Fellows of the Southern Surgical Association:

The 131st Annual Meeting of the Southern Surgical Association was held December 8-11, 2019 at The Homestead in Hot Springs, VA. President Dr. Kelly McMasters conducted the meeting. His Presidential address entitled, “Random Truths and Universal Nonsense”, was outstanding. (The video taping of the Presidential Address will be available on the SSA website). The Association is very appreciative of Dr. Rebecca Britt’s excellent work as Local Arrangements Chair. The scientific program was of the highest quality and was enthusiastically received.

The elected officers for the coming year (2019-2020) are:

- President: Dr. William Chapman (St. Louis, MO)
- 1st Vice President: Dr. Susan Galandiuk (Louisville, KY)
- 2nd Vice President: Dr. Rebecca Britt (Norfolk, VA)
- Secretary: Dr. Dai Chung (Dallas, TX)
- Treasurer: Dr. V. Suzanne Klimberg (Galveston, TX)

Dr. Kelly McMasters was elected to join the Council of the Association and Dr. Spence Taylor was elected as the Chair of Council.

Dr. Kirby Bland was elected as Honorary fellow of the Association.

Reports of the activities of the American Board of Surgery, Board of Governors of the American College of Surgeons, and the Advisory Council of the American College of Surgeons were given by Drs. Spence Taylor, Anne Rizzo, and Rebecca Britt, respectively.
The 2020 History of Medicine paper which was selected by the SSA Program Committee is entitled, “Jamestown Virginia 1607- The First Southern Surgeons and the First Health Care Crisis 2020” and will be presented by Dr. R. Scott Jones. Abstract submissions for the 2021 History of Medicine paper will be due July 1, 2020.

The following candidates were elected to active membership:

- Ziad Awad, Jacksonville, FL
- Adam W. Beck, Mountain Brook, AL
- David C. Borgstrom, Morgantown, WV
- S. Scott Davis Jr., Atlanta, GA
- Ronald P. DeMatteo, Philadelphia, PA
- Juan C. Duchesne, New Orleans, LA
- Barish H. Edil, Oklahoma City, OK
- Charles M. Friel, Charlottesville, VA
- O. Joe Hines, Los Angeles, CA
- Steven Hunt, St. Louis, MO
- Fabian M. Johnston, Baltimore, MD
- Seth J. Karp, Nashville, TN
- Mary T. Killackey, New Orleans, LA
- Joseph Kim, Lexington, KY
- Lawrence T. Kim, Chapel Hill, NC
- David B. Leeser, Greenville, NC
- Marlon F. Levy, Richmond, VA
- John L. Lew, Miami, FL
- Sarah A. McLaughlin, Jacksonville, FL
- John Migaly, Durham, NC
- Robert S. Smith, Gainesville, FL
- Charles W. Sternbergh III, New Orleans, LA
- Erica R.H. Sutton, Louisville, KY
- Matthew J. Wall Jr., Houston, TX
The online abstract submission process has gone smoothly and will have enhanced features for 2020 abstract submissions, due by July 1, 2020. The member login section allows fellows of the Southern Surgical Association to update their contact information if they so desire, and additionally provides access to the contact information of the other Fellows of the Southern Surgical Association (only business addresses are publicly available on the website).

Based on the qualifications highlighted in Article IV, Section 2 of the Constitution, senior status was approved for the following active members:

- Stanley W. Ashley
- L. Michael Brunt
- Grant W. Carlson
- William C. Chapman
- Gerard M. Doherty
- John F. Eidt
- Eric D. Endean
- James W. Fleshman, Jr.
- John R. Galloway
- John A. Griswold
- Danny O. Jacobs
- Max R. Langham, Jr.
- Kenneth G. MacDonald, Jr.
- Charles N. Paidas
- Gregory J. Pearl
- Loring W. Rue, III
- Samuel D. Smith
- Robert J. Stratta
- Mark A. Talamini
- Douglas S. Tyler
- Rawson J. Valentine
- J. Patrick Walker
- Leonard J. Weireter, Jr.
- Ervin S. Woodle
- Gazi B. Zibari

The Shipley Award for 2018 was presented to Dr. Louis J. Magnotti of Memphis, Tennessee.

The Southern Surgical Association website (www.southernsurg.org) has been updated with new content including online payment options for annual dues. The 2020 online application process for fellowship in the Association will be available in early January 2020.
The Council reiterated the following membership requirements:

- Membership in the Association is not effective until the duly elected individual attends a meeting in person. If this individual fails to activate his or her membership after two years following the election through attendance, the membership offer will be withdrawn.

- The Council will remove from the roster, any active member who has missed three consecutive meetings (without an excused absence granted by the Council). For example, if a member who has missed two consecutive previous annual meetings without an approved excused absence for a third meeting, and does not register or attend by the final day of the meeting, he or she will no longer be considered a member of the Association, for he or she would have missed three consecutive meetings. Subsequently, all rights and privileges as a member will be terminated at the end of that annual meeting. If an active member misses two consecutive meetings without excused absences, but requests for a third excused absence, it does not “restart” the attendance requirement clock. The member’s attendance or absence at the next meeting will determine continuation or termination of his or her membership status.

- The Office of the Treasurer will inform members who are in the arrears for their dues at the time of the summer/autumn dues letter. If the member remains in arrears at the time of the annual meeting, his or her name will be submitted to the Council and subject for removal from the membership ranks.
All members are asked to be sure that their contact information is accurate, with particular attention to providing current email addresses and office & mobile phone numbers to the Secretary’s office (dai.chung@utsouthwestern.edu).

The 2020 Annual Meeting of the Southern Surgical Association will be December 6-9 at The Breakers in Palm Beach, FL. The Council elected Dr. Gilbert Upchurch of Gainesville, FL as the Chair of Local Arrangements for the 2020 meeting, and Dr. Bryan Richmond of Charleston, WV as Assistant Local Arrangements Chair.

Sincerely,

Dai H. Chung, MD, MBA
Secretary, Southern Surgical Association