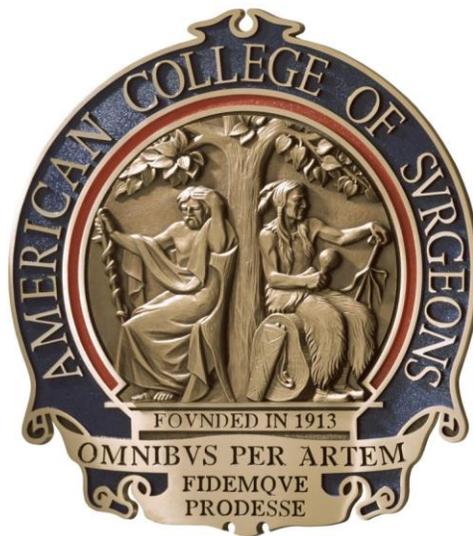

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

Massachusetts Chapter

www.MCACS.org



2019 MCACS Surgical Advocacy Day

Tuesday, October 8, 2019

9:00 am – 12:30 pm

Great Hall of Flags

Massachusetts State House

"When in distress every man becomes our neighbor."

Dr. John Collins Warren and Dr. James Jackson

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To become an MCACS Surgeon Advocate, please send your contact information to admin@mcacs.org

2019 MCACS Surgical Advocacy Day

Schedule of Activities

9:00 am	Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:00 – 9:10 am	MCACS Welcome Peter T. Masiakos, MD, FACS MCACS Chair of Advocacy and ACS Governor <i>Massachusetts General Hospital</i>
9:10 – 9:20 am	State House Welcome H.1748 Expand Access to Patient Centered Care for Opioid Use Disorder H.1749 Establish a Commission to Study the Availability of a Continuum of Care for Persons with Substance Use Disorder Representative Jon Santiago, MD <i>Sponsor</i>
9:20 – 9:25 am	John Collins Warren Award Presentation
9:25 – 9:40 am	Requiring Trauma Kits in Public Buildings H.1870 : Representative Shawn Dooley, <i>Sponsor</i> S.1337 : Senator Michael F. Rush, <i>Sponsor</i>
9:40 – 9:50 am	Needle Stick Injuries Suffered by First Responders Cameron Dorrans Wright, MD Chair of Quality for Surgery, <i>Massachusetts General Hospital</i> H.1653 : Representative Kathleen R. LaNatra, <i>Sponsor</i>
9:50 – 10:05 am	Cancer Screening Michael Constantine, MD President, MA Society of Clinical Oncologists <i>Milford Regional Medical Center</i> Colorectal Cancer Screenings H.1021 : Representative Louis L. Kafka, <i>Sponsor</i> Insurance Coverage for Mammograms and Breast Cancer Screening H.1025 : Representative Louis L. Kafka, <i>Sponsor</i> S.616 : Senator Joan B. Lovely, <i>Sponsor</i>
10:05 – 10:15 am	Preparation for Legislative Office Visits Peter T. Masiakos, MD, FACS MCACS Chair of Advocacy and ACS Governor <i>Massachusetts General Hospital</i>
10:15 – 10:25 am	Group Photo – Grand Staircase
10:30 am – 12:30 pm	Surgeon Visits with Legislators and Staff

2019 MCACS Surgical Advocacy Day

Biographies

Peter T. Masiakos, MD, FACS is the Chair of the MCACS Advocacy Committee and a Governor of the American College of Surgeons. He is a Pediatric Surgeon at MGH and Assistant Professor at Harvard Medical School. He has extended his clinical interest of trauma into the legislative forum where he has become an injury prevention advocate. He has been involved in successfully educating the Massachusetts legislature on the inherent risks that All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) pose on children and testified both at the Massachusetts state house and at the consumer product safety commission on the need for new legislation which would prohibit the use of ATVs by children less than 14 years of age. Along with three other injury prevention laws, Sean's law was enacted on July 31st, 2010. Dr. Masiakos continues to work alongside Massachusetts State Legislators in getting comprehensive injury prevention laws passed.

Representative Jon Santiago, MD is an emergency room doctor at Boston Medical Center (BMC) who also serves the 9th Suffolk District, which is a diverse part of Boston that includes neighborhoods in the South End, Roxbury, Back Bay, and Fenway. Jon Santiago is a graduate of Yale School of Medicine and has spent his life in service to others, whether as a Peace Corps volunteer, captain in the Army Reserves, or as a local ER doctor at BMC. Jon remains heavily involved in the community. He is an active participant in neighborhood meetings, has knocked on thousands of doors for progressive causes, and sits on the boards of the South End Community Health Center, Friends of the South End Library, Friends of Titus Sparrow Spark, and the Puerto Rican Veterans Park. In addition to his community activism and clinical responsibilities, Jon has worked to address health disparities and combat the opioid epidemic through policymaking. He led an effort to increase access to the state's opioid prescription monitoring program, which played a role in reducing overprescribing in Massachusetts.

Cameron D. Wright, MD is a Visiting Surgeon at Mass General and a Professor of Surgery at Harvard. Since the beginning of his career at MGH almost 30 years ago, Dr. Wright has been devoted to the eradication of thoracic cancers. As a leader in the Division of Thoracic Surgery, a major part of his clinical focus is thoracic oncology, including thymic cancers and minimally invasive lung cancer surgery. A testament to the impact he's had on his patients, Dr. Wright was named the first incumbent of the Mathisen Family Professorship in Thoracic Surgery in 2014. The seed funding for this professorship was provided by a grateful patient whose life Dr. Wright saved. He is also the director of Quality and Safety for the Department of Surgery, overseeing a 20 percent reduction in readmission rate over the last three years. The department was awarded the Nathaniel Bowditch Prize, given annually to groups that enhance the delivery of quality patient care while reducing cost. Finally, Dr. Wright was a colonel in the Medical Corps of the U.S Army Reserve, spending three tours of duty caring for our injured service men and women in the Middle East.

Michael Constantine, MD is the Medical Director at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute for medical oncology services. He is a graduate of Tufts University School of Medicine and did his fellowship in hematology/medical oncology at Beth Israel Hospital / Harvard Medical School. His clinical interests include urologic cancers, gynecologic cancer, gastrointestinal cancer, thoracic cancer, head/neck cancers, and hematologic malignancies. Dr. Constantine also serves as President of the Massachusetts Society of Clinical Oncologists (MSCO). MSCO is a statewide organization representing oncologists and physicians who provide care for cancer patients. Founded in 1985, the Society is dedicated to improving cancer care and treatment and is recognized by the Massachusetts Medical Society and the American Society of Clinical Oncology as the voice for cancer physicians and their patients in the state.

2019 MCACS Surgical Advocacy Day

John Collins Warren Award

The John Collins Warren Award is presented annually by the MCACS in recognition of outstanding leadership and distinguished service towards the care of surgical patients in of Massachusetts.

Dr. John Collins Warren was one of the most renowned American surgeons of the 19th century. Dr. Warren graduated from Harvard College in 1797, studied briefly in Europe and then began the study of medicine with his father. He was a Professor of Anatomy and Surgery in 1809, then, at his father's death in 1815, assumed the Hersey Professorship of Anatomy and Surgery, which post he held until retirement in 1847. Notably, Dr. Warren was a founding member of Massachusetts General Hospital. He was a passionate humanitarian and on August 20, 1810, with Dr. James Jackson, circulated to the good people of Boston, a petition calling for the establishment of a hospital for the sick regardless of age or gender. Their moving circular appeal for community support and funds for this project was intended to secure equitable medical care for all and included the phrase, "When in distress every man becomes our neighbor".

The MCACS is delighted to present the 5th John Collins Warren award to State Representative Shawn Dooley in recognition of his exceptional efforts to protect patient access to safe, high-quality surgical care through leadership and service to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

State Representative Shawn C. Dooley is a full time legislator in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He was first sworn into the Massachusetts House of Representatives by Governor Deval Patrick on January 29, 2014 after winning a Special Election on January 7th. Rep. Dooley replaced Dan Winslow who vacated the seat in September of 2013 and is now the 5th Republican in a row to represent the 9th Norfolk District, which consists of the towns of Medfield, Millis, Norfolk, Plainville, Walpole, and Wrentham. Prior to his election, he served as the Town Clerk for the Town of Norfolk as well as the Chairman of their School Committee. He also worked in the private sector for many years, operating a small construction company and serving as a financial consultant and planner.

Outside of the legislature, Representative Dooley is an on-call firefighter and emergency medical technician (EMT) for the Town of Plainville. He resides in Norfolk with his wife CiCi Van Tine and their four children: Caroline (22), who attends the United States Naval Academy, Emma (13), Jack (12), and William (10). He is also an animal lover and has two dogs, Buddy and Aubie, and three cats, Bat; Cheshire; and Callie.

In the legislature, Representative Dooley is above all dedicated to superior constituent services, abiding by the mantra "service with a smile," and is also sharply focused on leaning out the size of the government and the burden it places on his constituents. As such he serves as a member on the Financial Services Committee as well as the Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies and the Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy. Currently, he has turned his efforts to reforming the state's estate tax policy, which he hopes to improve to attract businesses and wealth to the state.

Since day one, when he quoted from President Kennedy's "City Upon a Hill" speech in his swearing-in address and called upon his fellow legislators to put people before politics, Representative Dooley has above all sought to foster a collaborative environment within the government where both parties can have a voice and work together for the betterment of society. In the closing of his swearing-in remarks, he laid out this vision, offering that "Our Commonwealth should not only serve as a Beacon of Hope, but as the very definition of Liberty. Let us embrace our destiny and prove to the nation what greatness can be accomplished when we stand united."

MA Chapter ACS Resident Advocate Awardee

Pooja U. Neiman, MD, *Brigham & Women's Hospital, Boston*



I was raised in a safe, suburban neighborhood and attended strong public schools. But then, our family's financial security fell with the dot-com crash. This meant that my parents no longer could afford health insurance. One day, after a trip to the nearby Urgent Care clinic and an aberrant EKG, my mom was asked to walk into the Emergency Department. That one visit produced medical debt that took a decade to pay off.

I've wanted to become a surgeon since I was 6 years old. We did not have any doctors in my family. Instead, my inspiration came from my cousin who was studying for her Occupational Therapy Boards and showed me her anatomy books. My parents shielded the financial struggles from me so I could pursue my dream. Nevertheless, our situation raised my awareness and empathy for those who face adversity.

My first step into the world of advocacy was through Mobilizing Health, a nonprofit I started in college to connect rural patients in India to their local physicians through community leaders and text messages. I did not realize it at the time, but running an organization, raising \$160,000, managing full-time staff and 40 village representatives abroad, and serving 5,300 patients helped me cut my teeth as a leader and advocate. After running Mobilizing Health full-time for two years and overseeing its integration into UNICEF, I enrolled at UCLA School of Medicine.

When the ACA passed, my parents finally had health insurance again, 14 years later. I saw firsthand how impactful it is to suddenly have access to good, affordable health care. I believe that every person deserves that access, and will spend my entire career advocating and fighting for those who do not. This is what advocacy in health care can do—not just for one family, but for thousands. In the future, I will work to bridge the disconnect between policy, patients, and surgical practice. As first step, I plan to spend my research year in Washington, D.C. where I hope to learn more about and advance health care policy.

Attending the ACS Leadership and Advocacy Summit is the perfect catalyst to accelerate my journey toward increasing access to quality, affordable health care in the U.S. I am excited to learn how to become an effective surgeon leader and become more involved with the ACS, and would be honored to engage with the leading surgeons who share my passions. This would truly be a life changing opportunity for me and I will make the most of it.

MA Chapter ACS Resident Advocate Awardee – Honorable Mention

Danny Mou, MD, *Brigham & Women's Hospital, Boston*



In our rapidly changing health care system, surgeons should play a central role in developing policies and regulations. I plan to pursue a surgery career with a focus in quality outcomes and hospital management. I am currently a Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH) PGY3 general surgery resident in my first year of research. As a Torchiana Fellow in Health Policy and Management, I work with the CEO and CMO of the Massachusetts General Hospital Physician Organization to develop patient-reported outcomes measures (PROMs). I regularly attend MGH leadership meetings, which has given me insight into hospital strategy and operations.

I see clearly in my PROMS work how important it is for surgeons to have a voice. Insurance companies are using pre-operative and post-operative PROMs (e.g., patient-reported pain, nausea, etc.) to devise payment tiers based on the delta. Surgeons should have a central voice in this process. We need to inform the stakeholders about the complexities and nuances of surgery so that they are measuring and incentivizing appropriate and meaningful endpoints.

I have worked in multiple fields within health care. After graduating from Harvard College, I worked for 2 years at a strategy consulting firm where I specialized in pharmaceuticals and medical devices. I attended Emory Medical School, where I did a Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) research fellowship in transplant immunology, during which I published 3 basic science manuscripts. I have been deeply involved with patient outcomes work during my residency. I have experienced health care from business, research, and clinical angles. I plan to leverage this unique perspective to pursue a career in hospital leadership, and to give surgeons a stronger voice. Attending the ACS Leadership and Advocacy Summit would significantly help me develop the critical skills to achieve this. Thank you for your time and consideration.

MA Chapter ACS Legislative Priorities

Massachusetts Trauma Preparedness Act

The Massachusetts Trauma Preparedness Act would mandate the installation of trauma kits in public buildings throughout the state to use in the case of a mass casualty event to stop traumatic bleeding injuries and save lives, as well as, require training of individuals to use the trauma kits in accordance with training standards of the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma and the national Stop the Bleed Campaign.

Support H.1870 and S.1337 *Sponsors Rep Shawn Dooley and Sen Michael F. Rush*

Insurance Coverage for 3D Mammography Tomosynthesis

Would extend existing insurance coverage for baseline mammography to include 3D mammography tomosynthesis screening and prohibit insurance plans from imposing a deductible or coinsurance/copayment on patients. The ACS supports expanded access to cancer screenings and care.

Support S.616 and H.1025 *Sponsors Sen Joan Lovely and Rep Louis Kafka*

Insurance Coverage for Colorectal and Breast Cancer Screenings

Would prohibit health insurance plans sold in the state from imposing a deductible or coinsurance/copayment for a patient to receive an initially cancer screening colonoscopy, sigmoidoscopy or mammogram. The ACS supports expanded access to cancer screenings and care.

Support H.1021 *Sponsors Rep Louis Kafka with Reps Thomas Golden, Elizabeth Poirier, Keiko Orrall*

Need Stick Injuries Suffered by First Responders

Would protect a first responder punctured or scratched by a syringe, needle or other sharp instrument while on duty responding to an incident by requiring their employer to pay the first responder for the scheduled time to receive treatment for the prevention of an infectious disease related to the injury.

Support H.1653 *Sponsors Rep Kathleen LaNatra with Reps Brian Ashe, William Crocker Jr., Josh Cutler, Angelo D'Emilia, Mindy Domb, Colleen Garry, James Hawkins, Stephan Hay, Christopher Hendricks, Randy Hunt, Hannah Kane, Mathew Muratore, Tram Nguyen, Michael Soter, Timothy Whelan*

Healthcare Worker and First Responder Safety

Would require mandatory testing for HIV of an individual in the case that a healthcare provider, first responder, police officer fire fighter or other public officer is exposed to the blood or bodily fluid of a suspected individual regardless of ability or willingness of the individual to give written consent to the test.

Support H.1895 *Sponsors Rep Denise Garlick and Rep Kate Hogan with Reps Thomas Stanley, David Allen Robertson, Louis Kafka, Ruth Balsler, Bradford Hill, Susan Williams Gifford, Peter Capano, Bruce Tarr, Edward Coppinger, Michael Day, David Biele, Daniel, Culliane, Bradley Jones Jr., Richard Haggerty, Carolyn Dykema*

Expand Access to Patient Centered Care for Opioid Use Disorder & Establish a Commission to Study the Availability of a Continuum of Care for Persons with Substance Use Disorder

The Department of Public Health and the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine shall develop, or provide for, a healthcare provider education campaign that encourages the adoption of all FDA-approved medications for the treatment of opioid use disorder. There shall be a commission established to study the availability of a continuum of care for persons with substance use disorder to review: (i) the availability of detoxification services, clinical stabilization services, transitional support services, residential recovery home services and outpatient treatment including medication assisted treatment and (ii) make an assessment of what the appropriate capacity should be for each level of care to allow individuals to efficiently access each level of care as clinically necessary

Support H.1748 & H.1749 *Sponsor Rep Jon Santiago*

Tips for Speaking with Legislators

Tip #1 – Individually written letters are very persuasive lobbying tools. Often, legislators say they introduced or supported legislation because of the volume of mail they received on an issue. President John F. Kennedy once wrote, “Everybody’s vote counts in America, but those who sit down and write letters make their votes count more times. Nothing is more effective than a letter that reflects both an understanding of the question involved and a sincere expression of a personal viewpoint based on that understanding.”

Tip #2 – When communicating with your legislator, don’t threaten, cajole or berate them or their staff. This is one sure way to lose a legislator’s support—forever.

Tip #3 – Know what you wish to ask for prior to communicating with your legislator—if you don’t ask you don’t get.

Tip #4 – Always understand that you are one of many constituents vying for a legislator’s time and attention and that there are many sides to every issue. Always respect that a decision may take time.

Tip #5 – Be confident and assertive in making your case, but don’t dismiss counter arguments—different views can help guide your future efforts.

Tip #6 – When communicating with your legislator on a specific matter, be concise. Legislators are extremely busy and are interested in the “bottom line.”

Tips #7 – Legislators depend overwhelmingly upon their staff for judgment, guidance and advice on the spectrum of issues they have responsibility for. It is impossible for members of the Massachusetts General Assembly to be fully informed on all these issues. Therefore, legislative staff are employed to handle various policy areas and they quickly become experts on the issues over which they have responsibility. In addition to knowing your legislator, take time to get to know his/her staff.

Tip #8 – When communicating with your legislator, stress why the legislation is so important to you, those in your profession and the citizenry of Massachusetts. Reinforce why the legislator should support or oppose it.

Tip #9 – Always ask for a commitment, but don’t expect one!

Tip #10 – Make adversity your teacher and never give up on your program goals. Perseverance is the key in getting legislation passed or defeated.

