



Southern Association for Vascular Surgery

NEWSLETTER

www.savs.org

Spring 2011

2011 - 2012 OFFICERS

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Little Rock, Arkansas

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Greenville, South Carolina

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Baltimore, Maryland
Daniel S. Rush, M.D.
Johnson City, Tennessee

REPRESENTATIVE TO SVS

Scott L. Stevens, M.D.
Knoxville, Tennessee

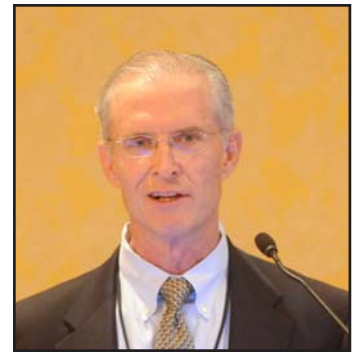
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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Now in its 36th year, the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery has established itself as the elite regional vascular surgical organization committed to providing state-of-the-art post-graduate education in a collegial environment. I am proud to report that we are a vibrant and healthy organization, with an active, growing membership and an outstanding annual meeting.

The 35th Annual Meeting at the Ritz Carlton in Naples, Florida was a resounding success. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Dan Rush for his year as President. As we have all come to realize, Dan is an accomplished historical writer and his inspiring presidential address made full use of his ability to remind us of the foundations laid for us by the pioneers of our specialty. Ali AbuRahma and the Program Committee deserve special credit for putting together a cutting edge scientific program. And Chip Sternburgh and David Minion assembled a remarkable faculty for the Post-Graduate Course on Venous Disease. The weather was surprisingly mild for Naples in January and the social program was picture perfect. Will Jordan, Chairman of the Program Committee, and David Minion, Chairman of the CME Committee are already making plans for our next



John F. Eidt, M.D.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2011 ANNUAL MEETING



Additional photo highlights of the 2011 Annual Meeting appear inside.

UPCOMING SAVS ANNUAL MEETINGS

2012

January 18-21

Hyatt Regency at Gainey Ranch
Scottsdale, Arizona

2013

January 23-26

Atlantis
Paradise Island, Bahamas

Southern Association for Vascular Surgery

Highlights of the 35th Annual Business Meeting / January 22, 2011 / Ritz-Carlton, Naples, Florida

The Annual Business Meeting of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery was called to order on Saturday, January 22, 2011 at 11:50 a.m. at Ritz-Carlton, Naples, FL with President Daniel S. Rush presiding. The minutes from the 2010 Annual Business Meeting at the Atlantis Resort, Paradise Island, Bahamas were approved unanimously without revision as written online in the spring newsletter.

As directed in Article III, Section 6 of the Constitution and Bylaws, Secretary-Treasurer Taylor submitted the following report of the Executive Council meeting held on January 19, 2011 to the membership:

The Executive Council of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery was called to order on Wednesday, January 19, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. sharp, with President Daniel S. Rush presiding. The minutes from the Executive Council Meeting of June 10, 2010 at the Sheraton Boston, Boston, Massachusetts were approved.

PR/RI Report

April Conti, Meeting Coordinator from PRRI, Inc., presented written and oral reports. Once again, the 2011 meeting entertained abstracts through electronic submission and received 122 total abstracts by the September 3rd deadline. This included 112 free papers/case reports and 10 Founders Award papers. This year, the Program Committee met via phone conference on September 27, 2010 and selected the program.

As of January 13, 2011, there were 128 members, 21 candidate members, 25 guest physicians, 16 non-member presenting authors, 11 residents, 3 allied health, and 49 spouse/guests pre-registered for a total of 253 pre-registrants. The contracted room block at the Ritz-Carlton, Naples includes 675 room nights. On January 13th the Association had picked up 744 room nights, and thus does not anticipate a problem with room block attrition.

This year, the Association attained pledges from industry of \$92,000 (\$80,000 was budgeted). This represents a resurgence from the declining trend of corporate sponsorship experienced in recent years. This year we have Platinum Sponsorship from Cook Inc. and W. L. Gore and Associates (\$30,000 each). Other contributors include Medtronic (\$12,000), MAQUET Cardiovascular (\$2,500), Siemens Healthcare (\$5,000) and Vascutek (\$5,000).

The 36th Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 18-21, 2012 at the Hyatt Regency Scottsdale Resort and Spa at Gainey Ranch in Scottsdale, Arizona. The Association has a guaranteed room rate of \$279 single/double occupancy. The 37th Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 23-26, 2013 at the Atlantis Resort in Paradise Island, Bahamas. The Association has a guaranteed room rate of \$270 single/double occupancy for the Coral Tower and \$320 single/double for the Royal Tower.

According to our traditional rotation, the 38th Annual Meeting will be held in Florida. Meeting Manager Conti presented several options. It was the consensus that the Association should pursue locations on the east coast of Florida. Meeting manager Conti was instructed to negotiate terms with The Breakers Hotel and Resort in Palm Beach, and The Ocean Reef Club in Key Largo. Details will be reviewed and final selection of location will be made at the June Executive Council Meeting.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

The current membership stands at 169 active members and 80 candidate members, with 260 senior members (113 of whom are retired members) and 23 honorary members. One new honorary member, Ronald M. Fairman, M.D., will be added this year. One honorary member, Emerick D. Szilagyi of Michigan, died. Since January 2010, one senior member retired. Eleven members will advance to senior status at this meeting; 11 will advance in January 2012, and 14 will advance in January 2013. There are currently 11 active members residing out of the geographic area, representing 6.5% of the total active membership, which is within the 10% allowed by the Constitution and By-Laws.

Twenty-seven active members have missed two consecutive meetings; none will be advancing to senior status at this meeting. Fifteen are pre-registered for this Annual Meeting and the remainder have been notified by the Secretary-Treasurer that they must attend the 2011 Annual Meeting to maintain their membership.

Seven active members have missed three consecutive meetings. Six are pre-registered for this Annual Meeting and the remainder have been notified by the Secretary-Treasurer that they must attend the 2011 Annual Meeting to maintain their membership.

One active member has missed four consecutive meetings and sent a letter of resignation last week.

Four requests have been made for an excused absence from the 2011 Annual Meeting. One member is deployed on active-duty military overseas. The 3 remaining excuses were trivial and not accepted. Forty-three members have failed to pay their 2011 dues despite several reminders from the Secretary-Treasurer. Three members have failed to pay their 2010 dues and will be dropped from the Association roster in accordance with Article VII, Section 3 of the Constitution and Bylaws.

As of December 31, 2010, assets in the treasury included: \$373,379.42 in a money market checking account at Wells Fargo Bank, \$204,469.70 in an account held by PR/RI, Inc., and \$3,067.99 in a Scudder investment account. Therefore, the total financial assets of the Association were \$580,917.11, compared to \$581,900.95 in January 2010. The 2010 budget was reviewed. The actual 2010 and financials showed nearly a \$49,000 favorability to budget. For the year, the Association made \$37,938.40.

Local Arrangements Committee

Local Arrangements Committee Chair Langan was present and gave an oral report. He reviewed the social and sporting events for this year's meeting which includes the usual venue of golf, tennis, skeet shooting and the 5K fun run. Chairman Langan has appointed an "Activity Captain" to oversee and facilitate each sporting event at this year's Annual Meeting.

Constitution and Bylaws Committee

Constitution and Bylaws Committee Chair Goldman was present and gave an oral report. Chairman Goldman has been in contact with President Rush to discuss the overall status of the Constitution and Bylaws. It is President Rush's opinion that the Constitution and

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Annual Business Meeting *(continued from previous page)*

Bylaws have become somewhat “cobbled” and dated over the years and should probably be reviewed/ revised for accuracy and clarity. The Council suggested that several ad hoc members be appointed to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee to extensively review the document. President Rush appointed Past President Kim Hansen to be an ad hoc committee member and also authorized Chairman Goldman to recruit other ad hoc members as necessary. The Committee will report its findings at the June meeting of the Executive Council.

Archives Committee

Archivist Stuart Myers was present and provided an oral report. He reviewed the status of the archives and reported that everything is in order. As in years past, a \$1000 donation has been given to the Atlanta History Center, the organization which manages our archives. As has been the case the last few years, a professional photographer has again been hired again to help with photography at the Annual Meeting.

Last year, three Rudolph Matas Lifetime Achievement Awards were awarded at the opening session of the Annual Meeting to Past Presidents Norman Rich, Robert Smith and James Seeger. This year the Archives Committee plans not to present an award.

Budget and Finance Committee

Budget and Finance Committee Chair Harlin was absent. An oral report was given by Secretary-Treasurer Taylor. The 2011 budget submitted by Secretary-Treasurer Taylor to the Committee, reflects combined operating revenues of \$301,800 and combined expenses of \$295,949. Thus, the budget projects an overall surplus of \$5,851 for the 2011 budget year. The committee recommended no increase in membership dues at this time.

Report of the Representative to the SVS Executive Council

Representative Scott Stevens was present and gave a detailed written and oral report. His report reflects an overview of the current activity of the Society for Vascular Surgery (SVS).

1. Membership and Financial – The SVS is growing and fiscally strong. Membership totals 3,353 including 220 new members. The recommendation is in place to allow podiatrists and scientists at the doctoral level conducting vascular research to be included in the associate membership category. This will be considered at the June 11th SVS business meeting. Total assets as of March 31, 2010 were \$6,626,257, compared to \$5,198,426 one year earlier.
2. The 2010 Vascular Annual Meeting had 2,848 attendees, an all time record. There were 766 SVS members and 239 international attendees. This meeting featured education and device training pavilions and 9 satellite symposia. The ESVS participated in the debate sessions and the APMA partnered in the post-graduate course. 431 abstracts were submitted, compared to 327 in 2009. Power-point presentations from the sessions were available for download.
3. Educational Initiatives - Chaired by John Eidt, the Educational Council is evaluating new technology for training practicing vascular surgeons (skills simulation, iPhone apps and online applications). Current projects include coding and reimbursement

courses and mentoring programs (carotid artery stenting and lower extremity endovascular). In addition, the SVS supports the annual Research Initiatives in Vascular Disease Conference.

4. Practice Guidelines and Reporting Standards - Evidence based practice guidelines were published regarding left subclavian artery management with thoracic endovascular aortic repair, and the care of patients with abdominal aortic aneurysms. The Outcomes Committee is collaborating with the FDA, SIR, AATS, IDE investigators and industry on a Catastrophic Thoracic Aortic Indications database to develop FDA Master Access Files for the evaluation of new endovascular therapies.
5. Health Care Reform - A record number of grassroots letters (more than 1,800) were e-mailed by SVS members to congressional members opposing the Independent Payment Advisory Board and the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) directives. The SVS lobbied for imaging service payments and expansion of the medical AAA screening benefit. The SVS health policy committee also participated in recent CPT and RUC activities. Intense efforts focused on the relative values for lower extremity interventions.
6. SVS Political Action Committee – Congressional members who served as catalysts for positive provisions in the healthcare reform law and continued Medicare physician payment increases/freezes for vascular surgeons were engaged. Peer to peer solicitation raised a total of \$100,000.00.
7. Physician payment –The SVS joined with the CPT editorial panel and AMA Specialty Society Relative Value Update Committee to update coding for vascular procedures.
8. Media - The SVS was mentioned in 396 newspaper and online media. Patient educational articles were published in national newspapers and aired on national radio. The Vascular Web had 3.3 million hits and the home page redesigned. Dr. Bruce Perler, JVS Senior Editor, reported a substantial increase in Journal submissions, particularly electronic. The JVS impact factor is 3.77, an all time high
9. Clinical Practice - The Council is developing SVS standards for Vascular Centers of Excellence. Under the Clinical Practice Council, the Comparative Effectiveness Committee is studying CLI cost-efficacy. The Diversity Committee published a JVS supplement on diversity and conducted outreach programs encouraging minorities to enter vascular surgery. The Communications Committee is adding 50 new podcasts to the SVS library; topics are directed to patients, vascular surgeons, trainees and medical students. The Committee also has led the SVS AAAnswers campaign.
10. The Fellows Council approved 10 individuals for the Distinguished Fellow designation in 2010, selected two recipients for the SVS Lifetime Achievement Award and named one recipient for the SVS Medal for Innovation. The plan is to strengthen the role of Distinguished Fellows within the Society.
11. VESAP 2 - Scheduled for release June 2011 in an online format. All new questions are being planned for the second edition and vascular medicine questions will be included.
12. International Relations – The Committee reports increased SVS membership and annual meeting attendance and plans to expand international SVS chapters to other countries. The SVS continues

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Annual Business Meeting (continued from previous page)

- involvement in the World Federation of Vascular Societies and will host the WFVS meeting June 2011 in Chicago.
13. The Research Council - The SVS will meet with the FDA on implementation of the objective performance goals for CLI and develop parameters for clinical trials endorsements.
 14. Vascular Surgery Board - Vascular diplomats must accumulate 30 hours of self assessment CME during each three year MOC cycle. The VSB emphasized the importance of Vascular Medicine training
 15. Association of Program Directors in Vascular Surgery - The fall 2010 fellows' conference was held in conjunction with the UCLA review course. New APDVS projects include an online curriculum to be posted on the APDVS website, VCore, and working with UpToDate to post timely vascular surgery topics.
 16. Conflict of Interest – The SVS will develop all programs, products, services and advocacy positions independent of company influence. The Committee has outlined standards for all SVS leaders, similar to those used by the NIH.
 17. TASC IIB – The SVS opposes changes to the TASC guidelines. In TASC IIB, the recommendation to support an endovascular first approach is poorly substantiated. The document changes do not rigorously identify the safest and most cost effective procedure for the patient, the public or the government.
 18. Vascular Quality Initiative - The VQI is an outcomes registry for all major vascular procedures. The VQI will provide long-term data critical to meaningful outcomes assessment. The VQI uses a web-based registry platform and builds on the Vascular Study Group of New England model. VQI data analysis and sharing will be federally protected. Data collection for VQI will be performed on the Clinical Data Pathways product developed by M2S.

Representative Stevens was commended for his outstanding service and report.

Communications Committee Report

Communications Committee Chairman Brothers was present and gave an oral report. Both the spring and fall newsletters were delivered online as scheduled. A blast e-mail was sent to the membership reminding them to read the spring newsletter online since it represents the minutes of last year's Annual Business Meeting. These minutes, as written will be reviewed, amended and approved at this year's Annual Business Meeting.

Government Relations Committee

Government Relations Committee Chair and Past President Hugh Trout was present and gave an oral report. A lively discussion on healthcare reform ensued. Chairmen Trout predicts challenging times ahead for vascular surgeons.

Old Business

The following items were discussed:

1. An update from the AAVS meeting – The AAVS met during the November Veith Meeting in New York. Program Committee Chair AbuRahma attended the meeting representing the Eastern Vascular Society and provided our Council a review of topics. The AAVS continues to have a vague mission and unstructured meeting process. Representatives from the SVS on the committee still feel that the regional societies should conform to the overall agenda of the SVS so that the specialty can “speak with one voice”. As was demonstrated by the report provided from our representative to the SVS, Scott Stevens, the SVS has an extremely broad and impressive agenda which includes advocacy for the specialty of vascular surgery and more specifically, advocacy for patients with vascular disease. A discussion ensued. The mission and construct of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery is currently not aligned with the broad agenda of the SVS. To achieve alignment, the Association would need to substantially alter its structure and function. Considerably more financial resources would be needed. The Council concluded that our Association should support the SVS as much as possible, but should not try conforming to the SVS mission. Lastly, Chairman AbuRahma reported that the AAVS Committee discussed the topic of regional societies becoming nominating organizations for the Vascular Surgery Board of the American Board of Surgery. It is doubtful that this will occur anytime soon.

2. The Jesse E. Thompson, M.D. Foundation – As directed by the Executive Council in June, Secretary-Treasurer Taylor has been working with Dr. Alfred Perssons of Dallas, Texas to facilitate the donation of a major financial gift to our Association in honor of Founding Member and Past President Jesse E. Thompson. The gift constitutes the remaining treasury of the Jesse E. Thompson Society, a society consisting of former Baylor fellows, and has decided to disband. At the June meeting the Council suggested that, if possible, a larger donation should be sought and that we should endow the Distinguished/Honorary Guest Lecture; honoring Dr. Thompson with naming rights. Indeed, Dr. Perssons raised additional money and has offered to donate nearly \$30,000 to the Association, if the Association agrees to match the gift in some manner. Secretary-Treasurer Taylor proposed that we place the donation in our current Scudder account and that the Association match the donation 2-1. Investment earnings from the account will be used to offset the expense of the Distinguished Guest lectureship. As a consequence, the Council entertained and unanimously passed two motions: First, the Association agrees to match the donation from the Jesse E. Thompson Society to the Scudder account 2-1 (approximately \$60,000 of match money to create an account worth approximately \$90,000) and, second, to change the name of the Distinguished Guest Lecture to the Jesse E. Thompson, M.D. Lectureship. As well, the name of the Scudder account will be changed to the Jesse E. Thompson M.D. Educational Endowment Fund. This fund will reside within our treasury. Since the Association is a not-for-profit 501(c)3, the Educational Endowment could receive tax deductible, charity gifts from members or other donors. Secretary-Treasurer Taylor will send a letter of thanks to Dr. Perssons on behalf of the Association

3. Vascular Study Group of New England — Progress is being made within the geographic region of the Association to create various

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Annual Business Meeting (continued from previous page)

study groups affiliated with the Vascular Study Group of New England. Currently, South Carolina has a robust study group lead by Jeb Hallett of Charleston. Other groups are in the process of being formed.

4. Dues Exemption for Active-Duty Military — In response to a letter from Association member David Dawson sent to the Council this past spring, a motion was considered and unanimously passed which will exempt Association members who are full-time, active-duty military from paying membership dues.

New Business

The following topics were considered:

1. Self-assessment CME for Maintenance of Certification –

The Council discussed the topic of attaining self-assessment CME credit for the Annual Meeting. President-Elect Eidt, a Director on the American Board of Surgery, informed the Council that nearly one third of all CME credit necessary to achieve Maintenance of Certification will need to be self-assessment CME. Currently, vascular surgeons attain self-assessment CME credit by submitting answers to CME questions from the Journal of Vascular Surgery or by completing the VESAP course. The Council instructed the Continuing Medical Education Committee to explore mechanisms to make a portion of the CME credit offered at the Annual Meeting, self-assessment CME. The Council felt the best place to start would be with the Postgraduate Course.

2. Contribution to the American Vascular Association (AVA)

– The Association has been approached by the AVA Development Committee of the SVS and asked to contribute to the AVA as an organization. The AVA, of course, is the research foundation of the SVS. It awards seed grants to young investigators. Considering the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery policy on non-advocacy as an organization, the Council decided to solicit individual gifts from members and not to send a gift from the Association treasury. Secretary-Treasurer Taylor will draft a letter to be sent to each member of the Association inviting them to contribute to this worthwhile endeavor.

3. Expanded role for the Councilors-at-Large — In an effort to show appreciation for the service by our Councilors-at-Large, a plaque will be awarded to the outgoing Councilor at the Annual Business Meeting each year going forward. As a display commensurate with the importance of the elected position, the Councilors-at-Large will also be given an expanded role at the Annual Meeting to possibly include moderating various sessions of the educational program.

4. Online Dues Payment -- Secretary-Treasurer Taylor was instructed to work with Meeting Manager Conti to arrange a mechanism by which members of the Association can pay their membership dues online.

With all business completed, the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

President Rush asked for, and received, a motion for approval of the Secretary-Treasurer's report. The report was approved unanimously.

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NEW ACTIVE MEMBERS

Albrecht, Robert J.	Pinehurst, NC
Bazan, Hernan A.	New Orleans, LA
Cherry, Kenneth J.	Charlottesville, VA
Dew, Jason S.	Burlington, NC
Eskandari, Mark K.	Chicago, IL
Feezor, Robert J.	Gainesville, FL
Garrard, C. Louis	Nashville, TN
Hassoun, Heitham T.	Houston, TX
Jacobson, Gary M.	Marietta, GA
McGraw, Daniel J.	Parkersburg, WV
Mehta, Manish	Albany, NY
Morasch, Mark D.	Chicago, IL
Perkowski, Paul E.	Baton Rouge, LA
Pounds, Lori L.	San Antonio, TX
Reilly, Jeffrey M.	Marietta, GA
Ricotta, Joseph J.	Atlanta, GA
Schwartzberg, Glen J.	Baton Rouge, LA
Upchurch, Gilbert R. Jr.	Charlottesville, VA
Veerawamy, Ravi K.	Atlanta, GA
Wyble, Charles W.	Marietta, GA
Yancey, Andrea E.	Louisville, KY

Candidate Membership

Abu Halimah, Shadi J.	Chapel Hill, NC
Alterman, Daniel M.	Knoxville, TN
Arnold, Joshua D.	Knoxville, TN
Bordoli, Stefano J.	Greenville, SC
Crenshaw, Gregory D.	New Orleans, LA
Fisher, Bryan T.	Nashville, TN
Iglesias, Roberto C.	Greenville, SC
Jones, John E.	Marietta, GA
Keefer, Adam J.	Charleston, SC
Mangalat, Dev	Gainesville, GA

Honorary Membership

Fairman, Ronald M.	Philadelphia, PA
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Annual Business Meeting (continued from previous page)

Membership Committee Report

Membership Committee Chair Guzman was absent and a report was provided by Secretary-Treasurer Taylor on his behalf. On January 5, 2011, the Membership Committee met on a conference call and reviewed 21 applications for Active Membership and 10 applications for Candidate Membership.

Program Committee Report

Program Committee Chair AbuRahma was present and reported that the Program Committee consisting of Drs. AbuRahma (Chair), William Jordon of Birmingham, AL, Marc Mitchell of Jackson, MS, Spence Taylor, and Thomas Huber and Meeting Manager Conti participated in a phone conference on September 27, 2010 and selected abstracts for the 2011 program. This year's program was selected from a robust pool of 122 abstracts. That included 112 free papers/case reports and 10 Founders Award abstracts. The program included the free paper plenary sessions, two case reports sessions (one devoted endovascular cases), a basic science session and a special session on Saturday morning devoted to controversies in vascular surgery (small aneurysms and carotid revascularization). This year the Distinguished Guest Lecture was given by Ronald M. Fairman, M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. The talk is entitled "The Evolution of Aortic Stent Graft Devices and Clinical Trials".

The Committee selected the paper entitled, "Endovascular Aneurysm Repair and the Anatomic Severity Grading Score: A Validity Study with Early Outcomes and Cost Analysis" by Dr. Sadaf S. Ahanchi from Eastern Virginia Medical School for the 2011 Founders' Award. The award was presented on Thursday during the Annual Meeting.

The S. Timothy String Presidential Award was awarded to Jennifer L. Lang, M.D. of Dallas, Texas at the opening session of the Annual Meeting for her paper entitled "TEVAR Does Not Alter the Natural History of Traumatic Aortic Disruption" which was presented at the 2010 Annual Meeting.

Recorder's Report

Recorder Huber was present and reported that a total of 32/37 possible manuscripts were submitted for publication to the *Journal of Vascular Surgery* from the SAVS Annual Meeting 2010. As of 1/16/11, 65% had been accepted for publication. Notably, these numbers reflect all the types of papers presented including the free papers, case presentations, basic science, and special session. Among the free papers, 22/23 were submitted for publication and 70% were accepted. This corresponds closely to our acceptance rate for the free papers historically. Notably, the Presidential Address, the S. Timothy String Presidential and the Founder's Award manuscripts were all accepted. Recorder Huber provided a complete breakdown of the various submissions in tabular format.

A total of 17 Examinees took the Mock Oral Examinations on Wednesday, January 19th with an overall pass rate of 65%. Nineteen members of the Association graciously donated their time to serve as Examiners or Alternates. The format of the examination was similar to last year and included more digital images and a "real time" feedback between the Examiners/Examinees. The results of the examination will be forwarded to the Examinees and their respective Program Directors.

W. L. Gore generously provided scholarships (\$1000/individual) to offset the cost of the examination for the Examinees and also sponsored a reception for the Examiners/Examinees. Recorder Huber formally thanked the Examiners and W. L. Gore for their generous support.

He reported, as well, that the content of the SAVS website, which is managed by PRRI, has been updated and all the links searched to confirm that the information is accurate.

Continuing Medical Education Committee

Continuing Medical Education Committee Chair Chip Sternbergh was absent and Secretary-Treasurer Taylor presented his report. Chairman Sternbergh presided over our annual Post Graduate Course which was devoted to current management of venous disease. This topic was chosen after an on-line survey of the membership. The course appears to have been extremely successful, with an outstanding faculty and well over 70 members and guests in attendance. Next year's Chairman will be David Minion from Lexington, Kentucky. Other members will be added such that the committee at steady state will consist of 3 members, serving staggered 3 year terms with the senior most member being the Chair (as is the case with all other standing committees of the Association).

Next year's Post Graduate Course topic will be discussed at the June meeting of the Executive Council

Audit Committee

The audit committee, named at the beginning of the Annual Meeting by President Rush, consisted of Jerry Light (Chairman) of Bedford, TX, Eleftherios Xenos of Lexington, KY and Cynthia Shortell of Durham, NC. Committee Chairman Light reported that the Committee had met with Secretary-Treasurer Taylor to review the Association's finances. The committee reviewed the audit report from Jennings Cook & Co., PA of Greenville, South Carolina and found the financial status of the Association to be healthy, with all matters of finance having been transacted in good faith. The general ledger was in balance.

Special Recognition

President Rush next recognized three out-going officers for distinguished service. First, President Rush thanked and commended Councilor-at-Large Michael B. Freeman of Knoxville, TN for his three years of service. A plaque commemorating his efforts was presented in absentia and will be sent to Councilor Freeman by PRRI. Next, President Rush recognized out going Recorder, Thomas S. Huber of Gainesville, FL and presented him with a commemorative plaque. Recorder Huber was praised by President Rush for attending to the published activity of the Association and also for his meticulous detail overseeing the Mock Oral Board Examination process. Lastly, President Rush thanked Secretary-Treasurer Taylor from Greenville, SC for his dedication overseeing the operation of the Association to include the Annual Meeting and other activities over the past five years. A commemorative desk statue was presented to Secretary-Treasurer Taylor.

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Annual Business Meeting (continued from previous page)

Unfinished Business

President Rush called for Unfinished Business and entertained none.

New Business

President Rush called for New Business and entertained none.

Nominating Committee Report

Past President and Chairman of the Nominating Committee Kim Hansen provided the report of the Nominating Committee. First however, he thanked and recognized outgoing President Rush. President Rush was presented with a commemorative gavel plaque while at the podium. Additionally, a Southern Association for Vascular Surgery commemorative captain's chair and silver Revere bowl engraved with the seal of the Association have already been sent to President Rush's home.

Chairman Hansen reported that this year's Nominating Committee consisted of Past Presidents Hansen, Naslund and Perler. The following slate of officers for 2011 was presented for consideration by the membership:

President: John F. Eidt, Little Rock, AK

President-Elect: Spence M. Taylor, Greenville, SC

Secretary-Treasurer: Eric D. Endean, Lexington, KY

Recorder: Matthew S. Edwards, Winston Salem, NC

Councilor-at-Large (2012): William A. Marston, Chapel Hill, NC

Councilor-at-Large (2013): J. Gregory Modrall, Dallas, TX

Councilor-at-Large (2014): W. Charles Sternbergh, III, New Orleans, LA

Representative to the SVS Executive Council: Scott L. Stevens, Knoxville, TN

President Rush asked for additional nominations from the floor and there were none. A motion was made for approval and the slate was unanimously approved by the membership. Chairman Hansen and President Rush then installed John F. Eidt as the 35th President of The Southern Association for Vascular Surgery and passed him the Matas and Nashville gavels. President-elect Eidt graciously accepted his role as President and expressed his thanks for the honor of serving. He recognized the contributions of President Rush.

President Eidt announced the following committee appointments for 2011-2012:

Budget and Finance Committee: Richard L. Feinberg (Chairman), Nancy L. Harthun, Richard F. Neville

Constitution and By-Laws Committee: Mitchell H. Goldman, Eric D. Endean

Government Relations Committee: Hugh H. Trout, III

Local Arrangements Committee: Robert P. Winter

Membership Committee: Cynthia K. Shortell (Chairman), Charles B. Ross, Peter H. Lin

Program Committee: William D. Jordan, Jr. (Chairman), Marc E. Mitchell, Mohammed M. Moursi

Continuing Medical Education Committee: David J. Minion (Chairman), Gregory J. Pearl, Eric D. Endean

Communications Committee: Thomas E. Brothers (Chairman)

There being no further business, the 2011 Annual Business Meeting of The Southern Association for Vascular Surgery was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

2011 Founders' Award



Sadaf S. Ahanch

*Eastern Virginia Medical School, Norfolk, Virginia
Endovascular Aneurysm Repair and the Anatomic
Severity Grading Score: A Validation Study with
Early Outcomes and Cost Analysis*

S. Timothy String Award



**Jennifer L. Lang
Dallas, Texas**

*TEVAR Does Not Alter The Natural History Of
Traumatic Aortic Disruption*

Photo Highlights from the 2011 Annual Meeting



THANK YOU
to the following companies for their support:

PLATINUM SPONSORS

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SILVER SPONSOR

Medtronic CardioVascular

BRONZE SPONSOR

Abbott Vascular

FOUNDERS' AWARD SPONSOR

Vascutek, A Terumo Company

EXHIBITORS

Abbott Vascular
 Angiodynamics
 Atrium Medical Corporation
 Bard Peripheral Vascular
 Bolton Medical, Inc.
 Boston Scientific - Peripheral Inter
 Cook Medical
 Cordis, a Johnson & Johnson
 company
 CryoLife, Inc.
 Endologix, Inc.
 EV3
 Gore & Associates, Inc.
 Implantable Devices
 InaVein
 Lemaitre Vascular, Inc.
 M2S, Inc.
 Medtronic CardioVascular
 Osborn Medical
 Siemens Healthcare
 Spectranetics Corp.
 St. Jude Medical, Inc.
 Terumo Cardiovascular Systems
 Total Vein Systems
 Vascular Transplant Services

SPORTING EVENT WINNERS

5k RUN

1st Place (Female)	Sarah Miller	22.08
1st Place (Male)	Rick Endean	20.25
Honorable Mention:	Christopher Everett	22.08

TENNIS TOURNAMENT

1st Place Female: Susan Elliott

SPORTING CLAYS

Winner: Dan Fisher

GOLF TOURNAMENT

1st Place: Stuart Harlin, Pat Cogburn, Chris Lecroy
Closest to the Pin: David Oster
Longest Drive: Brent Quinney

2012 ANNUAL MEETING

The 36th Annual Meeting of The Southern Association for Vascular Surgery will be held January 18-21, 2012 at the Hyatt Regency Scottsdale at Gainey Ranch, Scottsdale, Arizona. Details regarding the meeting and hotel registration information will be mailed in the Fall. We encourage you to make your airline reservations early in order to secure the best possible fares and itinerary.

Abstracts

All abstract submissions will be on-line at www.savs.org. For additional information please contact the Association's Administrative Office, 900 Cummings Center, Suite 221-U, Beverly, MA 01915 (978) 927-8330 / Fax: (978) 524-0498. Submission deadline for abstracts for the 2012 Annual Meeting is Friday, September 2, 2011.

Case Reports Accepted for Panel Presentation at the 2012 Annual Meeting

Case Reports will be solicited for panel presentation during the 36th Annual Meeting. In addition to an abstract, a maximum of four images may be submitted for the Program Committee to review. If selected for presentation, a manuscript is optional and will not be required.

S. Timothy String President's Award

The S. Timothy String President's Award will recognize the best overall paper presented during the 2012 Annual Meeting. The award consists of \$5000 and will be presented at the 2013 Annual Meeting in Atlantis on Paradise Island, Bahamas.

Founders' Award

The Founders' Award is for original clinical or basic science papers presented by a trainee (Residents, Fellows or Students). This award, which consists of \$5000, will be presented at the 36th Annual Meeting in Arizona. Eligibility is extended to programs located in states comprising the membership of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery.

Postgraduate Course on a Current Vascular Topic

A postgraduate course will be held on Wednesday, January 18, 2012 and will feature a current vascular topic to be decided. Please contact the SAVS office at (978) 927-8330 or savs@prri.com for further details.

Mock Oral Board Examinations

Mock oral board examinations will be offered to individuals preparing for the Vascular Surgery Certifying Examination. Examinees should reside in the states comprising the SAVS region. Interested individuals should contact Dr. Matthew S. Edwards at (336) 713-5256 or medwards@wfubmc.edu.

Guests

Members who wish to invite non-member physicians as their guests should contact the office of Eric D. Endean, MD, Department of Surgery, University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center, 800 Rose Street, Lexington, KY 40536-0293, (859) 323-63466 x 243 / edende0@uky.edu. Invited guests will receive a letter of invitation and the necessary reservation forms, as well as meeting information.

ACTIVE, CANDIDATE, AND CORRESPONDING MEMBERSHIPS

If you wish to sponsor a colleague for SAVS Membership, an application form must be requested from the Secretary-Treasurer by the sponsoring member.

Qualifications for Active Membership:

1. The active membership consists of those surgeons recommended by the Executive Council from the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, DC;
2. Applicants must have been in practice for three years, be certified by the American Board of Surgery (ABS) and/or the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, with Fellowship in the American College of Surgeons, and, with rare exception, be graduated from an approved vascular surgery training program and be certified by the Vascular Surgery Board of the ABS;
3. Applicants not certified by the Vascular Surgery Board of the ABS must document at least fifty (50) major peripheral vascular reconstructive procedures in each of the three years preceding application, exclusive of residency and fellowship training;
4. The application must be accompanied by letters of sponsorship (1) and endorsement (2) by three members in good standing of the Association. One of these members must be from the Applicant's home state.

Qualifications for Candidate Membership:

1. The candidate membership consists of Fellows in approved Vascular Surgery training programs, General Surgery residents accepted into approved Vascular Surgery training programs, or Vascular Surgeons who do not yet meet the requirements for active membership within the region of the SAVS;
2. A letter of sponsorship is required from either the applicant's Program Director or a member in good standing of the Association from the applicant's home state;
3. Candidate membership has a maximum term of five years following completion of training.

Qualifications for Corresponding Membership:

1. Corresponding membership consists of those surgeons residing outside the United States recommended by the Executive Council.
2. Applicants must meet the requirements for Active Membership in Article I, Section 5(a) of the bylaws.
3. Certification in Vascular Surgery from the American Board of Surgery or its equivalent is highly desirable.
4. The application must be accompanied by letter of sponsorship (1) and endorsement (2) by three members in good standing of the Association. All application materials should then be returned to the office of the Secretary-Treasurer, Eric D. Endean, MD, Department of Surgery, University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center, 800 Rose Street, Lexington, KY 40536-0293, (859) 323-63466x243 / edende0@uky.edu

program and post-graduate course at the Hyatt Regency Scottsdale at the Gainey Ranch, January 18-21, 2012.

2010 was a year of significant transition for the SAVS. Tom Huber is stepping down as Recorder to be succeeded by Matt Edwards. For the past several years, the Recorder has had responsibility of organizing the annual Mock Oral examinations. Tom has done a simply spectacular job in putting together an event that emulates the ABS Certifying Examination and is invaluable for our residents. Thanks to Tom for a job well done.

As many of you recognize, the job of president of the SAVS is largely a ceremonial role, with the bulk of the heavy lifting thrust on the shoulders of the Secretary. The previous secretaries of the SAVS are a who's who in vascular surgery including Cal Ernst, George Johnson, Bob Smith, Jim Seeger, Pat Clagett, Kim Hansen and our most recent secretary, and now President-Elect, Spence Taylor. Spence Taylor is the life and blood of this organization. For the past five years, he has watched over it like a proud lioness over her cubs, and with the same ferocity! He has been a shrewd guardian of our finances and under his direction the SAVS weathered the recent financial storm with relative ease and we are currently healthy and growing. Further, Spence has provided us with an organizational conscience that underlies the very essence of the organization and assures our continued success. On behalf of the SAVS, I want to express my sincere appreciation for all of the time and effort that he has so graciously donated to the Southern.

I am equally proud to recognize our incoming secretary as worthy of the honor and capable of filling some big shoes - Eric Endean from Kentucky. We are extremely fortunate that Eric has agreed to assume the role of Secretary and I am confident that our organization remains under the guidance of a steady and forward-thinking leader.

As I look back over the last year, I am reminded of how fortunate we are to practice vascular surgery. If recent history is any indication, vascular surgery is clearly one of the most dynamic specialties in all of medicine. It seems like only yesterday that we were fretting over the potential impact on our specialty of the possibility of treating abdominal aneurysms with Parodi's new "stent-graft" technique. Would this mean the end of conventional vascular surgery? Could vascular surgeons learn to use fluoroscopy in preference to hands-on open surgery? And yet, over the past twenty years, vascular surgery has evolved into a unique, independent surgical specialty with governance over its own residency training programs, fellowships, and Board Certification. Vascular surgeons are unrivaled in their ability to combine minimally-invasive, image-guided endovascular techniques with traditional open surgical procedures to "invent" unique treatment alternatives for our patients.

Challenges clearly lie ahead and vascular surgeons have to remain alert, agile and resilient as we prepare for the future. It has been just over a year since the results from the CREST study were released confirming what most vascular surgeons knew instinctively – that carotid stenting causes more strokes (mostly small) and carotid endarterectomy causes more MIs (mostly small) and that long-term, stroke is more debilitating than a "chemical" MI. At the same time, the benefit of intervention,

either surgical or endovascular, for asymptomatic patients grows increasingly tenuous given the improvements in medical management. And yet, expanded coverage for carotid stenting seems likely. As vascular surgeons who perform both endarterectomy and stenting, we remain uniquely able to choose the best treatment for our patients without regard to specialty affiliation or limitations imposed by our practice environment or personal skill. By remaining committed to our patients, I am confident that vascular surgeons will continue to lead the debate regarding the optimal treatment of extracranial cerebrovascular disease.

Regardless of your personal view of "Obamacare", it is clear that we are all in for significant changes over the next few years, and beyond. We will likely be working longer than we might have anticipated, and we will likely be paid less than we hoped. But change brings opportunities to succeed! The bundling of lower extremity endovascular procedures reduced our professional fees by up to 25% but increased the global reimbursement for outpatient angiography. We all need to learn more about the opportunities and risks associated with ownership of imaging facilities.

I am humbled to have the honor of serving as the President of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery for the next year. It is a singular event in my life. As we prepare for the next annual meeting of the SAVS at the Gainey Ranch in Scottsdale, Arizona, we are cognizant of the rapidly changing terrain facing vascular surgeons. The Officers of the SAVS are committed to maintaining the high standards set by our predecessors and serving our members needs.

I encourage you to start thinking about those abstracts for the next meeting in Scottsdale at the Hyatt Regency at the Gainey Ranch, Jan 18-21, 2012. Remember the abstract deadline is only a few months away at the beginning of September. Please feel free to contact me or the other officers with your questions, concerns and suggestions for improving our organization.

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Southern Association
for Vascular Surgery

36th Annual Meeting
January 18-21, 2012

Hyatt Regency Scottsdale
at Gainey Ranch
Scottsdale, Arizona

ELECTRONIC CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Go to www.savs.org for information
and to submit your abstract.

On behalf of the SAVS Program Committee, we invite you to submit your abstract as a Free Paper or Case Report for consideration to the Association's 36th Annual Meeting. Abstracts are limited to 500 words unless being submitted for the Founders' Award, which allows for an extended abstract of no more than 1500 words.

ABSTRACT AWARD OPPORTUNITIES

S. TIMOTHY STRING PRESIDENT'S AWARD

The 2012 award will consist of \$5,000 and will be presented at the 37th Annual Meeting at the Atlantis in Paradise Island, Bahamas from January 23-26, 2013.

Eligibility

Eligibility for this award includes ALL ACTIVE MEMBERS. The President's Award Committee will choose the best overall manuscript from among those presented at the 2012 Annual Meeting. To be eligible for the award, an abstract must be accepted by the Program Committee for presentation at the regular Scientific Sessions. A manuscript, suitable for publication in the Journal of Vascular Surgery, is required at the time of presentation. Someone other than the member may present the accepted paper, but the member must close the discussion. The quality of the presentation and discussion are major considerations in the award.

Manuscript

The content of the manuscript must represent original work relating to clinical material, clinical research, or basic investigation on peripheral arterial, venous or lymphatic disease. The material must not have been presented, submitted, or published elsewhere. The manuscript should be prepared according to the Journal of Vascular Surgery guidelines.

FOUNDERS' AWARD

The 2012 award will consist of \$5,000 and will be presented at this year's meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Submission Guidelines

An Extended Abstract not to exceed 1500 words, representing original research on a basic science or clinical vascular subject should be submitted by a Trainee (student, resident or fellow) currently in a program located in one of the states comprising the membership of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery.

The material must concern peripheral arterial, venous or lymphatic disease and must not have been presented, submitted or published elsewhere. A manuscript suitable for publication in the Journal of Vascular Surgery will be required at the time of presentation. Judging will be based on the quality of the extended abstract and authors will be notified prior to this year's meeting.

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

- Mock Oral Examination, Wednesday, January 18
- Postgraduate Course, Wednesday, January 18
- S. Timothy String President's Award
- Founders' Award
- Original Scientific Presentations
- The Jessie E. Thompson, M.D. Distinguished Guest
Lecturer, *Roy K. Greenberg*
- Panel Discussions

VASCULAR SURGERY MOCK ORAL EXAMINATIONS

In an effort to prepare Candidate Members and Vascular Surgery Fellows in training from the SAVS region for the Vascular Surgery Qualifying Examination, Mock Oral Examinations are planned for the 2012 Annual Meeting on Wednesday, January 18th. These mock oral examinations will be organized by Dr. Matthew S. Edwards. Broad participation from the SAVS membership is needed to provide the best examination possible. If you are interested in serving as an Examiner, please email Dr. Edwards at medwards@wfubmc.edu.