



FINAL PROGRAM

Surgical Education Week | April 28 – May 2, 2026

ASE | Marriott Marquis | April 28 – April 30

APDS & ARAS | Hilton Atlanta | April 30 – May 2

Atlanta, GA



SURGICAL EDUCATION WEEK EXHIBITORS

ABSITE Quest

ACS Division of Education - Resident Programs

American Board of Surgery/Surgical Council on Resident Education (SCORE)

American College of Surgeons

Applied Medical

ASE Foundation

Behind the Knife

Caliber Boards

Chamberlain Group

Fundamentals of Communication in Surgery

JOMI Surgical Video Journal

Limbs & Things

Q-Optics

Tend Health

TrueLearn

University of Michigan Medical School - Master of Health Professions Education

Program

VirtaMed

Wellstar Health System

WISE-Surgery & WISE-OnCall

[View All Exhibitor Details](#)

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES AND FOUNDATIONS FOR THEIR COMMERCIAL SUPPORT OF THE MEETING

Sponsor – Lil' Scrubs Club



**Sponsor – Finding Aspiring Surgeons for Tomorrow
Community Outreach Event**

Christopher Brandt, MD and Beth Sersig, MD

Silver Level Sponsor



Sponsor – Future Leaders Learning Center

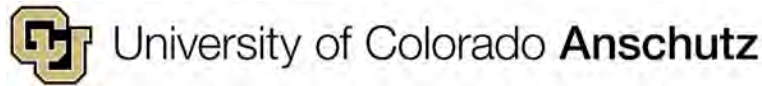
**Johnson & Johnson
MedTech**

**Sponsor – Family Care Grants, Lil' Scrubs Club,
Opening Reception**



THANK YOU TO OUR INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE MEETING

Sponsor – Lil' Scrubs Club



Platinum



Gold



Silver





GENERAL INFORMATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

HOTEL INFORMATION

ASE

Marriott Marquis Atlanta

265 Peachtree Center Ave NE, Atlanta
404-521-0000

APDS/ARAS

Hilton Atlanta

255 Courtland St NE, Atlanta
404-659-2000

ASE Registration Hours

Marriott Marquis, Atrium Foyer

Monday	6:30am - 6:30pm
Tuesday	6:30am - 5:30pm
Wednesday	6:30pm - 6:30pm
Thursday	6:30am - 12:00pm

APDS Registration Hours

Hilton Atlanta Grand Ballroom Foyer, 2nd Floor

Wednesday	12:00pm - 6:00pm
Thursday	8:00am - 5:30pm
Friday	6:30am - 5:30pm
Saturday	7:30am - 12:00pm

Exhibit Hall Hours

Marriott Marquis, Atrium Foyer

Tuesday	5:00pm - 6:00pm
Wednesday	9:00am - 4:00pm

Hilton Atlanta, Grand Ballroom Foyer, 2nd Floor

Thursday	8:00am - 6:45pm
Friday	6:30am - 1:00pm

LOST & FOUND

Located at the Registration Desk

SAFETY AND SECURITY

We take every precaution to ensure the safety and security of our attendees and their guests. However, we urge you to be aware and take simple steps to guard your possessions.

Therefore, we suggest the following:

- Do not leave your purse or briefcase unattended
- Do not leave your laptop, phone or personal devices on the floor or out of your sight
- Be aware of your surroundings
- If you do misplace or lose something, please stop by the Registration Desk

Thank you for your help keeping everyone safe.

ASE

meetings@surgicaleducation.com | 310.215.1226

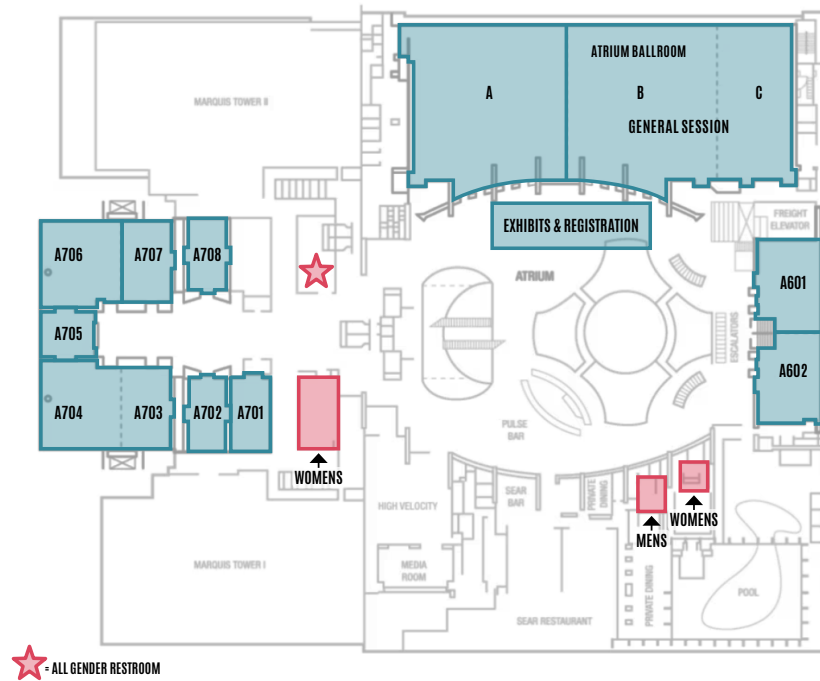
APDS / ARAS

apds@lp-etc.com | aras@lp-etc.com | 913.402.7102

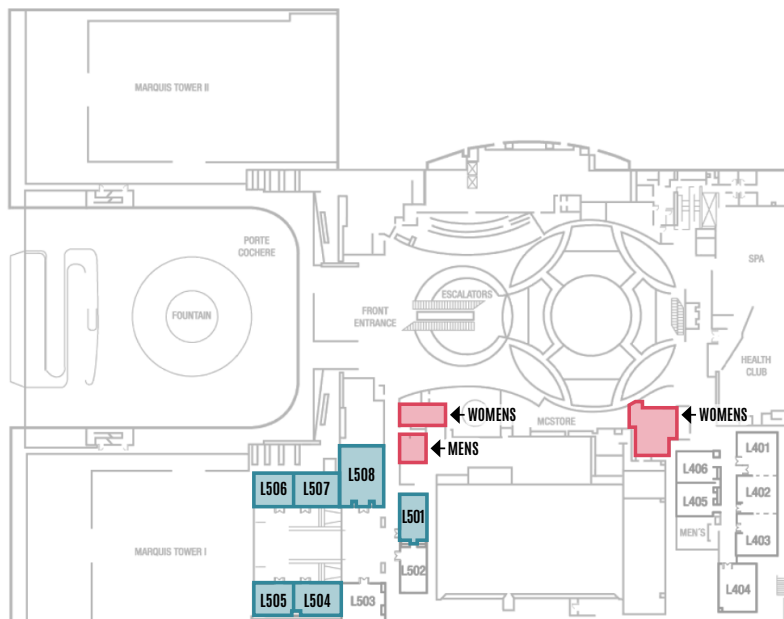
ASE MEETING SPACE

Marriott Marquis

ATRIUM LEVEL

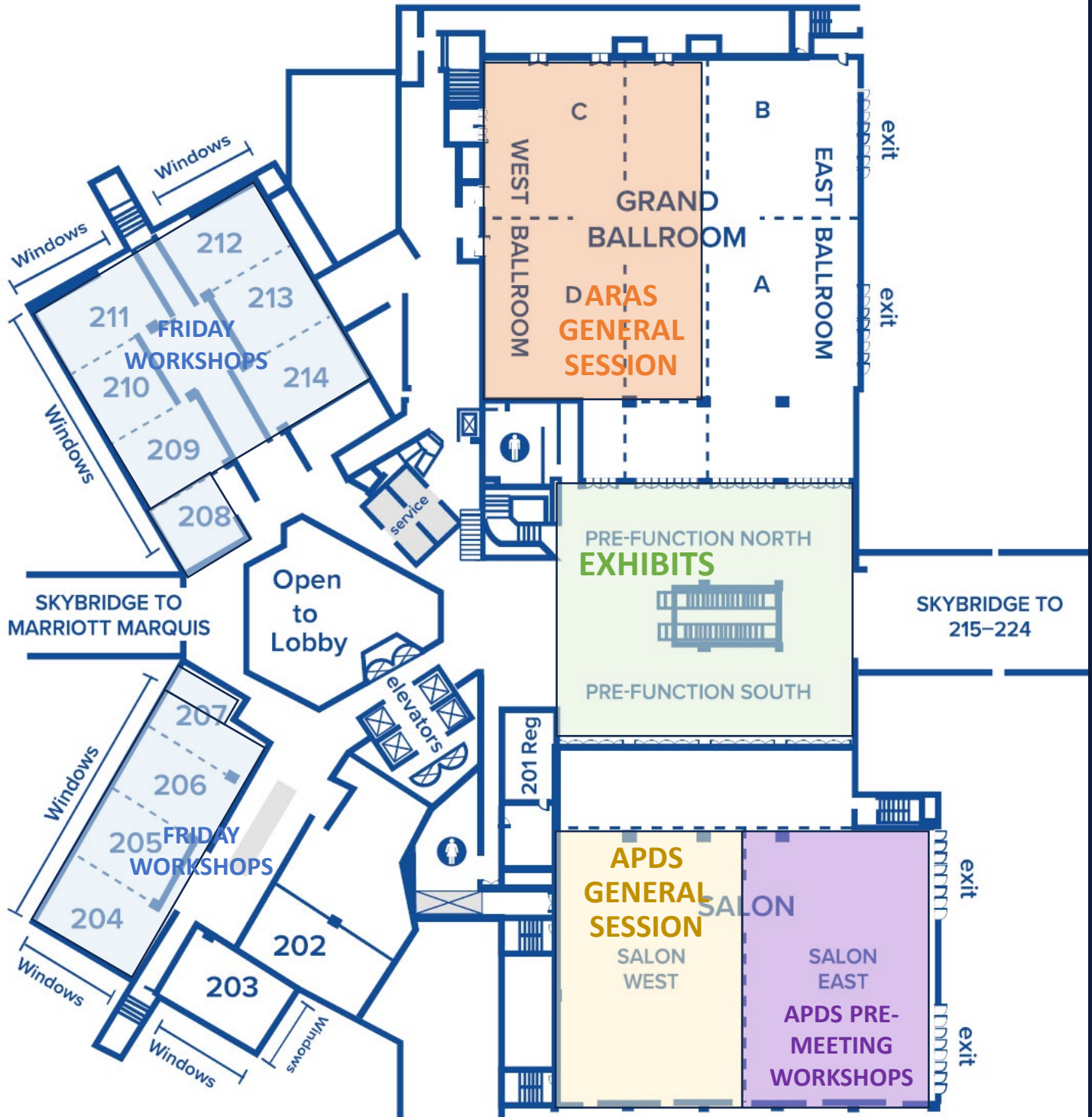


LOBBY LEVEL



APDS / ARAS MEETING SPACE

Hilton Atlanta, 2nd Floor



Stop by the registration desk for a key to the Mother's Room if needed



CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

ASE CME Information



ASE 2026 Annual Meeting Accreditation Statement

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION CREDIT INFORMATION

Accreditation

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of American College of Surgeons and Association for Surgical Education. The American College of Surgeons is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™

The American College of Surgeons designates this live activity for a maximum of **21.5** AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.



ASE CME Information



In accordance with the ACCME Accreditation Criteria, the American College of Surgeons must ensure that anyone in a position to control the content of the educational activity (planners and speakers/authors/discussants/moderators) has disclosed all financial relationships with any commercial interest (termed by the ACCME as “ineligible companies”, defined below) held in the last 24 months (see below for definitions). Please note that first authors were required to collect and submit disclosure information on behalf of all other authors/contributors, if applicable.

Ineligible Company: The ACCME defines an “ineligible company” as any entity producing, marketing, re-selling, or distributing health care goods or services used on or consumed by patients. Providers of clinical services directly to patients are NOT included in this definition.

Financial Relationships: Relationships in which the individual benefits by receiving a salary, royalty, intellectual property rights, consulting fee, honoraria, ownership interest (e.g., stocks, stock options or other ownership interest, excluding diversified mutual funds), or other financial benefit. Financial benefits are usually associated with roles such as employment, management position, independent contractor (including contracted research), consulting, speaking and teaching, membership on advisory committees or review panels, board membership, and other activities from which remuneration is received, or expected.

Conflict of Interest: Circumstances create a conflict of interest when an individual has an opportunity to affect CME content about products or services of an ineligible company with which he/she has a financial relationship.

The ACCME also requires that ACS manage any reported conflict and eliminate the potential for bias during the educational activity. Any conflicts noted below have been managed to our satisfaction. The disclosure information is intended to identify any commercial relationships and allow learners to form their own judgments. However, if you perceive a bias during the educational activity, please report it on the evaluation.

ASE DISCLOSURE LISTS

Please click the link below to view the complete disclosure insert list.

[Annual Meeting](#)

Claiming links for ASE 2026 will be sent at the conclusion of the meeting. The deadline to claim CME credits for ASE 2026 will be Friday, June 26, 2026.



APDS/ARAS CME INFORMATION



**Registered APDS/ARAS attendees are eligible to apply for
CME credits until June 16, 2026**

Claim CME / Certificate of Attendance

CME Information

In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by AmedcoLLC and the Association for Program Directors in Surgery. AmedcoLLC is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

Physicians (ACCME) Credit Designation Statement

AmedcoLLC designates this live activity for a maximum of 32.50 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ for physicians. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

You must request your certificate within 45 days of the activity to meet the deadline for submission to PARS. Credits are generally reported during the first week of each month for those who claimed during the month prior.

Disclosure Information

In accordance with the ACCME Accreditation Criteria, the APDS must ensure that anyone in a position to control the content of the educational activity (planners and speakers/authors/discussants/moderators) has disclosed all financial relationships with any ineligible company held in the last 24 months. Please note that first authors were required to collect and submit disclosure information on behalf all other authors/contributors, if applicable.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this activity, learners will be able to critically evaluate emerging advances in surgical education, implement evidence-based strategies for trainee remediation, and integrate innovative approaches to enhance postgraduate surgical training and learner outcomes.



JOINTLY ACCREDITED PROVIDER
INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION



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ASE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

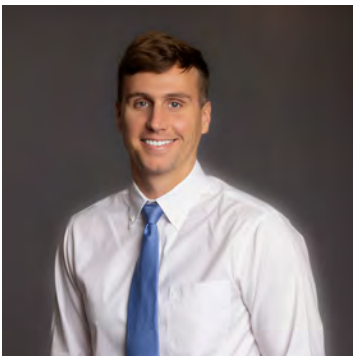


ROYCE LAYCOCK LECTURE

Tuesday, April 28, 2026 | 3:30PM - 4:30PM

Malissa Clark, PhD

Malissa Clark, PhD is a Professor of Industrial/Organizational (I-O) psychology at the University of Georgia, where she has been on faculty since 2013. Currently, she serves as Head of the Department of Psychology and director of the Healthy Work Lab. Recently selected as a member of the 2024 Thinkers 50 Radar list and shortlisted for the 2025 Thinkers 50 Radar Award, Malissa is a recognized expert on the topics of workaholism, overwork, burnout, and employee well-being. Her first book, *Never Not Working: Why the Always-On Culture Is Bad for Business—and How to Fix It*, was published in February 2024. *Never Not Working* has been recognized as one of the top management books of 2024, including being named one of Adam Grant's 12 New Idea Books to Launch in 2024 and top 5 Porchlight Book's Best Management and Workplace Culture Books of 2024. Malissa is passionate about bridging the scientist-practitioner gap and advocating for healthier workplaces and worker well-being through her speaking and consulting. Her work has been featured on numerous podcasts and outlets such as Time, US News and World Report, New York Times, and The Washington Post. She currently serves as a member of the NIOSH Healthy Work Design and Well-Being Council. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family and traveling.



J. ROLAND FOLSE LECTURE

Thursday, April 30, 2026 | 8:00AM - 9:00AM

Bryce Fuemmeler, MSc

Bryce Fuemmeler is the Research Associate for Professor Arthur Brooks' Leadership & Happiness Laboratory at the Harvard Kennedy School's Center for Public Leadership. In this role, he provides the most modern research and writing on the science of well-being for students and scholars, research publications, and the world outside of Harvard.

He holds B.A.s in Economics and History from the University of Missouri, and an M.Sc. in Economic and Social History from the University of Oxford, where he studied the long-run trends of America's Great Society programs and the United Kingdom's social safety net origins. After graduation he spent one year with the Missouri Department of Economic Development, helping to deliver federal grant projects to low-income Missourians. Since 2022 he has worked for Dr. Brooks at Harvard. Bryce grew up in Boonville, Missouri, and lives near Cambridge.



PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Wednesday, April 29, 2026 | 8:50AM - 9:50AM

Aimee Gardner, PhD, *University of Colorado Anschutz*

Dr. Aimee Gardner is tenured Professor of Surgery, Associate Dean for Faculty Development, and Director of the Academy of Medical Educators at the University of Colorado Anschutz School of Medicine. In these roles, she leads development of programs aimed at empowering faculty in their roles as educators, leaders, and scholars. Dr. Gardner has published over 130 peer-reviewed manuscripts on topics pertaining to simulation, faculty development, surgical education, and assessment. She has won numerous awards including the Norton Rose Fulbright Faculty Excellence Awards in Educational Research and Educational Leadership, the Miriam Friedman Ben-David Young Educator Award from the Association for Medical Education in Europe (AMEE), the U.S. Scholar Award through the Fulbright Fellowship Program, and multiple Best Research Paper awards from the Academy of Management, Association for Surgical Education, and the Association for Medical Education in Europe. She has served as Associate Editor for multiple journals, including the *BMJ Simulation & Technology Enhanced Education*, *International Journal of Healthcare Simulation*, and *Global Surgical Education*. She currently serves as the President of the Association for Surgical Education. Dr. Gardner earned her Undergraduate Degree in Psychology from the University of Arkansas and a Master's and Doctoral Degree in Industrial and Organizational Psychology from the University of Akron in Akron, Ohio.



APDS KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



APDS Presidential Address

Guarding the Scalpel: Educating Surgeons for an Era of Disruption

Valentine Nfonsam MD, MS
Morehouse School of Medicine

Friday, May 1st at 3:15pm – 4:15pm



Dr. Valentine Nfonsam is Professor and Executive Vice Chair in the Department of Surgery at Morehouse School of Medicine. He was recently the Department Chair of Surgery at LSU New Orleans. A board-certified colorectal surgeon, his clinical expertise includes colorectal and gastrointestinal surgery, gastrointestinal oncology, and minimally invasive and robotic-assisted procedures.

Dr. Nfonsam completed his medical degree at the University of Illinois College of Medicine, followed by general surgery residency training at the University of Texas Southwestern and North Shore–Long Island Jewish Health System. He pursued a research fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic and completed a fellowship in colon and rectal surgery at the University of South Florida.

An accomplished clinician-scientist, Dr. Nfonsam's research focuses on colorectal cancer, particularly early-onset disease and health disparities. He has authored more than 100 peer-reviewed publications and has been an invited speaker at numerous national and international meetings.

He currently serves as the APDS President and has held multiple leadership roles in the ACS and ABS, advancing surgical education, policy, and health equity.

APDS Keynote Address

May 1st at 10:30am



Jennifer Layden MD, PhD

Former Director, Office of Public Health
Data Surveillance and Technology, CDC



Dr. Jennifer Layden is a physician, epidemiologist, and nationally recognized public health leader. She most recently served as Director of the Office of Public Health Data, Surveillance, and Technology at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, where she led the agency's Data Modernization Initiative to strengthen the nation's public health data infrastructure and advance data-driven decision-making.

Prior to her work at the CDC, Dr. Layden held key leadership roles in Illinois, including Deputy Commissioner and Chief Medical Officer for the Chicago Department of Public Health and State Epidemiologist and Chief Medical Officer for the Illinois Department of Public Health, where she led major outbreak responses and disease surveillance efforts.

Dr. Layden is clinically trained in internal medicine and infectious diseases and holds both her MD and PhD in epidemiology from the University of Illinois at Chicago. She has also held academic appointments at the University of Illinois Chicago and Loyola University Chicago and has authored numerous scientific publications.



ASE SCHEDULE

For a more detailed agenda, visit our [meeting site](#) or download the Event Pilot app
Meeting Theme: Family, Fun and the Future

MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2026

6:30 AM – 6:30 PM | Atrium Ballroom Pre-Function | Atrium Level
Registration

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM | A704 | Atrium Level
The Surgical Education Research Fellowship program (SERF)
**Invitation Only*

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM | A702 | Atrium Level
The ASE Surgeon Empowerment and Leadership Fellowship (SELF 2.0)
**Invitation Only*

PRE-MEETING COURSES

7:00 AM – 4:30 PM | A706 | Atrium Level
Updates on the Surgery Clerkship

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM | A705 | Atrium Level
Shaping and Supporting Surgical Education: Vice Chairs of Education Leadership and Development Course

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM | A703 | Atrium Level
Fundamentals of Communication in Surgery (FCS) Train-the-Trainer

4:30 PM – 6:30 PM | A601 | Atrium Level
Trainee Networking and Mentor Meet Up Reception
**Pre-Registration Required*

4:30 PM – 6:30 PM | A706 | Atrium Level
Clerkship Speed Mentoring
**Pre-Registration Required*

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM | Atrium Ballroom Pre-Function | Atrium Level
ASE/SEW Welcome Reception

TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2026

6:30 AM – 5:30 PM | Atrium Ballroom Pre-Function | Atrium Level
Registration

7:00 AM – 10:00 AM | L504 & L505 | L506 | L507 Lower Level
Concurrent Committee Meetings

8:00 AM – 4:30 PM | L508 | Lower Level
Clerkship Coordinator Track Program
**Registration for Clerkship Coordinator/SEW Coordinator Track Required*

8:00 AM – 11:30 AM | A601 | Atrium Level
The ASE Surgeon Empowerment and Leadership Fellowship (SELF 2.0)
**Invitation Only*

8:45 AM – 11:30 AM | A701, A703/A704 & A705 | Atrium Level

The Surgical Education Research Fellowship program (SERF)

**Invitation Only*

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM | A602 | Atrium Level

Future Leaders Learning Center

10:30 AM – 10:45 AM | Atrium Ballroom BC | Atrium Level

Welcome Remarks – ASE Annual Meeting begins

10:45 AM – 11:45 AM | Atrium Ballroom BC | Atrium Level

Plenary Session I

11:50 AM – 12:50 PM | Atrium Ballroom BC | Atrium Level

Panel I: When Margin Eclipses the Mission: Balancing Finances, Incentives, and Well-Being in Academic Surgery

12:55 PM – 1:55 PM | Atrium Ballroom BC | Atrium Level

Plenary Session II

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM | L506/507 | Lobby Level

SCCPDS Workshop: Emerging Fellowship Issues and Innovations in Surgical Education

1:55 PM – 2:25 PM | Atrium Ballroom Pre-Function | Atrium Level

Break

2:55 PM – 3:25 PM | Atrium Ballroom BC | Atrium Level

Panel II: The Cost of Silence: Mental Health, Suicide, and the Hidden Stories in Surgery

3:30 PM – 4:30 PM | Atrium Ballroom BC | Atrium Level

Royce Laycock Guest Lecture

Speaker: Malissa Clark, PhD

Introduction by: Aimee Gardner, PhD

5:00 PM – 6:00 PM | Atrium Ballroom Pre-Function | Atrium Level

Exhibit Hall Open & Quick Shot Reception

5:00 PM – 6:00 PM | Atrium Ballroom Foyer | Atrium Level

Exhibit Hall Open

5:00 PM – 6:00 PM | Atrium Level

Quick Shot Sessions

Quick Shot Session I – Assessment | A701

Quick Shot Session II – Curriculum | A705

Quick Shot Session III – Simulation / Teaching Methods | A706

Quick Shot Session IV – DEI/GSE/Wellness | A707

Quick Shot Session V – AI/Recruitment | A708

5:00 PM – 5:30 PM | A601 | Atrium Level

SELF Alumni Social

**Invitation Only*

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM | A601 | Atrium Level

SELF Wrap Up Reception and Forum – Open to all attendees

6:15 PM – 7:45 PM | A703 & A704 | Atrium Level

Candlelight Session

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2026

6:30 AM – 6:30 PM | Atrium Ballroom Pre-Function | Atrium Level
Registration

6:30 AM – 7:30 AM | L405 & L406 | L504 | L506 & L507 (Lower Level)
Concurrent Committee Meetings

7:00 AM – 7:30 AM | Atrium Ballroom Pre-Function | Atrium Level
Morning Refreshments – Open to all SEW & ASE attendees

7:30 AM – 7:40 AM | Atrium Ballroom BC | Atrium Level
Day 2 Welcome Remarks

7:45 AM – 8:45 AM | Atrium Ballroom BC | Atrium Level
Panel III: Failure to Rescue in Surgical Education

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM | L508 | Lower Level
Clerkship Coordinator Track Program
**Registration for Clerkship Coordinator/SEW Coordinator Track Required*

8:50 AM – 9:50 AM | Atrium Ballroom BC | Atrium Level
Presidential Address
Speaker: ASE President, Aimee Gardner, PhD

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM | Atrium Ballroom Pre-Function | Atrium Level
Exhibit Hall Open

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM | A602 | Atrium Level
Future Leaders Learning Center

9:50 AM – 10:20 AM | Atrium Ballroom Pre-Function | Atrium Level
Break with Exhibitors

10:20 AM – 11:50 AM | Atrium Level
Podium Sessions
Podium Session I A – AI | A701
Podium Session I B – Assessment | A703
Podium Session I C – Curriculum Development | A704
Podium Session I D – Simulation/Education Tech | A706

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM | A601 | Atrium Level
Thinking Out of the Box Session

1:00 PM – 3:30 PM | L401, L402, L403 | Lower Level
The Surgical Education Research Fellowship program (SERF)
**Invitation Only*

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM | Atrium Level
Podium Sessions
Podium Session II A – Program Evaluation/Wellness/Recruitment | A701
Podium Session II B – Faculty Development | A703
Podium Session II C – Teaching Methods | A704
Podium Session II D – DEI/Wellness | A706

2:00 PM – 2:30 PM | Atrium Ballroom Pre-Function | Atrium Level
Break

WORKSHOPS

2:30 PM – 4:00 PM | A601 | Atrium Level

Workshop 1: Building a Family-Friendly Surgical Residency

2:30 PM – 4:00 PM | A705 | Atrium Level

Workshop 2: Create your own Surgical Education Outreach Program: Keys to success for starting and maintaining a robust outreach effort

2:30 PM – 4:00 PM | A707 | Atrium Level

Workshop 3: Harnessing Generative AI for Surgical Education

2:30 PM – 4:00 PM | A708 | Atrium Level

Workshop 4: Building Better Surgical Teams: Practical Tools for Teaching and Assessing Non-Technical Skills through Simulation

4:05 PM – 5:35 PM | A601 | Atrium Level

Workshop 5: EPAs for Educators: A Competency-Based Framework for Intentional Surgical Teaching

4:05 PM – 5:35 PM | A705 | Atrium Level

Workshop 6: Save the Dolphins (Not Shark) Tank!: An OR Sustainability Pitch

4:05 PM – 4:50 PM | A707 | Atrium Level

Workshop 7: AI-powered Avatars: Making Feedback Delivery Accessible and Individualizable

4:05 PM – 4:50 PM | A708 | Atrium Level

Workshop 8: Start Smarter, Not from Scratch: A Surgical Educator's Guide to Using National Databases

4:55 PM – 5:40 PM | A707 | Atrium Level

Workshop 9: The Gift Nobody Wants: Teaching Learners to Get the Most Out of Negative Feedback

4:55 PM – 5:40 PM | A708 | Atrium Level

Workshop 10: The Write Stuff: A Trainee's Introduction to Impactful Academic Writing

6:30 PM – 9:00 PM | Atrium Ballroom A | Atrium Level

A Night of Art & Accolades

THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2026

6:30 AM – 12:00 PM | Atrium Ballroom Pre-Function | Atrium Level

Registration

6:45 AM – 7:45 AM | A701 | A702 | A705 (Atrium Level)

Concurrent Committee Meetings

7:30 AM – 8:00 AM | Atrium Ballroom Pre-Function | Atrium Level

Morning Refreshments: Open to all SEW & ASE attendees

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM | L508 | Lower Level

Clerkship Coordinator Track Program

**Registration for Clerkship Coordinator/SEW Coordinator Track Required*

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM | Atrium Ballroom BC | Atrium Level

J. Roland Folse Guest Lecture

Speaker: Bryce Fuemmeler, MSc

Introduction by: Aimee Gardner, PhD

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM | A602 | Atrium Level

Future Leaders Learning Center

9:30 AM – 12:30 PM | A703 & A704 | Atrium Level

APDS/ASE Finding Aspiring Surgeons for Tomorrow (FAST) Community Outreach Event

9:05 AM – 10:05 AM | Atrium Ballroom BC | Atrium Level

Panel IV: Duty-Hour Balance Meets Mastery Learning: The Clock-Smart Approach

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM | Atrium Ballroom BC | Atrium Level

Panel V: Decoding the Impact of Preference Signals: Exploring General Surgery Program Director, Applicant, and Medical Student Advisor Perspectives

10:05 AM – 10:30 AM | Atrium Ballroom Pre-Function | Atrium Level

Break

11:30 AM – 11:45 AM | Atrium Ballroom BC | Atrium Level

Closing Remarks & Award Announcements



APDS SCHEDULE

APDS Schedule-at-a-Glance

Wednesday, April 29

7:00am - 4:00pm **Program Directors Workshop** *Salon East*
 4:15pm - 6:30pm **Administrative Chief Resident Workshop** *Salon East*
 6:30pm - 7:30pm **APDS/ARAS Reception** *Foyer*

Thursday, April 30

7:00am - 11:30am **Program Directors Workshop - Day 2** *Salon East*
 12:15pm - 1:30pm **Welcome | Recruitment Considerations in a Changing Landscape** *Salon West*
 1:30pm - 2:45pm **APDS Paper Session 1 | EPAs/Assessment**
 2:45pm - 3:00pm **Afternoon Break** *Foyer*
 3:00pm - 4:15pm **Alphabet Soup** *Salon West*
 4:15pm - 5:30pm **APDS Paper Session 2 | Recruitment** *Salon West*
 5:30pm - 5:45pm **Update from the American College of Surgeons Division of Education** *Salon West*
 5:45pm - 7:00pm **APDS ePoster Session & Reception** *Foyer*

Friday, May 1

6:45am - 8:00am **APDS Breakfast** *Foyer*
 7:00am - 7:45am **Workshops Round 1**

Workshop	Location
Becoming a More Empathetic Leader: Ways to Maximize Your Effectiveness Without Burning Out	204-205
Connecting the Dots: Preparing EPA Data for Meaningful CCC Review	206-207
Successful Reentry After Remediation	208/209
Robotics Curriculum Workshop: Standardization, Tips and Tricks	210/211
The Application of Trauma Informed Care Principles to Program Director and Organizational Responses to Physician Professionalism Issues	212-213
But I Don't Want to be a PD! How to Leverage Your APD Skills for Other Leadership and Education Roles	214

8:00am - 9:00am **The Program Director's Reality** *Salon West*
 9:00am - 10:15am **APDS Paper Session 3 | Learning and Performance** *Salon West*
 10:15am - 10:30am **Morning Break** *Foyer*
 10:30am - 11:30am **APDS Keynote Address** *Salon West*
 11:30am - 12:45pm **APDS Paper Session 4 | Culture and Sustainability** *Salon West*
 12:45pm - 12:55pm **Box Lunch Pick-Up** *Foyer*
 1:00pm - 1:45pm **Workshops Round 2**

Workshop	Location
Teaching with AI: Opportunities and Boundaries in Surgical Education	204-205
How to Effectively Brand Your Residency in the Era of Signaling	206-207
Struggling Resident, Struggling PD: What Do We Do Next?	208-209
From Evaluated to Evaluator: Providing Effective Formative Feedback as a Trainee	210/211
Advanced Laparoscopic Skills Training in the Era of Robotic Surgery: Tools for Keeping these Skills Alive in Your Residency Program	212-213
Cut to the Point: A Practical Framework for Verbal Feedback in Surgical Training	214

1:45pm - 2:45pm **APDS Tools of the Trade** *Salon West*
 2:45pm - 3:15pm **Afternoon Break** *Foyer*
 3:15pm - 4:15pm **APDS Presidential Address** *Salon West*
 4:15pm - 5:30pm **APDS Paper Session 5 | Quickshots** *Salon West*
 5:30pm - 5:45pm **APDS Presentation of Awards** *Salon West*
 5:45pm - 6:15pm **APDS Membership Meeting** *Salon West*

Saturday, May 2

7:30am - 8:00am **Continental Breakfast** *Foyer*
 8:00am - 9:30am **Presidential Panel - Beyond the Checklist** *Salon West*
 9:30am - 9:45am **Morning Break** *Foyer*
 9:45am - 11:00am **AI in Surgical Education** *Salon West*
 11:00am - 12:00pm **Innovative Pathways in Surgical Education** *Salon West*

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Program Directors Workshop
Salon East

4:15pm - 6:30pm

Administrative Chief Resident Workshop
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6:30pm - 7:30pm

APDS/ARAS Reception
Foyer

Thursday, April 30

7:00am - 11:30am

Program Directors Workshop - Day 2
Salon East

12:15pm - 1:30pm

Welcome | Recruitment Considerations in a Changing Landscape
Salon West

Moderators:

David A. Spain MD | Stanford University

Justin Wagner MD | David Geffen School of Medicine of UCLA

Standing out After Pass/Fail: How Medical Students are Navigating the New Recruitment Landscape

Priya Rajdev MD | University of Arizona

Advising Under Constraint: Are We Preparing Medical Students for Residency in an Era of LCME Constraints

Aaron M. Alford MD | Morehouse School of Medicine

Equity Considerations: Opportunities and Risks

Tania K. Arora MD | University of Alabama at Birmingham

FMG Recruitment in Surgery: Trends, Challenges and Opportunities

Thavam Thambi-Pillai MD | Sanford Health

The Next Generation of Surgical Residents: Values, Priorities and Program Expectations

Marcie Feinman MD | Sinai Hospital of Baltimore

1:30pm - 2:45pm

APDS Paper Session 1 | EPAs/Assessment
Salon West

Moderator(s):

Karen Brasel MD, MPH | American Board of Surgery

Daniella Kington MD | Wellstar Health System

1. EVALUATING AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF WRITTEN FEEDBACK ON END-OF-ROTATION EVALUATIONS OF RESIDENTS

Stephanie Seale MD | Stanford University

2. DEFINING ENTRUSTMENT PHENOTYPES AMONG GENERAL SURGERY CHIEF RESIDENTS

Peter Abraham MD | University of Alabama at Birmingham

3. VALIDITY EVIDENCE FOR ENTRUST PLATFORM FOR ASSESSMENT OF BREAST AND PEDIATRIC SURGERY EPAS

Andrew Friedman B.S. | Stanford University

4. EHR-DRIVEN DELIVERY OF EPA ASSESSMENTS AVOIDS CHERRY-PICKING BIAS

Phillip Jenkins MD | Oregon Health and Science University

5. NARRATIVE FEEDBACK PROVIDED IN GENERAL SURGERY ENTRUSTABLE PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY EVALUATIONS

Stefanie Soelling MD, MPH | Brigham and Women's Hospital

2:45pm - 3:00pm

Afternoon Break

Foyer

3:00pm - 4:15pm

Alphabet Soup

Salon West

Moderators:

Jennifer Preston MD | University of Arizona

Jason W. Kempenich MD | UT Health San Antonio

NRMP (National Resident Matching Program)

Donna L. Lamb DHSc, MBA, BSN

ERAS (Electronic Residency Application Service)

Cynthia Hutchinson MD, BSW

FC (Fellowship Council)

Edward Lin DO

ABS (American Board of Surgery)

Karen Brasel MD, MPH

ACGME (Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education)

Sunita Srivastava MD

4:15pm - 5:30pm

APDS Paper Session 2 | Recruitment

Salon West

Moderator(s):

Kimberly Miller-Hammond MD | Morehouse School of Medicine

Katherine Meister MD | TriHealth

6. THANKS FOR THE SIGNAL - NOW WHAT? PD PERSPECTIVES ON HOW PREFERENCE SIGNALS ARE SHAPING RECRUITMENT

Sarah Lund MD | University of Michigan

7. CHANGES TO THE NUMBER OF PROGRAM SIGNALS IN THE GENERAL SURGERY RESIDENCY APPLICATION PROCESS

Jennifer Serfin MD | University of North Carolina

8. PROGRAM-LEVEL PREDICTORS OF INTERVIEW INVITATIONS IN THE 15-SIGNAL GENERAL SURGERY RESIDENCY CYCLE

Niranjna Swaminathan MD | University of Alabama at Birmingham

9. THE USE OF AI SOFTWARE IN FILTERING APPLICANTS FOR GENERAL SURGERY RESIDENCY

Kylie Dickerson MD | University of Arizona

10. THE IMPACT OF INTERVIEW ORDER ON INTERVIEWEE RANKING: A MULTI-YEAR ANALYSIS OF INTERVIEWER FATIGUE.

Ashwin Kola MBBS | Montefiore Medical Centre

5:30pm - 5:45pm

Update from the American College of Surgeons Division of Education

Salon West

Introduction:

Jennifer Preston MD | University of Arizona

ACS Senior Vice President of Education

Kyla Terhune MD, MBA, FACS

5:45pm - 7:00pm

APDS ePoster Session & Reception

Foyer

Friday, May 1

6:45am - 8:00am

APDS Breakfast

Foyer

7:00am - 7:45am

Workshops Round 1

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But I Don't Want to be a PD! How to Leverage Your APD Skills for Other Leadership and Education Roles	214

8:00am - 9:00am

The Program Director's Reality

Salon West

Moderator(s):

Laura Lambert MD | NYU Langone

Introduction

Laura Lambert MD | NYU Langone

When It Gets Hard: Navigating Challenging Situations as PD

Rana Higgins MD | Medical College of Wisconsin

From Data to Action: Turning ACGME Survey Results into Meaningful Change

Jason W. Kempenich MD | UT Health San Antonio

Sustaining the Leader: Avoiding Burnout and Preserving Purpose as a PD

Kari Rosenkranz MD | Dartmouth-Hitchcock / Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital

Conclusion

Laura Lambert MD | NYU Langone

9:00am - 10:15am

APDS Paper Session 3 | Learning and Performance

Salon West

Moderator(s):

Amit Joshi MD | Cooper University Healthcare

Wieck Minna MD | University of California Davis

11. FIVE-YEAR EXPERIENCE WITH PERFORMANCE COACHING IN SURGERY: A SUSTAINABLE FRAMEWORK

Kenneth Lynch PhD, APRN | Brown University

12. EXPANDING A STRUCTURED PEER FEEDBACK PROGRAM: A MULTI-INSTITUTIONAL MIXED METHODS STUDY

Mckenzie Rowe MD | Inova Health System

13. ENHANCING ORAL BOARDS PREPARATION THROUGH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: A MULTI-INSTITUTIONAL EVALUATION

Brandon Cowan MD | University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria

14. THE WHAT AND HOW OF SELF-REGULATED LEARNING IN SURGICAL RESIDENTS: A QUALITATIVE STUDY

Ye Lim Lee BS | University of California San Francisco

15. GETTING THE RUST OFF: SKILL RECOVERY AFTER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TIME

Pooja Varman MD, MS | Cleveland Clinic Foundation

10:15am - 10:30am

Morning Break

Foyer

10:30am - 11:30am

APDS Keynote Address

Salon West

Introduction:

Valentine Nfonsam MD, MS | Morehouse School of Medicine

Presenter:

Jennifer Layden MD, PhD | Former Director of CDC

11:30am - 12:45pm

APDS Paper Session 4 | Culture and Sustainability

Salon West

Moderator(s):

Melissa Johnson MD | Gundersen Lutheran Medical Foundation

Kristin Oliveira MD | Yale-New Haven Medical Center

16. RISE OF THE GAP YEAR: UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF EVOLVING ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS

Allison Chang BA | University of California San Francisco

17. ASSESSING ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN IN SURGICAL RESIDENCY PROGRAMS: NATIONAL SURVEY OF TIME & RESOURCES

Amanda Royan MEd | MetroHealth Medical Center

18. Parenting During General Surgery Residency: Life Balance During Training That Should be Supported!

Kapila Kommareddy MD | Western Michigan Stryker School of Medicine

19. IDENTIFYING THE GAP: WHAT SURGICAL NURSES DO NOT KNOW ABOUT SURGICAL RESIDENTS

Cristian Dumitru MD | University of Tennessee Knoxville

20. TRANSITION TO PRACTICE: LESSONS FROM JUNIOR FACULTY FOR TRAINEE PREPARATION

Nicole Santucci MD, MAEd | Washington University in St. Louis

12:45pm - 12:55pm

Box Lunch Pick-Up

Foyer

1:00pm - 1:45pm

Workshops Round 2

Workshop	Location
Teaching with AI: Opportunities and Boundaries in Surgical Education	204-205
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Cut to the Point: A Practical Framework for Verbal Feedback in Surgical Training	214

1:45pm - 2:45pm

APDS Tools of the Trade

Salon West

Moderator(s):

Rebecca Rhee MD | Maimonides Medical Center

Maria Sfakianos MD | Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell

T 1. SECONDARY TRAUMA IN SURGICAL TRAINING: A LONGITUDINAL DEBRIEFING MODEL TO IMPROVE RESIDENT WELLBEING

Daniel Kendrick MD | University of Minnesota

T 2. Rural Surgery Training: Lessons Learned Over 13 Years and Future Recommendations

Stefan Johnson MD | University of North Dakota

T 3. MISSION: EPA Possible - Gamifying EPAs to Increase Engagement

Austin Dixon DO | Sinai Hospital of Baltimore

T 4. INCREASING FACULTY ENGAGEMENT IN RESIDENT EDUCATION THROUGH STRUCTURED DIVISIONAL TARGETS

Carl Engelke MD, PhD | The Ohio State University

2:45pm - 3:15pm

Afternoon Break

Foyer

3:15pm - 4:15pm

APDS Presidential Address

Salon West

Introduction:

Kari Rosenkranz MD | Dartmouth-Hitchcock/Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital

Guarding the Scalpel: Educating Surgeons for an Era of Disruption

Valentine Nfonsam MD, MS | Morehouse School of Medicine

4:15pm - 5:30pm

APDS Paper Session 5 | Quickshots

Salon West

Moderator(s):

Ramanathan Seshadri MD | Northwell Health / Danbury Hospital

Ashley McGuinty MD | UT Health Science Center at San Antonio

Q 1. ANALYSIS OF EPA COMMENT QUALITY BY AUTOMATED QUAL SCORING

Shelby Willis MD | Oregon Health and Science University

Q 2. DEVELOPING LEARNER PHENOTYPES USING ACGME MILESTONES

Jamila Picart MD, MSc | University of Michigan

Q 3. WHO'S LEFT TO LEAD? GENERAL SURGERY PROGRAM DIRECTOR ATTRITION OVER TIME

Sarah Lund MD | Mayo Clinic

Q 4. USING MOCK ORAL EXAMINATION AS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ENTRUSTABLE PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY ASSESSMENT

Terrance Peng MD MPH | University of California Los Angeles

Q 5. INTERPROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION IN SURGICAL RESIDENCY: INSIGHTS FOR TRAINING AND SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT

Mckenzie Rowe MD | Inova Health System

Q 6. QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS OF EXAM FORMAT PERCEPTIONS: MEMBERSHIP OF THE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS 2024 EXAM

Alexa Engel MD | Stanford University

Q 7. PREFERENCE SIGNALING IN THE GENERAL SURGERY RESIDENCY MATCH: THE APPLICANT PERSPECTIVE

Alexa Bosco BA | Brown University

Q 8. UNDERSTANDING TRANSITIONAL CHALLENGES OF INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL GRADUATES IN SURGICAL TRAINING

Ghazal Sanadgol MD | Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center

5:30pm - 5:45pm

APDS Presentation of Awards

Salon West

- Best Resident & Medical Student Presentations
- Best Tools of the Trade Workshop

5:45pm - 6:15pm

APDS Membership Meeting

Salon West

Saturday, May 2

7:30am - 8:00am

Continental Breakfast

Foyer

8:00am - 9:30am

Presidential Panel - Beyond the Checklist: Rethinking Remediation and Competence in Surgical Education

Salon West

Moderator(s):

Valentine H. Nfonsam MD, MS | Morehouse School of Medicine

When Residents Struggle Clinically: What Actually Works in Surgical Remediation

Lilah Morris-Wiseman MD | Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Professionalism is not a Personality Problem: Remediating Behavior, Communication and Reliability

Diane F. Hale MD | San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium Program

From Vague to Valuable: Improving the Quality of Faculty Feedback

Rebecca Williams MD, PhD | Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine

Are We Measuring Competence? A Critical Look at How We Decide Residents are "Ready"

Ronald T. Cotton MD | Baylor College of Medicine

9:30am - 9:45am

Morning Break

Foyer

9:45am - 11:00am

AI in Surgical Education: Safe, Ethical and High-Impact Implementation for the Next Generation of Surgeons

Salon West

Moderator(s):

Ruchi Thanawala MD, MS | Oregon Health & Science University

Medical Epistemics: The Science of Learning and Competency-Based Education Through Artificial Intelligence and Computational Data Science

Ruchi Thanawala MD, MS | Oregon Health & Science University

Leveraging Scalable Technologies to Increase Surgical Training Efficiency

Tyler Loftus MD, PhD | UF College of Medicine

Real Talk About LLMs: Strengths, Weaknesses, and How to Tell the Difference

Steven D. Bedrick PhD | Oregon Health & Science University

Artificial Intelligence and the Surgical Trainee: Hype, Help, or Harm?

Phillip D. Jenkins MD | Oregon Health & Science University

11:00am - 12:00pm

Innovative Pathways in Surgical Education

Salon West

Moderators:

Jennifer T. Cone MD | University of Chicago

Kristina Booth MD | University of Oklahoma College of Medicine

Surgeon Scientist Track

Thomas J. Fahey III, MD | Weill Cornell

Promotion in Place

Jennifer LaFemina MD, MAMSE | UMass Chan Medical School

Flexible Training for Senior Residents

Paul Wise MD | Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis

The 5-6 Year ABS Pathway

Maggie W. Arnold MD | MedStar Health



ARAS SCHEDULE

ARAS 2026 Annual Meeting - Schedule

Wednesday, April 29

All events in Grand Ballroom West unless otherwise noted

1:00pm – 5:00pm

New Administrators Workshop

1:00pm - 1:05pm

ARAS President Welcome

Mary Ann Garcia MBA, C-TAGME | Emory School of Medicine

1:05pm - 1:15pm

APDS President Welcome

Valentine Nfonsam MD, MS | Morehouse School of Medicine

1:15pm - 2:00pm

Dynamic Duos: The Power Partnership of Directors & Administrators

Sylvia Martinez MD | Houston Methodist Hospital

Kristina McDonald C-TAGME | Houston Methodist Hospital

2:00pm - 2:15pm

Importance of Program Administrator to Residents

David Faber MD | Abdominal Transplant Surgery Fellow at Emory University, Graduate from the General Surgery residency program at Emory

2:15pm - 2:30pm

Afternoon Break

2:30pm - 2:50pm

April to June

Dana Cooley C-TAGME | Detroit Medical Center/Wayne State University Program

Janice Hutchison C-TAGME | University of Connecticut

2:50pm - 3:10pm

July to September

Kristina McDonald C-TAGME | Houston Methodist Hospital

Amanda Royan MEd | MetroHealth System/Case Western Reserve University

3:10pm - 3:30pm

October to December

Tracy Davis | Trinity Health

Melissa Molina MBA, C-TAGME | NYU Langone Health

3:30pm - 3:50pm

January to March

Mary Ann Garcia MBA, C-TAGME | Emory School of Medicine

Tyronda Rogers BBA | University of South Alabama

3:50pm - 3:55pm

Mentorship

Tracy Davis | Trinity Health

3:55pm - 4:10pm

Ice Breaker: Bingo

4:10pm - 4:15pm

Group Photo

4:20pm - 4:45pm

Dedicated Q&A - Knowledge Share

Attendees can submit questions into Meeting App Chat

4:45pm - 5:00pm

Wrap-Up

6:30pm - 7:30pm

APDS & ARAS Reception

Foyer

Thursday, April 30

ARAS Session I

12:30pm - 12:35pm

Welcome and Introductions

12:35pm - 12:45pm

2026 ARAS Administrator Award

12:45pm - 1:15pm

Instruction Manual You Wish You Had on Day 1

Lauren Krawczyk | Main Line Health

1:15pm - 1:45pm

Bridging Generations; Leading With Heart in GME

Marisa Martinez MAA-HA | UT San Antonio

1:45pm - 2:45pm

Beyond Schedules and Checklist | Supporting Surgical Wellness and Wellbeing

Mikayla Harris MEd | Milton S. Hersey Medical Center

2:45pm - 3:00pm

Afternoon Break

Foyer

3:00pm - 4:15pm

Alphabet Soup - APDS Session

Salon West

ARAS Session II

4:15pm - 5:00pm

Crash Course to Fellowship Management

Sara Brown MA, C-TAGME | University of Kentucky

Laurie Hein | Medical College of Wisconsin

5:00pm - 5:30pm

Enhancing Surgical Readiness: Using Caliber Boards for Mock Orals Preparation

Kathy Radley | Novant Health NHRMC

5:30pm - 6:45pm

ePoster Session & Reception

Foyer

Friday, May 1

6:45am - 8:00am
Attendee Breakfast

7:00am - 7:45am
ARAS Mentor-Mentee Breakfast

ARAS Session III

8:00am - 9:30am

ACGME & ABS Session

Moderator:

Mary Ann Garcia MBA, C-TAGME | Emory School of Medicine

ACGME | Chris Fox PhD

ABS | Barbara Jalbert-Gerkens

9:30am - 10:15am

EPA Panel Session

Moderator:

Dana Cooley C-TAGME | Detroit Medical Center/Wayne State University Program

Panelists:

ABS | Karen Brasel MD, MPH

SIMPL | Max Bomser

Firefly | Cate Unruh MEd

10:15am - 10:30am

Morning Break

Foyer

10:30am - 11:30am

APDS Keynote Address

Salon West

11:30am - 12:45pm

APDS Paper Session 4 | Culture and Sustainability

Salon West

12:45pm

Box Lunch Pick-up / Networking Lunch

Foyer

1:45pm - 2:45pm

APDS Tools of the Trade

Salon West

2:45pm - 3:15pm

Afternoon Break

Foyer

3:15pm - 4:15pm

APDS Presidential Address

Salon West

ARAS Session IV

4:15pm - 5:15pm

Professional Development - Crucial Conversations

Lea Lyttle | Emory University

5:30pm - 5:45pm

APDS Presentation of Awards

Salon West

Best Resident & Medical Student Presentations
Best Tools of the Trade Workshop

5:45pm - 6:15pm

APDS Membership Meeting

Salon West

Saturday, May 2

7:30am - 8:00am

Continental Breakfast

Foyer

ARAS Session V

8:00am - 8:30am

ARAS Presidential Address - Job to Career

Mary Ann Garcia-Bowerman | Emory University

8:30am - 9:00am

Resident/Administrator Relationship Discussion Panel

9:00am - 9:30am

AI-Powered Performance Improvement Plans - Transforming Resident Remediation Through Smart Technology

Elaina Burton C-TAGME | Garnet Health Medical Center

9:30am - 9:45am

Morning Break

Salon West

ARAS Session VI

9:45am - 10:15am

What We Do in the Simulation Lab - Sharing Resources and Ideas

Danielle Aleman BA | UT Health San Antonio

10:15am - 10:30am

TAGME

Cara Conocer, MLIS, C-TAGME | Christiana Care

10:30am - 10:45am

Thalamus Success Team

10:45am - 11:00am

TAGME Kahoot Game

11:00am - 11:15am

ARAS President Award & Introduction of 2026 - 2027 ARAS Executive Committee

2027 Surgical Education Week

Grand Hyatt San Antonio

March 30 – April 3, 2027

