



FOUNDATION FOR SURGICAL FELLOWSHIPS

2015-2016 **Impact Report**



Changing Lives Through Advancing Surgical Care

The Foundation for Surgical Fellowships exists to fund high quality fellowships in various areas of surgery, including but not limited to flexible endoscopy, minimal access surgery and other related disciplines. Through a blinded application and review process, the Foundation identifies and distributes funds to qualified organizations based on criteria of excellence. The Foundation for Surgical Fellowships promotes and supports the continued availability of postgraduate surgical training opportunities of the highest quality.



Letter From the President

Dear FSF Friends and Supporters,

The Foundation for Surgical Fellowships has just completed our 5th year of funding qualified programs across the country. It has been an interesting journey shaped by changes in healthcare regulations and reporting, insurance mandates and challenges in funding. The FSF has remained true to our mission while nimbly adapting to these substantial shifts. We are so proud to have facilitated a total of 785 fellows along their own very individual and personal journeys.

For me personally, both as a fellow myself and later as a mentor for many fellows, I learned that the single most important part of a surgical fellowship is the immersion in the mindset of the surgical domain. Much more than skill acquisition and building experience, it is a deep dive into the mix of all aspects of surgical care – skills, experience, technology, tools, resources, and patient variables. A year of fellowship allows for the surgeon to develop surgical acuity, and the ability to coalesce all the contributing factors to determine the best treatment pathway for each patient.

Residency does not accommodate the concentrated engagement which is a hallmark of fellowship. Under the guidance of expert leader-educators, fellows are provided an exhaustive experience which forges their skills and their mindset from one of a student to one of a professional. Although the measure of a surgeon is in part based on the breadth of a surgeon's experience, it is the immersion in the surgical domain of the fellowship that results ultimately in the delivery of expert surgical care by the fellow.

Focused training for at least one year near the end of surgical residency, such as is received in the fellowships funded by the FSF, is a critical component of a surgeon's training in which the fellow can acquire both the attitude and the expertise to be the best surgeon that s/he can be. The impact can be life changing for both the fellow and her/his future patients.

I invite you to take a look at the FSF 2015-2016 impact report to learn more about the work we do and the individual experiences of recent FSF fellows.

As always, we are so grateful for all your generous support and advocacy.

Sincerely,
Dennis Fowler

“For me personally, both as a fellow myself and later as a mentor for many fellows, I learned that the single most important part of a surgical fellowship is the immersion in the mindset of the surgical domain.”

DENNIS FOWLER, MD
President, FSF



2015-2016 QUICK FACTS

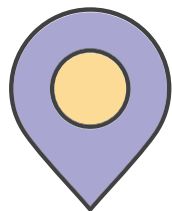
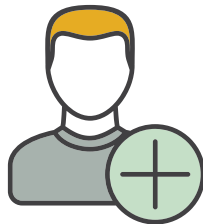


Number of applications received:

129

Number of positions awarded:

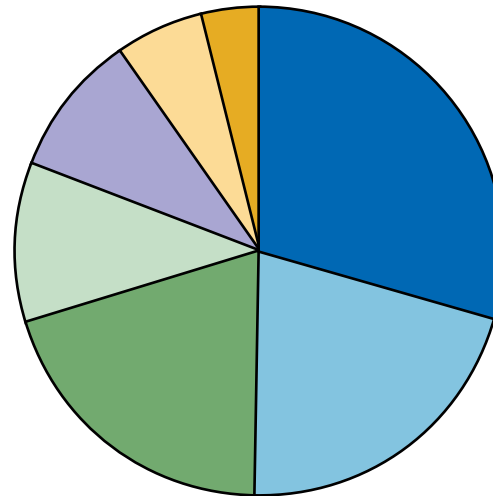
117



Number of programs nationwide:

105

Allocation by sub-specialty:

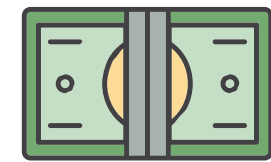


- MIS General Surgery: 31
- Bariatric/MIS: 22
- Bariatric: 21
- Colorectal: 11
- HPB: 10
- Thoracic: 6
- Robotics: 4



Total Amount Awarded:

\$3,900,000



Average Award:

\$35,000

Over 80% of general surgery residents seek advanced training in the form of fellowships. They expect to gain autonomy in the OR, have a high case volume that will allow them to increase and refine their skill set and have opportunities and support for research. More elusive to pin down, and sometimes surprising, are the intangibles that ultimately color the experience in ways both personal and profound.



PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACT

The Foundation for Surgical Fellowships supports, on average, 110 fellowship programs in the US each year. Since 2011 we have supported the advanced education of 785 surgeons. They practice in cities of every size and demographic, bringing with them skills that make a difference in the community they serve.

“
I am currently practicing at a community hospital. Patients in the area used to have to travel 3.5 hours to get the surgical care I am able to offer them, due to my fellowship training.”

ANDREA JESTER, MD
2015-2016 FSF Fellow

“
Obesity is a chronic problem in the US and without well trained obesity surgeons performing thousands of procedures each year, patients would have far fewer options and this epidemic would go virtually unchecked.”

ROHAN JEYARAJAH, MD
Program Director



Fellowships Change Practices...

*During my fellowship I had the opportunity to learn robotic surgery. **Robotics is not the typical approach for HPB surgery and I greatly appreciate that I was able to build on my skill set in this way.** My current institution was looking for someone with experience in complex HPB surgery using robotics. Now, about 40% of my cases are robotic.*

M. RAASHID SHEIKH, MD
2014-2015 FSF Fellow

Fellowships Advance Science...



*The fellowship allowed me to fine-tune my raw surgical skills and I am now comfortable managing my own patients. **The highlight of my fellowship year was the excellent training I received in minimally invasive hepato-pancreato-biliary surgery.***

EDWIN ONSERIO ONKENDI, MB.ChB.
2015-2016 FSF Fellow



*The fellowship exceeded my expectations. I had a high volume and wide variety of cases. **The surgeons were very supportive and encouraging. I also had great academic opportunities, which led to two podium presentations at the annual SAGES conference, resulting in publication.***

RANA HIGGINS, MD
2015-2016 FSF Fellow



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Diamond Level

Medtronic

Further, Together

Gold Level

ETHICON

PART OF THE *Johnson & Johnson* FAMILY OF COMPANIES

Silver Level

INTUITIVE
SURGICAL®

STORZ
KARL STORZ – ENDOSKOPE

Bronze Level

Applied
Medical 

COOK®
MEDICAL

CONMED
CORPORATION
SURGIQUEST

The future of complex surgery in the US is in the hands of the donors and they have a huge opportunity to make a difference in public health.

ROHAN JEYARAJAH, MD

Program Director

The program was very well balanced and provided me operative independence and invaluable training in 'transition to practice.' I was surprised by the tremendous support for research I received which resulted in three manuscripts, two book chapters and a couple of videos.

Mihir M. Shah

2015-2016 FSF Fellow





SOCIETAL SUPPORTERS

American Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association (AHPBA)

American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons (ASCRS)

American Society of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS)

Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES)

SAGES Foundation

Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract (SSAT)

“Your gifts help people like me who dream of performing complex surgeries. I am a **better person as a result of my fellowship and that makes me a better surgeon.** If there is no funding, there will be no fellowships.”

M. RAASHID SHEIKH, MD
2014-2015 FSF Fellow

FSF INDIVIDUAL DONORS 2015

(AS OF DEC. 31, 2015)

Thomas Aloia, MD

Ajay Apadhyay, MD

Ralph Aye, MD

Barbara Berci and Sallie Matthews

Michael Brunt, MD

Eugene Cho, MD

Ibrahim Daoud, MD

Titus Duncan, MD

Mohamed Elgamal, MD

Edward Felix, MD

Kenneth Forde, MD

Dennis Fowler, MD

Abraham Fridman, MD

Dominick Gadaleta, MD

Alberto Gallo, MD

Erin Gilbert, MD

Muhammad Jawad, MD

Michael Nussbaum, MD

Adrian Park, MD

Michele Riordon, MD

Richard Satava, MD

Paul Severson, MD

Harmik Soukiasian, MD

Carl Westcott



“My fellowship allowed me to significantly refine my patient management skills. I learned not only how to be a better surgeon, but to be a teacher-surgeon.”

DANIEL ALAN BOYETT, MD

2015-2016 FSF Fellow

FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS AWARDED FOR 2015-2016 FELLOWSHIP YEAR

BARIATRIC SURGERY

Abington Memorial Hospital – Dr. Gintaras Antanavicius
Atlanta Medical Center – Dr. Titus Duncan
Carolinas Medical Center – Dr. Timothy Kuwada
Cleveland Clinic – Dr. Stacy Brethauer
Cleveland Clinic Florida – Dr. Samuel Szomstein
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center – Dr. Thadeus Trus
Inova Fairfax Hospital – Dr. Amir Moazzez
Johns Hopkins University SOM – Dr. Michael Schweitzer
Lahey Hospital and Medical Center – Dr. Dmitry Nepomnayshy
Montefiore Medical Center – Dr. Diego Camacho
Mount Sinai St. Luke’s – Dr. James McGinty
Orlando Health – Dr. Muhammad Jawad
Penn State Hershey Medical Center – Dr. Randy Haluck
Tufts Medical Center – Dr. Julie Kim
University Hospitals Case Medical Center – Dr. Leena Khaitan
University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics – Dr. Isaac Samuel
University of Miami Miller School of Medicine – Dr. Nestor De La Cruz-Munoz
University of Missouri – Dr. Roger De La Torre
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center – Dr. Anita Courcoulas
University of South Florida – Dr. Michel Murr
University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston – Dr. Erik Wilson
University of Texas HSC Houston - MIST San Antonio – Dr. Frank Duperier
Winthrop University Hospital – Dr. Collin Brathwaite

BARIATRIC/MIS SURGERY

Albany Medical Center – Dr. Tejinder Paul Singh
Alta Bates Summit Medical Center – Dr. Ajay Upadhyay
Brigham & Women’s Hospital – Dr. Ali Tavakkoli
Cuyuna Regional Medical Center – Dr. Paul Severson
Duke University Medical Center – Dr. Dana Portenier
East Carolina University – Dr. Konstantinos Spaniolas
Geisinger Medical Center – Dr. Anthony Petrick
Gundersen Lutheran Medical Foundation – Dr. Shanu Kothari
Hackensack University Medical Center – Dr. Douglas Ewing
Houston Methodist Hospital – Dr. Patrick Reardon
Indiana University – Dr. Don Selzer
Massachusetts General Hospital – Dr. David Rattner
Medical College of Wisconsin – Dr. Andrew Kastenmeier
Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center – Dr. Bradley Needleman
Stanford University – Dr. John Morton
Stony Brook Medicine – Dr. Aurora Pryor
Summa Health System – Dr. John Zografakis
University of California Davis – Dr. Mohamed Ali
University of California Fresno – Dr. Keith Boone
University of California San Francisco – Dr. Jonathan Carter
University of Massachusetts Medical School – Dr. John Kelly
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center – Dr. Daniel Scott
Vanderbilt University – Dr. Ronald Clements
Wake Forest University Health Sciences – Dr. Carl Westcott

“I learned from my attending that through patience and gentle persistence patients can be led to make good decisions about their long-term care.”

ANDREA JESTER, MD
2015-2016 FSF Fellow



FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS AWARDED FOR 2015-2016 FELLOWSHIP YEAR

COLORECTAL SURGERY

Advocate Lutheran General Hospital – Dr. Slawomir Marecik
Cleveland Clinic – Dr. David Dietz
Cleveland Clinic Florida – Dr. Steven Wexner
Colon & Rectal Clinic of Orlando / Orlando Health – Dr. Joseph Gallagher
Franciscan St. Francis Health – Dr. Dipen Maun
Lankenau Medical Center – Dr. John Marks
Mayo Clinic in Arizona – Dr. Tonia Young-Fadok
North Shore-LIJ Health Care System – Dr. John Procaccino
Swedish Medical Center – Dr. Amir Bastawrous
University of Texas Medical School at Houston – Dr. Eric Haas
University of Tennessee College of Medicine – Dr. Daniel Stanley

HPB SURGERY

Carolinas Medical Center – Dr. David Iannitti
Cleveland Clinic – Dr. Matthew Walsh
Duke University – Dr. Dan Blazer
Indiana University – Dr. Nicholas Zyromski
Medical University of South Carolina – Dr. David Adams
Methodist Dallas Medical Center – Dr. D. Rohan Jeyarajah
Providence Portland Medical Center – Dr. Paul Hansen
Stanford University – Dr. Brendan Visser
University of Louisville/James Graham Brown Cancer Center – Dr. Robert Martin
Virginia Mason Medical Center – Dr. Adnan Alseidi

THORACIC SURGERY

Brigham & Women`s Hospital – Dr. Jon Wee
Duke University – Dr. Matthew Hartwig
Fox Chase Cancer Center – Dr. Walter Scott
Providence Portland Medical Center – Dr. Lee Swanstrom
Swedish Medical Center – Dr. Ralph Aye
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Presbyterian – Dr. James Luketich

MIS GENERAL SURGERY

Baystate Medical Center – Dr. John Romanelli
Carolinas Medical Center – Dr. B. Todd Heniford
Cleveland Clinic – Dr. Matthew Kroh
Emory University Hospital – Dr. Scott Davis
George Washington University Medical Center – Dr. Fred Brody
Greenville Hospital System University Medical Center – Dr. Alfredo Carbonell
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai – Dr. Daniel Herron
Jackson South Community Hospital – Dr. Henry Lujan
Mayo Clinic Florida – Dr. Steven Bowers
North Shore University Hospital – Dr. Dominick Gadaleta
The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center – Dr. Jeffrey Hazy
Oregon Health & Science University – Dr. Brett Sheppard
Our Lady of the Lake Physician Group – Dr. Karl LeBlanc
Providence Portland Medical Center – Dr. Lee Swanstrom
St Francis Hospital and Medical Center – Dr. Ibrahim Daoud
Texas Endosurgery Institute – Dr. Morris Franklin
Thomas Jefferson University Hospital – Dr. Ernest Rosato
University Hospitals Case Medical Center – Dr. Yuri Novitsky
University of Alabama at Birmingham – Dr. Richard Stahl
University of Arizona College of Medicine – Dr. Carlos Galvani
University of California Irvine – Dr. Ninh Nguyen
University of Florida College of Medicine-Jacksonville – Dr. Michael Nussbaum
University of Kentucky – Dr. John Scott Roth
University of Miami Miller School of Medicine – Dr. Jose Martinez
University of Nebraska Medical Center – Dr. Dmitry Oleynikov
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill – Dr. Timothy Farrell
University of Texas Health Science Center – Houston – Dr. Philip Leggett
University of Virginia Hospital – Dr. Bruce Schirmer
University of Washington – Dr. Andrew Wright
Washington University – Dr. Michael Brunt



YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

TO SURGEONS, PATIENTS & COMMUNITIES

The FSF is the only non-profit institution funding general surgery fellowships on a national scale. We rely on donors like you so we can continue making a difference in the lives of surgeons, patients and communities.

Current and former fellows celebrate at the FSF Annual Reception, March 17, 2016.

THE FOUNDATION FOR SURGICAL FELLOWSHIPS GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

Dr. Dennis Fowler, President – Kansas City, MO
Dr. Ravi S. Chari, Vice President – Nashville, TN
Dr. Harmik J. Soukiasian, Treasurer – Los Angeles, CA
Dr. Donald Risucci, Secretary – Valhalla, NY
Dr. Thomas D'Amico – Durham, NC
Dr. Edward Felix – Fresno, CA
Dr. Kenneth Forde – Scarborough, NY
Dr. John Hunter – Portland, OR
Dr. David Allen Margolin – New Orleans, LA
Dr. Jeffrey Ponsky – Cleveland, OH
Dr. Andrew Resnick – Hershey, PA
Dr. Michele Riordon – Barrie, Ontario, Canada
Dr. Richard Satava – Pebble Beach, CA
Dr. Greg Stiegmann – Aurora, CO
Dr. Harvey Sugerman – Sanibel, FL
Dr. Mark Talamini – Stony Brook, NY
Dr. Alice Wei – Toronto, Ontario, Canada



*I serve on the FSF board because **it's critically important that we provide fellowship experiences in MIS surgery to residents on an ongoing basis.** While we are working to make resident programs more surgically complete, we still need to provide fellowships. FSF is the single organization that supports general surgery fellowship programs; programs led by great surgeons who share their wisdom and experience with the next generation of surgical leaders.*



JOHN G. HUNTER, MD, FACS, FRCS Edin (hon)

Mackenzie Professor and Dean (Interim)
OHSU School of Medicine
Editor in Chief, World Journal of Surgery

Staff

Linda Schultz, Executive Director

📞 310-424-3332, ext. 141 ✉️ linda@surgicalfellowships.org

Colleen Elkins, Director of Development

📞 310-424-3332, ext. 114 ✉️ colleen@surgicalfellowships.org

Tressa MacKelvie, Grants Administrator

📞 310-424-3332, ext. 125 ✉️ tressa@surgicalfellowships.org

Diana Muñoz, Administrative Coordinator

📞 310-424-3332, ext. 140 ✉️ diana@surgicalfellowships.org