

## **Chicago Surgical Society President's Welcome Letter**

I am pleased and honored to follow Dr. Matthew Hyser MD FACS, as the 127<sup>th</sup> President of the Chicago Surgical Society. The Chicago Surgical Society is one of the oldest in the United States, serving as a platform for collaboration, exchange of ideas, and continuing surgical education for over 125 years. When I think of the many distinguished masters of surgery who have served the society over the years, I become invigorated with the thought of continuing our intellectual exchange at the meetings.

This year our Program Committee is chaired by Dr. Marc Mesleh. We will continue to gather at the Union League Club of Chicago for meetings, debates, and presentations. The October 8, 2026 Bevan Lecture will be given by Dr. Patrick M. McCarthy, MD, entitled, "Personal Reflections on Almost 50 years of Valve Procedures". The November 12, 2026 meeting will include our great surgical debates and is always a popular meeting. The February 4, 2027 Greeley Lecture will be given by Dr. Barham Abu-Dayyeh, who will speak on the future of surgical endoscopy. On February 20, 2027 in Peoria we will participate in the Eighth Annual Illinois Joint Surgical Conference. This group includes the Chicago Surgical, Illinois Surgical, Illinois Chapter of the ACS, Chicago Metropolitan Chapter of ACS, and the Illinois Surgical Quality Improvement Collaborative. Finally, I will deliver a presidential address on May 6, 2027 at the Annual Business Meeting.

I am grateful for the support of the Chicago Surgical Society Executive Council which includes Peter Angelos, M.D., PhD (President-Elect), Sam Pappas, M.D. (Vice President), Heidi Memmel, M.D. (Secretary), Purvi Patel, M.D. (Treasurer), Nicole Siparsky, M.D. (Recorder), Jonathan Myers, M.D. (Councilor and Past President), Konstantin Umanskiy, M.D. (Councilor and Past President), and of course our immediate Past President and Councilor, Matthew Hyser, M.D.

I am excited to have Dr. Adam Kabaker chair the Membership Committee and would encourage all of you to identify and promote new surgeons to this vibrant and collegial membership, and to attend and participate in each of the meetings this year.

Lastly, I owe a debt of gratitude to Mary Kay Stallone, our Administrative Director. without her diligence and kindness, the society would certainly be less of what it is today.

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