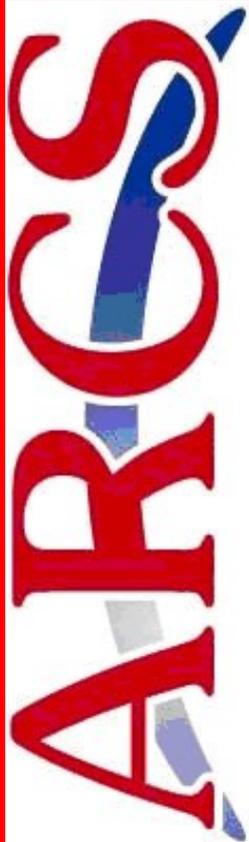


# NEWSLETTER Winter 2017

## Surgical Education Week April 18-22, 2017 San Diego, CA



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## Message From The President



Happy New Year! I hope that everyone was able to have a few days off during the holidays to relax and rejuvenate your body to get ready for the second half of the academic year. Holidays have been hard for me, but I really enjoyed this holiday with my family and friends this year.

By now everyone should be winding down and completing all their interviews, making decisions, preparing for the MATCH, the election is finally over and we have a new President. What a year it has been! Just a few upcoming January reminders; ABSITE is this week, January 27 – 31 and January 31 is the last day for NRMP program quota change, withdrawal, and SOAP participation.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the 2016-2017 ARCS Executive Committee for their dedication and support in planning another outstanding program for you in the Spring in San Diego, California. The Executive Committee met for the planning session on October 15-17 in Washington, DC during the American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress. During that time the EC had an opportunity to attend and meet with medical students. The EC spoke to over 300 medical students interested in surgery as a profession. SuAnn White, C-TAGME, ACS/ARCS representative, did an outstanding job coordinating the session. Special thank you to Kim Molteg, C-TAGME, who has done a fine job coordinating this event with ACS in the past! We will miss you Kim!

Just a little bit about the Spring program. We ARE GOING PAPERLESS! That's right ladies and gentlemen, a lot of changes this year and we are excited to move on. All the letters have been sent to all the presenters. I am happy to announce that Ms. Donna Lamb from ACGME and Ms. Barbara Jalbert-Gerkens from ABS will be attending this year's program along with representatives from SCORE. All abstracts will be posted on the website, approximately two weeks prior to the conference to give everyone an opportunity to read, review, and print if you like. I want to thank all the coordinators who submitted abstracts for this year's conference. We had an overwhelming response. For those who were not selected this year, please think about submitting again next year or in the near future.

As you know, this year's conference will be held at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront hotel. I encourage you all to make your hotel reservations as soon as possible. The registration form should be posted soon. I am extremely excited to meet all the new program coordinators. We have a special program on April 17 for new coordinators who have been in their position from 1 month - 3 years. We will have a guest keynote speaker from San Francisco for ARCS. Again this year, we will have a charity fundraiser in memory of Mr. Bob Hamilton. This year's charity will be "Girls on the Run." Dawn Fountain, C-TAGME, will present this program to you during the conference. Dawn has been so gracious to lead this fundraiser for the past several years. We will miss you Dawn!

More exciting news for this year's program! The Association of Residency Coordinators in Surgery will be celebrating 30 years in April. A wonderful program has been planned for all of you who are attending the conference, sponsored by the APDS. Please make sure you sign up for this special event on your registration form. We will have a few special guests, Ms. Linda Shaffer, C-TAGME, will be our historian, we will recognize all our past presidents, and there will be a small commemorative gift for everyone attending the party. So bring your party attire and join us for a wonderful evening as we walk down memory lane!

I look forward to seeing you all in San Diego in April. May you be blessed with the rich fruits of the land. I hope you have a happy and healthy year and good luck in the upcoming MATCH. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

*Lillian Badurina*

Lillian Badurina  
ARCS President 2016-2017

## NEWSLETTER WINTER 2017

### 2016 ACS Clinical Congress Student Program

The Presidential Campaign and a Hunters Moon were in full swing during our time in DC for the 2016 American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. The ARCS Executive Committee had the privilege of interacting and presenting to over 300 medical students from both US and International medical schools.

On Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup> the EC participated in a roundtable reception for MS1s through MS4s. The topics covered at the 4 tables were “Useful Info for IMGs and “I’ve Matched Now What – A Day in the Life of an Intern.” The afternoon of Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup> the committee returned to the convention center for a second roundtable session with MS1s through MS3s. The topics covered at the 4 tables were “Preparing for Interview Day” and “Tips and Tricks from the Experts: ERAS, NRMP, SOAP.”

The committee is honored to be invited by ACS to participate each year. This is very much a win-win situation. The committee attends to share information with the medical students and what we take home from this experience helps us to grow in our positions.

ASSOCIATION OF RESIDENCY COORDINATORS IN SURGERY

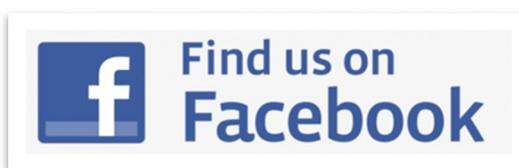


### Get Social with us!

#ACSCC16 wasn't the only thing trending in DC this fall! The Executive Committee launched a closed Facebook group for ARCS.

We will regularly post monthly reminders, deadlines, and information on our upcoming events. It's a great resource for sharing information and collaborating with your peers across the country.

Search for ARCS (Association of Residency Coordinators in Surgery) and request to join today!



## NEWSLETTER WINTER 2017

### Are you an ARCS Members If not, you should be... and here's why

Being a member of ARCS provides several benefits but the true impact of belonging comes from being an active member. By joining, you would develop a vested interest in your own growth/success and your professional future. ARCS members are our best sources of information, ideas, support, and friendship.

As the leading association of the surgery residency community, we would also encourage you to attend the annual educational conference held annually in April. This conference provides several exceptional and engaging educational opportunities that will enable you to move your career forward and help you achieve and maintain success as a surgical residency coordinator. Benefits of attending the annual conference include:

- ◆ Opportunities to interact with the best and brightest in surgery residency administration
- ◆ Networking with colleagues across various settings (community, university, or military programs)
- ◆ Learning about policies and procedures that directly affect your program
- ◆ Professional development
- ◆ Hearing the latest updates from and an opportunity to raise questions directly to the leaders of ACGME, ABS and TAGME

If you have further questions or need additional information, please contact Susan Ratliff at [sratlif@emory.edu](mailto:sratlif@emory.edu).

### ARCS Membership Update

There are currently 412 coordinators listed in our membership directory! Of those listed, 259 coordinators are members of ARCS. We are very excited that the membership continues to grow on a yearly basis. Please take a moment to review your contact information on our website. If any changes are needed, please contact Susan Ratliff at [sratlif@emory.edu](mailto:sratlif@emory.edu).

If you're not yet a member but have wanted to join, the process is simple. The membership application is available online at [www.arcsurgery.org](http://www.arcsurgery.org). Your application must include your current CV and a letter of support from your Program Director. All items should be mailed to:

APDS/ARCS Headquarters Office  
6400 Goldsboro Road  
Suite 200  
Bethesda, MD 20817-5846

### We're Having a Party...



ARCS is having a birthday and you all are invited!

Please make plans to attend the 30th Anniversary Celebration scheduled for Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at the Hilton Bayfront San Diego hotel. This will be an evening you do not want to miss so be sure to pack your finest cocktail attire.

# NEWSLETTER WINTER 2017

## TAGME Update

ASSOCIATION OF RESIDENCY COORDINATORS IN SURGERY

### Organizational Structure

The leadership framework for TAGME has been redesigned to reflect the structure of the ACGME Review Committees. TAGME has established Certification Review Boards (CRB) arranged as follows to include specialties and subspecialties within each category:

- ◆ Hospital-based specialties
- ◆ Medical Specialties
- ◆ Surgical Specialties
- ◆ Institutions (ACGME and AOA-accredited institutional GME)

Specialty Review Boards (SRB) will remain an important component of the Board of Directors. Three members will be selected by the specialty to represent its interests on the appropriate CRB.

### Certification

In order to make it possible for program administrators from any ACGME- or AOA-accredited residency/fellowship to become TAGME certified, a **global certification** is now available. This process consists of a **Qualifying Assessment (QA)**, a 3.5-hour, internet-based, open book evaluation. All QA candidates will receive instructions via email and must complete the assessment between the specified dates. Results are available shortly after completion. A score of 80% or greater is required for successful completion.

Candidates who successfully complete the QA will receive the **Certifying Assessment (CA)** via email. The candidate will have 8 weeks to complete the Certifying Assessment by the specified date. This assessment is also open-book and consists of narrative and matching questions. A score of 80% or greater is required for successful completion. If successful on both parts, the candidate will be certified for five years. Candidates will have two attempts at each assessment. If unsuccessful, the candidate will have to re-apply.

For 2017, the **Maintenance of Certification Assessment (MOC)** will change to an internet-based, 3.5 hour, open-book format that will consist of 100 multiple choice and short-answer questions. MOC candidates will no longer be required to complete the Certifying Assessment.

The TAGME Board of Directors (BOD) voted to continue the discussion of and exploration into the feasibility of reinstating core specialty certification. Individual CRBs would have the responsibility to develop an implementation and maintenance plan, along with the specialty tool, and present for approval at the Board of Directors meeting in August, 2017.

### The TAGME Board of Directors (BOD) revised the 2017 timeline:

|                       |                               |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| January 1-February 28 | Application Window            |
| April 15-30           | QA and MOC Completion         |
| May 15-July 15        | CA completion                 |
| October               | Notification of Certification |
| November-December     | Distribution of Certificates  |

For more information and application deadlines, please go to the TAGME web site at [www.tagme.org](http://www.tagme.org).

Submitted by,  
Linda Shaffer, C-TAGME  
Chair, General Surgery Review Board

# NEWSLETTER WINTER 2017

## New ARCS Members

Seven coordinators were approved for membership at the October 2016 APDS Board of Directors Meeting in Washington, DC. Please join us in welcoming the following new members of ARCS!

**Kristina Forneris**

St. Louis University School of Medicine  
1402 South Grand Blvd., Room M260  
St. Louis, MO 63104

**Mary Ann Garcia**

New York Presbyterian Hospital – Cornell Campus  
525 East 68<sup>th</sup> Street, Box 98  
New York, NY 10065

**Lisa Hines**

Baylor University Medical Center  
3500 Gaston Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75246

**Kathleen Mattis**

Florida State University College of Medicine  
1401 Centerville Road, Suite 107  
Tallahassee, FL 32308

**Shannon O’Hagan**

University of Missouri – Kansas City  
Truman Medical Center  
2301 Holmes Street  
Kansas City, MO 64108

**Adriana Ohl**

Loyola University Medical Center  
2160 S. First Avenue  
Building 110, Room 3210  
Maywood, IL 60153

**Adriana Pascal**

University of Florida College of Medicine – Jacksonville  
655 West 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Jacksonville, FL 32209



## Congratulations to our newest TAGME coordinators

### Initial Certification

- |                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Kathy Flesher   | Leilani O’Neill  |
| Donna Heyduk    | Susan Ratliff    |
| Melissa Keller  | Michelle Rotella |
| Angelica Lopez  | Julie Wall       |
| Stefanie Morgan | Ashley West      |
| Jessica Moyer   | SuAnn White      |

### Re-Certification

- Maggie Mrozinski  
Cindy Shattuck



## Mentor~Mentee Update

ARCS has had a mentor program in place for many years. The idea is for a new coordinator to be paired with a seasoned coordinator and for those individuals to form a relationship, share information, and ask questions of one another. Every attempt is made to match coordinators in the same geographic region and in similar institutions (University, Community, Military), but is not always guaranteed.

We currently have 32 mentor/mentee relationships. The ARCS EC will recognize a mentor who has gone above and beyond the call of duty to assist their mentee again this year. An email will be sent out to all mentees requesting an update on how everything is progressing with their mentor. Last year we had a great response from the mentees. The outstanding mentor will be announced at the Spring Meeting in San Diego. If you would like to send comments regarding your mentor, please email them to suann-white@ouhsc.edu.

To become either a mentor or a mentee, you can visit the ARCS website at [www.arcsurgery.org](http://www.arcsurgery.org) and complete the online form. There are also announcements made and sign-up sheets available at the Spring meeting each year. In addition, you may contact the Mentor / Mentee Program Chair, SuAnn White, at [suann-white@ouhsc.edu](mailto:suann-white@ouhsc.edu) or at 405-271-6308 for more information.



## Did you know???

ARCS members have the added benefit of being able to access our Photo Gallery where they can view LOTS of pictures from our Boston meeting and other past meetings!

[www.arcsurgery.org](http://www.arcsurgery.org)

## Sunshine Committee

The purpose of this group is to relay the care and concern of fellow members in times of need by sending wishes of encouragement or sympathy. The Sunshine Chair will send a card to members for the following reasons:

- ◆ Serious illness
- ◆ Death of a member (sent to a designated family member)
- ◆ Death of an immediate family member (parents, spouse, children, stepchildren)

If you are aware of a fellow coordinator who is ill, lost a loved one, needs cheering up, or is going through a tough time, let us know.

Also, if you hear of someone who has received a promotion or an award with respect to her/his position as a residency coordinator, we would like to acknowledge this accomplishment.

Please email the Sunshine Chair, Donna Heyduk, at [heyduk@mlhs.org](mailto:heyduk@mlhs.org), with the name, address and reason for the card.



**Susan West**

**Residency Program Coordinator  
East Carolina University**

Susan (Sue) West (64) passed away on June 1, 2016 in Farmville, North Carolina. Sue was the Residency Program Coordinator at the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University. In her spare time, she loved reading, sewing, and watching movies. Prior to becoming the general surgery residency coordinator 8 years ago, Sue was the general surgery student coordinator for many years. Often offering a shoulder to cry on, she was the backbone of their structure. Sue was affectionately nicknamed the indispensable "Momma Sue." Her program director, Claudia E. Goettler, MD, said "She was invaluable when I became program director and kept me, and the entire residency, straight. She was efficient, organized, kind, encouraging, badgering, and generally wonderful. Sue was one of a kind and will be missed by all."

# NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2016

## See YOU in San Diego!

Registration opening soon!

2017 ARCS Meeting

April 18-20, 2017

San Diego, CA

ASSOCIATION OF RESIDENCY COORDINATORS IN SURGERY



This conference is designed to provide you with an outstanding educational experience and opportunities that will enable you to move your career forward and help you achieve and maintain success as a surgical residency coordinator. You will gain new skills and knowledge to enhance expertise as a surgical coordinator and increase current skill level.

If you attend only one conference this year, ARCS's annual conference is your best investment!

## Project BOB

Project BOB donations from our upcoming meeting in San Diego will benefit Girls on the Run International. Girls on the Run is a positive development program for girls in grades 3-8. Since it began in 1996, Girls on the Run has served over 1 million girls in 49 states and the District of Columbia. Lessons are interactive, and use physical activity- including running -

to help "inspire girls to be joyful, healthy, and confident..." At the conclusion of the 10-12 week program the girls are physically and emotionally ready and complete a celebratory 5K. All coaches are



volunteers from the schools and communities they serve. Funds raised are used to provide scholarships to lower income families, allowing all girls to unleash their super-super girl power!

If you would like more information on Girls on the Run you can visit: [www.girlsontherun.org](http://www.girlsontherun.org)

## Professional Development

We have several sessions to enhance your professional growth scheduled for our annual meeting in San Diego. Our goal as we plan each year is to:

- ◆ Increase competence and performance
- ◆ Improve and broaden the coordinator's knowledge and skills
- ◆ Develop the personal qualities required in your professional life

For more information on these Professional Development sessions, head over to the ARCS or APDS website where you can find a link to the program.

Following our meeting, you will be emailed a certificate of attendance for each professional development session attended. Keep that certificate in a safe place as attendance at these lectures can be used towards the initial TAGME certification or counted towards the continuing education required for continued certification.

# NEWSLETTER WINTER 2017

## Roommates—San Diego

## New Coordinators Workshop Luncheon

Want to attend the 2017 ARCS Spring Meeting in San Diego but think you cannot afford accommodations at the beautiful Hilton San Diego Bayfront hotel? Consider sharing expenses on lodging with another coordinator. If you are interested in sharing the cost of a room with someone, please contact Donna Heyduk at heyduk@mlhs.org.



Lunch is not included in the cost of registration, but be sure to join us for lunch at the Fox Sports Grill during the New Coordinator's Workshop. This luncheon will offer coordinators a time to meet others and network outside of the meeting room. Networking is crucial to a new coordinator's success. You will not want to miss this opportunity to build relationships that will carry you through your medical education career. Final details will be posted shortly on the ARCS website and on our Facebook page.

## New Coordinator Workshop

The ARCS *New Program Coordinator's Workshop* is a great opportunity for surgery coordinators that have been in their position for less than three years to gather for an intense educational experience. The ARCS Executive Committee will present a "Roadmap for Success" at the April meeting in San Diego. Presentations will provide a concise outline with tools to assist the monthly, quarterly, and yearly tasks a coordinator is required to manage.

We are pleased to have Dr. Farin Amersi, APDS Board Member, present "APDS: The Roles of the Program Director, Associate Program Director and the Program Coordinator." This is sure to be filled with tons of useful information you can use to better facilitate your program immediately. Following Dr. Amersi we will guide learners through important annual deadlines, dig deeper into many of the ACGME requirements, and finish the day with roundtable discussions with seasoned coordinators to answer questions or concerns not previously addressed, as well as questions you may not feel comfortable bringing up in the larger group.

Need a mentor? You can sign-up during this training session to participate in this outstanding collaborative effort. Seasoned coordinators are available and are always excited to share their knowledge and experience with you. You do not have to feel like you are alone ... we are here to help!

Come prepared to learn a lot, make some new friends, and find new tools that will assist you to be more effective as a program coordinator. We look forward to seeing you in sunny San Diego!

ASSOCIATION OF RESIDENCY COORDINATORS IN SURGERY

