



***ASE/APDS/ARCS ANNUAL MEETING  
MAY 5-10, 2003  
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL  
VANCOUVER, BC, CANADA***

Dear ARCS Membership:

The ASE/APDS/ARCS meeting in Vancouver is rapidly approaching. The program is finalized and everyone should be receiving the program brochure/registration within a few weeks. Your Steering Committee has developed a well-rounded program, and we are looking forward to many of you attending the meeting.

Please be thinking about submitting your name for membership on the Steering Committee. Donna Turovac is your next President (2003-2004) and will be happy to accept your application at the meeting, via email or send her a note. I cannot stress enough the importance of everyone's participation in the Association to keep us moving forward through the new ACGME program implementations, the American Board of Surgery changes and everything else we are all encountering on a day-to-day basis. During these past few months, I have talked with many coordinators from other residencies and ARCS is being used a model for forming associations in other specialties. All of us owe a large debt of gratitude to our founding members, and need to take on the responsibility of keeping the Association a strong entity in surgery education.

I look forward to being with all of you in Vancouver.

With regards,  
**Ellie Gray**

Ellie Gray  
President, ARCS – 2002/2003

**Presentation Highlights – Guest Speakers**

**FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ACT/THE  
DISABLED RESIDENT AND MORE  
*Kerry Richard, Esq.***

Many of us know the existence of the Family Medical Leave Act, but do we really know the full impact of this law and what it mandates? The law and how you, as a coordinator, need to put it into practice in your residency will be discussed.

**AMERICAN BOARD OF SURGERY  
APPLICATION FOR BOARDS  
*Robert Rhodes, M.D.***

Dr. Rhodes will be presenting the new format for the chief residents applying for their boards in 2003

**VISA ISSUES FOR THE RESIDENCY  
*Kerry Richards, Esq.***

The Visa rulings and issues have become more complex over the last two years for graduate medical education. This presentation will give you the laws and the do's and don'ts regarding a residency considering an international medical graduate for their program.

**COMPETENCIES AND THEIR  
IMPLEMENTATION  
*Doris Stoll and Eileen Keane***

The competencies for the residents started in July 2002. This session will broaden the coordinator's knowledge of the competencies, what they mean and what the coordinator should know for long-term implementation.

**GOOD PRACTICES AND OTHER ACGME ISSUES**

***Doris Stoll and Eileen Keane***

Although the variability in our work sites force us to develop coping strategies, is it really necessary for each of us to reinvent “that wheel?” The goal of this session will be to share strategies for improvement to decrease accreditation muda (If you really want to know the definition of “muda”, you will have to attend!)

Please check the program booklet for a complete listing of speakers and topics.

We will again be attending the APDS Keynote Speaker presentation and Presidential Address. Also, on Friday, you will choose a luncheon workshop to attend from 12:00-1:00 PM. You will note in the program that the ARCS breakout sessions will begin at 1:15 PM on Friday, and you are encouraged to attend those sessions. As in the past, ARCS sessions will run concurrent with the APDS sessions. If at any time there is an APDS presentation you want to attend during the three days in Vancouver, you can feel free to go to those sessions.

***ARCS STEERING COMMITTEE?***

The ARCS Steering Committee consists of an eight member board, each serving a maximum term of four years. A President-Elect will be elected by the Steering Committee at the Annual ARCS Fall Planning meeting to serve for a term of one year. A Secretary will also be elected to serve for one year and may not be elected for more than two consecutive terms. In addition, the committee will select new members as needed to maintain its membership of eight. These members will be announced at the Spring ARCS meeting.

To be eligible to serve on the Steering Committee, a member must 1) have attended

at least three meetings of the ARCS; 2) have full support of his/her program director (to include financial support); 3) be able to attend the annual Fall planning meetings, as well as the Spring meetings, and 4) be willing to host at least one planning meeting during his/her tenure. The Steering Committee members who are absent two consecutive meetings may be replaced by action of the President.

**Steering Committee Members - 2002/2003**

**Ellie Gray (President)**

Donna Turovac (President-Elect)

Melinda Hertler

Sandra King

Juanita Braxton

Sandra DuBard

Kathy Garvin

Myndie Friedman

**Current Surgical Education Information CAS-ACS**

Membership in the CAS-ACS, Candidate and Associate Candidate Society of the American College of Surgeons, offers residents a number of benefits. A resident may join this society by downloading the application form from the CAS homepage. The resident's program director must verify their resident status and sign the application. One of the benefits is that membership in CAS-ACS offers residents' free admission to the Clinical Congress Meetings held in October. Their web address is <http://www.facs.org/cas-ac> or contact Emily Reynolds at 312-202-5231.

**Remember, you will need to bring a valid driver's license with photo on it and/or a valid passport to go into Canada.**

## List Server Update

The List Server for Program Directors and Coordinators continues to be a vital resource. The posting of vacant positions in our programs and the subsequent filling of them has been made very easy with the List Server. This tool has also been used as a data collection tool for surveys and research on surgical education by many coordinators and directors. **All of you need to be cautioned to use common sense and professional judgment when utilizing the List Server.** If you are not currently signed on for one reason or another as a member of the List Server, contact Dr. John Tarpley, the new web master. You can e-mail him with your e-mail address and program name at [john.tarpley@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:john.tarpley@vanderbilt.edu).

## Address Updates

We are always in need of current names and addresses for residency coordinators. If you are a new coordinator, or if we do not have your current name, address, program name and email, please contact Melinda Hertler, ARCS Membership Director.

### *DATES TO REMEMBER – 2003*

**FEBRUARY 26, 2003 – Submit Rank Order Match List to NRMP**

**MARCH 20, 2003 – NRMP results (Match Day)**

**MAY 1, 2003 – ABS Preliminary Forms due**

**The next APDS/ARCS meeting will be held in Vancouver, BC, CANADA. The full meeting –ASE/APDS/ARCS will be May 5 - 10, 2003. APDS/ARCS will meet May 8 – 10, 2003.**

## Mentor Network

ARCS established a Mentor Network to help with the “Am I the only one doing this?” and the “What do I do next?” questions, as well as to have a sounding board for the frustrated “Help!” There will be sign-up sheets at the meeting in Vancouver for both mentors and ‘mentees’. We encourage all of you to participate in this very vital support system.

## Quick Reference

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|--|--------------|--|
| American Board of Surgery- <b>ABS</b>  | 215 568-4000 | <a href="http://www.absurgery.org">www.absurgery.org</a>   |
| American College of Surgeons- <b>ACS</b><br>Accreditation Council for<br>Graduate Medical Education- <b>ACGME</b> -<br>CPT Codes/Defined Categories - Dr. D. Stoll | 312 664-4050 | <a href="http://www.facs.org">www.facs.org</a>   |
| Residency Review Committee in Surgery- <b>RRC</b>  | 312 464-4920 | <a href="http://www.acgme.org">www.acgme.org</a>   |
| Residency Review Committee Newsletter- <b>RRC</b>  | 312 464-4687 |  |
| Association of Program Directors in Surgery- <b>APDS</b><br>APDS List Server   | 312 464-4687 | <a href="http://www.apds.org">www.apds.org</a><br><a href="mailto:APDS@topica.com">APDS@topica.com</a>   |
| Association of American Medical College- <b>AAMC</b><br>Electronic Residency Application Service- <b>ERAS</b><br>National Resident Matching Program- <b>NRMP</b>   |              | <a href="http://www.aamc.org">www.aamc.org</a><br><a href="http://www.aamc.org/eras/">www.aamc.org/eras/</a><br><a href="http://www.aamc.org/nrmp/">www.aamc.org/nrmp/</a> |

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