We had another successful spring meeting in Washington DC this past June. The VESS Program Committee under the leadership of Dr. Bernadette Aulivola, selected outstanding abstracts for presentation on June 8, 2016. Following the success of the past few years’ scientific program, the VESS Program Committee again partnered with the Society for Vascular Surgery Program Committee to review all of the abstracts submitted to the Vascular Annual Meeting (VAM). We would like to thank the members of the VESS Program Committee for helping put together an outstanding scientific program for our spring meeting and our VESS general members for continuing to show strong support in attendance of the meeting. The meeting was truly a success, with great participation from our members. The abstracts presented highlighted multi-institutional research efforts. We also had international presenters. Manuscripts from these presentations were submitted to the Journal of Vascular Surgery.

We are looking forward to our annual winter meeting to be held in Steamboat, Colorado this year. Abstract deadline for the winter meeting is approaching fast, September 13. As in prior years, this meeting will kick off with the ever popular Vascular Surgery Fellow’s program and Technology Exchange Forum, to be followed by three days of Scientific Sessions. The VESS is committed to promoting the young vascular surgeon. Our annual winter meeting offers a fantastic opportunity to exchange ideas, network with colleagues and to reconnect with friends and family. We look forward to seeing all of you there and encourage new members to join our society.

Thomas S. Maldonado, M.D., FACS
Associate Professor of Surgery, NYU School of Medicine
Chief of Vascular Surgery, Manhattan VA Hospital
AWARD GUIDELINES

The primary purpose of the VESS/W. L. 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 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.

Eligibility for Selection

1. Be an active member of the Vascular and Endovascular Surgery Society within the first ten years of practice after completing vascular surgery training.
2. Be committed to an academic career in vascular surgery and have obtained an academic appointment in a medical school or freestanding clinic devoted to excellence in medical education.

Requirements for Consideration

A candidate submitting documentation for consideration for selection must furnish:
1. An up-to-date curriculum vitae
2. A 1000-word (no more than 2 pages) essay describing the travel plan objectives and how these link with the candidate’s career goals.
3. One letter of recommendation. This may be sent from the freestanding clinic or division head, or the chairman of the department of surgery of the institution in which the candidate holds a faculty appointment.

Report to Committee

A 500-1500 word report covering your experience should be prepared and forwarded to the Chairman of the VESS Grants & Scholarships Committee within 3 months of completion of your travel dates. You will be required to present this report at the VESS Annual Winter Meeting in 2018, in Vail, CO.

Financial Support

The generosity of W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc., has facilitated the establishment of this VESS Travel Award. Their graciousness ensures the noncommercial nature of the award and its continuation in years to come. The award will cover up to $5,000 for expenses of travel, research and clerical help. The award monies may not be used for any other purpose.

Application

The required materials as indicated above in “Requirements for Consideration” should be sent to the VESS Administrative Office, and should be sent electronically to vess@administrare.com. The deadline for receiving applications is November 18, 2016. The award will be announced at the upcoming winter meeting (2017, Steamboat Springs, CO). It is expected that the winning candidate will be present to accept the award from a representative from W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc.

Letters of intent (essay) CV and recommendation should be directed to:
Vascular and Endovascular Surgery Society
vess@administrare.com

Questions?

100 Cummings Center, Suite 124A
Beverly, MA 01915
Phone: 978-927-7800; Fax: 978-927-7872
vess@administrare.com

2016 Spring Program Recap

This year, a total of 27 abstracts from 18 Vascular Surgery Programs around the country were selected for presentation. Besides the usual arterial and venous topics, there were also 2 very thought provocative lecture entitled “Disproportionate use of Atherectomy for SFA Interventions Between Office-based and Hospital-based Labs May Be Self-serving” and “Downward reimbursement Trends in Vascular Surgery: Who stands to Lose” The interest and discussions generated from these talks highlight the importance through the attendees regarding both the ethics and financial implications of reimbursement as health reform continues to take shape in our current landscape.

We would like to thank Bernadette Aulivola and the members of the VESS Program Committee for helping put together an outstanding scientific program for our Spring meeting and our VESS general members for continuing to show strong support in attendance of the meeting.
The Foundation for Vascular Innovation (FVI) is pleased to announce the 2017 VESS / Medtronic Vascular Resident Research Award

APPLICATION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 1, 2016

One $12,500 grant for basic/translational science, educational, clinical or health outcomes research will be awarded during the VESS winter meeting in 2017. The VESS/Medtronic Resident Research Award is specifically designed to help residents in training initiate projects during protected academic development time that will lead to future academic potential toward extramural funding for basic or clinical research.

Eligible candidates must identify with an accredited general or integrated vascular surgery residency program. A dedicated research mentor must be identified within the award application, along with a proposed academic development plan.

APPLICATION COMPONENTS (15 pages total, inclusive of all items below):

1. Introductory letter (<1 page)*
2. Letter of support and oversight from residency program director (<1 page)**
3. NIH bio-sketch for PI and mentor (NIH format, 3 pages in total)
4. Title and abstract (<200 words)
5. Grant proposal (7 pages)***
   a. Specific aim (1 page)
   b. Background (1 page)
   c. Preliminary data (1 page)
   d. Project (4 pages)
   e. Literature citation list (exempt from page limit)
6. Budget with justification (1 page)****

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

1. Page Margins: Layout and format should conform to current NIH standards
2. A summary report is expected to be presented at the VESS winter meeting in 2018

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL REQUIRED MATERIALS TO:
Electronically to: vess@administrare.com or Vascular and Endovascular Surgery Society VESS Scholarship Chair (c/o Eila Zay) 100 Cummings Center, Suite 124A Beverly, MA 01915

* Applicants are not eligible for award if they are funded by similar resident grants from other societies (ie: SVS, ACS, AAS, etc.). The absence of dual/redundant funding should be addressed in the introductory letter. This letter should include a proposed academic development plan.

** Recipients of these awards must demonstrate that they have the dedicated research time to complete their proposed project during the year of the award. This information should be included in the introductory letter and letter of support letter from the Vascular Division Chief or VESS research mentor.

*** The grant proposal itself should be a maximum of seven (7) pages - anything longer will be administratively triaged and will not be considered by the committee.

**** The funds from these awards are intended to directly fund the research contained within this proposal. No indirect institutional funding is available through this grant mechanism.

For questions, please call the VESS National Office at 978-927-7800 or email vess@administrare.com
Call for Abstracts

The VESS is now accepting abstracts for the 27th Annual Winter Meeting. Abstracts are due by 11:59 pm (EDT) on Tuesday, September 13, 2016. This year's meeting will be held at the Steamboat Grand from February 2-5, 2017, in Steamboat Springs, CO.

All abstracts must be submitted electronically. Abstracts must be authored, co-authored or sponsored by a member of the VESS. Only original abstracts will be accepted and may not have been previously presented, published. Please go to http://vesurgery.org/meetings/winter.html for further details and to submit your abstract today.

Call for Articles

The Vascular and Endovascular Surgical Society is excited to announce the start of a new section in our quarterly newsletter. This section will feature submission by our members, featuring articles spanning a wide assortment of topics. We are looking for technical articles with "tips and tricks" from our membership. Some of these articles will be invited and some may be from members who may contribute unique stories on experiences that have shaped their careers or events or decisions they had to make that others may benefit from reading about. Many other publications rely on the most senior of members to write these types of articles, but we feel that our membership will be able to provide a unique perspective. If you have a suggestion for an article or would like to submit one, please contact vess@administrator.com.

All submissions will be reviewed by the Newsletter Committee. Space is limited and most articles will be limited to 500 words and 1-2 images.

Committee:
Ying Lum, MD (Chair)
Nick Mouawad, MD
Joe Haurani, MD