

Welcome to the Chicago Surgical Society! It is an honor and a privilege to serve as the President of a Surgical Society with a rich tradition and a remarkably storied past. As members of the Chicago Surgical Society, we stand on the shoulders of giants of American Surgery. Yet, while our past defines who we are, we look into the future to define what our Society will be. I look forward to an exciting year of my presidency with an annual calendar replete with opportunities for our members to get involved in Society functions. This may include participating in committees, planning meetings and moderating debates or simply attending events and socializing with colleagues. We strive to make our educational content relevant and engaging for surgeons at different stages of their careers and with various types of clinical or academic practices.

Our Program Committee, led by Dr. Sam Pappas, is responsible for preparing the meeting line-up for next year, which begins on October 10 with the Bevan Lecture by Dr. Herbert Chen and New Member Initiation. In November our Young Surgeons Committee, led by Dr. Purvi Patel, will host an exciting and often-contentious debate held at Fulton Market Kitchen. This is a night of camaraderie, libations and fun.

We pause our meetings in December and January so that our members can enjoy the holiday season with their families and reconvene in February for the Greeley Memorial Lecture. The spring meetings include the Illinois Joint Surgical Conference on April 4-5. The conference will be held in Chicago in 2025. This is a surgical forum where all of the Societies representing the Illinois surgeons come together to discuss the topics relevant to our profession, such as patient care delivery, equity, legislation and business of healthcare, and quality improvement. Our year concludes with the Annual Business Meeting and Presidential Address on May 1st.

Our members are the lifeblood of our Society. It goes without saying that our professional and personal lives are busy and we have competing demands vying for our time. Yet, our commitment to our Surgical Society is what makes it thrive! Please consider getting involved in committees and attend the meetings! We would love to see you. And of course, please encourage your colleagues to consider becoming members of the Society.

I very much look forward to a great year of the Chicago Surgical Society!