

*Surgical Outcomes Club (SOC) is a consortium of surgeons and scientists interested in advancing health services and outcomes research in surgery. SOC provides a virtual and real meeting place for investigators addressing some of the most pressing clinical and policy issues facing the surgical profession today. This quarterly newsletter is meant to be a forum through which SOC members can communicate items of interest to fellow members.*

## 2018 Annual Meeting Highlights

With record breaking attendance, the Fourteenth Annual Meeting and Scientific Session of the Surgical Outcomes Club was held on Sunday, October 21 in Boston, Massachusetts at the Westin Boston Waterfront hotel. The day focused on two themes: Translating Research into Policy and Implementation Science.

Healthcare policy is informed by health services research and public opinion, influenced by the media and lobbyists and determined by regulatory bodies including policy makers on Capitol Hill. The journey from data to policy to implementation of new regulation is often obscure. Our four panelists, who are national leaders in Health Services Research & Policy shared their unique perspectives and experiences in taking data from patient care to policy and policy to patient care.

Next, we discussed implementation science, which involves the study and application of methods to promote the uptake of evidence-based interventions into healthcare policy and practice. This field has emerged over the past decade as an innovative approach allowing surgical outcome researchers to better understand barriers and facilitators to the adoption of effective surgical practices. Our three panelists discussed how they have applied implementation science methodology to their extramurally funded health services research projects in Urology, Surgical Oncology and Trauma/Critical Care.

Finally, we heard a thought provoking keynote address from Dr. Ashish Jha on understanding the cases and consequences of US healthcare spending compared to other developed countries.

Panelist have agreed to share their slides. Please find the agenda, along with a PDF of their slides on the Surgical Outcomes Club website: [www.surgicaloutcomesclub.com](http://www.surgicaloutcomesclub.com)

**Special thanks are due to the following presenters at the 2018 Annual Meeting:**

- **Ashish K. Jha, MD, MPH;** Harvard Medical School
- **Elliott R. Haut, MD, PhD;** Johns Hopkins Hospital
- **Vanessa Ho, MD;** Case Western University
- **Lee Hugar, MD;** University of Pittsburgh
- **Tasha Hughes, MD;** University of Michigan
- **Danil Makarov, MD;** New York University Langone Medical Center
- **Heather Neuman, MD, MS;** University of Wisconsin
- **Justin Dimick, MD;** Michigan Medicine
- **Melinda Buntin, PhD;** Vanderbilt University
- **Matthew Resnick, MD, MPH, MMHC;** Vanderbilt University
- **Dorry Segev, MD, PhD;** Johns Hopkins Hospital
- **Ray Tan, MD;** University of North Carolina

Also, a special thank you to the Board of Directors and Ashley Duby for efforts toward an outstanding and successful annual meeting!



**SAVE THE DATE**  
2019 Annual Meeting and Scientific Session  
Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>



San Francisco, California

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## Board of Director Positions

Beginning in the Spring 2019, the Board of Directors will be soliciting nominations for an individual to fill three at-large and one resident member of the Board. The resident member serves a two-year term, which **must** coincide with a two-year research fellowship (or other non-clinical roles).

We appreciate your assistance in identifying individuals, including yourself, who are interested in serving the SOC membership through this leadership role. Please contact a current SOC board member with any questions about their experience in serving in this capacity.

## Surgical Outcomes Club Treasurer



As many of you heard at the recent annual meeting, the Board of Directors voted Nader Massarweh, MD, MPH to serve as SOC's treasurer. Dr. Massarweh will serve a two-year term (2018-2020).

Many thanks to Angela Smith, MD for her leadership as the SOC Treasurer. She was voted in by the Board of Directors to serve as SOC's Treasurer in 2016. During her two-year term as Treasurer, the SOC has experienced financial security and growth enabling new opportunities for our membership.

## Board of Directors

Three new board members were selected by the membership at the Annual Meeting. Please help us welcome the following new Board Members:



**Shipra Arya, MD**  
Stanford University  
(At-Large Board Member, 3-year term)



**Angela Ingraham, MD**  
University of Wisconsin  
(At-Large Board Member, 3-year term)



**Susan Pitt, MD**  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
(At-Large Board Member, 3-year term)

Please also join the board in thanking the following outgoing members for their years of service to the SOC:

- **Joel Weissman, PhD**; Harvard University
- **Clara Lee, MD, MPP**; The Ohio State University
- **Angela Smith, MD, MS**; University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

The Board of Directors has appointed Rachel Kelz, MD, MSCE, as an Ex-Officio Director. This is a two-year term.

## Surgical Outcomes Initiatives

### Michael Zinner Health Services Research Fellowship

The Michael Zinner Health Services Research Fellowship is designed to provide an avenue for young investigators to acquire the skills and knowledge to develop, execute and publish research studies in the field of surgical outcomes and health services research under the guidance of high quality mentors and advisors. This one-year fellowship will match awardees with an established SOC member who will provide mentoring and guidance in the completion of an outcomes research project.

As part of the fellowship each fellow will be provided a travel scholarship, which will allow them to visit their mentor's institution. Check the SOC website for additional details about the program. Applications will be available starting in March 2019. We encourage trainees and junior faculty to apply.

### 2018 – 2019 Michael Zinner Fellows



**Christopher Childers, MD**  
University of California Los Angeles  
Mentor: Daniel Abbott, MD; University of Wisconsin



**Michael Egger, MD, MPH**  
University of Louisville  
Mentor: Hari Nathan, MD, PhD; Michigan Medicine



**Lyen Huang, MD, MPH**  
The University of Utah  
Mentor: Jennifer Waljee, MD, MPH, MS; Michigan Medicine



**Ugwuji Maduekwe, MD, MSc**  
University of North Carolina  
Mentor: Alex Hayes, MD, MPH; Harvard University

### Relationship with JAMA Surgery

As official journal of the Surgical Outcomes Club, *JAMA Surgery* provides SOC members with free access to high-quality articles, multimedia, and learning tools. Visit the [JAMA Surgery](#) section of our website for more information.

**We are excited to share a joint project between SOC and JAMA Surgery with you!** Given the marked popularity and success of the dataset series, Dr. Melina Kibbe, Editor-in-Chief of *JAMA Surgery*, has agreed to a new collaborative series on **methodologies**. We will be soliciting SOC members for authorship and ideas of methods pieces to include. If you have ideas or suggestions, please email SOC President, Amir A. Ghaferi ([aghaferi@umich.edu](mailto:aghaferi@umich.edu)) directly.

## New Opportunities

The opportunities page on the website is dedicated to posting of faculty and leadership positions, fellowship opportunities, and analyst recruitments. To post an ad on this page, please contact the SOC Administrator, Ashley Duby.



MICHAEL E. DEBAKEY  
DEPARTMENT OF  
SURGERY



### Seeking Investigators in Surgical Health Services Research

**Michael E. DeBakey Department of Surgery  
Baylor College of Medicine,  
Houston, TX**

The Michael E. DeBakey Department of Surgery at Baylor College of Medicine seeks investigators with expertise in surgical health services research. Desired areas of research emphasis include making surgical care safe, effective, efficient, and equitable, using both patient and population-level data.

Each successful candidate will be an MD or PhD at the associate professor or professor level who has an established independent research program in health services research. Active federal funding is essential, with emphasis on NIH funding. The investigator's research program should show a strong history of interdisciplinary collaboration, and the investigator should have a track record of mentoring students and post-doctoral fellows. Prior relevant academic training in public health, bioinformatics, implementation science, database studies, or qualitative techniques is a plus. Protected research time will be offered. A faculty appointment at the Associate Professor or Professor level will be given based on experience and fit with appointment guidelines.

The surgical investigator will join a robust center for health services research at IQuEst, the Center for Innovations in Quality, Effectiveness, and Safety. IQuEst is a VA Center of Excellent Excellence, affiliated also with Baylor College of Medicine. Currently IQuEst is the largest center for health services research in the Southwest and houses over 200 faculty, post-doctoral fellows, trainees and research staff. Investigators are supported by programming personnel, administrative personnel, and a full range of research support staff. IQuEst faculty represent seven BCM departments: Medicine, Surgery, Psychiatry, Pediatrics, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Ophthalmology, and Neurology. Center investigators collaborate with faculty at Rice University, The University of Texas School of Health Information Sciences and School of Public Health, University of Houston, and Texas A&M University. IQuEst and the Department of Surgery are linked through a joint training program, the Surgical Health Services Academy for Research and Education (SHARE).

Interested candidates should submit a personal statement and a curriculum vitae to the search committee at [trautner@bcm.edu](mailto:trautner@bcm.edu).

**Barbara W. Trautner, MD, PhD**  
Director of Clinical and Health Services Research  
Director of Research Administration  
Michael E. DeBakey Department of Surgery



AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

## 2019 Scholarship Available

The American College of Surgeons is offering two annual scholarships to subsidize attendance and participation in the Executive Leadership Program in Health Policy and Management at Brandeis University. The course takes place June 2–8, 2019. The award is in the amount of \$8,000, to be used toward the cost of tuition, travel, housing, and subsistence during the period of the course.

General policies covering the granting of the scholarship are:

- The award is open to surgeons who are members in good standing of the American College of Surgeons (ACS). Applicants must be at least 30 years old, but under 60, on the date that the completed application is filed.
- The award is to be used to support the recipient during the period of the scholarship. Indirect costs are not paid to the recipient or to the recipient's institution.
- Application for this award may be submitted even if comparable application to other organizations has been made. If the recipient accepts a similar scholarship from another agency or organization, the scholarship will be withdrawn. It is the responsibility of the recipient to notify the Scholarships Section of ACS, which administers this award, of competing awards.
- The scholarship must be used in the year for which it is designated. It cannot be postponed.
- The Scholars are required to provide one year's health policy-related assistance to the ACS, attending meetings, reviewing applications, and participating as a pro tem member of the health policy committee as requested. The College anticipates that program alumni will serve as state councillors for the *SurgeonsVoice* program, its grassroots initiative aimed at establishing relationships with Members of Congress.
- A brief report of the Scholar's experiences and activities is due at the conclusion of the course and of the scholarship period. A simple accounting is also required.

**The closing date for receipt of applications is February 1, 2019.** An awardee will be selected by a committee consisting of members of ACS. All applicants will be notified of the outcome of the selection process in April 2019.

Questions may be directed to the ACS Scholarship Administrator at 312-202-5281.

For more information, visit  
<http://heller.brandeis.edu/executive-education/programs/leadership-hpm.html>