

VESS

Vascular & Endovascular Surgery Society

NEWSLETTER

Volume 14 • Issue 1 • Spring 2022



President's Corner by Ravi Veeraswamy, MD



It is an honor to be writing to you as the 2022-2023 President of this amazing Society. When I went to my first VESS meeting in 2006, I had no idea I would end up here. I went to that meeting almost on a whim as a brand-new attending. I fell immediately for the camaraderie, the science, and the whole environment. We have grown significantly since then in the service we provide to the vascular community through travel scholarships, research grants and as a venue for scientific exchange. This growth is the direct result of the hard work of so many people who spent their time and effort to make VESS better. The Presidents before me have built a tremendous infrastructure which I now inherit. I am deeply indebted to **Drs. Jason Lee, Matt Corriere, Jim Black** and many more who helped build this. I hope to honor their hard work through my efforts.

Our Society is in good standing. We have a robust membership with over **1400 Active, Associate, Candidate & Medical Student Members**. We have ample assets at our disposal to carry out our mission and an enthusiastic, talented organized group of volunteers. This allows us to focus on several key initiatives ahead of us. Our goal is to serve ALL 'early career' vascular surgeons and as such-it is imperative that we reach the entire specialty and ensure that every medical student, trainee and young surgeon knows about us and feels welcome in our Society and at our meetings.

President's Message continued page 2

Winter Meeting Highlights

Submitted by **Dr. Karan Garg**,
Chair, 2021-2022 Winter Program Committee

The 2022 annual winter meeting was a welcome reprieve from the pandemic. The Omicron variant did cause some last-minute jitters, but the meeting was executed as planned. To ensure inclusivity, a virtual component was integrated to the live format. The program was expanded to include additional sessions, including a General Surgery Resident Program, a formal round table interesting case discussion, and two "Ask the Experts" Sessions. These complimented the very popular Vascular Fellows and Student Mentor Programs. The meeting saw a record number of abstract submissions domestically and internationally. The committee worked hard to put together a diverse scientific session representing the broad spectrum of vascular disease. Overall, 53 abstracts were selected and presented as full presentations or as shorter rapid-fire talks. Presenters included medical students, residents, fellows as well as faculty, from across the United States. Best paper was awarded to **Dr. Ghaffarian** and colleagues from University of Washington on "Clinical Outcomes of a Diagnostic and Management Protocol of Popliteal, Artery Entrapment Syndrome At A Large Referral Center." Overall, the meeting was a resounding success and we are looking forward to Whistler!

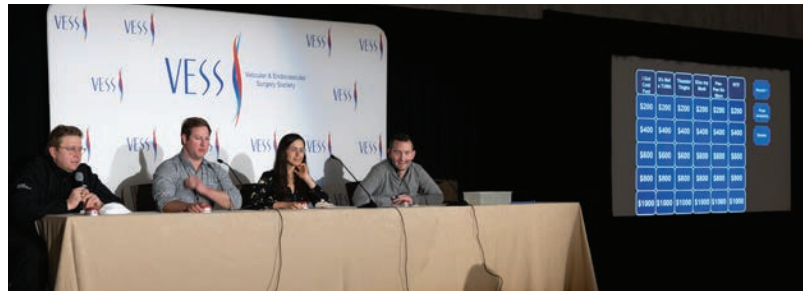
Winter Meeting Highlights continued page 2

2022 Winter Meeting Highlights

January 27-29, Snowmass, CO

Vascular Fellows Program

The 2022 Winter Meeting was pleased to once again host a very successful Vascular Trainees Program led by **Dr. Venita Chandra**. We had over 50 applications from senior residents and fellows from around the country. Participants had the opportunity to present challenging endovascular and open cases, which were followed by spirited discussions. These were interspersed between excellent talks by over 14 invited speakers with topics ranging from Improving Longevity in your Vascular Surgery Career to Negotiation, and Compensation models and even Social Media and Branding. The Program included the "Great Practice Debate" which exposed trainees to the top reasons to consider difference practice paradigms and concluded with a fun and exciting Vascular Jeopardy. We'd like to thank our industry sponsor, Cook Medical for their continued support of this important program.



General Surgery Resident Program

Snowmass, Colorado was the best setting to inaugurate the first General Surgery Resident Program. This program was the perfect complement to our Fellows and Medical Student Program. There has been increasing interest from General Surgery Residents in pursuing Vascular and Endovascular Surgery as a career and VESS is committed to be a leading society in recruiting the best and brightest. We had an exceeding amount of applications and were able to sponsor 25 General Surgery Residents from programs all around the country. We had an interactive and engaging program that allowed our attendees to ask many questions and know more about our progressive and leading specialty.



President's Message continued from page 1

Our plan is to engage in a dedicated outreach effort to our colleagues who have not been part of VESS to date and welcome them to the Society and to Vascular Surgery. I have asked **Dr. Max Wohlaer** and the Student Education Committee to spearhead this effort via outreach to the Student National Medical Association, Latino Student Medical Association and to historically black medical schools. We will simultaneously work through the membership committee led by **Dr. Anna Boniakowski** and work with Society of Black Academic Surgeons and Society of Black Vascular Surgeons to encourage young surgeons in practice to join as well. These efforts are aligned with our organizational values and will ensure that VESS has a broad membership with a variety of skill sets which will ensure our future success. The committees of VESS are re-populated after the annual meeting and are ready to work on the scientific programs, evaluate grants, fundraise, communicate and put together a wonderful Spring meeting followed by our first ever international meeting in Whistler, British Columbia, Canada in February of 2023. On a housekeeping note- **PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU HAVE YOUR PASSPORTS RENEWED and READY** well in advance-it can take many weeks right now to process.

With that I humbly begin my tenure as President and hope to serve the members of VESS to the best of my ability.

Sincerely,
Ravi Veeraswamy, MD
2022-2023 VESS President

Next Generation Student Mentor Program

The VESS hosted the fifth edition of the Next Generation Student Mentor Program this year. This program was highly sought after by medical students interested in pursuing careers in vascular surgery. We received over 80 applications from medical schools all around the country.

We all had a great time with an intelligent and enthusiastic group of medical students at our annual Winter meeting. For this year's program, we decided to have an open format with multiple panel discussions to allow for as much interaction with the students as possible. The panel discussions including topics such as a "day in the life" of a vascular surgeon and the importance of inclusion and diversity within our specialty. A wide representation of vascular program directors participated in an informative discussion to help these future applicants learn more about the application and interview process. Of course, no student program would be complete without a lively debate hosted by two of our most entertaining vascular surgeons and a hands-on session that included both open vascular wet boxes and thoracic and abdominal endovascular simulators. Overall, this was an enjoyable time of learning and open discussion with a fantastic group of medical students! I would like to thank all those who participated and represented what is truly great about our specialty—the people.



Our outstanding VESS members helped put together a thorough agenda including hands on skills session, we discussed national trends for Vascular Surgeons, Fellowship application process, Mentorship, Scholarship and Research opportunities. We also had the always popular Panel of Vascular Surgery Fellows as well as Deciding between Private and Academic Practice.



The program was extremely well received and had overwhelming positive feedback; we are looking forward to VESS 2023 and bringing more talented General Surgery Residents together to experience our vibrant meeting. See you in Whistler, BC, Canada !!

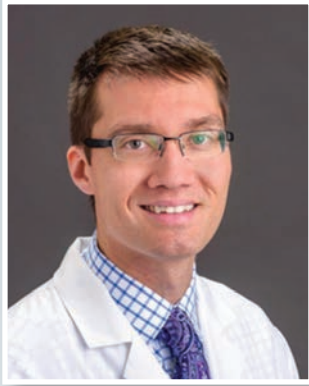
Vascular Technology Forum



The 2022 Vascular Technology Forum was well attended and displayed some of the newest technology available for the management of vascular diseases. Attendees were able to get hands-on experiences with devices and software from our industry partners. Our sponsors brought interactive displays which included Abbott and Penumbra with their suction thrombectomy devices, Silk Road TCAR system. Cook Medical had everyone tripping over themselves with their VR headsets demonstrating their latest peripheral technology. Terumo Aortic and Endologix and Cook also had their latest aortic stent grafts on display for the attendees to feel and see up close. The in-person session was well received by attendees and our technology companies as well.



VESS 2022 Award Winners



VESS TRAVEL AWARD

Jonathan Bath, MD
University of Missouri
Columbia, MO



MEDTRONIC RESIDENT RESEARCH AWARD

Kevin Magnum, MD
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI
Regulation of JMJD3 by JAK1/STAT3 in Macrophage Mediated Inflammation in Diabetic Wound Healing



VESS RESIDENT RESEARCH AWARD

Amanda Philips, MD
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA
Improving Follow-up After EVAR



BOSTON SCIENTIFIC EARLY CAREER INVESTIGATOR AWARD

Katherine Hekman, MD
Emory University School of Medicine
Atlanta, GA
Harnessing Mitochondrial Bioenergetics to Enhance Regenerative Stem Cell Therapies for Peripheral Arterial Disease



2022 VESS BEST PAPER

Amir Ghaffarian, MD
University of Washington, Seattle, WA
Clinical Outcomes Of A Diagnostic And Management Protocol For Popliteal Artery Entrapment Syndrome At A Large Referral Center

VESS Spotlight on Award Winner

Each year, the VESS awards a Travel Grant, an Early Career Faculty Research Grant and a Resident Research Grant. Here, we catch up with previous awardees to find out how they used their funds and what impact the award had on their career. We hope this inspires members to apply for VESS grants and continue the tradition of high achievement that the VESS is proud to support. For more information on how to apply, visit <http://vesurgery.org/grants-awards>.



Vik Kashyap, MD

Chief, Division of Vascular Surgery and Endovascular Therapy
Alan H. Markowitz MD Endowed Chair in Cardiovascular Surgery
Co-Director, Vascular Center, Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute
University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center
Professor of Surgery, Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland, OH



One of the highlights of joining VESS was receiving the Peripheral Vascular Surgery Society (as it was known then) Travel Award in 2004. I had recently separated from the military and was a staff surgeon at the Cleveland Clinic. My research interests were in endothelial dysfunction and thrombosis, which dovetailed with my clinical interests in PAD. I had spectacular partners at the Cleveland Clinic including **Dr. Ken Ouriel, Dr. Dan Clair, Dr. Roy Greenberg, Dr. Tim Sarac** and many others. There was a great environment of innovation and excellence in clinical care, which led to my interest in applying for the Award.

I used the Travel Award to go to Leicester Royal Infirmary and to visit the Vascular Department there. I specifically wanted to visit **Amman Bolia**, who had popularized the subintimal technique for lower extremity intervention. I spent quite some time in the interventional suites understanding the nuance of the technique and the tools needed. I also spent time on rounds with **Dr. Ross Naylor** and colleagues and met **Sir Peter Bell**. The clinical case conferences were stimulating. Even though the cases presented were similar to our patients in America, the discussion, repartee, and wit were memorable! Perhaps, an equal benefit of the Travel Award was to understand health care delivery in England and how the NHS functions. Even though my travel to Leicester was brief, the experience was invaluable. I changed my approach to lower extremity intervention in some patients. I was more cost-conscious during procedures, and became more systematic. This also led to a number of research projects looking at intervention in the aorto-iliac segments, antithrombotics, and thrombolytic agents.

I would advise all young surgeons to take advantage of the multiple Awards that VESS has to offer. I truly enjoyed and benefited from the Travel Award. I also believe it was instrumental in achieving leadership roles in the Society. VESS has been my favorite Society. I hope new members continue to discover the unparalleled scientific meetings, resources and comradery.

Expect education tailored to your specialty and program.

Supplement your education with training opportunities that go beyond the classroom. Whether you're a fellow, integrated resident, or resident, Cook has an educational opportunity for you.

Gain exposure to academic leaders and real-world cases.

- Join the legacy of pioneering physicians who have worked with Cook to advance healthcare and improve patient outcomes.
- Cook partners with medical societies to provide you with opportunities to learn about cutting-edge research in the field, discuss real-world cases, and get your hands on Cook's technology.

Test your skills with case competitions for high-achieving trainees.

- Cook teams up with academic programs to create a forum for trainees to demonstrate their knowledge and learn from peers.
- Cook's case-based competition, Fellowluminaries, is a resource for trainees to practice skills, connect with peers and industry experts, and compete for educational opportunities.

Ask questions and get hands-on experience at workshops.

- Collaborate with academic leaders and peers at virtual and in-person activities to get experience with Cook Medical's technology and troubleshoot difficult cases.
- Cook's Vista® medical device training courses are led by subject-matter experts and are designed to help residents and fellows stay aware of current procedures.

Explore Fellows Program opportunities.

Your Cook representative has seen hundreds—and, in many instances, thousands—of cases, and can serve as a valuable resource. They can work with you to understand your educational goals, share upcoming Fellows Program opportunities, and help you prepare for potential product questions from your attending.

EXPECT MORE.

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To learn more visit
cookmedical.com/fellows



Follow us on Instagram
[@cookfellowsprogram](https://www.instagram.com/cookfellowsprogram)



The VESS would like to welcome the new members elected at the 2022 Business Meeting

ACTIVE MEMBERS

Al Wattary, Ibrahim
Ambani, Ravi
Benrashid, Ehsan
Bose, Saideep
Chang, Kevin
Chapman, Scott
Clark, Ross
Droz, Nathan
Fong, Kathryn
Gates, Kate
Hart, Theodore
Hawken, Thomas
Hawkins, Katherine
Hekman, Katherine
Henry, Christopher
Huynh, Cindy
Inagaki, Elica
Johnson, William
Kainth, Amit
Koleilat, Issam
Krol, Emilia
Kugler, Nathan
Kwong, Mimmie
Kwong, Jonathan
Lu, Joyce
Lyle, Cara
Malka, Kimberly
Mansukani, Neel
Manvar-Singh, Pallavi
Manzur, Miguel
Marjan, Anna
Marmor, Rebecca
McChesney, Andrew
Milligan, Justin
Moon, Davis
Nation, David
Neville, Evan
Obeid, Tammam
Odugbesi, Adeola
Pandit, Viraj
Patel, Rhusheet
Pitcher, Grayson
Powell, Benjamin
Price, Lucyna
Rapanos, Theodore
Robinson, Scott
Roods, Laiba
Roshdy, Mazen
Roy, Trisha
Salazar, Danielle
Salem, Karim
Schaller, Melinda
Sedeeq, Alhasan
Simmons, Justin
Simmons, Christian
Smith, Matthew
Sridharan, Natalie
Tanga, Christopher
Tanious, Adam
Torrent, Daniel
Treto, Kevin
Walsh, Kenneth
Wang, S. Keisin
Wanken, Zachary

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Allen, Kara
Felsheim, Karl
Somerset, Jill
Stutsrim, Ashlee

CANDIDATE MEMBERS

Almalki, Turki
Alrawhani, Bassam
Arhuidese, Isibor
Aru, Roberto
Awad, Mark
Bahroloomi, Donna
Bakhshi, Kirran
Balogun, Yetunde
Berens, Pauline
Beyer, Adam
Bianco, Michael
Blakely, Channa
Blakeslee-Carter, Juliet
Boelitz, Kris
Braet, Drew
Brastauskas, Ian
Cabot, John
Cappellini, Christopher
Cardelli, Francesco
Cattermole, Tessa
Chamseddin, Khalil
Cheung, Edwin
Chihade, Deena
Creeden, Thomas
Doonan, R.J.
El Khoury, Rym
Fletcher, Alex
Forsyth, Alexandra
Gaffey, Ann
Gammel, Lauren
Ginsberg, Eric
Glotzer, Owen
Gobble, Alexandra
Gomez Galan, Sebastian
Gomez-Sanchez, Clara
Gonzalez-Guardiola, Gerardo
Goudreau, Bernadette
Gowen, Jared
Grieff, Anthony
Hadj henni, Abdelmoumin
Harry, Lauren
Hatcher, Victor
He, Jane
Healy, Laura
Hernandez, Joshua
Hirai, Kelsi
Hunter, Lucas
Ilonzo, Nicole
Ingram, Bryce
Iyer, Prashanth
Jaramillo, Emanuel
Johnson, Cali
Johnson, Alison
Johnston, Jeffrey
Kanneganti, Manasa
Kanzafarova, Irina
Kenyon, Bianca
Klein, Andrea
Lall, Alex
Lazar, Andrew
Lee, Peter
Lee, Christina
Lella, Srihari
Liu, Iris
Long, Yanyu
Lubitz, Andrea
Mahendran, Karthika
Majumdar, Monica
Malik, Rema
Manesh, Michelle
Mangum, Kevin
Mantilla, David
Maurera, Annabella
McMackin, Katherine
McQuinn, Christopher
Meadors, Steven
Minisandram, Aarathi
Mohamed Ahmed, Amin
Moree, Lamar
Motyl, Claire
Naiem, Ahmed
Nalugo, Margaret
Paisley, Michael
Pantoja, Joe
Parrott, Megan
Patel, Roopa
Patel, Shivik
Patel, Nimesh
Penton, Ashley
Poulsen, Neil
Pozolo, Cara
Ramadan, Omar
Riley, Christopher
Rojas, Elianne
Rokosh, Rae
Safaya, Aditya
Sam, Raj
Samra, Humraaz
Sanowski-Bell, Alexandra
Scaife, Mark
Scanlon, Sean
Schneck, Matthew
Setia, Ocean
Sharma, Kush
Shaydakov, Maxim
Sorondo, Sabina
Steenberge, Sean
Stines, Ian
Stoecker, Jordan
Stonko, David
Sullivan, Brian
Ta, Truc
Takule, Henry
Tarpara, Anand
Tay, Shirli
Terranella, Samantha
Thompson, Patrick
Tran, Christina
Tran, Lillian
Usmani, Mohammad
Villarreal, Michael
Vyas, Priyam
Webb, Jackie
Weise, Lorela
West, Anna Beth
Wogsland, Aric
Yadavalli, Sai Divya
Yu, Yasong
Zatorski, Catherine

2022 Exhibitors & Sponsors

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GOLD LEVEL SPONSORS



SILVER LEVEL SPONSORS



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- Ahmed Kayssi
- Leigh-ann O'Banion
- Max Wohlauer
- Jason Lee, Ex Officio
- Ravi Veeraswamy, Ex Officio

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- Christine Shokrzadeh
- Christopher Ramos
- Nkiruka Arinze

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- Mounir Haurani, Co-Chair (Technology Program)
- Cara Lyle
- Anand Brahmandam
- Edvard Skripochnik
- Christopher Smolock
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Patrick Stone, MD

Representative to the ACS Advisory Council for Surgical Specialties

Bernadette Aulivola, MD

Vascular Surgery Board of the ABS

Bernadette Aulivola, MD

SVS Executive Committee

Murray Shames, MD



VESS Mentorship Program

Overview

Mentorship is one of the most important tools for professional development and has been linked to greater productivity, career advancement, and professional satisfaction.

The **VESS Mentorship Program** aims to promote career and leadership development for early career vascular surgeons. All Active members of the VESS within 10 years of training or candidate members in their last year of training are encouraged to apply.

Through a one-year young surgeon/leader match, the program will pair early career vascular surgeons with mentors who are more experienced colleagues, to provide opportunities to develop leadership skills and obtain guidance for achieving specific career goals.

Early Career Surgeons will gain a trusted advisor and learn methods to enhance career advancement. They will learn to:

- Develop short-term and long-term growth goals and strategies to achieve those goals
- Identify leadership opportunities within the VESS
- Expand current networks within the specialty

Mentors will act as a guide to help develop the early career surgeon's career, as well as enhance their personal growth and productivity. The mentor will:

- Provide honest and constructive feedback
- Assist the young surgeon on issues such as the establishment of short- and long-term goals, navigation of the advancement/partnership process, and guidance on research and/or teaching activities, etc.
- Offer advice on overall clinical and practice management concerns

How it Works

1. The VESS Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee will review all applications and create a match with a leader based on needs and experience and will notify each young surgeon of the arrangement.
2. VESS will monitor the year-long relationship through regular feedback and assessments from both parties to ensure the relationship thrives and is beneficial to both surgeons

Who Is Eligible?

- o Applicants must be in the last year of a vascular surgery training program or have completed a training program and have no more than 10 years of practice experience at the time of their application submission.
- o Applicants must be Active members or Candidate members of VESS

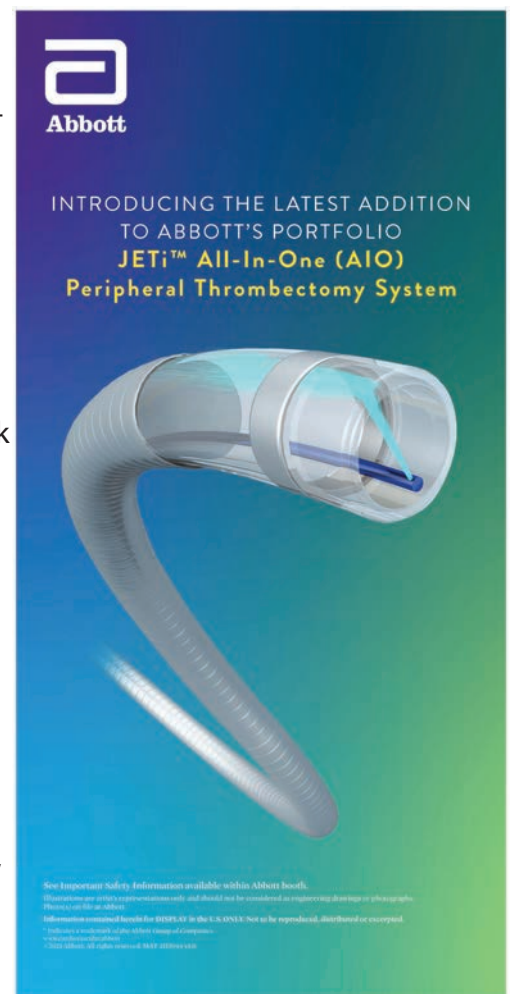
Time Commitment

- o Leaders/young surgeons will be asked to set regular phone meetings, at least once every other month, to discuss young surgeon goals, objectives, and progress
- o One-on-one leader/young surgeon in-person meeting at a time convenient for the leader and young surgeon



Application Deadline: MAY 2, 2022

Applications can be found on the VESS website:
<https://vesurgery.org/resources/find-a-mentor/>



Social Media Update

YouTube



Our social media presence continues to expand. We have nearly **3,200 Twitter followers** and almost **800 Instagram followers**, and send posts on topics pertaining to our society **2-3 times per week**. Since starting our YouTube channel in April 2020, We have uploaded over **70 videos**. These include educational and surgical technique videos as well as presentations from the VESS Winter Meeting that are uploaded every week. If you missed the meeting or want to review one of the talks you saw, check it out and be sure to subscribe to get updates on newly uploaded videos. This valuable resource can be accessed via **YouTube** directly or our website (<https://vesurgery.org/>). If you haven't already, follow us on **Twitter** (@VESurgery) and **Instagram** (@VESurgery), and feel free to tag us in Tweets/Instagram posts pertaining to our society, meetings, and vascular topics! Send any recommendations for social media topics to the communication committee; we are always looking for ways to engage our membership and remain current.

SAVE
THE
DATES!!

VESS 47th ANNUAL WINTER MEETING

FEBRUARY 23-26, 2023

Fairmont Chateau Whistler

Whistler, British Columbia, CANADA

Get Those Passports Ready!!



Vascular and Endovascular Surgery Society
100 Cummings Ctr., Suite 124A
Beverly, MA 01915



Join us for the 2022 VESS Spring Meeting
Wednesday, June 15, 2022 • Hynes Convention Center • Boston, MA

