The Vascular and Endovascular Surgery Society (VESS)

25th Annual Winter Meeting

The VESS has two important scientific meetings yearly. The Spring meeting was held in conjunction with the Vascular Annual Meeting this past June in Boston. The meeting was very successful and we had great participation from our members. The Annual Meeting of the VESS is held in the winter and is a highlight for both new and old members. These meetings are a special time to share research, contribute ideas, learn new technologies and make life-long friends. Families are always welcome. In the past, we have had excellent research presentations and many educational programs for fellows. The Annual Meeting will take place January 28 to February 1, 2015 at the beautiful Vail Cascade in Vail, CO. The meeting will feature numerous educational sessions, speakers, and social events. The abstract deadline for the winter meeting is Thursday, September 18 (11:59 pm (EDT)). Abstracts must be authored, co-authored or sponsored by a member of VESS. We welcome original research papers, major updates on previous research, or studies on understanding of techniques or technologies.

Save the Dates
January 28 – February 1, 2015 • Vail, Colorado
VESS Scientific Program at SVS/ VAM

We had another successful Spring Meeting in Boston this past June. The VESS Program Committee under the leadership of Dr. Murray Shames, selected outstanding abstracts for presentation on June 4, 2014.

Following the success of the past few years’ scientific program, the VESS Program Committee partnered with the Society for Vascular Surgery Program Committee to review all of the abstracts submitted to the Vascular Annual Meeting. With the unbiased leadership of Dr. Ron Fairman the selection process identified 27 abstracts that reflect the broad scope of practice of the VESS membership.

The 2014 VESS Spring Meeting highlighted exciting clinical research from more than 20 Vascular Surgery Programs in the USA as well as from a number of International Programs. Topics of discussion at the VESS Spring Meeting included management of thoracic aortic pathology, selection criteria for REVAR, stroke after CEA, criteria impacting readmission after vascular surgery procedures and factors impacting the cost of healthcare delivery. The program also included discussions on the use of robotics and simulation in vascular surgery, lessons learned developing a complex fenestrated program as well as data from multicenter trials looking at the management of lower extremity interventions for peripheral vascular disease. Finally, management strategies for complications of hemodialysis access, the diagnosis and treatment of Thoracic Outlet Syndrome, as well as the natural history of renal-artery aneurysms were presented. We also had the honor of introducing the winner of the Norman Rich Military Vascular Surgery Award, Cpt. Daniel Scott, MD from San Antonio Military Medical Center

We would like to thank the members of the VESS Program Committee for helping put together an outstanding scientific program for our Spring Meeting.

FVI/VESS Announces 2014 Young Faculty Award Winner

Dawn M. Coleman, MD
University of Michigan, Vascular Surgery

Dr. Coleman’s project “Efficacy of Apixiban in Anti-Inflammatory Induced Vein Wall Remodeling in A Murine Model Of Deep Vein Thrombosis” was chosen amongst many spectacular applications that were received this year. The committee considered several criteria points including the applicant, the strength and scope of the science within the application, innovation and the research environment. The Award provides $12,500 in research funding.

Information about the 2015 Young Faculty Award will be posted soon.
Why Young Vascular Surgeons Should Join VESS

by Sean P. Roddy, MD

The Vascular and Endovascular Surgery Society (VESS) is a national society that targets the young vascular surgeon. Formerly known as the Peripheral Vascular Surgery Society (PVSS), this Society has two national meetings each year: a winter meeting in Colorado or Utah and a spring meeting in conjunction with the VAM. The Society encourages participation with an atmosphere that is more relaxed than other national forums. At my first PVSS meeting several months after finishing fellowship, I went to the microphone and asked a question to the presenter with significant trepidation. A robust discussion ensued and I immediately felt part of the Society. I joined and have served on multiple committees throughout the next decade.

Why should the young vascular surgeon join the VESS? I can think of several reasons. First, it allows people just out of their fellowship to be part of a national society. They may attend the meetings, participate in the discussions, and ask questions in a comfortable environment. Over the last several years, the committee structure has been greatly expanded. This allows for larger participation in the governance of the Society. Many of the roles progress to committee chair designation and service on the executive council. Experience with this is invaluable to individuals who want to play a part in other societies and advance their academic careers.

Second, programs have been created that pair trainees with practicing vascular surgeons to support these individuals in career development and provide a fresh perspective from someone who has gone down a similar road. In recent years, the Society has focused on inclusion of residents and medical students in addition to fresh graduates from vascular surgery fellowship programs. At the winter meeting this past year, a separate session was added for trainee education in practice management as well as a hands-on session with industry and members of the VESS executive council to review endovascular products from multiple vendors.

Third, the plenary sessions are a relaxed environment to present data on the podium. The discussions are robust and the data is submitted from the winter meeting to the Annals of Vascular Surgery and from the spring meeting to the Journal of Vascular Surgery.

If you have an interest in the VESS, please call 978-927-7800 or email vess@administrare.com.
Member Giving Campaign

The Foundation for Vascular Innovation (FVI) is the philanthropic arm of the Vascular and Endovascular Surgery Society (VESS, formerly PVSS). It is a non-profit organization established to support educational and research activities in the area of vascular disease discovery, prevention, and treatment.

The goals of the FVI are:
1. Foster research activities among vascular surgeons, surgeon-scientists, trainees in vascular disease and medical students.
2. Provide grants for research endeavors, training, and career development.
3. Engage with medical industry partners to promote research and innovation in vascular disease and treatment.

We are asking our members to support the Foundation with a financial commitment. Your donation can foster the potential of a young surgeon and give him/her the necessary funding to advance their career. In the past, the VESS has awarded grant funding for research to young faculties and fellows as well as Travel Awards.

The FVI will work closely with the Executive Committee of the Vascular and Endovascular Surgery Society (VESS) and its 1,000+ members in choosing worthwhile research programs to support with grants. The FVI plans to expand research support in order to foster new discoveries and innovations in the area of treatment of cerebrovascular, aneurysmal, occlusive and venous diseases that afflict many of our patients. We want to thank you in advance for supporting the Foundation for Vascular Innovation.

Visit www.vesurgery.org/foundation.html and click on the Donate Now button. You will receive an immediate confirmation/receipt.

Finally, we would like to thank our first donor, **Dr. Vic Kashyap ($5000)** and **Dr. Karl Illig** who matched that plus $1 ($5001).
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VESS announces the VESS Regional Ambassadors Program

The VESS Regional Ambassador program was established to facilitate outreach across the country and across the entire specialty. By assigning regional representatives, we will be able to effectively communicate to the existing membership, directly recruit new members to the society – both candidate and full members, and encourage senior members to stay engaged with society activities. This comprehensive network of communication will greatly enhance the impact of VESS initiatives through increased participation in society programs. Ambassadors will be selected by the VESS Secretary from the active membership based in part on an individual’s track record of contribution to society’s meetings and activities, and to ensure all regions are adequately represented. As such, VESS Ambassadors activities will be under the direction of the Secretary. The term will be for three years and renewable once, with possible exceptions for areas relatively underrepresented by VESS members. Available VESS Ambassadors will assemble twice annually at the Annual (Winter) Meeting and at the VAM as part of the Spring Meeting to discuss recruitment strategies and progress.
2014-2015 Ambassadors

Zachary Arthurs, San Antonio TX
Bernadette Aulivola, Maywood IL
Faisal Aziz, Hershey PA
Zachary Baldwin, Jackson MS
Hernan Bazan, New Orleans LA
Carlos Bechara, Houston TX
Luke Brewster, Atlanta GA
Ankur Chandra, Rochester NY
W. Darrin Clouse, Sacramento CA
Guillermo Escobar, Little Rock AK
Robert Feezor, Gainesville FL
Charles Fox, Denver CO
Manuel Garcia-Toca, Providence RI
Joseph Hart, Bangor ME
Mounir Haurani, Columbus OH
Justin Hurie, Winston-Salem NC
Ralph Ierardi, Newark DE
Jeffrey Indes, New Haven CT
Rebecca Kelso, Cleveland OH
Judith Lin, Detroit MI
Erica Mitchell, Portland OR
Thomas Monahan, Baltimore MD
Raghunandan Motaganahalli, Indianapolis IN
Peter Nelson, Tampa FL
Benjamin Pearce, Birmingham AL
Brian Peterson, St. Louis MO
Peter Rossi, Milwaukee WI
Stephanie Saltzberg, Albany NY
Niten Singh, Seattle WA
Britt Tonnessen, Charleston SC
Margaret Tracci, Charlottesville VA
Guidelines

The primary purpose of the VESS / WL Gore & Associates Travel Award is to provide the recipient with the opportunity to visit one (or more) vascular surgery centers of excellence. The visit is intended to stimulate academic inspiration and to foster the development of fraternal fellowship in vascular surgery. Achievement of these objectives will enhance the vascular surgery career of a VESS member recipient. This $5000 award is not intended to support specific research interests but rather to assist the award recipient in a unique opportunity for travel and professional exchange.

For more information visit the website: www.vesurgery.org

APPLICATION DEADLINE: November 17, 2014