

SAGES
EDUCATION & RESEARCH
FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT
& NEWSLETTER



SAGES
Education & Research
FOUNDATION

OCTOBER 2004

A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDATION PRESIDENT



Greg V. Stiegmann, MD

Dear Colleague,

After more than 4 years striving to fulfill the goals of the SAGES Education and Research Foundation, we have good news to report on several fronts.

- Pledges and contributions moved us to about 40% of our \$10,000,000 fundraising goal, thanks to the generosity of our industry supporters and individual members
- We funded our first two projects this year
- We have set a formula for funding future projects and made the rules for funding applications available.
- We have expanded our list of Directors and Advisors to achieve greater reach in our efforts.
- We will undertake our first major fundraising project (event?) In 2005.

In our march toward excellence in surgical education and research, we must remember that the vision of the foundation is the guiding force in our work.

The SAGES Education and Research Foundation was created with the Vision of a healthcare world in which all operative procedures are accomplished with the least possible physical trauma, discomfort, and loss of productive time for the patient.

The overarching goal of the Foundation 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.

Thank you for joining us in that vision. Please continue your support of our vital work.

Yours truly,

Greg Stiegmann, MD, FACS
President

RENEW YOUR PLEDGE!

When you made your first pledge to the Foundation 3 or 4 years ago, 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.



"WHY I GIVE!"

Hundreds of SAGES members support the SAGES Foundation. We thought you might like to know WHY some of them contribute.

"When we have finished our research and we are no longer in the O.R. each of us hopes to leave a legacy of a surgical world that is better than when we found it. Our teaching and individual research, hopefully, has improved surgery for a specific group of patients. The Foundation's work long into the future will guarantee better, safer surgery for ALL surgical patients not just those impacted by our own work."

—George Berci, M.D., FACS, FRCS, Ed.(Hon.)

"SAGES has been instrumental in shaping the face of modern surgical practice. I am proud to have been included in this effort and contribute to the Foundation to ensure that we remain in the forefront of this effort".

—Jeff Ponsky, M.D. FACS

"The SAGES Education and Research Foundation is more than just a worthy cause for charitable giving. As minimally invasive surgeons, we should feel obliged to give back to the discipline that we practice, believe in, and embrace. For many of us, minimally invasive surgery is the centerpiece of our practice. The Foundation represents the future of minimally invasive surgery. Why wouldn't you support the cause for which you have dedicated your career, and to support its growth for future generations of patients and surgeons?"

—Bruce Schirmer, M.D., FACS

"I recognized several years ago that financial support for the Foundation is of vital importance to allow SAGES to plan and carry out crucial short-term and long-term projects to serve its unique and valuable role in the development of minimal access surgery, education of its membership, the medical community, and society, recruitment of future members to sustain SAGES mission of education, training, research and leadership in minimally invasive techniques and to support basic science, translational research and clinical outcomes studies".

—Brent D. Matthews, MD, SAGES Young Researcher 2004
Associate Professor of Surgery
Washington University School of Medicine

THE FOUNDATION CONFERS ITS FIRST GRANTS

After four+ years of soliciting funds, the Directors of the Foundation awarded the first grants in late 2003 and early 2004. These were three grants to vital SAGES projects. The Foundation also established a formula for using non-capital income to provide grants on a continuing annual basis. The established formula is that a maximum of 5% of the foundation account balance as averaged over the last 12 previous quarters may be awarded in any year. This formula will preserve the principle. The first awards are:

- **\$100,000** to the SAGES FLS Project. To be given over two fiscal years, 2003 and 2004.
- **\$10,000** to SAGES in support of a strategic planning meeting to map a blueprint for the future of endoscopic surgery and minimally invasive interventional techniques. In 2004
- **\$15,000** to fund one research Grant for SAGES.

Primary Investigator for the Grant was Justin Burns, MD. His Project Title is: "Influence of In-Vitro Fibroblast Pre-Seeding of Polyglactin 910 Mesh on Host Tissue Integration in a Rat Ventral Hernia Model." Dr. Burns is in the Department of Surgery at Carolinas Medical Center

FOUNDATION TO LAUNCH COOKBOOK FUNDRAISER

The SAGES Education and Research Foundation, in true SAGES unorthodox style, will launch its first non-direct-giving fundraiser...a cookbook! Look for a flyer about...

CUTTING EDGE RECIPES... A SURGEONS GUIDE TO GREAT EATING

The book will contain the favorite recipes of SAGES surgeons (and their families) complete with vignettes, cooking tips, fun photos and more. All net proceeds of sales will benefit the SAGES Foundation. **The cookbook will be available by the April 2005 Meeting.**



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As of September, 2004

CORPORATE PLEDGES

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U.S.Surgical, a Division of Tyco
Karl Storz Endoscopy
Stryker Endoscopy
Applied Medical
Olympus Corporation
Taut Medical Products
Boston Scientific/Microvasive

Total Corporate Pledges **\$3,395,000.00**

Total Individual Pledges to Date: **\$399,500.00**
One Time Donations: **\$37,795.00**

Matching Funds from SAGES to Date: **\$289,307.00**

Programs Funded:

SAGES FLS Grant **\$100,000.00**
\$66,000.00 (2003)
\$34,000.00 (2004)

SAGES Research Grant (2004) **\$15,000.00**

Strategic Retreat (2004) **\$10,000.00**

Total Collected to Date: **\$2,698,523.00**

Total Pledged and Donated to Date: **\$4,121,602.00**

INDIVIDUAL PLEDGES

FUNDS RECEIVED

WE ARE AT 41% OF OUR \$10,000,000 GOAL.

FOUNDATION LOUNGE A HUGE SUCCESS AT SAGES '04 DENVER MEETING

Is there any value of being a foundation donor *OTHER* than the satisfaction of doing the right thing? YES! Beginning at the SAGES '04 meeting, Foundation donors did NOT have to stand in line to retrieve their email or get on line. We created an intimate lounge where donors could have a cup of coffee, chat with colleagues and get on line. The 3 stations were very popular. More than 200 visitors used the lounge. If you haven't contributed yet, be sure to make your pledge or contribution before the '05 meeting where the lounge will once again be available.

COMMEMORATIVE GIVING

Honor or Memorialize Someone by a Donation to the SAGES Foundation

We all have occasions when a unique gift is needed to commemorate an occasion. Do you ever ask yourself: "What do you buy for the man/woman who has everything?" Making a gift to the Foundation to honor or memorialize a friend or colleague is an effective way to commemorate:

- ◆ **A Birthday**
- ◆ **An Anniversary**
- ◆ **A Birth**
- ◆ **Retirement**
- ◆ **A Graduation**
- ◆ **The death of a friend, colleague or family member**

To make a contribution to the SAGES Education and Research Fund in honor or memory of someone, go to our website at www.sagesfoundation.org and donate on line. Or call Erik Runnels at 310 437 0544 Ext 113 to donate by phone or obtain a form.

We will confirm your contribution via e-mail and send a note to the recipient informing him/her of your generosity on their behalf.

Note: SAGES Foundation is a 501-C3 Charity. Therefore, your contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Please consult your legal or tax advisor regarding any questions.

SAGES EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOUNDATION INDIVIDUAL DONOR LEVELS

MINIMUM FIVE YEAR PLEDGE YOUR PARTICIPATION AT THIS LEVEL INCLUDES

BENEFACTOR \$5,000.00

- Acknowledgment of Participation as a Benefactor
- Donor Events
- Foundation Donor's Newsletter
- Benefactor Pin

PATRON \$3,000.00

- Acknowledgment of Participation as a Patron
- Donor Events
- Foundation Donor's Newsletter

SUPPORTER \$1,000.00

- Acknowledgment of Participation as a Supporter
- Foundation Donor's Newsletter

ASSOCIATE \$500.00

- Acknowledgment of Participation as an Associate
- Foundation Donor Newsletter

- ☐ I believe in our legacy to Endoscopic Surgery and want to support the vision and goals of the SAGES Education & Research Foundation.
Please accept my contribution/pledge as follows:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____

COUNTRY _____

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

E-MAIL _____

LONG TERM PLEDGE

- ☐ Benefactor (minimum \$5,000 commitment over 5 years) Amount Pledged \$ _____
- ☐ Patron (minimum \$3,000 commitment over 5 years) Amount Pledged \$ _____
- ☐ Supporter (minimum \$1,000 commitment over 5 years) Amount Pledged \$ _____
- ☐ Associate (minimum \$500 commitment over 5 years) Amount Pledged \$ _____
- ☐ Other Amount Pledged \$ _____

I will fulfill my pledge commitment in _____ years

- ☐ Please send me an invoice

- ☐ Check Amount Enclosed \$ _____

CONTRIBUTION

- ☐ Check Amount Enclosed \$ _____

- ☐ Please send me an invoice

- ☐ Use credit card below

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

- ☐ VISA

CARD # (ADD VCODE - 3 DIGIT NUMBER ON BACK OF CARD) _____

EXPIRATION DATE _____

- ☐ MasterCard

CARD # _____

EXPIRATION DATE _____

- ☐ Amex

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