



MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- **Continued Advocacy:** While the College leads many of our advocacy efforts at the national level, we have many state specific issues. This is particularly relevant to Massachusetts which has been at the forefront of numerous health care changes. Busy surgeons do not have time to lobby government to enact changes that actually improve the healthcare system. Your dues allow us to advocate on your behalf at the state and national level. In addition, members participate in the Chapter's annual advocacy day at the Massachusetts State House and meet with legislators to discuss their individual concerns and ideas. These efforts allowed us to secure funding for 1.5 full-time positions for the Massachusetts State Trauma Registry. The Department of Public Health will use these positions to study trauma care in Massachusetts and research the outcomes of every trauma patient who visits an emergency department in the state.
- **Networking and mentorship:** Our activities throughout the year provide an opportunity for colleagues to meet and connect with thought leaders who can help them succeed in private practice and academia alike. Besides our annual meeting and the Day at the State House, we are having the 6th annual membership drive at Fenway Park on August 26th and are working with our Young Surgeon's committee to plan events for young surgeons who are starting their practice in the state to help them identify local mentors.
- **Scientific and clinical innovation:** The quality of clinical and basic scientific presentations at our annual meeting highlights the significant contributions of our members in advancing our field. The Chapter presents awards for best oral and poster presentations at the annual meeting. The Basic Science Oral Presentation award is now named in memory of Dr. Joseph Murray, who performed the first successful organ transplant and received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1990. Events like the annual one day meeting focus on current and historical issues important in surgery and are punctuated by the TOP GUN contest where 10 residencies from the entire state compete against each other.
- **Promoting Quality:** The Chapter had led the effort to create the Massachusetts Surgical Quality Improvement Collaborative (MaSQIC), an exciting quality initiative which includes NSQIP champions. The primary function of the collaborative is to provide a forum for surgeons across Massachusetts to share best practices and improve the value of surgical care.
- **Creating Leaders:** Membership provides the opportunity to serve on the Chapter's Council and Committees and to advance to national leadership positions in the American College of Surgeons, including the Board of Governors and the Board of Regents. Your vision will help guide us through these challenging times. Many past presidents, as well as the immediate past president of the College, Dr. Andrew Warshaw, have been long term members of the Chapter. The Chapter supports a representative to attend the American College of Surgeons Leadership Conference and Advocacy Summit to maintain this heritage of leadership. We had another competition this year to select a resident to attend the 2016 conference and summit which will be held April 9-12, 2016 in Washington, DC.
- **Fellowship:** The Massachusetts Chapter of the American College of Surgeons continues to offer an opportunity for surgeons of all generalizations and specialties to share time and fellowship. Whether it is together for an evening with the Red Sox, at the annual meeting in December, or an event at the State House, the Chapter provides opportunities for surgeons to talk to surgeons.

For more information about the Massachusetts Chapter of the American College of Surgeons or to become a member, please visit www.mcacs.org.

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