

2023–2024 ACS Annual Report

DECEMBER 2024

ACS / AMERICAN COLLEGE
OF SURGEONS

THE HOUSE OF SURGERY™

Letter from the Executive Director & CEO

The ACS has attained many notable successes over the past year, a testament to the commitment and hard work of our surgeon volunteers and dedicated staff.

This annual report, which I share with all ACS members around the world, presents the highlights of those numerous milestones.

As I near the end of my third year as Executive Director and CEO, I remain proud of how our organization is committed to better serving our needs as surgeons and improving the care of our surgical patients. I am pleased that key elements of the vision I articulated when I moved into this role are being objectively and concretely accomplished, and I look forward to building on this momentum and sharing even greater successes in the year to come.

Please feel free to reach out to me at any time throughout the year with your questions and feedback at executivedirector@facs.org.

Patricia L. Turner, MD, MBA, FACS
Executive Director & CEO



New Executive Leaders



The ACS is laying the foundation for a new strategic plan—one that aims to advance patient care and surgical quality, as well as innovate, educate, unify, and advocate for all surgeons. This plan will be finalized in 2025.

Among those contributing to the robust brainstorming discussions are several new leaders. They include the inaugural ACS Chief Health Informatics Officer Genevieve Melton-Meaux, MD, PhD, FACS, FACMI, a practicing colorectal surgeon and data sciences leader at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, who will help the ACS update data systems and expand programs on artificial intelligence; and inaugural ACS Chief Operating Officer/Chief Revenue Officer Joe Rytell, a former pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and diagnostics industry executive, who will build robust, dynamic operations and business strategies to advance our mission and impact.

We also are in the process of hiring two ACS Fellows to assist with health policy and surgeon engagement.



Genevieve Melton-Meaux,
MD, PhD, FACS, FACMI



Joe Rytell

In addition, Thomas K. Varghese Jr., MD, MS, MBA, FACS, will become Editor-in-Chief (EIC) of the *Journal of the American College of Surgeons* in March 2025, succeeding Timothy J. Eberlein, MD, FACS, who has ably advanced our scholarly peer-reviewed journal since 2004.



Thomas K. Varghese Jr.,
MD, MS, MBA, FACS



Timothy J. Eberlein,
MD, FACS



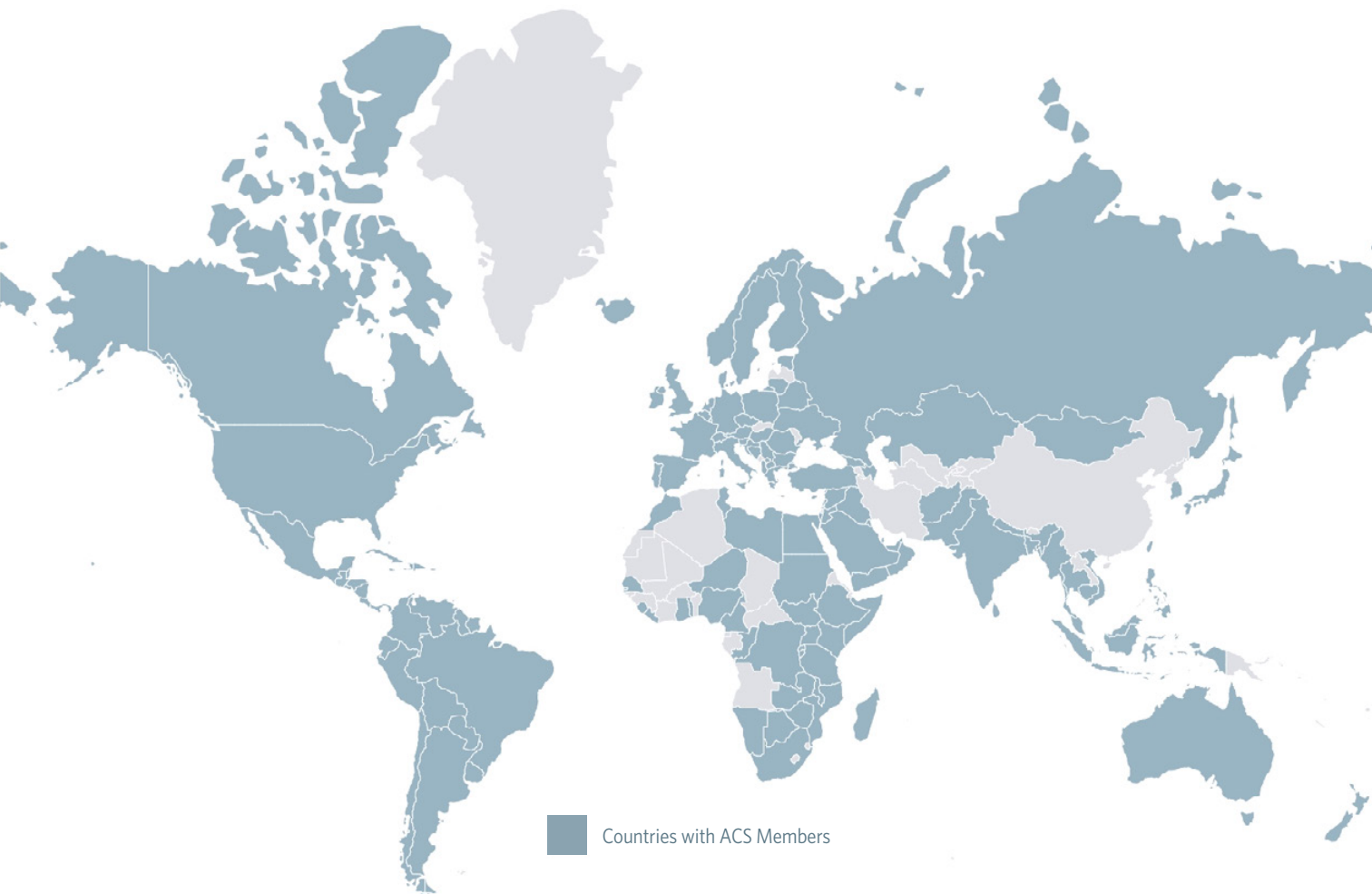
Tyler G. Hughes,
MD, FACS

Next year, we also will welcome a new EIC of the ACS Communities, our online forum where members can pose clinical questions, offer guidance, exchange resources, and connect with colleagues in any surgical specialty, career stage, and/or local chapter. Tyler G. Hughes, MD, FACS, will retire from the EIC role at the end of January 2025 after helping us launch the platform 10 years ago.

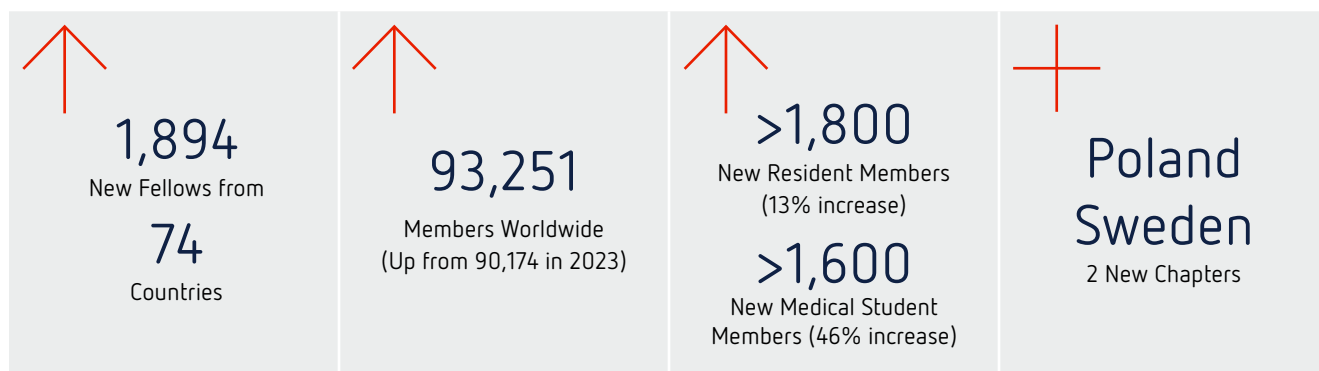
Membership



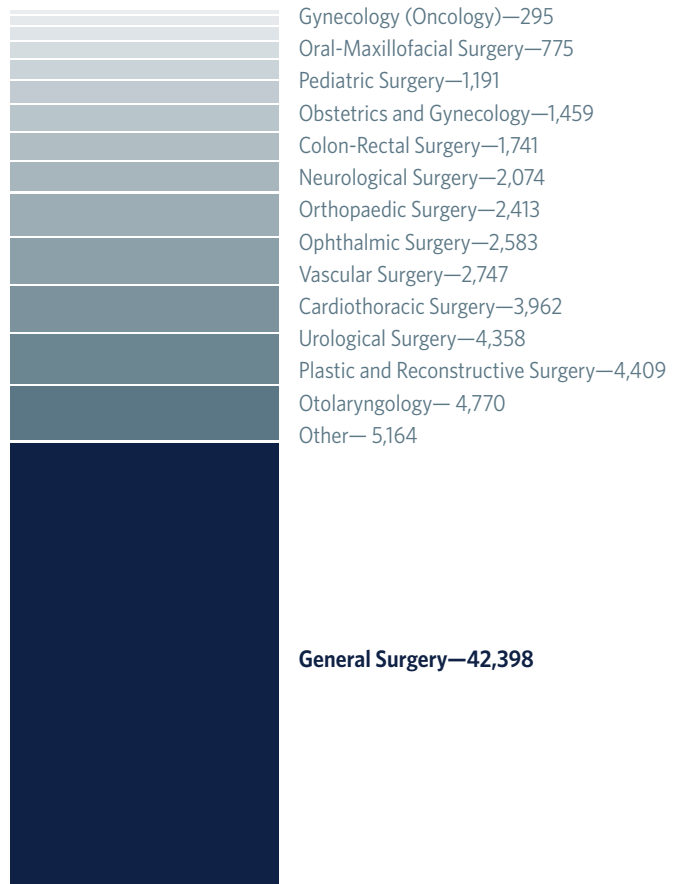
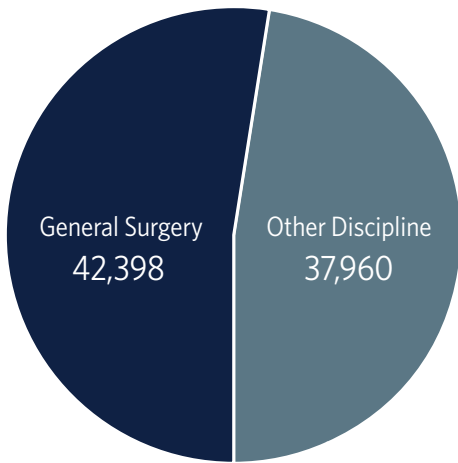
In 2024, ACS membership exceeded 93,000—a new record—and included surgeons in 14 disciplines from 157 countries. During Convocation at Clinical Congress 2024 in San Francisco, California, 1,894 new Fellows from 74 countries were initiated.



Trainee participation in the ACS also was at an all-time high. We welcomed more than 1,800 new Resident Members and more than 1,600 new Medical Student Members this past year, an increase of 13% and 46%, respectively.



Membership Composition by Discipline, US & Canada

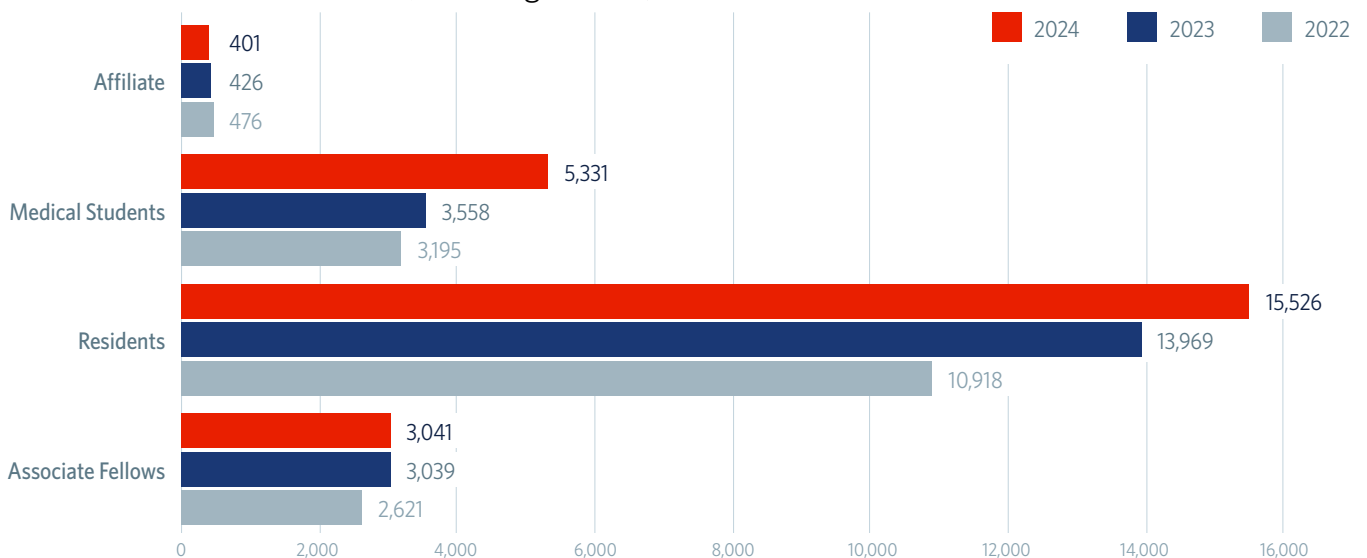


Chapter Growth

In 2024, ACS chapters in Poland and Sweden were approved, bringing the total number of ACS chapters to 123 around the world.

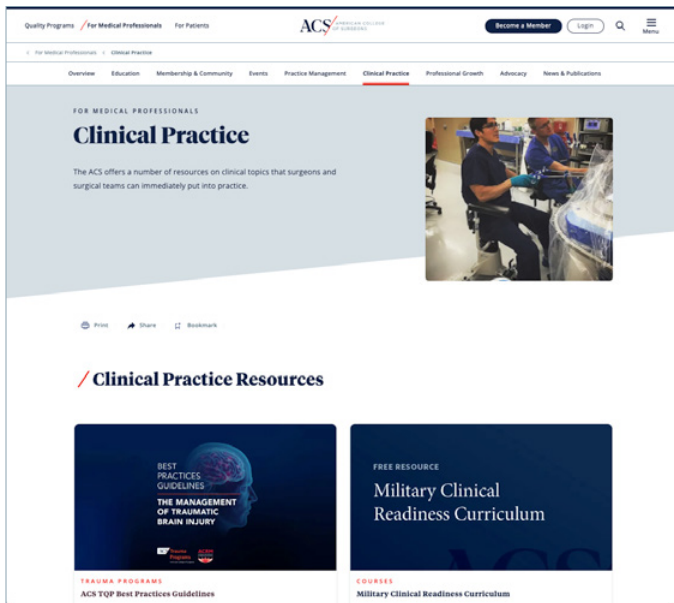
A highly successful dues pilot program was completed with four chapters—Iowa, Metropolitan Chicago, Oklahoma, and Utah. This program combined member and chapter fees into a single invoice, leading not only to increased chapter dues collection but also to growth in chapter membership. An option for combined dues invoicing has now been offered to all US chapters for the 2025 cycle.

Member Growth 2022-2024 (excluding Fellows)



Member Benefits

Benefits for ACS members are continuously evaluated and updated to help serve the needs of all surgeons. In addition, technology is being leveraged in new ways to provide a more personalized member experience.



Clinical Practice Hub

A collection of clinical practice resources is available through a new hub on the ACS website. This hub makes it easy to find publications, courses, and other information that you and your surgical teams can immediately use for patient care.

The clinical practice hub complements the practice management hub launched in 2023 that includes information on coding, billing, personal finances, contract negotiations, access to compensation benchmarking and productivity reports, plus more.

New content added this past year to both hubs includes:

- *Best Practices Guidelines for Geriatric Trauma Management*
- *Best Practices Guidelines for the Management of Traumatic Brain Injury*
- *Best Practices Guidelines for the Management of Urologic Injuries*
- *The Employed Surgeon—Second Edition*

Work is now underway on *Best Practices Guidelines for Chest Wall Injuries*.



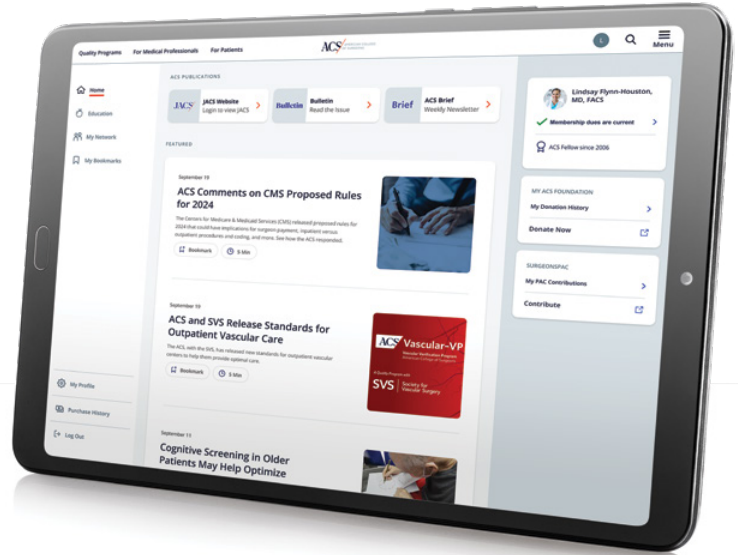
Learn more at facs.org/clinical-practice and facs.org/practice-management.




Surgeon's Dashboard

The members-only Surgeon's Dashboard was updated in July 2024 to include curated content based on a member's discipline, career stage, geography, and personal interests. For example, if an individual is a colorectal surgeon who lives in Massachusetts and is interested in advocacy and technology, their dashboard would feature the most current related content and provide access to chapter leaders in Massachusetts and the Advisory Council Chair for Colon and Rectal Surgery.

Within the next few months, job openings that reflect a surgeon's discipline and geography will be featured in the dashboard.



 Learn more at profile.facs.org/dashboard.



THE HOUSE OF SURGERY™

American College of Surgeons

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[Update My Preferences](#)

Curated Email Content

Members also have the opportunity to update their email preferences to help ensure they get the email content that is most important to them.

An "Update My Preferences" subscription center was added in 2023 so that members can select relevant publications and the types of education and program news they wish to receive.

 To update your email options, click on "Update My Preferences" at the bottom of any ACS email.

Collaboration with Other Organizations

As The House of Surgery™, we are continuously working to unite all surgeons in all disciplines to speak in a unified voice for our profession and our patients through collaborative efforts with surgical specialty societies. In fall 2023, we convened a meeting of surgical specialty society leaders to talk about priorities and joint initiatives. The meeting was so successful that additional meetings were held in May 2024 and October 2024, with plans for semiannual meetings moving forward. In addition, collaborations were formed and strengthened in important areas such as physician wellness, education, military surgery, and global outreach.

Surgeon Well-Being Coalition

Surgeon well-being is recognized as a crucial component for individuals and institutional surgical success. In spring 2023, the ACS created a coalition that includes more than 40 other surgical organizations and strives to advocate for health, sustainable systems, and practices that bring well-being into the day-to-day.

The Coalition met during Clinical Congress 2024 in October to appoint leaders and take the next steps to formulate, design, and enact wellness practices that benefit all surgeons, patients, and families at individual and system levels.



Learn more at facs.org/wellness.



Learn more at facs.org/surg-eng.

Surgeons and Engineers

An essential interconnectedness was demonstrated through another successful collaboration—one between surgeons and engineers. The 2024 Surgeons and Engineers Meeting attracted 120 attendees from the US and seven other countries to Chicago in March to discuss new opportunities in technology-enhanced surgical education and simulation.

Surgeons from general surgery, otolaryngology-head and neck surgery, ophthalmology, and orthopaedic surgery participated in the meeting, along with participants from anesthesiology and dentistry. The meeting also attracted a record number of engineering and medical students interested in linking surgery education and engineering education. A special focus of the meeting was on how to build better simulators.

The 2025 meeting also will highlight surgical simulation.

Global Outreach

Through our Health Outreach Program for Equity in Global Surgery (ACS H.O.P.E.)—now in its 20th year— numerous collaborative efforts are underway, giving surgeons opportunities to teach and learn from one another, while striving to improve surgical access and provide optimal care to all patients. ACS H.O.P.E. operates three surgical training hubs in Zambia, Rwanda, and Ethiopia. Over the past year, 55 ACS H.O.P.E. volunteers made 47 visits, participating in 172 case observations/collaborations, more than 200 classroom experiences, 950 clinical hours, and approximately 4,000 total volunteer hours in trauma, critical care, vascular surgery, plastic surgery, transplantation, cardiothoracic surgery, pediatric surgery, oncologic surgery, and maxillofacial surgery.



Learn more at facs.org/acshope.

Educational Offerings



A central ACS goal is to deliver timely, evidence-based training and education to prepare all surgeons for current and future roles and challenges. To help surgeons optimize their practices, attain new skills, and manage their careers, we offer dozens of educational opportunities that continually evolve for changing needs. These opportunities range from rigorous readiness assessments for residents to courses designed to enhance surgeons' skills as educators and leaders. In 2025, a new edition of the Surgical Education and Self-Assessment Program—SESAP® 19—will be launched.

We provide our educational programs in multiple formats to meet our members' needs where they are. The five largest in-person educational meetings are highlighted below, and a selection of online opportunities follows.

Clinical Congress

We shifted the schedule for our signature annual meeting—Clinical Congress—to a Saturday-through-Tuesday format, responding to feedback from our members. Anchoring the conference on the weekend allowed many of our members to limit their days away from clinical practice to attend.



ATTENDANCE 2024

4,818 Physician Registrants	9,884 In-Person Registrants	1,012 Virtual Registrants	10,896 Total Registrants
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CLINICAL CONGRESS 2024 BY THE NUMBERS

2,530 Total Presentations	1,807 Faculty Members and Presenters	8 Named Lectures	3 Special Sessions	108 Panel Sessions	76 Scientific Forum Sessions
7 ePoster Sessions	26 Video-Based Education Sessions	46 Meet-the-Expert Sessions	12 Town Hall Meetings	18 Didactic + Skills Courses	200+ AMA PRA Category 1 CME Credits™ Available



In addition, we added six thematic and specialty-specific sessions to the first days of the conference, focusing on artificial intelligence, cardiothoracic surgery, neurosurgery, vascular surgery, education, and quality. We also included a second Great Debate session and more interdisciplinary activities to bring together surgeons from many disciplines.

Clinical Congress 2024 in San Francisco was very well-received by those in attendance. On-demand recordings from many of the sessions will remain available through February 24, 2025.

 Learn more at facs.org/clincon2024.



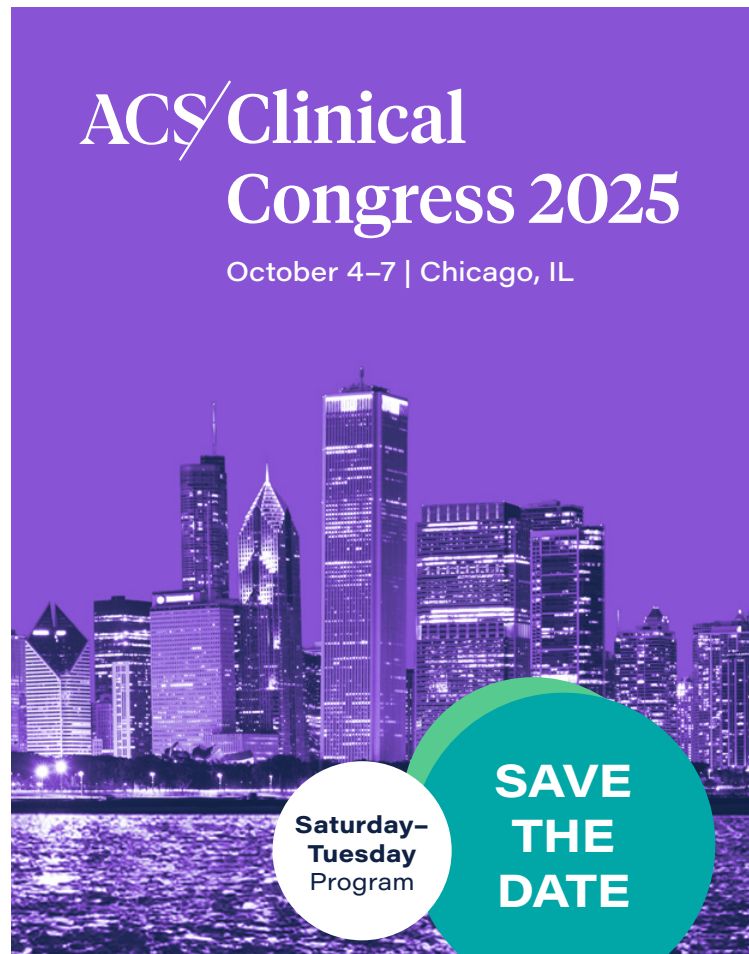
SAVE THE DATE

Clinical Congress 2025

Saturday–Tuesday, October 4–7

Chicago, IL

Learn more at facs.org/clincon2025.



**ACS/Clinical
Congress 2025**
October 4–7 | Chicago, IL

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday–Tuesday Program

Quality Improvement Conferences

The ACS offers three major in-person educational events that focus on quality initiatives, managing data, and best practices related to the College's accreditation and verification programs. They include the Quality and Safety Conference (QSC), Trauma Quality Improvement Program (TQIP) Annual Meeting, and the ACS Cancer Conference.

QSC

The 2024 QSC was held in July in Denver, Colorado, and attracted approximately 1,600 surgeons, nurses, registrars, surgical quality officers, and other members of the healthcare team.

The theme was "The Power of Value: Expanding Your Impact" to demonstrate how value is inextricably linked to surgical quality improvement and patient safety.

General sessions included topics such as ways to expand your impact, aligning quality metrics with value in real-world settings, cultivating collaboration to increase value, and navigating the future of value. A new format for a general session workshop breakout was introduced. Attendees were grouped by their Quality Program and explored in greater depth how to measure value from their unique perspectives. The 2024 QSC commemorated the 20th anniversary of the ACS National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (NSQIP®); in 2025, the conference will mark its 20th year.



SAVE THE DATE

QSC 2025 | July 17-20 | San Diego, CA

Learn more at facs.org/qsc2025.



SAVE THE DATE

TQIP 2025 | November 8-10 | Chicago, IL

Learn more at facs.org/tqipconference.

TQIP Annual Conference

More than 2,200 highly engaged individuals attended the 2024 TQIP Annual Conference in Denver, Colorado, in November. The theme was "Enhancing Quality through Communication," which was woven throughout every plenary and breakout session.

One of the many meeting highlights was an energetic, motivational talk on teamwork, communication, and trust by adventure guide and wilderness EMT Jeff Evans.

The CEO sessions on "Positioning Your Trauma Center for Success" and "Dollars and \$ense" drew standing-room-only crowds. Additionally, enthusiastic attendees engaged in multiple improv sessions as a way to practice the power of curiosity, creativity, and meaningful interaction that helps improve communication with patients, colleagues, family, and friends.

ACS Cancer Conference

Approximately 500 surgeons, allied healthcare providers, program directors, and oncology and accreditation specialists traveled to Austin, Texas, this past February for the 2024 ACS Cancer Conference.

The 3-day conference offered didactic and interactive sessions highlighting practical information about new standards, data collection, site visits, staging, and accreditation. With a theme “Improving Cancer Care for All,” the meeting included a sold-out preconference workshop on quality improvement and sessions ranging from how to reduce medical waste and breaking down barriers to care, to enhancing care through advocacy and community engagement. The keynote speaker was James Gulley, MD, PhD, clinical director of the National Cancer Institute, who described opportunities to decrease cancer death across the continuum of care.

ACS Cancer Conference 2025

March 12-14 | Phoenix, AZ



SAVE THE DATE

ACS Cancer Conference 2025

March 12-14 | Phoenix, AZ

Learn more at facs.org/cancerconference.

LEADERSHIP & ADVOCACY SUMMIT 2025

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

APRIL 5-8



Leadership & Advocacy Summit

The enthusiasm and engagement were palpable at the 2024 Leadership & Advocacy Summit in Washington, DC, which drew more than 700 surgeons—in person and virtually. The event, which was enhanced to include interwoven programming underscoring the vital intersection of leadership and advocacy, explored topics ranging from mitigating moral injury, sustainability in healthcare, and surgeons as CEOs, to advancing legislative priorities that affect surgery and how to play “the long game of Congress.”

On the final day of the Summit, 215 surgeons representing 39 states traveled to the US Capitol and participated in 212 meetings with members of Congress and/or key members of their staff.



SAVE THE DATE

Leadership & Advocacy Summit 2025

April 5-8 | Washington, DC


Learn more at facs.org/summit.

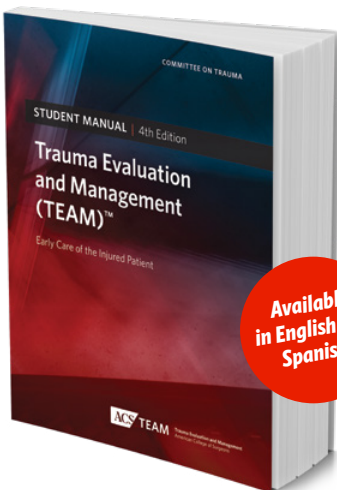
Online Education

The ACS offers dozens of online educational opportunities for surgeons and members of the surgical team. Many of these offerings are available through learning.facs.org, our main learning management system. The following are among the new ACS offerings.

MyATLS


In July, we introduced the new MyATLS mobile app, an easy and convenient way to access key elements of the ACS Advanced Trauma Life Support® (ATLS®) program in real time. The app includes chapter summaries, just-in-time videos, step-by-step guides, and practical tools like calculators and checklists. The app is based on the ATLS 10th edition content. ATLS 11th edition content will be released in summer 2025, concurrent with the release of the ATLS course.

 Learn more at facs.org/atls.



TEAM Course


A new and redesigned Trauma Evaluation and Management (TEAM)[™] course—TEAM 4th edition—launched in October 2024. The course is available in English and Spanish, with Brazilian Portuguese and French translations coming soon. A virtual hybrid format also is being developed. TEAM, which is an introductory course that helps medical and multidisciplinary healthcare professionals evaluate and manage trauma patients, includes interactive lectures and clinical trauma case scenario discussions.

 Learn more at facs.org/team.

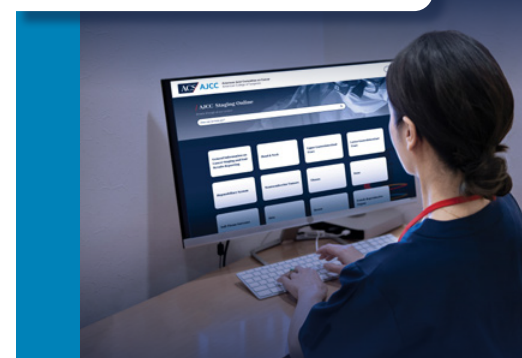
AJCC Staging Online

In June 2024, the American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC), launched AJCC Staging Online, a subscription-based digital service providing the most up-to-date, evidence-based cancer staging information available for the international cancer community. The online resource allows real-time updates and a user-friendly interface to help surgeons, pathologists, medical oncologists, radiologists, and anyone else working with cancer patient care and documentation access 78 different cancer staging protocols.

AJCC is preparing to publish four new cancer staging protocols (lung, thymus, mesothelioma, and nasopharynx) for new cases diagnosed in 2025 or later.

 Learn more at facs.org/ajcconline.


Discover AJCC Staging Online



Inclusive Excellence Resource and Implementation Toolkit

The ACS is expanding its online repository of resources that provides a case-based guide to implement equity practices and maximize the benefits of inclusive excellence. The complimentary Toolkit currently has 40 chapters, contributed by approximately 100 surgeons. More chapters will be released in 2025 and include an opportunity to earn continuing medical education credits.

In addition, the online Lexicon on Inclusive Excellence and separate Resource Library on Inclusive Excellence help users understand the data and evidence that strengthen these initiatives in healthcare, surgical practice, and academia contexts.


 Learn more at facs.org/ietoolkit.

ACS Inclusive Excellence Resource and Implementation Toolkit

 Office of Inclusive Excellence
American College of Surgeons




Stop the Bleed

American College of Surgeons 

Stop the Bleed

The long-awaited version 3 of the Stop the Bleed course debuted at Clinical Congress 2024. This new version is more user-friendly, image-driven, and adaptable to settings around the world. It also includes a new logo, reflecting the prominent role of the ACS and leading trauma surgeon members who have helped make the ACS Stop the Bleed program the premier bleeding control course. In 2025, the ACS Stop the Bleed program will celebrate its 10th anniversary.

 Learn more at stopthebleed.org.

BY THE NUMBERS:

4.1 million

Individuals Prepared to Stop the Bleed

221,752

Courses Given

165,381

Instructors

167

Countries

Quality Programs

ACS Quality Programs continue to set the standard of care by measuring performance, identifying areas of improvement, providing resources and tools to facilitate improvement activities, engaging systems of care, and—most importantly—reflecting the patient voice.

Several new programs were recently launched and are generating new participants. These include the Vascular Verification Program, with its first four sites verified; the Emergency General Surgery Verification Program, with its first site visit conducted; and the Quality Verification Program, which launched a new Site Reviewer Training course.

In addition, the Geriatric Surgery Verification Program (GSV) is generating a lot of interest because of the passage of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Age Friendly Hospital Measure. Beginning in January 2025, hospitals will be required to comply with the new regulation, which builds on the successes of the ACS GSV Program and incentivizes hospitals to take a holistic approach to care delivery.

 Learn more at facs.org/quality-programs.



Special Projects

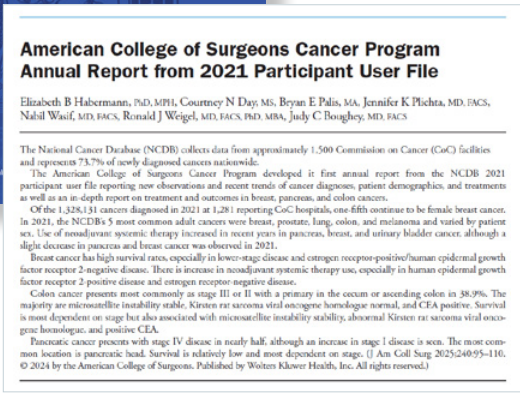
The ACS Division of Research and Optimal Patient Care, which oversees ACS Quality Programs, is also involved with several important clinical and research projects. These include the Opioid Stewardship Project, which is gathering detailed data on opioid prescriptions at discharge; a clinical data abstraction project, which is exploring the use of artificial intelligence-assisted technology to enhance the efficiency and accuracy of clinical data abstraction; a planning grant to improve diagnostic feedback for clinicians treating older adults in the emergency general surgery setting; and a 3-year research project evaluating the Geriatric Verification Program's content, implementation, outcomes, and whether there's a need for palliative care standards for older surgical patients with serious disease.

In addition, through a very generous donation to the ACS Foundation (see page 20), a Surgical Adhesions Improvement Project was launched to address the critical issue of surgical adhesions, which cause significant and persistent health concerns for patients undergoing abdominal and pelvic surgeries. The ACS hosted the first Surgical Adhesions Improvement Project Summit in Washington, DC, in September 2024, with 100 experts from around the world participating in a robust and comprehensive dialog. The output of the meeting will include a proceedings paper, literature review, white paper, and three grants for research on surgical adhesions.

Cancer Programs

ACS Cancer Programs initiatives are expanding and evolving. Over the past year, the Commission on Cancer (CoC) launched a new option for pediatric oncology programs within existing CoC facilities. Site visit pilots for this new pediatric designation began this fall.

The CoC also is developing a new rural offering, which will include tailored standards to fit the unique needs of cancer programs in rural communities. In addition, the CoC has begun exploring international accreditation options and plans to begin accepting applications from Canadian hospitals in early 2025.



The National Cancer Data Base® (NCDB) is moving to real-time data collection and analysis; launched four new quality measures related to cervical cancer, bladder cancer, prostate cancer, and kidney tumors; and will publish—in the *Journal of the American College of Surgeons*—its first annual report of new observations and recent trends of cancer diagnoses, patient demographics, and treatments, as well as an in-depth report on treatment and outcomes in breast, pancreas, and colon cancer.

Trauma Programs

In addition to previously noted new publications, programs, and activities for ACS Trauma Programs, as well as trauma-related activities in the Advocacy section that follows, an updated *National Trauma Data Standard Data Dictionary* was published for 2025 admissions. The standards include nine new data elements to improve reporting, feedback from trauma team participants, and an extensive pilot process that considers the need for new data and the feasibility of collecting it.



The Trauma Systems Consultation and Evaluation Program (TSCEP) celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2024 and conducted its 50th consultation. TSCEP assesses how a state, regional, or other local trauma system meets the recommendations set forth in the *Trauma Systems Consultation Guide*.

In the coming months, the ACS and its Committee on Trauma will focus more intensely on strengthening the analytics approach and business intelligence tools used by TQIP participants; release a white paper on the importance of trauma activation fees for trauma center viability and readiness; continue active participation in initiatives to reduce preventable accidents and injuries to zero; and refine and expand its trauma programs, not only for surgeons and providers, but also for the public at-large.



Medicare Reform

Advocating for surgeons and surgical patients is an essential focus for the ACS, with significant time and attention—by members and staff—spent developing productive relationships with key contacts at both the US state and federal levels, as well as with regulatory and health agencies. Many surgeons routinely use *surgeonsvoice.org* to communicate with their lawmakers.

Due in part to these relationships, Congress reduced Medicare cuts for surgeons by 50% in 2024, and we are now fighting against Medicare cuts planned for 2025. In fact, we are vigorously pushing Congress to reverse the cuts and, instead, provide an increase.

Additionally, the ACS continues to steadfastly push for long-term Medicare payment reform. In April 2024, ACS Executive Director and CEO Patricia L. Turner, MD, MBA, FACS, testified before the Senate Committee on Finance, expressing the College's support for an inflationary update, increasing the current budget neutrality threshold, access to physician-developed Alternative Payment Models, and other steps to achieve coordinated, patient-centered, high-value care.

Firearm Injury Prevention

The ACS also participated in a meeting hosted by the White House Office on Gun Violence Prevention to discuss the leadership of hospitals and health systems in addressing firearm injury prevention. Additionally, the US Surgeon General issued an advisory, labeling—for the first time—firearm violence as a public health crisis. The advisory was closely aligned with the public health approach to firearm injury prevention championed by the ACS.

Power of Quality

Year 2 of the ACS Quality Campaign, the Power of Quality, focused on awareness of surgical quality in the policy arena. Efforts centered on driving greater awareness and adoption of ACS Surgical Quality Programs, as well as distributing Surgical Quality Partner diamonds designating a hospital's participation in an ACS Quality Program. In addition, the ACS continued to urge the CMS to advance quality measures that appropriately evaluate and incentivize high-quality surgical care.

State Advocacy

At the local level, the ACS and state chapters have taken action on numerous scope of practice expansion issues, matters regarding foreign-trained physicians and international medical graduates, prior authorization, medical liability reform, and violence against healthcare professionals.


Additionally, the ACS helped with the passage of several bills related to its Stop the Bleed program, enhanced trauma funding, and expanded health coverage for cancer screening.



Advocate of the Year

The ACS annually recognizes a surgeon who goes above and beyond in their advocacy for surgeons, the profession, and surgical patients. During Clinical Congress 2024, the ACS recognized Don Selzer, MD, FACS, a bariatric surgeon from Indianapolis, Indiana.

It is because of surgeons like Dr. Selzer—and with your help—we can make a significant positive impact on the care of surgical patients.

 Learn more at facs.org/advocacy.

State Affairs Tracking By the Numbers

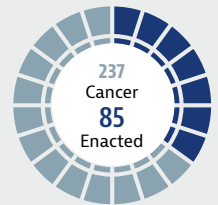


The ACS is tracking bills involving 89 different issues; these are the categories with the most bills.

23
Letters of Support Sent

5
State Advocacy Days

State Advocacy Grants:
California, Delaware, Florida,
New York, Wisconsin



The mission of the ACS Foundation is to secure financial support for the College’s charitable, educational, and patient-focused initiatives. The Foundation provides a wide range of funding opportunities for ACS members and supporters to enhance the quality of surgical care and education globally.


Donations

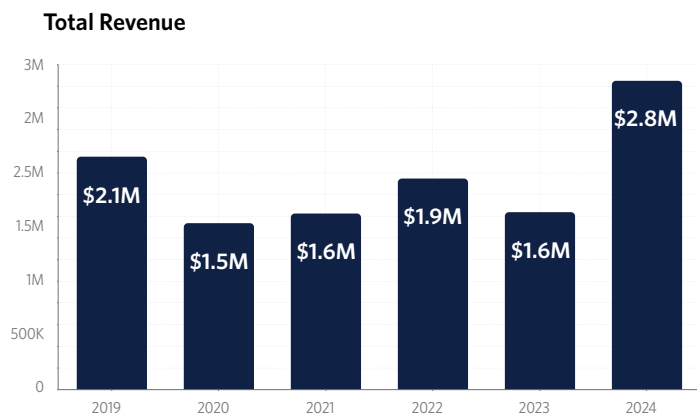
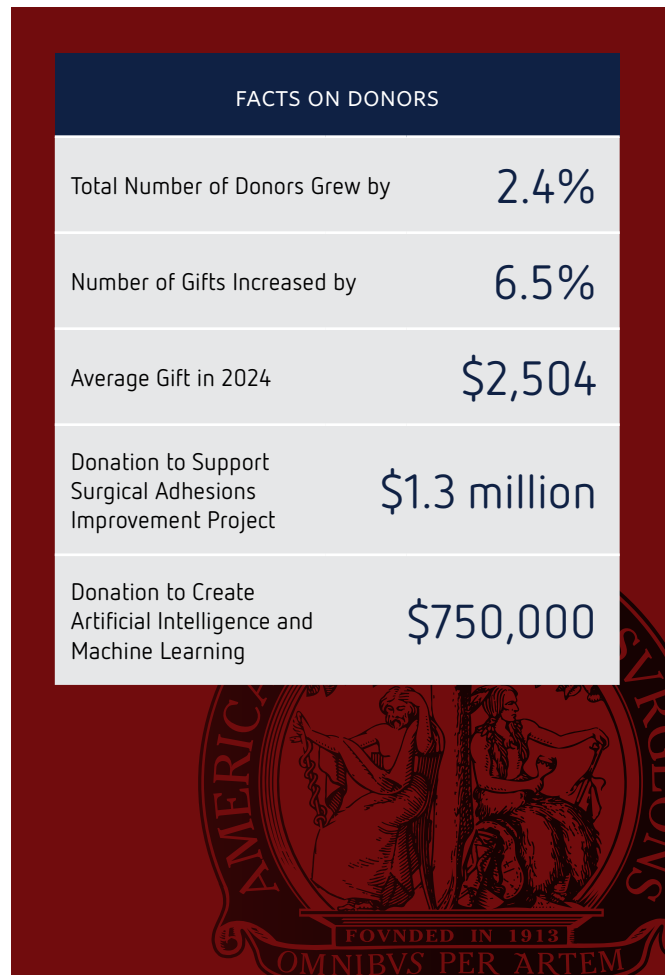
This past fiscal year, Foundation giving was at its highest level in recent history. Of the more than \$2.8 million raised, more than \$2.5 million was used to support scholarships, research, trauma programs, education programs, ACS H.O.P.E., and the Excelsior Surgical Society.

The total number of donors grew by 2.4%, and the number of gifts received by the Foundation increased by 6.5%. The average gift was \$2,504 in fiscal year 2024, compared to \$1,316 in fiscal year 2023.

In addition, two major gifts helped advance essential ACS activities. Pennsylvania businessman Peter Carlino and his wife, Marshia, donated \$1 million and then increased the gift by another \$300,000 to support the Surgical Adhesions Improvement Project (see page 16). Pon Satitpunwaycha, MD, FACS, donated \$750,000 to create an artificial intelligence and machine learning program at the ACS.

Because of the generosity of donors, the ACS was able to increase the number of domestic and international scholarships available; more than 60 scholarships were awarded in 2024.

 Learn more about the ACS Foundation at facs.org/acsfoundation.



Distinguished Philanthropist and Impact Awardee

Since 1989, the Foundation has recognized individuals for their exemplary investment in the mission of the College with the Distinguished Philanthropist Award—the Foundation’s highest and most significant honor. During Clinical Congress 2024, the Foundation recognized Raghuvir Gelot, MD, FACS, an otolaryngologist and head-and-neck surgeon from Ahoskie, North Carolina.

Dr. Gelot’s many years of generosity have allowed 15 international and 12 domestic scholars to attend Clinical Congress or ACS chapter meetings; it also has provided awards to 72 residents who have participated in the clinical poster/paper competitions at combined chapter meetings.



Also during Clinical Congress, Christina Hewes Corson was honored with a Foundation Impact Award for establishing a guest scholarship in honor of her husband, John D. Corson, MB ChB, FACS, a vascular and cardiothoracic surgeon. The Corson Guest Scholarship allows early career surgeons from the UK or the Republic of Ireland to attend Clinical Congress and travel to academic medical institutions in the US to share and learn current best practices.

In 2025, the ACS Foundation will celebrate its 20th anniversary.

Major Awards and Honors



The ACS annually celebrates a handful of extraordinary individuals who embody surgical excellence and inspire the next generation of surgeons. In 2024, these remarkable surgeons included:



**Layton F. Ridders,
MD, FACS**

Distinguished Service
Award



**Mary T. Hawn,
MD, MPH, FACS**

Scientific Forum
Award



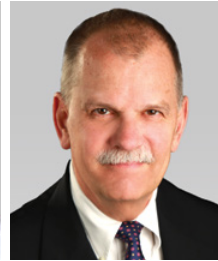
**Barbara J. Pettitt,
MD, MHPE, FACS**

Inspiring Women
in Surgery
Award



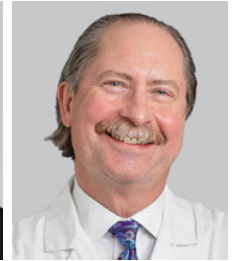
**C. William Schwab,
MD, FACS, FRCS
(Commander, USN)**

Distinguished
Lifetime Military
Contribution Award



**David B. Hoyt,
MD, FACS**

Lifetime
Achievement
Award



**Robert A.
Montgomery,
MD, DPhil, FACS**

Jacobson
Innovation
Award

Thank You

The accomplishments described herein—plus many more—were possible only because of the tireless work of hundreds of dedicated surgeon volunteers. Thank you for your generosity of time and commitment to quality surgical care.

We also thank the 2023-2024 Officers (especially President Henri R. Ford, MD, MHA, FACS), Regents (especially Chair Anthony Atala, MD, FACS), Governors, and other surgeon leaders, and welcome our newly elected leaders, including:

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