • Acknowledgment in Foundation Annual Report • Complimentary tickets to select Foundation events • Use of Donor's Lounge at SAGES Meetings • Legacy Benefactor pin
Diamond Patron	\$10,000.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledgment of participation as a Diamond Patron in Foundation Newsletter • Acknowledgment on Foundation website • Recognition in SAGES' Mini-Scope e-newsletter • Acknowledgment in Foundation Annual Report • Complimentary tickets to select Foundation events • Use of Donor's Lounge at SAGES Meetings • Diamond Patron Pin
Benefactor	\$5,000.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledgment of participation as a Benefactor in Foundation Newsletter • Acknowledgment on Foundation website • Recognition in SAGES' Mini-Scope e-newsletter • Acknowledgment in Foundation Annual Report • Use of Donor's Lounge at SAGES Meetings • Benefactor Pin
Donor	\$ 3,000.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledgment of participation as a Donor in Foundation Newsletter • Acknowledgment on Foundation website • Recognition in SAGES' Mini-Scope e-newsletter • Acknowledgment in Foundation Annual Report • Use of Donor's Lounge at SAGES Meetings
Friend	\$1,000.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledgment of participation as a Friend in Foundation Newsletter • Acknowledgment on Foundation website • Acknowledgment in Foundation Annual Report • Use of Donor's Lounge at SAGES Meetings
Supporter	\$500.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledgment of participation as a Supporter in Foundation Newsletter • Acknowledgment in Foundation Annual Report

Please accept my contribution/pledge to the SAGES Education and Research Foundation as follows:

LAST NAME: _____ FIRST NAME: _____ TITLE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE: _____ COUNTRY: _____

PHONE: (include country and city code if outside the U.S.) _____ FAX: _____ E-MAIL: _____

I will fulfill my pledge commitment at the _____ level in 5 yrs 4 yrs 3 yrs 2 yrs 1 yr

Check enclosed for \$ _____

Use Credit Card below:

Please charge my 1st year's pledge or my contribution to:

AMEX (add Vcode - 4 digit number in front of card) _____ EXPIRATION DATE _____

VISA/MC (add Vcode - 3 digit number at back of card) _____ EXPIRATION DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

YOU MAY ALSO FAX YOUR GIFT TO (310) 437-0585 OR DONATE ONLINE AT WWW.SAGESFOUNDATION.ORG



SAGES Education and Research Foundation

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