

SURGICAL OUTCOMES CLUB



Quarterly Newsletter - November 2016

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.

2016 Annual Meeting Highlights

The Twelfth Annual Meeting and Scientific Sessions of the Surgical Outcomes Club was held October 16th in Washington, DC, at the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). The day focused on two themes: (1) appropriateness - research that examines or intervenes on overuse or underuse, (2) patient reported outcomes – Innovations in measurement by patients and other related patient-level stakeholders used to evaluate the quality and effectiveness of surgical outcomes.



John Spertus, MD, MPH, FACS, from the University of Missouri-Kansas City gave the John R. Clarke Keynote Address “Precision Medicine Today – Building the Infrastructure for Patient-Centered Care?”

Presentations from the meeting are available on the Surgical Outcomes Club website.

During the Annual Meeting the SOC Twitter page earned 1.3K impressions. An impression is the number of times a user saw a tweet linked to #SurgOC16.

Follow us on Twitter  @SurgOutcomes

Special thanks are due to the following presenters at the 2016 Annual Meeting:

- Zara Cooper, MS, MSc; Brigham and Women’s Hospital
- Hassan Ghomrawi, PhD, MPH; Northwestern University
- Tina Yen, MD, MS; Medical College of Wisconsin
- John Spertus, MD, MPH; University of Missouri-Kansas City
- Joshua Brown, MD; University of Pittsburgh
- Lesly Dossett, MD, MPH; University of Michigan
- Tullika Garg, MD, MPH; Geisinger Medical Center
- Ryan Macht, MD; Boston Medical Center
- Katherine Deans, D, MHSc; Nationwide Children’s Hospital
- Benjamin Kozower, MD, MPH; Washington University
- Benjamin Brooke, MD, PhD; University of Utah

We’d also like to thank the Association of American Medical Colleges for hosting our event. Also, a special thank you to the Board of Directors, and Ashley Duby for efforts toward an outstanding and successful annual meeting!



We look forward to seeing you at the 2017 Annual Meeting, which will be held on Sunday, October 22nd in San Diego, California.

New Treasurer



As many of you heard at the recent annual meeting, the Board of Directors voted Angela Smith, MD to serve as SOC’s treasurer. Dr. Smith will serve a two year term.

Many thanks to Clara Lee, MD who been a leader in the Surgical Outcomes Club for several years. She completed her first term on the Board in 2014, before being voted in by the Board of Directors to serve as SOC’s Treasurer. During her two year term, as Treasurer – which started in November 2014, the SOC has experienced financial security and growth. This past year, Dr. Lee oversaw the SOC’s development of a new and long-term investment strategy. In October, Dr. Lee was selected by the membership to complete her second term on the Board of Directors.

Board of Directors

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



Benjamin Brooke, MD, PhD
University of Utah



Farhood Farjah, MD, MPH
University of Washington



Clara Lee, MD, MPP (re-elected)
The Ohio State University



Thomas Varghese, MD, MS (re-elected)
University of Utah

Board of Director Position

Beginning in the Spring 2017, the Board of Directors will be soliciting nominations for an individual to fill 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.

Surgical Outcomes Initiatives

Membership Fees

Membership continues to grow and the success of our organization relies on expertise and participation from its members, including you. The SOC currently has over 200 active members, which is the largest memberships since its inception back in 2005. Membership includes registration for the annual meeting, as well as participation in monthly virtual didactic sessions, and quarterly newsletters.

Starting in January 2017, the Board of Directors have decided to lower the membership fees for Trainees (interns, residents, fellows, and medical students) to \$25. If you or a colleague is interested in becoming a member, please visit the [membership](#) section of the SOC website.

SOC able to Fund more External Speakers for Annual Scientific Session

Over the years, the SOC has only been able to fund one external speaker for the Annual Scientific Session. This is in large part due to Dr. John Clarke for his yearly donation to support the Keynote Speaker. Given our financial growth over the past several years, the Board of Directors (BOD) will be able to focus on bringing in high quality speakers, who would not normally attend the ACS or SOC annual meetings. This should be a great way to bring new people and new ideas to our organization.

Collaborations with AAS and SUS, Month Didactic Sessions

Surgical Outcomes Club members are invited to participate in monthly virtual didactic session for an opportunity to receive updates in our field of research, share progress, and set the stage for future collaborations and opportunities. The SOC is delighted to continue collaborating with the Society of University Surgeons (SUS) and the Association for Academic Surgery (AAS) on this effort.

The schedule for the 2017 didactic sessions has been posted on our website. However, the Board of Directors recognizes Thursdays at 2 pm (ET) does not work for everyone. The Board will poll the membership to see if there is a better day and time of the week to host these sessions. Please be on the look-out for an email in late November. The Board will do their best to accommodate every time zone.



Thursday, December 15
Rachel Kelz, MD, MSCE
University of Pennsylvania



Thursday, January 19
Giana Davidson, MD
University of Washington

Information regarding the didactic sessions will be posted on the SOC website. If you missed a previous session, a recording is available on our website.

Twitter Journal Club

The Surgical Outcomes Club will be hosting a Twitter Journal Club Series, or 'Tweet Chat', and you are invited to participate. Several times a year, the SOC will launch a discussion of a key journal article relevant to surgical outcomes, providing an opportunity to use social media to discuss current topics. An SOC member will moderate the discussion at #socjc via @SurgOutcomes, and open access for the article will be provided. Dates and further details will be posted on the SOC website.

AcademyHealth Collaboration

The SOC is co-sponsoring the Surgical and Perioperative Care Interest Group (IG) at AcademyHealth. This IG is a unique network of multi-professional stakeholders focused on the research and policy issues most important to surgical and perioperative care. The IG offers a common venue for surgeons, anesthesiologists, intensivists, proceduralists, nurses, health policy analysts, researchers, and policymakers to discuss common, high priority issues that affect the value of care and quality of life for individuals undergoing surgery. The IG aims to create a forum for procedural practitioners, policymakers and researchers to engage in dialogue and share current and future work.

This year we will be having a call for abstracts to present your work via oral or poster presentation. We would highly recommend members submit their work to this meeting as they may create invaluable relationships and collaborations to further elevate the quality of their work. Information regarding the abstract submission process will be sent to members soon.

Relationship with JAMA Surgery

As of October 2015, JAMA Surgery is the Official Journal of the Surgical Outcomes Club.

Check out this publication from the 2015 Annual Meeting & Scientific Session:

- Yule S, Sacks G, Maggard-Gibbons M. Innovative Approaches for Modifying Surgical Culture. *JAMA Surgery*, 151 (9), 2016.

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, the Board of Directors has decided to provide each fellow with 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 2017. We encourage trainees and junior faculty to apply.

New Opportunities

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

AcademyHealth Surgical and Perioperative Care Interest Group American College of Surgeons Health Services Research Methods Course

The Health Services Research Methods Course has been redesigned in 2016 for clinical and health services researchers with varying degrees of experience in the field. Participants will take part in didactic lectures and skills-based labs. In addition, participants will be able to select modules appropriate to their skill level and interest. Methods focus will be on quantitative, qualitative, mixed methods, and implementation science. Personalized consultations will be scheduled for participants around a specific research idea or project with leading experts for critique and advice. Breakout sessions will focus on writing R-award proposals, K-award proposals, and securing a first faculty position. Participants will be exposed to scientific and practical aspects of ongoing surgical health services research from leaders in the field.

The next offering of this educational activity will be held December 8-10, 2016 at the ACS Headquarters in Chicago, IL. Additional details will be posted on the American College of Surgeons website as they become available.

The American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP®) has issued a call for abstracts to be presented at its 2017 Annual Conference, July 21-24, at the New York Hilton Midtown, in New York, NY. **The deadline for submitting abstracts is January 13, 2017.** Individuals are encouraged to submit an abstract for poster and podium presentation. The abstract should relate to surgical quality improvement initiatives including, but not limited to the development, implementation or validation of best practices. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information or to submit an abstract. Inquiries may be directed to nsqipconference@facs.org or (312) 202-5564.

The American College of Surgeons (ACS) Clinical Scholars in Residence Program is offering a two-year onsite fellowship in surgical outcomes research, health services research, and healthcare policy. The application process will open on January 2nd, 2017 for positions starting in 2018. Applicants must have completed two years of clinical training, be a United States citizen, and obtain two years of program funding from his/her home institution or other granting agency. The applicant must also be a member of the ACS and in good standing of the College. The ACS will continue to look for external funding for the position and candidates will be notified should funding become available.

The Clinical Scholar will have the opportunity to work in multiple areas within the ACS Division of Research and Optimal Patient Care to advance the quality improvement initiatives of the ACS and to perform research relevant to

ongoing projects. Participants will also earn a Masters degree during their two years. The Clinical Scholar will receive strong mentorship in clinical, statistical, and health services research. ACS Clinical Scholars in Residence have had excellent, productive experiences that have launched careers in this field.

- Application process opens: January 2, 2017
- Application deadline: April 3, 2017
- Interview notification: May 1, 2017
- Interview Process: May 1-31, 2017
- Notification of appointment: June 9, 2017
- Starting date: July 1, 2018

For more information, go to: <https://www.facs.org/quality-programs/about/clinical-scholars-program>. If you have additional questions, please contact the ACS Clinical Scholars in Residence Program at clinicalscholars@facs.org

Fully Funded Outcomes & Health Services Research Fellowship through the Surgical Outcomes and Quality Improvement Center (SOQIC)

Northwestern University's [Surgical Outcomes and Quality Improvement Center \(SOQIC\)](#) is offering a funded two-year onsite fellowship in surgical outcomes, health services, and health care policy research for surgical residents to pursue during their research years. The goal of the research fellowship is to help prepare surgical residents for a successful career in academic surgery by developing an expertise in surgical health services and outcomes research. Research fellows will spend a minimum of two years with the SOQIC research team conducting research, taking advanced degree courses, and working on developing a robust, meaningful research agenda. Research fellows will earn a Master's or PhD degree that best suits their needs through one of the programs offered at Northwestern.

Strong preference will be given to candidates with prior research experience. One-year fellowships will not be considered. To apply contact, Remi Love remi@northwestern.edu

Michigan Mixed Methods Research and Scholarship Program, 2017 Mixed Methods Workshops

The University of Michigan has a mixed methods research program called the Michigan Mixed Methods Research and Scholarship Program (M²RSP). This is an interdisciplinary program bringing together several scholars at Michigan with national/international expertise in mixed methods.

The following workshop will be held in Ann Arbor:

- March 30 – April 1, 2017 "Designing and Conducting Participatory Mixed Methods Research: Community Partnership and Innovative Design to Address Complex Problems" **Limited seats available.**

For more information, please visit www.mixedmethods.org