

VESS

Vascular and Endovascular Surgery Society

NEWSLETTER

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President's Corner by Jon Eliason, MD

As the fall season progresses, VESS members can anticipate our Annual Meeting right around the corner. This year we will have an historic 1st ever venue in Snowbird, Utah!

This should prove to be an outstanding location for our meeting. It is located at the heart of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest in Little Cottonwood Canyon and includes 2,500 skiable acres, 2,900 vertical feet, and a peak elevation of 11,000 feet. The mountain meeting space looks beautiful and culminates

with the Summit, Snowbird's latest renovation and the site of the President's dinner this year at the peak.

The 2019 Annual winter meeting dates are January 31st- February 3rd. The program committee, headed by **Justin Hurie**, has done an outstanding job culling through over 160 submitted abstracts to select the lineup. Many thanks Justin and team! Other highlights include the remarkably successful **Fellows Program**, the newer **Next Generation Medical Student Symposium**, and the **Technology Forum**, highlighting current and up-and-coming technologies in the aortic, peripheral, venous, and advanced imaging spaces. It has been my sincere pleasure to serve as your president this year. I hope to see you in Utah as we work together make the 2019 annual meeting a new high for our society!

Sincerely,

Jon Eliason, MD

CALL FOR LEADERSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Are you ready to serve the premiere Society for Young Vascular Surgeons?

VESS is calling all Active & Active Senior Members to submit your nomination to serve on one of the many Committee.

- Program Committee (Spring)
- Program Committee (Winter)
- Website Committee
- Women & Diversity Committee
- Newsletter Committee
- Fundraising Committee
- Grants & Awards Committee
- Membership Development Committee
- ByLaws Committee
- Vascular Residency Committee
- Student Education Committee

More information will be send to the membership in the near future with Committee descriptions, terms & initiatives. If you're ready now, send an email to vess@administrare.com and let us know where you want to serve

Getting Involved in Professional Societies is Key to Research Success

By Mounir Haurani, MD



Advances in medical knowledge and patient care are made incrementally over time through building of consensus. While there have been many “landmark” articles that are cited and used as pillars that ground our practices as vascular surgeons, much remains unknown. Despite the seemingly immovable nature of these well-established research studies, even the foundational pillars of our specialty such as NASCET are open to scrutiny as new knowledge and experience is gained. As an early career investigator, one may not be included in such large multi-institution clinical trials, but that does not mean their contributions to the collective medical knowledge is any less valued.

Developing a research question often requires clinical experience to understand where the gaps in knowledge are. The most experienced researchers may have accumulated decades of unwritten knowledge that can lead to their next project. As an early career investigator, the easiest way to gain experience and implementation of a of mentorship, is to volunteer By volunteering to be a can see both well planned as well as those that necessary standards for In addition to the exercise other’s work, the reviewer is from other reviewers which into how others view the understanding of the review can strengthen the early work, and can additionally knowledge is lacking.

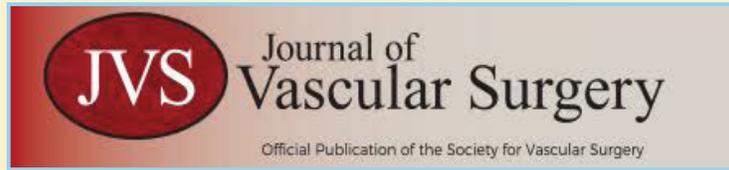
“As an early career investigator, the easiest way to gain experience in the development and implementation of a research question, outside of mentorship, is to volunteer to review other’s research.”

in the development research question, outside to review other’s research. reviewer for journals, one out and executed studies have not achieved the peer reviewed publication. of critically appraising often provided with input provides invaluable insight same study. This deeper process and expectations career researcher’s own provide insight into where

Early on, one may be faced with self-doubt as to the importance of the research they are proposing. It is important to identify an experience mentor who can help to hone the question to one that is clinically relevant. However, it can’t be overstated that scientific progress is made through consensus. Therefore, even a confirmatory study with slightly different parameter may provide further data to build consensus among the specialty. An additional advantage of the new investigator is that they do not bring with them the years of experience that may make more seasoned surgeons rigid in their views on patient care. A different perspective can lead to significant advances in vascular surgery, and the early career investigators are often those who pioneer and champion such techniques. If they are not studied and written about, the knowledge won’t get disseminated.

The foundations for a career that includes research and contribution to the medical knowledge of our specialty are established early in a surgeon’s career. Read what others have done, involve mentors who can provide insight, and get involved with presenting at local, regional and national meetings.

VESS Publication Rates

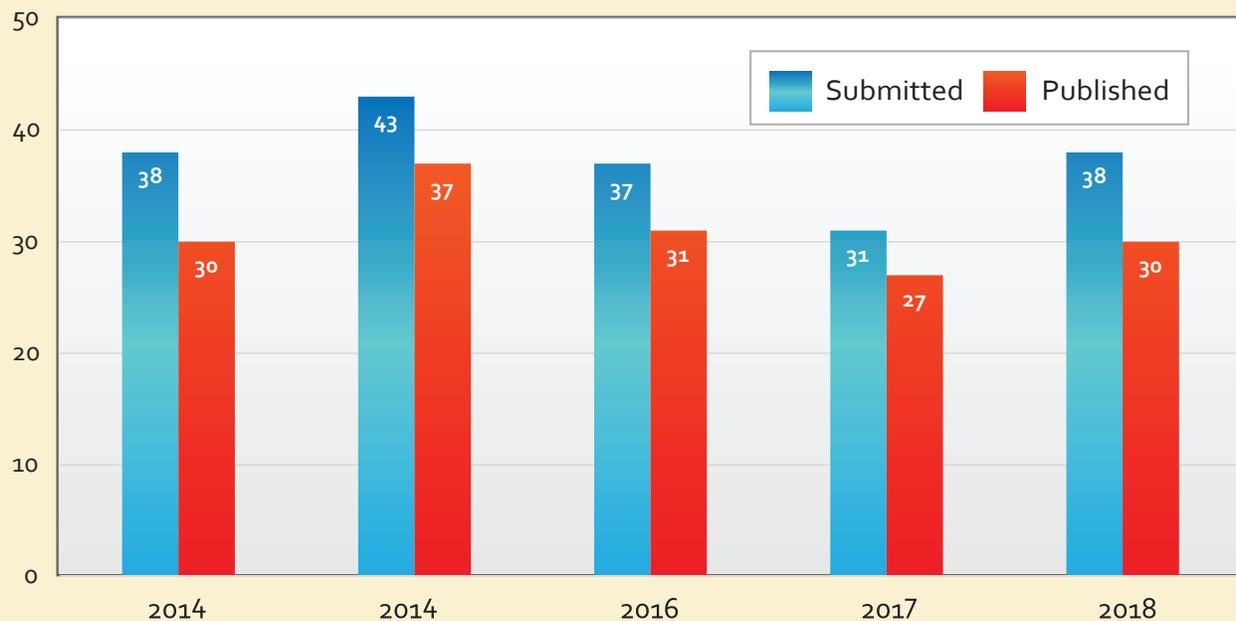


Manuscripts submitted from the VESS Annual Spring Meeting
Society to Society Comparison over the past 4 years

	WVS	MWVSS	SAVS	SCVS	EVS	NESVS	AVF	VESS
2014	81	66	67	58	65	76	76	73
2015	81	47	77	59	63	87	59	94
2016	75	61	85	62	48	79	73	79
2017	76	71	87	66	52	84	82	78
Average	78	61	79	61	57	82	73	81

Annals of Vascular Surgery

Manuscripts submitted from the VESS Annual Winter Meeting



Spotlight on VESS Grant Awardees

Each year, the VESS awards a Travel Grant, an Early Career Faculty Research Grant and a Resident Research Grant. Here, we catch up with previous awardees to find out how they used their funds and what impact the award had on their career. We hope this inspires members to apply for VESS grants and continue the tradition of high achievement that the VESS is proud to support. For more information on how to apply, visit <http://vesurgery.org/grants-awards>.



Julie Freischlag, MD

*CEO Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center
Dean Wake Forest School of Medicine*

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What did you do with the funding you received?

I received the Research Award when I was still in California at the VA in San Diego to further my research. I was really a basic science researcher, and this award allowed me to start our clinic work. At this time, I was still working with Marc Sedwitz and Bob Hye. We did analysis of all of our aortic interventions and carotids in asymptomatic patients. We used it to pay our research assistant and develop our data analysis system. Because we did not do data analysis back then that was sophisticated as we do now, we had to create the databases and review charts. That took a lot of effort. We published two papers as a direct result of the award. The first was zero operative mortality rate in 109 consecutive elective aortic operations performed by residents. The second was improved prognosis for asymptomatic carotid stenosis with prophylactic carotid endarterectomy.

What professional achievements came from this award?

Following the VESS award, my work on clinical trials really took off. The award made me realize my interest in looking forward and not just retrospectively at our outcomes. I realized we needed to prospectively randomize people. I was able to become the site principle investigator for the Asymptomatic Carotid Atherosclerosis Study (ACAS), the crest trial, the CARP trial, the ADAM trial, and many of the other trials that initiated at the VA.

Ultimately, I was able to become one of the main PI's for the Open Versus Endovascular Repair VA and this has really defined my career.

Did this award lead to new funding opportunities for your work?

Yes, we were able to apply for large scale funding for multi-institutional work and get funding for site-investigators to make the clinical trials happen. It also promoted me, so I became notable on a national level as a clinical investigator and this opened so many doors for me. When I then went to Milwaukee, I became the site PI's for clinical trial at my new institution. Because people knew who I was, I was then asked to promote others through the national societies.

What was the best thing about being in the VESS at that time?

It was so young. You went to the VESS meeting and you felt the energy of the new young vascular surgeon. The majority if not everyone there was within the first 10 years of their practice, and there was such comradery, just as there is now. There is no other Society that provides that kind of comradery for young vascular surgeons. It was also a place that you could bring your kids. I brought my son and he learned to ski at the VESS. It was a place where families came together and got to know each other. I don't think I would have the connections I do now without my time in the VESS.

VESS 2019 Annual Meeting AT-A-GLANCE

Thursday, January 31, 2019

8:00 am – 12:00 pm	VESS Fellows Program (by invitation)
8:00 am – 12:00 pm	VESS Next Generation Students Program (by invitation)
2:30 pm – 5:30 pm	TECHNOLOGY FORUM - Broad Vascular Pathology <i>All welcome to attend. The emphasis of this program is for industry to provide insight into current and up-and-coming technology, as well as what treating physicians may see in the near future as it relates to developments in the pipeline.</i>
5:30 pm – 7:00 PM	WELCOME RECEPTION - All attendees, guests & exhibitors are welcome.

Friday, February 1, 2019

6:00 am – 7:00 am	Continental Breakfast
6:00 am – 9:30 am	Registration
7:00 am – 9:00 am	SCIENTIFIC SESSION I
3:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Registration Re-Opens
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Coffee/Snacks – Visit Exhibits
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	SCIENTIFIC SESSION II
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	VESS MEMBER BUSINESS MEETING

Saturday, February 2, 2019

6:00 am – 7:00 am	Continental Breakfast
6:00 am – 9:30 am	Registration
7:00 am – 8:15 am	SCIENTIFIC SESSION III
8:15am – 8:45am	Award Session (Reports from 2018 Recipients & Announcement of 2019 Recipients)
8:50 am – 9:00 am	Introduction of the President
9:00 am – 9:45 am	PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS Jonathan Eliason, MD
3:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Registration Re-Opens
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Coffee/Snacks – Last Chance to Visit Exhibits
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	SCIENTIFIC SESSION IV
7:00 pm – 10:00 pm	PRESIDENT'S DINNER - The Summit <i>All registered attendees are welcome to attend. Separate subscription required.</i>

Sunday, February 3, 2019

6:30 am – 7:00 am	Continental Breakfast
6:30 am – 9:00 am	Registration
7:00 – 9:00 am	SCIENTIFIC SESSION V
9:00 am	Meeting Adjourns

43rd ANNUAL (WINTER) MEETING

Plan to join us for the Annual Meeting in beautiful Snowbird, Utah – January 31 - February 3, 2019. An outstanding program has been planned – watch your mail for the Preliminary Program brochure. For full meeting registration & hotel information visit the VESS website – www.vesurgery.org.

HOTEL INFORMATION

The Cliff Lodge, Snowbird Resort

The Cliff Lodge at Snowbird is one of North America's most iconic ski lodges. The majesty of Little Cottonwood Canyon can be explored from the views each room provides whether facing Snowbird's ski slopes or peering down the glacially carved canyons spilling into the Salt Lake City valley below. Enjoy ski-in/ski-out convenience and excellent service with a luxurious resort experience.

Be sure to make your reservations early as rooms will most likely sell out and the average room rate outside our meeting block will increase. Reservations must be made by **5:00 pm (Eastern) Wednesday, December 12, 2018**, to guarantee the group rate and can be made by contacting the Cliff Lodge directly at 800-453-3000. After this deadline, The group code is 2C58OV.

Room rates are subject to tax (currently at 11.6%). In addition, a reduced daily resort fee of \$25.00 per room per night has been negotiated for VESS attendees. This fee includes high speed wireless internet in lodging rooms and most public space, free self parking at all lodges plus valet at the Cliff, fitness center use, in-room coffee at the Cliff Lodge and hot beverages in business center. It also includes access to private ski and snowboard storage lockers. Check-in time is 4:00pm. Check-out time is 12:00pm. Guests arriving before 4:00 pm will be accommodated as rooms become available.



PRESIDENT'S DINNER

Saturday, February 2nd

All attendees welcome – Separate subscription required.

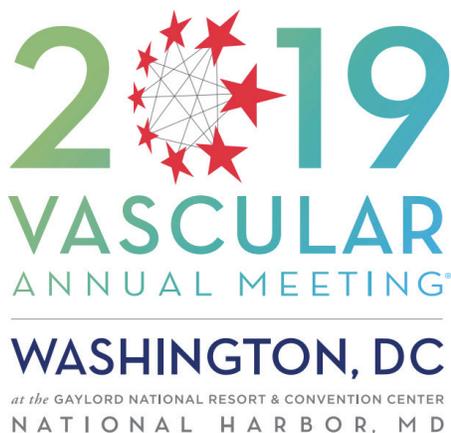
The Summit, Snowbird Resort

The Summit is Snowbird's newest year-round guest facility located atop Hidden Peak at 11,000 feet. Just a few steps from the Aerial Tram. Providing different views of the surrounding Wasatch-Cache National Forest, it straddles the intersection of three high-mountain drainages—Mineral Basin, Gad Valley and Peruvian Gulch. Be sure to get your ticket to the Presidents' Dinner when you register for the meeting.

CANDIDATE MEMBER RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN

On behalf of the VESS we are asking for your help in recruiting the next generation of vascular surgeons and VESS leaders. We find that by getting the residents & fellows involved early in their career helps to create a clear path to their futures. All we are asking is for you to spread the word and potentially sponsor those in your department that may not already be familiar with the Society or those who are familiar but have not yet joined. We have a very simple, online enrollment that only requires one letter (or email) of support from a current VESS member. And even better, there is no membership fee for Candidate Members. As an incentive for your help, we plan to hold a raffle at the end of the year for a free registration to the 2019 annual meeting. Your name will be added to the list for each new member you recruit. The more recruits, the better your odds at winning. Should you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact our administrative office. We appreciate your help and commitment to keeping this Society the premiere vascular Society for the young vascular surgeon.

Win free registration to the 2019 annual meeting!



Save the Dates
2019 VESS SPRING MEETING

JUNE 12, 2019
Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center
National Harbor, MD
(In conjunction with the Vascular Annual Meeting (VAM))

Information for the Call for Abstracts
will be available soon.

VESS @ Social Media!



Be sure to like us on Facebook VESurgery and Follow us on Twitter at @vesurgery. Interact with Society leadership and other members through these avenues. If you have information you think should be posted by VESS, send potential content to the Society by tagging @VESurgery on your post or tweet or email potential content to [vess@administrare.com](mailto: vess@administrare.com) for review by the Communications Committee.

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ONLINE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN - VISIT WWW.VESURGERY.ORG!

Vascular & Endovascular Surgery Society
43rd Annual Meeting | January 31 - February 3, 2019
Snowbird Resort | Snowbird, UT

