SAGES EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOUNDATION

2013 ANNUAL REPORT & NEWSLETTER



August 2014

A Message from the Foundation President



Bruce D. Schirmer, MD

Dear Supporters of the Foundation,

Why do we join groups? They are fun, we enjoy the activity, the participants, the social or professional (or both) interactions. We feel like part of the group. The things the group does are a positive thing for us.

For me, that certainly describes SAGES. As an academic surgeon I belong to many surgical societies. Those of you who are reading this and are not academic surgeons also likely have your work-related organizations of which you are members and to which you devote time and energy. The organizations to which we tend to devote more of our time and energy are those that allow us to participate in a meaningful way, to be a part of a group that has vision, ideas, and is putting them into action to further a professional, humanitarian, or social cause. We financially support such groups, or others that have a mission aligned with our own ideals.

This year, the SAGES Foundation has the opportunity to support a large number of exciting and important projects that will make surgery safer and better. Support in the past for such important programs as FLS and FES has established a track record of the Foundation's significant role in supporting major educational programs for all surgeons. New efforts in surgeon education on safer performance of common operations, such as cholecystectomy, are now in full swing and deserve the Foundation's support as well. The FUSE program, applicable to all surgeons who use energy devices, promises to educate and improve care to thousands of surgeons and operating room personnel across the country just within the next few years. The SAGES Global program is expanding its reach of teaching advanced surgical technology to practicing surgeons in underserved areas of the world in a fashion that allows safe and sustainable practice.

Every year I attend the SAGES meeting and never cease to be impressed by the accomplishments and enthusiasm of our members. There is a palpable energy at the meeting that is rare in other groups. New ideas, new technology, the best way to do it safer and better, debates on the merits of new procedures and approaches, datadriven practice models, all are part of the meeting. The social aspects tend to focus on what we can do to help others, where our challenges and opportunities exist. The meeting's social high point is always the signoff, and the wonderful tradition that has developed by singing "We are the World," reminding us of the international span of our organization and its role in the world.

Being part of such an effort is truly rewarding for all of us. This year, I would propose that we celebrate those efforts. Let's all be a part of SAGES WORLD in a meaningful way. Whether it is by time, effort, or money, contribute to SAGES WORLD. Next year in Nashville, all contributors to SAGES WORLD, whether it be through committee work, volunteering for programs, service of any kind, or financial contributions to the Foundation, will be recognized at the meeting for their efforts. We want to celebrate you and your individual giving. No gift or effort is too small. Together we are a powerful organization for moving the needle of surgical safety and practice. Contribute to SAGES WORLD. In whatever way you can. Remember, "We are the world, we are the SAGES."

I look forward to a great upcoming year for SAGES and the SAGES Foundation, and to our celebration together in Nashville in the spring.

With best wishes,

Schirmer

Bruce D. Schirmer, M.D. President, SAGES Education and Research Foundation

Dr. Gary Vitale Honored With 2014 Ponsky Award

The Jeffrey L. Ponsky Master Educator in Endoscopy Award was presented to Garv Vitale, MD during our 8th Annual Awards Luncheon held in Salt Lake City, Utah on April 2, 2014. The Ponsky Flexible Endoscopy Research Fund was established by the Foundation in 2007 as a tribute to Dr. Jeffrey Ponsky for his outstanding contributions to endoscopy and surgical education, and also as a demonstration of gratitude for his profound influence on so many careers. The Master Educator award recognizes a distinguished SAGES leader who exemplifies Dr. Ponsky's visionary leadership spirit and his dedication to the development and teaching of surgical endoscopy.

Dr. Vitale is Professor of Surgery at the University of Louisville and Norton Hospital. He maintains a busy practice in surgical endoscopy and pancreatic-biliary/complex GI surgery, and is also the Director of the Fellowship in Pancreatico-biliary Surgery, Surgical Endoscopy and ERCP, which he established in 1992. Dr. Vitale completed his medical studies at Yale University, and did his internship and residency at the University of Louisville, including a two-year fellowship in GI/ biliary-pancreas surgery in Scotland at the University of Dundee and a one-year fellowship in Interventional ERCP in Paris, France. He started on the University of Louisville faculty in 1986, and has trained 30 surgeons from all over the world.

He is a founding member and past chair of the Flexible Endoscopy

2013 Ponsky Flexible Endoscopy Research Fund Contributors

Jo Buyske, MD Kenneth Forde, MD Committee of SAGES and remains a current member. He has also been chair of the Credential Committee, a member of the Legislative Committee, the Fundamentals of Endoscopic Surgery Committee (FES), and was on the Board of Governors for many years. Over the years, he has been an active member at the SAGES annual meetings, given numerous lectures, and moderated panel discussions.

Dr. Vitale is a newly elected fellow of the American Surgical Association, and is also a member of the American College of Surgeons (ACS), American Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association (AHPBA), American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE), Central Surgical Association (CSA), International Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association (IHPBA), Southeastern Surgical Congress (SESC), Southern Surgical Association (SSA), Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract (SSAT), and the Society of University Surgeons (SUS).



We invite you to honor the legacy of Dr. Jeffrey L. Ponsky with a donation that will help the Foundation to pay tribute to others who leave a permanent impact in the education of surgical endoscopy. Please visit our website, www.sagesfoundation.org, or contact Evelyn Klass-Rodewald at Evelyn@ sages.org, to learn more about the Ponsky Fund and SAGES Foundation.

Margrét Oddsdóttir International Traveling Fellowship Award

The Margrét Oddsdóttir International Traveling Fellowship Award honors the memory of Dr. Margrét Oddsdóttir, an international leader in laparoscopic surgery and a beloved member of the SAGES family. Dr. Oddsdóttir (1955-2009) was born and grew up in a fishing village on the northwest coast of Iceland. She completed her fellowship in laparoscopic surgery at Emory University with Dr. John Hunter. She was the first advanced laparoscopic surgeon in Iceland and was instrumental in developing the field of minimally invasive surgery in the Nordic countries.

Dr. Oddsdóttir attended SAGES every year, accompanied by as many as 3-10 nurses, residents, medical students and colleagues from Revkjavik. She had a lifelong

commitment to international education and her research had a profound influence on many physicians both professionally and personally.

This year's award recipients were **Dr. Veronica Gorodner** and **Dr. Federico Moser** from Hospital Privado de Córdoba in Córdoba, Argentina. Their SAGES 2014 paper was titled "Aneurysm of the Splenic Artery: Laparoscopic Approach."

Please visit our website at www. sagesfoundation.org to learn more or donate to the Margrét Oddsdóttir International Traveling Fellowship Fund.



FOUNDATION NEWS

Dr. Satitpunwaycha Gift Expands SAGES Global Reach

Dr. Pon Satitpunwaycha made an exceptionally generous \$500,000 gift

to the SAGES Foundation in January 2014. It is the largest, individual gift ever received by the Foundation. The staff and Board of Directors are deeply grateful to Dr. Satitpunwaycha. His donation will be used to fund training

programs in developing countries.

A SAGES member since 1994, Dr. Satitpunwaycha considers the value of expanding its global mission, "For the past 20 years, I've witnessed the evolution of SAGES and its impact on surgical education and surgical innovation. I benefit tremendously from all educational activities provided by SAGES and wish SAGES could do more in the international community."

Dr. Satitpunwaycha was born in Thailand, where he attended medical school and graduated from Chulalongkorn University in 1962. He attended Northwestern University where he spent six years as an intern, resident and instructor. After receiving his American Board of Surgery certification, he returned to Bangkok to teach at Chulalongkorn University Medical School for eight years. He later returned to the U.S. for a fellowship at the Texas Heart Institute. He established a private practice in Houston, Texas in 1980, and he has been retired since 2011.

"As I reflect back, the most enjoyable and rewarding experience of my career was the academic years at the Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand. But I am grateful for the opportunity this country has given me and I feel obliged to give back."

Dr. Dmitry Oleynikov Honored as the 2014 Recipient of the Excellence in Medical Leadership Award

The 2014 recipient of the Foundation's Excellence in Medical Leadership Award is Dmitry Oleynikov, MD, of University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska. This award, supported through a generous educational grant by Gore & Associates, was established in 2011 to provide scholarships to qualified midcareer SAGES members for leadership development and management training toward advancing minimal access surgery and quality patient care.

Dr. Oleynikov is a certified General Surgeon and the Professor of Surgery and Chief, Minimally Invasive & Bariatric Surgery, Director Minimally Invasive and Robotic Surgery, and Director, Center for Advance Surgical Technology at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, School of Medicine. He is a busy minimally invasive and robotic surgeon as well as Director for the Center for Advanced Surgical Technology. He is widely published with over 100 reference publications in literature and 24 patents awarded and filed. His interests include surgical outcomes research, esophageal disease and novel robotic surgery. His clinical practice is geared toward minimally invasive treatment of



Dr. Dmitry Oleynikov

foregut diseases, complex hernias and gastrointestinal pathology.

He is currently serving SAGES as a member of the Board of Directors, Bylaws Committee and Chair, Technology and Value Assessment Committee. Dr. Oleynikov is also active in American College of Surgeons (ACS), Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract (SSAT), Southwest Surgical Congress (SWSC), Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons (SLS), Western Surgical, American Society for Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS), and American Hernia Society.

When asked about his leadership style, he sees himself as a cross between a democratic leader and a transformational leader. He tries to lead by example while seeking consensus of his team members, often challenging and inspiring his colleagues to achieve more than they thought they could. He sees the role of a leader as an individual who creates a vision and then communicates successfully in order to help his team achieve it. "The tremendous changes in healthcare delivery and economics of medicine are requiring leaders to adapt the culture of education and patient care. I find myself on the front line of these events and want to continue to contribute to both my institution as well as my professional societies. Effective leadership is very much a talent and also an acquired skill. With this award, I seek to gain additional training in healthcare economics and public policy and people management skills. I will use the knowledge gained to improve how I work at the board and committee level at SAGES. We need to be proactive when it comes to our healthcare system and physician leadership. In my opinion, it is the only way to maintain our professionalism and excellence in patient care."

If you are interested in learning more about the Excellence in Medical Leadership Award, please contact Evelyn Klass-Rodewald at Evelyn@sages.org.

GRANT AWARDS

In 2013, the SAGES Education and Research Foundation distributed approximately \$428,000 in project funding and research grants to programs designed to further minimally invasive surgical practices worldwide. Since 2003, the Foundation has provided more than \$2.5 million to worthy programs. 2013 funding included the following:

SAGES GRANTS

Fundamental Use of Surgical	
Energy (FUSE)	\$ 95,000
Research Grants	\$ 90,000
Global Initiative (Go Global)	\$ 75,000
Career Development Awards	\$ 60,000
Fundamentals of Endoscopic	
Surgery (FES)	\$ 30,000
MIS Fellows Course	\$ 10,000
Brandeis Scholarship Award	\$ 8,000

OTHER GRANTS

Foundation for Surgical	
Fellowships	\$ 60,000

PROJECT GRANTS

MIS Fellows Course

In 2013, the SAGES Foundation provided \$10,000 to support flexible endoscopic surgery courses for MIS Fellows. The purpose of the two-day course is to expose SAGES members and SAGES candidate members to flexible endoscopy. During the course, participants are provided with

the latest information on therapeutic endoscopy as it pertains to surgeons, and illustrations on how flexible endoscopy is changing the face of minimally invasive surgery. Additionally, participants receive a comprehensive description of available and emerging therapeutic endoscopic techniques. The didactic session will include lectures by surgical endoscopic experts on management/palliation of biliary/enteric strictures, introperative endoscopy, enteral access techniques, endolumenal treatments for GERD, and the topic of why surgeons need to perform and expand endoscopic techniques. Fellows will also have an opportunity for hands-on experience on both days.

The overall goal of the course is to train fellows in enhanced flexible endoscopy and expose them to new procedures through didactics and hands-on labs. The course is open to 60 participants.

The Brandeis Scholarship Award

One of two Brandeis Scholarship Awards was funded by the SAGES Foundation in 2013. This \$8,000 award allows the recipient to attend the "Executive Leadership Program in Health Policy and Management" at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University. The goal of the program is to provide health care professionals with the skills essential to creating innovative and sustainable solutions to improve the quality, cost-effectiveness, and efficiency of health care service delivery. Scholarship award applicants must be active SAGES members who serve on a SAGES Committee. Awards are conferred on a competitive basis by submission of a grant application, which is reviewed by an awards committee. Upon completion of the program, the award recipient is expected to give a brief report of their experience at the October SAGES Legislative Committee Meeting.

RESEARCH GRANTS

The following are research grants awarded in 2013-2014 and supported by SAGES Foundation:

- Philip A. Omotosho, MD Duke University Medical Center Title: Intestinal Remodeling and Reprogramming of Glucose Metabolism Following Laparoscopic Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass
- Rebeccah B. Baucom, MD Vanderbilt University School of Medicine

Title: Choledocholithiasis Management in America: Do Rural Surgeons Need Different Skills than Urban Surgeons?

 Amin Madani, MD McGill University

Title: Does Simulation Improve Learning of the Fundamental Use of Surgical Energy[™] (FUSE) curriculum? A Randomized Controlled Trial in Surgical Trainees

ON BEHALF OF THE SAGES FOUNDATION, WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THOSE COMPANIES WHO GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED THE 2014 FOUNDATION LUNCHEON



PART OF THE Johnson Johnson FAMILY OF COMPANIES







New Industry Pledges

Through tax-deductible, unrestricted contributions to the SAGES Foundation, companies continue to demonstrate their shared commitment to our mission to advance endoscopic, laparoscopic and emerging minimal access surgical methods. The SAGES Education and Research Foundation is thrilled to recognize several new and renewing industry supporters. It is because of their confidence in us as a critical resource for minimal access surgical research and education that we are able to support a wide variety of SAGES-related projects each year. A *great big thank you* to **Applied Medical, Covidien, CR Bard,** and **Karl Storz Endoscopy** for their generosity.





IBAARID

ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON

The 8th Annual SAGES Education and Research Foundation Awards Luncheon took place at the Salt Palace Convention Center and honored many extraordinary individuals. Thanks to our generous supporters, the Awards luncheon fulfilled expectations again and generated close to \$50,000 for surgical research and education.

The 2014 awards honorees:

- SAGES Pioneer in Endoscopy Award: David Utley, MD – Covidien, GI Solutions
- SAGES George Berci Lifetime Achievement Award: Tehemton Udwadia, MD – Emeritus Professor, Grant Medical College & J.J. Hospital, India
- SAGES Foundation Jeffrey L. Ponsky Master Educator in Endoscopy Award: Gary Vitale, MD – University of Louisville
- SAGES Foundation Excellence in Medical Leadership Award: Dmitry Oleynikov, MD – University of Nebraska Medical Center, School of Medicine *SAGES Foundation acknowledges a generous grant from Gore & Associates

- SAGES Distinguished Service Award: Steven Wexner, MD – Cleveland Clinic Florida
- SAGES Clinical Excellence and Humanism in Medicine Award: Brant Oelschlager, MD – University of Washington, Seattle *SAGES acknowledges a generous grant in support of this award from The Arnold P. Gold Foundation
- SAGES International Ambassador Award: Geoffrey Kohn, MD – Melbourne Upper GI Surgical Group
- SAGES Foundation Gerald Marks Rectal Cancer Award: Elisabeth McLemore, MD – University of California, San Diego
- **SAGES Young Researcher Award:** Michael Awad, MD – Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis

*SAGES acknowledges a generous grant in support of this award from Olympus

• **SAGES Researcher in Training Award:** Ezra Teitelbaum, MD – Northwestern University

GIVE THE GIFT OF AN HONORARIUM

As experts in their field, SAGES members are often asked to speak at conferences, provide expert opinions on new medical products, write articles, or participate in surveys and focus groups. The SAGES Foundation is proud and thankful for the professional contributions made by these members and acknowledges those who have taken the extra charitable step of donating their honorariums to the organization.

If you are interested in donating your honorarium(s) to the SAGES Foundation, simply request the paying entity to send a donation to the Foundation in lieu of an honorarium and notify the Foundation office of your charitable intent. **To learn more about how you can contribute to the SAGES Foundation, email foundations@sages.org.**

• SAGES IRCAD Traveling Fellowship Award: Eran Shlomovitz, MD – Oregon Clinic/Providence Portland Medical Center *SAGES acknowledges a generous

grant in support of this award from Karl Storz Endoscopy

• SAGES Career Development Award: Dana A. Telem, MD – Stony Brook University Medical Center

*SAGES acknowledges a generous grant in support of this award from SAGES Education and Research Foundation

 SAGES Foundation Margrét Oddsdóttir Traveling Fellowship Award: Veronica Gorodner, MD and Federico Moser, MD – Hospital Privado de Cordoba

2013 Donors

The number of people who give to the SAGES Foundation grows each year. In 2012, we were fortunate to not only have new supporters, but to also see our long-time dedicated contributors renew their commitments to the Foundation. The following is a listing of gifts received from January 1 to December 31, 2013. The SAGES Foundation Board of Directors gratefully acknowledges your generosity.

Benefactor: \$5,000 and Above \$250 - \$499

David Rattner, MD Pon Satitpunwaycha, MD

Friend: \$1,000 - \$2,999

Sharon Bachman, MD George Berci, MD and Barbara Berci Jo Buyske, MD Eugene Cho, MD Daniel Deziel, MD Kenneth Forde, MD John Hunter, MD Vanessa Jacobsen, MD Eli Lerner, MD Bruce Schirmer, MD Nathaniel Soper, MD William Traverso, MD

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LEGACY BENEFACTORS

Supporters of the SAGES Foundation often become even more devoted to its mission with each passing year. Legacy Benefactors are those who have pledged to donate a minimum of \$1,000 to the Foundation annually during their career. We owe a lifetime's gratitude to the following:

Desmond H. Birkett, MD L. Michael Brunt, MD John M. Cosgrove, MD Steve Eubanks, MD Pascal Fuchshuber, MD Frederick L. Greene, MD Daniel B. Jones, MD Sung-Tao Ko, MD Eli N. Lerner, MD Brent D. Matthews, MD Ormond N.M. Panton, MD Jeffrey H. Peters, MD Jeffrey L. Ponsky, MD Archana Ramaswamy, MD Edwin Ramirez, MD Bruce D. Schirmer, MD Daniel J. Scott, MD Greg V. Stiegmann, MD Mark A. Talamini, MD Stephen W. Unger, MD Alexander Wade, MD Tatsuo Yamakawa, MD

A BIG THANK YOU FROM THE FOUNDATION

SAGES members continued their generous support of the Foundation in 2013. Close to \$92,000 in new gifts and pledges was raised. The Foundation's leadership extends their gratitude to SAGES members who continually demonstrate their dedication to both the vision and continued success of the Society and the Foundation through their leadership, active involvement, and philanthropy.

The SAGES Education and Research Foundation believes that the exceptional work of SAGES will move the society into a great future for endoscopic and laparoscopic surgery. It is because of that belief, and its commitment to fund groundbreaking projects in minimal access surgery, that **the Foundation has provided more than \$2.5 million to** **directly support SAGES research and educational projects.** It is important to note that for every dollar a SAGES member has contributed to the Foundation, the Foundation has turned around and given \$1.50 back to SAGES. By making a tax deductible contribution to the SAGES Foundation, members make certain that research opportunities continue to be available for young surgeons and projects like FES and FUSE reach their maximum potential.

The Foundation thanks the SAGES membership for making quality medical care and the development of minimal access surgery possible. **To learn more about how you can contribute in 2014, please visit www.sagesfoundation.org.** Giving reflects total donations given to the SAGES Foundation since the donors' first gift. Each of the following individuals has helped to move the Foundation closer to its financial goals and mission.

\$100,000 or More

Pon Satitpunwaycha, MD

\$25,000 - \$50,000 L. Michael Brunt, MD David W. Duppler, MD Kenneth A. Forde, MD Gerald Marks, MD Jeffrey L. Ponsky, MD Archana Ramaswamy, MD Barry A. Salky, MD Bruce D. Schirmer, MD

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SAGES EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOUNDATION PLEDGE, DONATION & FUNDING REPORT

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	The Allergan Foundation	\$650,000	
	Applied Medical	\$370,000	
	Atrium Medical	\$72,000	
	Boston Scientific	\$150,000	
	ConMed Corporation	\$100,000	
	Cook Surgical	\$25,000	
	C. R. Bard Foundation	\$40,000	
	Endogastric Solutions	\$7,500	
	Ethicon Endo-Surgery	\$2,000,000	
	Karl Storz Endoscopy	\$1,806,000	
	Lexion Medical	\$15,000	
	LifeCell	\$30,000	
	Microline Surgical	\$100,000	
	NDO Surgical	\$5,000	
	Olympus Corporation	\$590,000	
	Richard Wolf Medical Instruments	\$60,000	
	Simbionix	\$36,000	
	Stryker Endoscopy	\$550,000	
	Synovis Surgical Innovations	\$10,000	
	Taut Medical Products/Teleflex		
		\$25,000	
	U.S. Surgical/Covidien	\$1,075,000	
	W.L. Gore & Associates	\$250,000	
	Total Corporate Pledges:	\$ 7,991,500	
INDIVIDUAL PLEDGES:	Total Individual Donations & Pledge	es to Date: \$ 1,852,147	
	Funds from SAGES to Date:	\$ 1,637,378	
	Events	\$ 180,768	
	Total Pledged and Donated to Date:	\$11,661,793	
PROGRAMS FUNDED:	Grantee 7	otal Amount Received	Awarded in 2013-2014
TROOMMAN TONDED.			
	Career Development Awards	\$420,000	\$ 60,000
	Career Development Seminar	\$20,000	
	Cost 11 Study	\$25,000	
	Flexible Endoscopy Fellows Courses	\$80,000	\$ 10,000
	Global Initiative	\$355,000	\$ 75,000
	Outcomes Registry Update	\$40,000	
	Robotics Guidelines/Consensus Confer	ence \$15,000	
	SAGES Annual Meeting Sponsorship	\$55,000	
	SAGES FES Grant	\$492,000	\$ 30,000
	SAGES FES Seed Grant	\$20,000	
	SAGES FLS Grant	\$115,000	
	SAGES Research Grants	\$530,000	\$90,000
	Strategic Retreat	\$10,000	
	-	\$265,000	\$ 95,000
	SAGES FUSE Grant	\$20 <u></u> ,000	\$ 95,000
	SAGES Brandeis Scholarship	\$16,000	\$ 8,000
	SAGES Brandeis Scholarship Foundation for Surgical Fellowships		\$ 8,000 \$ 60,000
	SAGES Brandeis Scholarship	\$16,000	\$ 8,000

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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

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.

OUR PURPOSE

The SAGES Education and Research Foundation was founded to be an alternative resource for minimal access surgical research and education. Through focused grant-making, the SAGES Foundation provides institutions, physicians, fellows, and academicians with funding support to create evidence-based standards of practice, develop upto-date training programs, and carry out long-term research that others will not fund.

Common endeavors supported by the Foundation are:

- Educational programs in minimally invasive surgical techniques and procedures
 - Assessment tools and methodology of surgical skills and competence
- Development of surgical trainers and educators
- Technology that supports and advances minimally invasive surgery
- Preceptorship networks
- Development of surgical training tools
- Outcomes studies
- New and emerging minimally invasive research
 - Research fellowships



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