



# Reconstructive Microsurgery

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR RECONSTRUCTIVE MICROSURGERY • VOLUME 25.2

**Autumn-Winter 2014**

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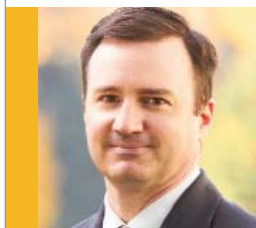
A MESSAGE FROM THE 2015 PROGRAM CO-CHAIRS

## Join Us in the Bahamas!

**JANUARY 24-27**  
**ASRM 30TH ANNUAL MEETING**  
 Atlantis Resort, Paradise Island, Bahamas



**Goetz Giessler, MD**  
 2015 Scientific Program Co-Chair



**Steven Moran, MD**  
 2015 Scientific Program Co-Chair



**O**n behalf of your president Dr. Allen Bishop, Dr. Steven Moran and I would like to invite you again to join us at the 2015 Annual Meeting of the ASRM at the Atlantis Resort, Paradise Island, Bahamas. This year's theme will be "Artistry in Microsurgery: A celebration of innovation." New and diverse topics and speakers will cover the most up-to-date issues in reconstructive microsurgery while highlighting the art and creativity within our specialty. We have engaged international speakers from Europe and Asia to provide a global perspective on topics ranging from perforator flaps, lymphatic surgery, and humanitarian plastic surgery projects to microsurgical training.

Our combined panel on Saturday with the AAHS and ASPN will focus on reconstructive surgery in the era of the Affordable Care Act. Dr. Andrew Gurman, Speaker for House of Delegates for the American Medical Association, and Dr. Michael Wood, renowned microsurgeon and former CEO of Mayo Health Care System, will provide insightful and interesting perspectives on this timely subject.

Among other highlights, the following days will include the always entertaining Best Case/Best Save forum, but will also start up the Young Turks/Old Turks "Battle" where seasoned veterans and individuals from the Young Microsurgeons Group will compete for

*continued on page 3*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## ASRM: Stronger Than Ever!



**Allen T. Bishop, MD**  
President

I am amazed to find that nearly nine months of my year as your ASRM President have passed. The year thus far has been busy, productive and (thankfully) without any major crises! The members of the ASRM Council have been diligently working on a variety of tasks set before them in Kauai, and using their considerable skills and

**One of the outstanding aspects of the ASRM has always been its desire to be an inclusive and welcoming society.**

creativity to move the organization forward. Our Executive Director, Krista Greco, and her superb management team at ISMS continue to excel in the many tasks needed to keep the organization running smoothly. We are on sound financial footing and are excited as we move forward towards what should prove to be one of our best annual meetings to date. The Program Committee, with superb leadership from Program Chairs Drs. Steven Moran and Goetz Giessler has assembled an outstanding series of lectures, instructional courses and symposia with an international group of experts. The Atlantis Resort, located on Paradise Island, Bahamas, will provide the perfect setting for ASRM members and

families as we share our commitment to advancing education, practice and research in reconstructive microsurgery and enjoy each other's company. I am looking forward to seeing all of our members from January 24-27, 2015 in the Caribbean!

The ASRM Council held a mid-year meeting in Chicago July 26th. A number of important items were part of the day-long agenda, and will be of interest to the ASRM membership. These include a discussion of our relationship with the World Society for Reconstructive Microsurgery (WSRM), ASRM membership in the American Medical Association's Specialty and Service Society (SSS), clarification of our combined educational effort with the Plastic Surgery Education Network (PSEN), and a re-organization of our Combined Pilot Research Grant program with the Plastic Surgery Foundation (PSF).

Dr. L. Scott Levin, WSRM President, has proposed that the relationship between national microsurgery organizations such as ours and the WSRM be changed to enable several desirable outcomes. These would include elimination of individual WSRM dues, membership in the WSRM for all ASRM members, enhancement of WSRM funding, and improvement in the WSRM's efforts to reach new members in developing nations. A capitation fee from developed country national microsurgery organizations would make this possible. The ASRM Council was generally supportive of the concept of the WSRM as a Federation of Reconstructive Microsurgery Societies. We continue to explore this issue, and *continued on next page*

RECONSTRUCTIVE  
MICROSURGERY

Autumn-Winter 2014

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The views expressed in articles, editorials, letters and or publications published by ASRM are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the society's point of view.

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*The mission of the American Society for Reconstructive Microsurgery is to promote, encourage, foster and advance the art and science of microsurgical and other complex reconstructions; and to establish a forum for teaching, research and free discussion of reconstructive microsurgical methods and principles among the members.*

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** *Continued*

await needed changes in the governance and financial model of the WSRM and specifics of the proposal before reaching a final decision.

We have verified that the ASRM meets the requirement for membership in the AMA's Specialty and Service Society (SSS), and after mid-year Council approval, have now applied for membership. A seat on the SSS table will improve our voice in the broader discussions of the future of medical practice at a national level.

**Our success as an  
organization depends upon  
all of us... every member is  
important and valued.**

A non-binding agreement was made several years ago with the PSEN. It has provided a mutually beneficial means to make ASRM Instructional Courses available for interested ASRM and ASPS members on the Plastic Surgery Educational Network. Importantly, non-plastic surgeon ASRM members continue to be authorized users of the PSEN. We are now seeking to formalize the ASRM/PSEN relationship, and are simultaneously exploring the ability to use our own recorded materials for in-house educational efforts in the future.

Our Research Committee Chair, Dr. Paul Cederna, presented a compelling vision for enhancement of our combined research efforts with the Plastic Surgery Foundation (PSF), to foster development of young surgeon-scientists. Subsequent to the mid-year meeting, two ASRM/PSF Pilot Research Grants of up to

\$10,000/year have been developed and approved by both organizations with his leadership, and are available to all ASRM members on an annual basis.

One of the outstanding aspects of the ASRM has always been its desire to be an inclusive and welcoming society. Our long history in this regard will soon be reflected by an on-line photo gallery from past Annual Meetings in development by Historian Dr. Michael Zenn. In addition, by-law modifications were presented at the mid-year meeting which better reflect the multi-national and multi-specialty nature of our society. The importance of students, microsurgery trainees, young members and women is also very much on the minds of your Council. By-law changes related to the Young Members Group (YMG) and Women in Microsurgery Group (WMG) were approved to strengthen their role in ASRM leadership. I am pleased by their accomplishments, and am certain that ongoing YMG and WMG efforts will greatly benefit the ASRM organization as a whole, both now and in the future.

It continues to be my great privilege and honor to serve as the ASRM President. Our success as an organization depends upon all of us... every member is important and valued. Thanks to the exceptional efforts of everyone on our Council, committees and management, we are a stronger organization than ever before. I am looking forward to the upcoming Annual Meeting in the Bahamas, and hope to see everyone there!

**RM**

**2015 MEETING IN THE BAHAMAS**

*Continued from page 1*

the most creative solution of complex reconstructive challenges. We have also included a panel on the complex challenges of gender reassignment surgery. Our popular breakout programs round up the spectrum of all microsurgical topics, including updates from the American Society for Lymphatic Surgery and the American Society for Reconstructive Transplantation.

We are positive that the meeting provides a comprehensive education and latest update to both newcomers and experienced masters. We strive to inspire all of you to new ideas in clinical and research related topics in this international setting as we celebrate the creativity in all aspects of microsurgery.

We look forward to seeing you in the Bahamas.

*Goetz Giessler, MD  
Steven Moran, MD*

**RM**

## FROM THE EDITOR

## Exciting Times



**David W. Chang, MD**  
Editor

**W**elcome to the fall 2014 issue of the ASRM newsletter. The morning air is cool and crisp, and leaves have already started to turn red, yellow and are full of colors. Our next ASRM annual meeting will be held at the Atlantis, Paradise Island, Bahamas from January 24-27, 2015. It is a family friendly resort and

a great opportunity to meet old friends, make new friends, and share our past successes and future visions in reconstructive surgery. The meeting is anticipated to be a great success under the leadership of President Allen Bishop, and the hard work and dedication of Scientific Program Co-Chairs Goetz Giessler and Steven Moran. The highlights of the meeting will include the Buncke Lecture by Julia Terzis, and the Godina Lecture by Matthew Hanasono.

It is an exciting time for reconstructive microsurgery as we venture into the frontier of areas such as transplantation and lymphatic surgery. It is also an uncertain time with the profound changes that are expected in our health care system. However, ASRM remains strong as we continue to be an inclusive and diverse organization that will not only adept to changes but will pave the way as a trailer blazer for new innovations. **RM**

## Best Case of the Year Award and Best Save of the Year Award



**A**s members of the ASRM, we perform microsurgery at an incredibly high level. Despite this, our cases often tend to be one-of-a-kind and therefore not well suited for public dissemination or publication.

This year at the annual ASRM meeting we will once again be addressing this situation by presenting two awards for excellence in microsurgery and complex reconstruction. One award will focus on microsurgical salvage from a complication (self-created or other), the other on the best microsurgical case of the year. By offering these awards, we hope to showcase some of the incredible talent and innovation that our members possess and utilize on a daily basis.

I encourage all Active members to submit a case or two for consideration.

Using the link on our home page ([www.microsurg.org](http://www.microsurg.org)) or by direct email ([contact@microsurg.org](mailto:contact@microsurg.org)), send me a short synopsis of the case with illustrative JPEGs and why you think the case merits consideration. Please note that any file sizes over 10MB must be submitted on a CD and mailed to the Central Office by **DECEMBER 1, 2014.**

In order to be considered, you must be an Active member of the ASRM, you must have performed some part of the reconstruction during the 2014 calendar year, and you must personally attend the annual meeting to present your case to the membership. Cases

will be chosen for presentation by the Best Case/Best Save Selection Committee. Cases will be discussed by an expert panel and voted upon by the membership present. All presenters should have a good sense of humor as the competition is meant to entertain the membership.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:  
DECEMBER 1, 2014.**

I look forward to hearing from you all and seeing some incredible cases presented in The Bahamas!

*Michael Zenn, MD  
Best Case/Best Save Chair  
ASRM 2015 Annual Meeting*

## 2015 ASRM ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM PREVIEW



30th Annual Meeting  
of the American Society for  
Reconstructive Microsurgery

## “Artistry in Microsurgery: A Celebration of Innovation”

January 24–27, 2015

Atlantis Resort, Paradise Island, Bahamas

Saturday, January 24, 2015

### AAHS/ASPN/ASRM Instructional Course Topics

- Medical Missions: Pearls & Pitfalls
- Social Media and Your Practice: Why You Must Participate and How to Stay Out of Trouble
- Upper Limb Nerve Compressions
- Your Nerve Transfer Didn't Work, What Next?
- A Non-Biased Update on Nerve Allografts
- Getting the Most Out of the Reconstructed Mutilated Hand: Microsurgery and Prosthetics
- Facial Re-Animation: State of The Art
- Decision Making in Lymphatic Surgery

### AAHS/ASPN/ASRM Combined Panel: The Affordable Care Act and its Impact on the Surgeon

With the implementation of the ACA, confusion and misunderstanding persists for patients but also for surgeons. How will surgeons deal with the impact of the ACA? How will the ACA affect physician salaries? What are the metrics for productivity and value in this new era? What are some of the strategies that surgeons are employing in this new era? The panel will address issues of cost containment and the new set of rules the ACS is enforcing.

### ASRM Master Series “Achieving Excellence in Reconstructive Microsurgery”

Reconstructive microsurgery has revolutionized the treatment of complex defects all over the body. Excellent functional and

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

## Joint Presidential Keynote Lecture

**Ramez Naam**

Author of *Nexus*



### “PIERCING THE VEIL: THE FRONTIERS OF NEUROSCIENCE”

New developments in neuroscience are allowing us to push past the ultimate frontier—the physical barrier that impedes our understanding and ability to heal and improve upon the human mind. We are now sending sight, sound, and touch in and out of the human mind; are repairing and improving memory, pattern matching, and decision making in animals; are linking the thoughts of multiple animals together; are peering into the behavior of every neuron in whole brains in real-time; and are simulating vaster webs of neurons than ever before. We're at the beginning of a new era of neuroscience and neuro-society.

aesthetic outcomes are the goal of every reconstruction and achieving this end result is now possible with the advent of new techniques as well as the perfection of established ones. This symposium will demonstrate the latest in techniques and will provide the attendees with insight as well as tips and tricks on how to achieve excellence in reconstructive microsurgery.

### ASRM Master Series Panel Topics:

**Achieving Excellence in Reconstructive Surgery**

**Persistence in Microsurgery**

**Head and Neck Reconstruction**

**Facial Reconstruction and Face Transplant**

**Breast Reconstruction**

**Upper Extremity Reconstruction and Hand Transplantation**

**Lymphatic Surgery**

**Emerging Technologies in Reconstructive Surgery**

**Lower Limb Salvage**

**Surgical Collaboration in the Pediatric Setting - Opportunities Abound!**

**New Frontiers in Microsurgery**

*continued on next page*

## 2015 PROGRAM PREVIEW (continued)

Sunday, January 25, 2015

**ASP/ASRM Combined Panel: Outcomes of Muscle and Nerve Transfers after Failed Brachial Plexus Surgery**

To determine the outcomes for the patient who have previous failed brachial plexus reconstruction who undergo subsequent muscle and nerve procedures. We will specifically discuss the role of subsequent nerve transfer in patients who have had failed brachial plexus reconstruction as well as the role of tendon transfers and free functioning muscle transfers.

**ASRM Morning Break Out Panel Topics**

- **The Thin Breast Cancer Patient: Getting the Best Results with Limited Tissue**
- **Recipient Vessels: Thinking Big or Going Small?**
- **Humanitarian Plastic Surgery: The Battle for Patients and Between Plastic Surgeons**
- **Pedicle Perforator Flaps: Indications, Technique and Keeping it Simple**
- **Robotic Surgery: Who Should Take It On and How Do We Get Started?**
- **Scalp Reconstruction**

**Young Microsurgeons Group Forum: Career Development for the Microsurgeon**

The Young Microsurgeon's Group invites you to participate in an open forum specially designed to foster discussion and will feature young speakers who have had teachable moments in different aspects early in microsurgery practice. Admission to the forum is included in the registration fee.

**ASRM Afternoon Break Out Panel Topics**

- **Reconstruction of Laryngeal, Esophageal and Tracheal Defects: The Need for Creative Solutions**
- **Enhanced Recovery Program and Intra-Op Efficiency in Micro Breast Reconstruction: Making Things Faster from OR to Home**
- **Free Perforator Flaps, Free Style Flaps, Pre-Expanded Flaps and Pre-Laminated Flaps: Increasing Your Flap Repertoire While Being Safe and Efficient**
- **Gender Reassignment Microsurgery**
- **Visualization of Vascularization: Which Method is Best?**
- **Complex Spinal and Pelvic Reconstruction**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

**President's Invited Lecturer****Michael Wood, MD**

Former CEO of Mayo Clinic Health Care System

**"ALEXIS CARREL—THE FATHER OF VASCULAR SURGERY AND THE GRANDFATHER OF MICROVASCULAR SURGERY"**

The interesting and convoluted life of Alexis Carrel, the first recipient of a Nobel Prize for Medicine, is reviewed. His legacy is that of great surgical and scientific contributions as well as controversial social views.

**Poster Reception**

A special time had been dedicated to our fellow poster presenters to view and discuss their work while mingling with our organizations supporters. This reception takes place just before the popular Best Case/ Best Save event so come early and join us for some networking, food and beverages.

**Best Case/Best Save Supported by Synovis, MCA**

Submissions of microsurgical salvage cases performed during the last year will be presented and a panel of experts will critique the submitted cases. Attendees will vote for the Best Microsurgical Save and the Best Microsurgical Case of the year. Awards will be presented at the conclusion of the session.

*continued on next page*



*Winner from last year's Best Case/Best Save contest*

## 2015 PROGRAM PREVIEW (continued)

Monday, January 26, 2015

**ASRM Morning Break Out Panels**

- **The Chest Wall Defect Revisited: Flaps, Plating and Rigid Fixation**
- **Ortho-Plastics Approach to Extremity Trauma: A Multi-Disciplinary Road to Excellence**
- **Flap Choice and Outcome in Breast Reconstruction: Evaluation with the Breast Q and What Really Matters to Patients?**
- **Sarcoma 101: Achieving Excellence in Diagnosis and Outcome**
- **Keystone Flaps and Propeller Flaps: Fad or Fantastic Vascular Anatomy, Design and Applications**
- **Expanding Options for Bony Defects**

**ASRT Transplant Panel: Furthering the Frontier The Next Innovations in Vascularized Composite Allo-Transplantation**

Vascularized Composite Allo-transplantation (VCA) is a new frontier in reconstructive surgery. Yet the boundaries of this field are fast expanding with scientific and clinical innovations in transplant tolerance induction and development of new clinical programs in pediatric, lower extremity, and penile transplants. This panel will provide the updates on the exciting development—and remaining challenges—in furthering the frontier of VCA.

**Presidential Lecture – Allen T. Bishop, MD****“Art and Science in the Life of a Reconstructive Microsurgeon”**

The Presidential talk will be a reflection on the speaker's experience as both an artist (musician) and a microsurgeon. The importance of aesthetics in reconstructive surgery is an obvious connection with the arts. The art of medicine, however, goes far beyond this superficial connection- most importantly in the genuine desire to do the best we can for our patients, our students and for others in need of medical care. Involvement in research seeks to advance the science with the goal of improving the lives of our patients—examples of this from the speaker's own experience will be used as examples. As educators, we must strive to not only provide our trainees with the technical skills and knowledge required to perform modern microsurgery, but also demonstrate the importance of compassion and respect for others- to serve as examples we can hope they will follow in their future lives. As clinicians, an emotional bond between surgeon and patient improves outcomes and reduces stress. Similarly, we can all benefit from art in our lives. Music in particular provides a means to contact the emotional side of our lives that often is pushed away in the clinic and the



MONDAY, JANUARY 26

**ASRM Godina Lecture****Matthew Hanasono, MD****“STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS: MARKO GODINA AND HIS LEGACY”**

*“Marko Godina was distinguished by his tireless energy, his impeccable logic, his boundless optimism, and his constant good humor and courtesy”*

– G. Lister

It is these qualities that are sought after in choosing the ASRM Godina Lecturer, honoring Dr. Marko Godina, an unrivaled leader and innovator in reconstructive microsurgery whose life was tragically cut short at the young age of 43. Established by the trustees of the Marko Godina Fund, this distinguished lectureship highlights a young, upcoming microsurgeon who has demonstrated leadership, innovation and ongoing commitment to our field in the best traditions of Dr. Godina. It is a pleasure to introduce Matthew Hanasono, MD as the 2014 Godina Traveling Fellow.

operating room. The Presidents' participation in the World Doctors Orchestra has provided a means to not only connect with colleagues around the world, but to use musical talents to improve local medical care. Music, performed with assistance of members of the Bahamas Symphony, will be used in interludes for illustrative purpose.

**Young Microsurgeons Group Panel: Challenging Cases and the Decisions Made**

Panelists will present a most interesting case and discuss the decisions made in detail with review of relevant literature.

**ASRM Afternoon Break Out Panels**

- **Tissue Engineering & Microsurgery: Friends or Foes for the Future?**
- **Reconstruction of Complex Defects of Perineum and Abdominal Wall: How to Achieve More with Loco-Regional Options**

*continued on next page*

## 2015 PROGRAM PREVIEW (continued)

- **Salvage of the Unfavorable Outcome in Breast Reconstruction: Nipple Loss, Partial Flap Loss, Abdominal Hernia, Radiated Breast**
- **Perioperative Pain Control**
- **Virtual Surgical Planning in Reconstructive Surgery**
- **Lessons Learned from Composite Allotransplantation**

**NEW! Old Turks/Young Turks Smack Down**

Old Turks/Young Turks show down where seasoned veterans and the individuals from the Young Member's Microsurgical Group will square off in a lively competition to see who can be the most creative in solving complex reconstructive problems.

**American Society of Lymphatic Surgery Scientific Session**

How do you work up a patient with lymphedema? How to choose donor and recipient sites for lymph node transfer? What are the technical pearls to maximize safety and reliability in lymphatic surgery? An international panel of experts will present cases in a standard format answering these questions and demonstrating their technique with surgical footage. This interactive forum will provide ample time for audience discussion of each case.

**Tuesday, January 27, 2015**

**ASRM Morning Break Out Panels**

- **Management of the Donor Site: Radial Forearm, ALT, TUG, DIEP**
- **Training the Next Generation of Microsurgeons—New Techniques for Training**
- **Super Micro and Super Thin: The Role of Thin Flaps and Supermicrosurgery**



*The Lagoon Bar and Grill features a painted domed ceiling.*

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 27**

**Buncke Lecture**

Supported by the California Pacific Medical Center

**Julia K. Terzis, MD, PhD**



The Harry Buncke Lectureship has been created with the support of the California Pacific Medical Center to honor Dr. Buncke's remarkable contributions to the field of microsurgery. Dr. Harry Buncke has played a major role in the development of our specialty and has helped develop several microsurgical laboratories across the globe. He has influenced countless residents and fellows as well as numeral department chairs throughout the world. It is with great appreciation that we are able to honor Dr. Harry Buncke with his lectureship due to funding provided by the California Pacific Medical Center. It is our pleasure to introduce Julia K. Terzis, MD, PhD as the 2015 Buncke Lecturer.

- **Beyond the DIEP: TUG, Profundus Perforator, SIEPA Flaps**
- **Pediatric Craniofacial Microsurgery: State of the Art**
- **Quality Care Initiatives: Avoiding DVTs, Thrombosis, SSIs and the NISQIP Database**

**Panel: Disasters of the Masters: Problems Happen to the Best of Us...So How Do We Learn From Them?**

Problems happen even to the best of us, but finding a solution to that problem can differentiate the good from the great. A panel of master microsurgeons will discuss problems and solution to some of their most difficult cases. This case based panel will provide algorithms for solutions to complex reconstructive problems.

Please visit [www.microsurg.org](http://www.microsurg.org) for more detailed programming and additional meeting information.



## 2015 ASRM ANNUAL MEETING

## Registration Update

Discounted meeting registration fees are effective through Friday, November 21, 2014. After this date, registration fees will increase by \$125. All registration fees are based on current membership status.

Each meeting includes the following:

- Admission to all instructional courses, general session and panels
- Access to speaker presentations
- Breakfast, lunch and refreshment breaks served (see agenda)
- One (1) complimentary ticket to each networking event\*
- Access to Exhibit Hall
- 2015 Official Program

Complimentary tickets provided based on the meeting registration type (does not include golf tournament, optional tours or activities).

Meeting registrants will also receive these additional benefits:

- Discounted hotel rates
- Opportunity to participate in group tours and golf tournament
- Opportunity to earn credits for AMAPRA Category 1 Credits™

Registration is available online:  
[www.microsurg.org](http://www.microsurg.org)

**RM**

## Combined Meeting Registration Discounts

AAHS, ASPN, and ASRM are offering reduced registration rates on all combination meeting registration. You must register for at least two meetings to take advantage of the reduced rates. Discounted military rates are also available on a case basis.



**JANUARY 24-27**  
**ASRM 30TH ANNUAL MEETING**  
Atlantis Resort, Paradise Island, Bahamas



## AAHS/ASRM Golf Tournament

**Saturday, January 24, 12:30pm**

Views of the beautiful Bahamian coastline make the Ocean Club Golf Course one of the most spectacular and challenging venues to play golf. The course is designed by Tom Weiskopf and is an 18-hole, par-72 course stretches over 7,100 yards on Paradise Island's peninsula, where crosswinds challenge even the most experienced of players. This course was recently recognized as the #8 Resort Course in North America and the Caribbean by Golf Digest Magazine. Course operations are overseen by Troon Golf, which creates extraordinary experiences for guests through uncompromising standards and attention to detail.

The AAHS/ASRM Annual Golf Tournament will be held at this pristine course on Saturday, January 24 starting at 12:30pm. Please see registration brochure for details and participation.

## SOCIETY BRIEFS



## ASRM/PSF Combined Pilot Research Grant

The Plastic Surgery Foundation (PSF) and the American Society for Reconstructive Microsurgery (ASRM) recognize the importance of fostering the development of surgeon scientists and innovative research in reconstructive microsurgery. PSF and ASRM are committed to increasing the amount of research funding dedicated to funding pilot research studies that set the stage for applications to larger funding agencies. For this purpose, the PSF and ASRM are pleased to offer the following grant opportunity:

### ASRM/PSF COMBINED PILOT RESEARCH GRANT

**Purpose:** To promote advancement and innovation in reconstructive microsurgery research.

**Amount:** Up to \$10,000 United States dollars

For an applicant to be eligible, they must be an Active or Candidate member of ASPS or a member of ASRM. We encourage as many submissions as possible from our ASRM members. It is required that all applications go through proposalCENTRAL which can be found at <http://www.microsurg.org/grants/research/>. For more information please visit this link. **RM**

## MICROSURGERY OVERSEAS



**WSRM  
2015**

**8<sup>TH</sup> WORLD CONGRESS  
WORLD SOCIETY FOR  
RECONSTRUCTIVE MICROSURGERY**  
19<sup>TH</sup> to 22<sup>ND</sup> March 2015 | Grand Hyatt, Mumbai | India  
THEME : LOOKING BACK - SURGING AHEAD



### Welcome to WSRM 2015

#### 5 good reasons for you to come

- 1. A Great Faculty:** It will be a meeting of the 'Who's Who' of microsurgery. A wonderful opportunity to meet the masters and get inspired.
- 2. A Great Scientific treat awaits you:** President's lecture on the theme of 'Looking back and surging ahead', three theme lectures, the inaugural S & T lecture by Ian Taylor, 12 master classes, 30 symposia, 'my most challenging case', by experts and free papers.
- 3. A Great Venue:** Grand Hyatt at Mumbai is the perfect venue for the congress.
- 4. Great Value for money:** This congress has a low registration fees and accommodation at the venue is a great value for money.
- 5. A Dedicated Organizing team:** We are doing everything possible to make it a congress to remember.

A pre-congress video workshop of 'Must see videos', by acknowledged experts in the field on the morning of 19th March, 2015 ( separate registration required).

For details visit the website [www.wsr2015mumbai.com](http://www.wsr2015mumbai.com)  
Bring your family along. We guarantee them a good time.

**Dr L Scott Levin**  
President - WSRM

**Dr S Raja Sabapathy**  
Organising Chairman - WSRM 2015

**Dr Samir Kumta**  
Chair-Scientific Committee

**Dr Rajendra Nehete**  
Organising Secretary

**Dr Vinita Puri**  
Congress Co-ordinator

### WORLD CONGRESS 2017 SEOUL, KOREA JUNE 15-18, 2017

Plans for the biennial meeting of the World Society of Reconstructive Microsurgery (WSRM), which will be held June 15-18, 2017, are going full steam ahead. The host nation's program committee welcomes your suggestions and ideas for the meeting. To learn more, or to share your ideas, please visit the Web site [www.wsr2017.com](http://www.wsr2017.com) or directly e-mail event chair Dr. Myongchul Park at [mpark@ajou.ac.kr](mailto:mpark@ajou.ac.kr). And don't forget to mark the date for this great meeting on your calendar! **RM**



# Microsurgery Match 2015



**Michel Saint-Cyr, MD**  
Microsurgery Fellowship  
Committee Chair

**Committee Members: Stephen Vega, MD, Peter Neligan, MD, Thomas Hayakawa, MD, and Minh-Doan Nguyen, MD**

The microsurgery Match is now in its fourth year and continues to gain momentum and popularity. A total of twenty-four programs are currently enrolled within the microsurgery Match as of October 2014. New for 2015 includes participation in the San Francisco (SF) Match



Centralized Application Service (CAS), which distributes applications to residency and

fellowship training programs online. Participation within the SF Match is yet another way of streamlining the application and Match process for both applicants and programs. The program's important dates are listed in the box at right.

The 2015 microsurgery Match date on July 16th will give applicants ample time to prepare for their fellowship start the following year in July 2016. The timelines established for registration, application deadline, and rank list submission will also provide more time

*continued on next page*

## MICROSURGERY FELLOWSHIP MATCH

The Microsurgery Fellowship Match was established in 2010. Its goal is to coordinate fellowship appointments, thus relieving the pressure of uncoordinated appointments and forced early choices. The participating programs will not make any appointments until the match has been completed. To obtain information please visit [www.sfmatch.org](http://www.sfmatch.org)

### Sponsorship

The American Society of Reconstructive Microsurgery (ASRM) sponsors the matching process and is responsible for enforcement of the applicable rules. The Microsurgery Fellowship Match is hosted and administered by SF Match. Neither the SF Match office nor the ASRM sponsor or approve any of the participating programs. The function of the SF Match is strictly limited to processing of the match. Listing or not listing of any program in the directory does not imply any form of approval, disapproval or endorsement.

### About the Match

The match takes place in July and will be used to process all applicants who want to start their fellowship training in July of the following year. Applicants are responsible for ensuring they meet all prerequisites for eligibility prior to registering for the match. All match participants must agree and abide by the SF Match rules and policies as well as any additional rules stated by the ASRM.

### Timeline

Program Registration\*: Open  
Applicant Registration Begins: January 5, 2015  
Central Application Deadline: March 6, 2015  
Rank List Submission Deadline: July 9, 2015  
Match Results Released: July 16, 2015

\* Please note registrations must be mailed in.

## WOMEN'S MICROSURGERY GROUP

## Support Growing by Leaps and Bounds



**Julie E. Park, MD,  
FACS**

Women's Microsurgery  
Group Chair

The Women's Microsurgery Group (WMG) has had an eventful and exciting year. We are very proud to report that the WMG has achieved full committee status within ASRM. This is due to the strong support from the current and past ASRM presidents—Drs. Allen Bishop, Joseph Serletti, and Michael Neumeister. We also want to

**"We would like to announce the formation of a WMG mentoring program...opened to all women medical students, residents, and fellows attending the ASRM meeting."**

acknowledge the tireless, behind-the-scenes assistance of the ASRM administration: Krista Greco, Lauren Snider, Nichole White, and Caitlin Carnes. On behalf of the WMG committee, we give you all our heartfelt thanks and appreciation.

We are also very happy to report our continued partnership with ViOptix. After last year's extremely successful inaugural WMG ViOptix Travel fellowship, ViOptix has pledged continued support for this year. Last year's fellowship experience showed us that there are a great number of amazing women medical students and

residents interested in reconstructive microsurgery. It was difficult to choose just one fellow out of so many talented applicants. In response, ViOptix has generously increased its funding to support two travel fellows this year.

We would also like to announce the formation of a WMG mentoring program. This program will be opened to all women medical students, residents, and fellows attending the ASRM meeting. The mentors will be the committee members of the WMG. The mentees will meet informally one-on-one with their mentors during ASRM at least twice during the meeting. Interested applicants should submit their CV and a list of at least 3 questions they would like to discuss with their mentors so appropriate matches can be made. Mentees will also be responsible for submitting formal feedback on their experiences so we can continue to evolve and improve the program. Any interested applicants should email their questions and CV to Nichole White at NicholeWhite@ismie.com. The deadline for accepting applicants is December 15, 2014 at 5pm Central Time. There will be 10 positions available, and positions will be awarded first come first serve.

We will be hosting the WMG reception at the Atalantis, Paradise Island on Monday, January 26th at 6 pm. The reception will be open to all women attending the meeting, including fellows, residents, and medical students. Partners and children are welcomed as well. Once more, our ViOptix travel fellows will be introduced at the reception. We look forward to seeing you there! **RM**

MICROSURGERY  
MATCH 2015

*Continued from page 11*

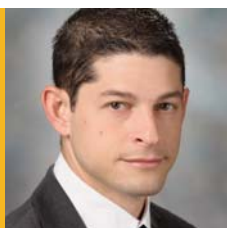
for coordinating interviews.

New program registration for the Microsurgery Fellowship Match is open year round. There is a \$325 registration fee which includes the membership fee for the current match cycle. To obtain a registration form, please visit [www.microsurg.org](http://www.microsurg.org).

We anticipate continued future growth in both program and applicant registration within the microsurgery Match in 2015 and beyond. We will also work hard to facilitate the application process for maximal efficiency at the lowest cost. Members of the microsurgery Match committee are sincerely thankful and appreciative for all of the hard work and commitment provided by Krista Greco. **RM**

## YOUNG MICROSURGEONS GROUP

## Recognizing a Rewarding Experience



**Jesse Selber, MD,  
MPH, FACS**  
Young Microsurgeons  
Group Chair

It's my pleasure to update you today as this year's YMG Chair and Representative to the ASRM Executive Council. It's been an exciting year, and a lot has been accomplished.

One of the key responsibilities of the YMG is to promote membership. My first initiative was to solicit eligible members to enroll. I am happy to report that the response was excellent, and we have nearly doubled the YMG membership in only 1 year. It will be important to continue to enroll new members as they become eligible and keep records of expiring eligibility so we can maintain an accurate accounting of candidate and existing membership going forward.

In the upcoming meeting in the Bahamas, the YMG contributed some exciting topics, and have secured valuable program time to highlight young ASRM members. In the YMG panel we will highlight challenging cases with evidence-based solutions from some of our talented young microsurgeons. In the YMG forum, you will hear about various challenges and successes in early practice. During a new event this year, we will face-off YMG members against senior microsurgeons in a friendly contest of case-based competition. We also added two YMG-inspired instructional courses which we hope reflect the needs and interests of our membership.

For the mid-year ASRM Executive Council meeting, we submitted a request for a number of bylaw changes. We hoped that these changes would bring more efficiency and imbue the YMG with more autonomy and relevance in the coming years. I'm happy to announce that these changes were made at the mid-year meeting and the result will be a stronger YMG that is more aligned with the ASRM decision-making apparatus.

**Microsurgery is not just about looking through the oculus of a microscope, but an opportunity to be among a select group who can provide complete solutions for every reconstructive problem that afflicts the human body.**

For young plastic surgeons, there are many career paths from which to choose, yet we hear a steady refrain of reasons to avoid choosing microsurgery. The work is hard, the patients are complicated, reimbursement is going down, there are far easier and more lucrative paths, and on and on. I don't dispute

that all these challenges are real. But in every challenge there is opportunity. Microsurgery is not just about looking through the oculus of a microscope, but an opportunity to be among a select group who can provide complete solutions for every reconstructive problem that afflicts the human body.

The reconstructive surgeon who can provide head-to-toe solutions to any reconstructive problem will always have a role in our health care system, no matter what laws pass and what doomsday scenarios promise to unfold. Reconstructive surgery has more flexibility and opportunity due to not only its scope, but the uniqueness and necessity of our skills, than any other area of plastic surgery. And beyond these practical considerations, reconstructive microsurgery provides plastic surgeons an opportunity for a richness that is beyond measure—the deeply rewarding experience of helping others in their moments of greatest need.

I am looking forward to ushering the next YMG Committee and Chair, and I hope that I have provided some value to the membership in my short tenure. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be your YMG Chair. It's been an honor and a privilege. **RM**

## New Research Funding Opportunities for ASRM Members



**Paul Cederna, MD**  
Research Committee  
Chair

**Committee Members:** Howard Levinson, MD, Bernie Lee, MD, David Mathes, MD, Timothy King, MD, Samuel Lin, MD, and Ergun Kocak, MD

It has been a busy year for the American Society for Reconstructive Microsurgery Research Committee. We have made substantial progress towards not only increasing the number of research funding opportunities available to members of the ASRM but have also opened the door to increase the depth and breadth of funding through additional collaborative efforts.

**Our goal is to enhance the diversity of our research portfolio to ensure that our members have the opportunity to innovate, discover, and advance the field of reconstructive microsurgery.**

Our first goal was to increase the number of grants offered to members of ASRM through the ASPSP/PSF Combined Pilot Grant Program. The ASPSP/PSF established combined grants four years ago with subspecialty societies. The goal of the Combined Pilot Grant Program was to allow the ASPSP/PSF to donate

\$5000 towards a grant and the subspecialty society to contribute an additional \$5000, for a total award of \$10,000. Through this program, the ASRM can select which grant gets funded to ensure that the goals, objectives and priority areas for the ASRM are honored and maintained.

This year, we spent a substantial amount of time working with the executive committee of the ASPSP/PSF and the ASRM to establish a second combined grant which will allow the ASRM to award two \$10,000 grants to their membership. The total investment for ASRM is \$10,000 but the total amount of grant funding is \$20,000. We are excited about this new opportunity for funding for our membership. It will provide us more flexibility as we begin evaluating various types of grants which have the opportunity to enhance the diversity of the ASRM research funding portfolio. The ASPSP/PSF has never offered two Combined Pilot Grants to any subspecialty society. This was a large change for them but after extensive discussions regarding the benefits of this approach, they are now going to offer this opportunity to other subspecialty groups.

As we continue to grow the amount of funding available, we need to begin to consider other areas of funding

including: 1) basic science research; 2) education; 3) clinical research; and 4) quality improvement. To achieve these goals, we are in the midst of additional discussions with several groups to enhance our collaborative funding efforts. Hopefully, we will be able to establish similar combined funding opportunities along with AAHS and ASPN to reflect our common research interests. In addition, the American Association of Plastic Surgeons is interested in extending its influence into the basic science and clinical research areas. There may be opportunities for combined grants with them as well. These grants certainly could be administered in a similar way to the ASPSP/PSF Combined Pilot Grants with cost sharing, while at the same ensuring that the ASRM selects the grants which they feel are most appropriate in their priority areas. We hope by the time of the annual meeting, we will be able to report additional progress in this area and new funding opportunities for ASRM.

In order to raise the visibility of the research being supported by the ASRM, the committee feels that it will be important for us to highlight these research accomplishments during our annual scientific meeting. This will not only provide a young investigator with the

*continued on next page*

## HISTORIAN'S CORNER

## Instagram for the ASRM



**Michael Zenn,  
MD, MBA**  
Historian

**G**ood news! We have secured a web team to create our first Photo Gallery for the ASRM membership. The gallery will utilize the ASRM storehouse of photographs from all prior annual and functions. Until now, these photographs have been catalogued and stored, largely unseen in years. The task of loading all photos is a formidable task but our ASRM staff is up to it. Each loaded photo will be categorized by year, event, and other global identifiers. However, moving forward, it will be our goal to “tag” members in each of the photos. At some point, we may go backwards and tag photos as well. First, we will get the gallery up and running, hopefully with fun photos to view by the new year! This new resource will help celebrate the history of our great society and provide a smile for our members.

Starting in the Bahamas at the 2015 Annual Meeting, we will be soliciting photos, “selfies”, videos, and any other acceptable media from our membership taken at the meeting or throughout the year for posting on our members only website. All submissions will be taken with “comments” and the list of names of the members featured in the photo. All photos will reside behind our firewall and will only be accessible to members with password-protected logon. All photos viewed will be available for download free of charge.

We would also like you to search your own “archives” for ASRM relevant pictures so that they may become a permanent part of ASRM history. All submissions for consideration to be posted on our website should be labeled and sent to:

[contact@microsurg.org](mailto:contact@microsurg.org)

See you in January at Paradise Island for a great meeting! Bring a camera!

**RM**

## RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

*Continued*

opportunity to present at ASRM, but will also provide the membership with an opportunity to see the high quality of research which could only be performed through their generous financial support.

Lastly, we would like to focus some of our priority areas for research in reconstructive microsurgery to include

lymphedema, breast surgery outcomes, tissue engineering, regenerative medicine, transplantation, and neural regeneration. Our goal is to enhance the diversity of our research portfolio to ensure that our members have the opportunity to innovate, discover, and advance the field of reconstructive microsurgery. **RM**

ASRM  
Calendar

**JANUARY 24-27, 2015**

**ASRM 30TH ANNUAL  
MEETING**

Atlantis Resort  
Paradise Island, Bahamas



**JANUARY 16-19, 2016**

**ASRM 31ST ANNUAL  
MEETING**

Westin Kierland Resort  
and Spa  
Scottsdale, Arizona



**JANUARY 14-17, 2017**

**ASRM 32ND ANNUAL  
MEETING**

Hilton Waikoloa Village  
Waikoloa, Hawaii