The 2nd Annual Meeting of the Society of Asian Academic Surgeons

Bradley Lecture Center
University of Alabama at Birmingham
September 21-22, 2017

Host: Herb Chen, MD, Chair of Surgery
Local Arrangements Chair: Jayleen Grams, MD, PhD
Thanking Our Corporate Sponsors
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## Schedule-at-a-Glance

### Thursday, September 21

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13:00-14:15</td>
<td>Executive Council Meeting</td>
<td>510 20th St, 12th Floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:30-15:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Lobby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:00-16:45</td>
<td>Scientific Session</td>
<td>See full program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:45-17:15</td>
<td>Coffee break</td>
<td>Lobby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:15-18:15</td>
<td>Drug Discovery in Antarctic Seas - James McClintock, PhD</td>
<td>Rooftop Bar, Redmont Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21:00-23:00</td>
<td>Welcome reception</td>
<td>Rooftop Bar, Redmont Hotel</td>
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### Friday, September 22

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06:45-07:30</td>
<td>Registration and breakfast</td>
<td>Lobby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07:30-08:30</td>
<td>Welcome - Local Program  Should Asians be considered an under-represented minority</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>08:30-09:00</td>
<td>Presidential Address - Paul Kuo, MD, MBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:00-10:00</td>
<td>Learning from personal experience: Difficult conversations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00-10:25</td>
<td>Coffee break</td>
<td>Lobby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:25-12:00</td>
<td>Plenary Scientific Session</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00-13:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lobby</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00-13:45</td>
<td>In conversation with: Selwyn Vickers, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:45-16:00</td>
<td>Coffee break</td>
<td>Lobby</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:00-17:30</td>
<td>Leadership and career development breakout session</td>
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<tr>
<td>17:30-18:15P</td>
<td>Business meeting</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>18:30-2:30P</td>
<td>Friday reception</td>
<td>EastWest Restaurant</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

All events will be in the Bradley Lecture Center unless otherwise noted.
All meeting events will take place at the Bradley Lecture Center on the 4th floor of the Children’s Harbor Building (marked with a star).

Key meeting locations:
1 Bradley Lecture Center
   1600 6th Ave S
2 Redmont Hotel
   2101 5th Ave N
3 EastWest Restaurant
   2306 2nd Ave N

Shuttle Bus Information

*Thursday, September 21.*
Buses run every 15 minutes from Redmont Hotel to Conference Center starting at 14:00. Will return at 18:15.

*Friday, September 22*
Buses run every 15 minutes, starting at 06:45, from Redmont Hotel to Conference Center. They leave Conference Center from 18:15 to EastWest Restaurant. They leave at 20:30 from EastWest Restaurant to return to Redmont Hotel.
Our Mission

The objectives of the Society of Asian Academic Surgeons shall be to cultivate, nurture and support the advancement of Asians in academic surgery. To achieve these objectives, the Society shall:

1. Create programs to improve the professional development of Asians in academic surgery.
2. Promote advancement of under-represented minorities to leadership positions within academic surgery.
3. Advance initiatives to promote the health and welfare of Asian populations.
4. Encourage and assist the study of diseases of importance to the Asian community.
Our History

The founding of SAAS can be traced to the Presidential Session on Unconscious Bias in Academic Surgery that took place during the 6th Annual Academic Surgical Congress (ASC), directed by then-Society of University Surgeons (SUS) President Dai Chung. Dr. Don Nakayama presented an eye-opening talk on the lack of Asians in the leadership of American academic surgery, and would later publish that data in the Annals of Surgery [Nakayama, DK. Asian Americans in leadership positions in academic surgery. Ann Surg. 255(3):583-8. 2012]. As it turned out, Dr. Chung was the first Asian to ever be elected to the SUS presidency.

That October, during the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Clinical Congress in Washington, DC, a group of nine Asian academic surgeons gathered to talk about the implications of that talk. This group of nine would become the founding members of SAAS (see below). During that meeting, they agreed to pay the initial dues that would provide the seed money to create a new society. After the initial tongue-in-cheek suggestion of naming it the Asian Surgical Society, it was decided to call it the Society of Asian Academic Surgeons.

At first, it was unclear what role we would serve to our membership. The first thought was that we would serve more as a social society that would allow members of the Asian community to meet and network. However, we soon realized that there were important issues facing our community, and we soon changed our focus to the personal and career development of Asian academic surgeons with the belief that the best way to increase Asian representation in the leadership of academic surgery was to prepare future generations to succeed.

Towards this end, we raised money to provide scholarships for both trainees and junior faculty to help them with their career development. We also initiated awards for the best research submitted by members to the ASC to showcase the advances being made by Asians in the field.

From the beginning, our society has been fully inclusive. We defined “Asian” in the broadest sense to include not only those from East, Southeast, and South Asia, but also Persians, Arabs, Turks and any other nationality from the Asian continent. Furthermore, membership in SAAS is open to anyone of any ethnicity who has an interest in promoting underrepresented populations in any arena of academic surgery.
Our membership quickly grew by word of mouth, and we hosted get-togethers at the ACS Clinical Congress and at the ASC. It soon became apparent that we needed to take the next step of organizing our own meeting focusing on the issues important to our membership. The Inaugural Annual Meeting was held in 2016 and hosted by Dr. Mary Hawn and the Stanford Department of Surgery. 2017 has seen a significant increase in participation in the Annual Meeting with over twice the number of abstracts submitted. The membership continues to grow and interest has never been stronger.

**Founding members**

Herb Chen, MD  
Dai Chung, MD  
Dev Desai, MD, PhD  
Lillian Kao, MD, MS  
Tien Ko, MD  
Paul Kuo, MD  
Nipun Merchant, MD  
Jennifer Tseng, MD, MPH  
George Yang, MD, PhD
Officers

Paul Kuo, MD, MBA, President

Paul C. Kuo is now the Richard G Connar Endowed Chair of Surgery at the University of South Florida and Surgeon-in-Chief at Tampa General Hospital. Immediately prior to this, he was been the John P. Iginii Professor of Surgery and Chair of the Department of Surgery at Loyola University Medical Center. He is a 1985 graduate of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. He trained at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital in general surgery, and at the New England Deaconess Hospital (now the Brigham-Deaconess) in Hepatobiliary/Transplant Surgery, and spent three years as a postdoctoral research fellow at Harvard Medical School under Joseph Loscalzo, MD, PhD.

Kenric Murayama, MD, Past-President

Kenric Murayama is Chair and Program Director of the Department of Surgery at the John A. Burns School of Medicine of the University of Hawaii where he attended medical school. He completed his surgery training at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine during which time he did a two year research fellowship in pancreatic physiology. Dr. Murayama has a longstanding commitment to surgical education and leadership development in surgery. Dr. Murayama has been an active participant in surgical societies nationally and is the first President of the Society for Asian Academic Surgeons. He is currently on the Board of Governors for the SAGES and is on the GI Surgery Advisory Council of the ABS. Dr. Murayama was President of the Southwestern Surgical Congress and holds leadership positions in several other organizations. His clinical interests are in minimally invasive surgery for treatment of foregut disorders and abdominal wall hernias.

Nipun Merchant, MD, President-Elect

Nipun Merchant is the Alan S. Livingstone Endowed Professor of Surgery in the University of Miami Department of Surgery, Vice Chair of Surgical Oncology Services and the Chief of the Division of Surgical Oncology. He is also the Chief Surgical Officer and Director of Surgical Oncology Research of the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center. He is a recognized leader in the clinical management of hepatopancreatobiliary and neuroendocrine malignancies. Dr. Merchant has an active basic science and translational research laboratory investigating signal transduction and tumor-stromal interactions in pancreas cancer. He has served on several study sections for the NIH and chaired the NCI-F Study Section. He is also a member of the Pancreas Task Force of the GI Steering Committee of the National Cancer Institute, the Commission on Cancer and the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma Panel Member. He serves on the Editorial Boards of the Annals of Surgery, Annals of Surgical Oncology, Surgery, American Journal of Translational Research and is an Associate Editor for BMC Cancer.
Tracy S. Wang, MD, MPH, Secretary/Treasurer

Tracy S. Wang is currently Associate Professor in the Department of Surgery, Division of Surgical Oncology and the Chief of the Section of Endocrine Surgery at the Medical College of Wisconsin. She is the Program Director of the MCW Endocrine Surgery Fellowship and the current Chair of the Fellowship Committee of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons. She received her undergraduate degree from Brown University and received her medical degree from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University. She completed her surgical residency at the Long Island Jewish Medical Center in New York and a fellowship in Endocrine Surgery at the Yale University School of Medicine. She holds a Masters degree in Public Health from the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University.

Allan Tsung, MD, Recorder and Society Editor, Journal of Surgical Research

Allan Tsung holds the endowed Roberta G. Simmons Professorship and is the Vice Chair of Research for the Department of Surgery at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He serves as Co-Director of the UPMC Liver Cancer Center. His clinical interests center on the comprehensive care for all forms of liver, bile duct, and pancreas cancer. His primary research interests are directed toward hepatobiliary and pancreas cancer clinical trials and the role of the tumor micro-environment in the progression of these cancers. In recognition of his research accomplishments, Dr. Tsung has been honored with the American College of Surgeons Excellence in Research Award, the University of Pittsburgh Innovators Award, and the Doris B. Maxwell Research Award. His research has been supported by HHMI, the National Institutes of Health, the Society of University Surgeons, and the American College of Surgeons. He is a member of the Society of University Surgeons, Society of Surgical Oncology, the American Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association, and the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases.

Ankush Gosain, MD, PhD, SAAS Editorial Board Member, Journal of Surgical Research

Ash Gosain directs Pediatric Surgery Research at the Children’s Foundation Research Institute of Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital. His NIH-funded laboratory focuses on the development of the enteric nervous system and gastrointestinal mucosal immune system. The long-term goal of his research is to gain an understanding of the interactions between the enteric nervous and gastrointestinal immune systems in both development and disease to permit the generation of novel neuro-immunomodulatory therapies that may potentially target a broad range of congenital and acquired pediatric gastrointestinal tract diseases (Hirschsprung’s disease, necrotizing enterocolitis, intestinal atresia, motility disorders, inflammatory bowel disease, etc.). His clinical research focuses on optimizing modes of communication in pediatric surgery to ensure patient safety. This includes development of clinical pathways for common pediatric surgical conditions and pediatric trauma patients. Another area of active work is the utilization of a health information technology leveraged approach to improving provider communications during transitions of care for pediatric trauma patients in the hospital setting. Finally, he is studying methods to optimize informed consent discussions in pediatric general surgery.
Herb Chen, MD, Chair, Program Committee

Herbert Chen, MD, obtained his BS from Stanford University and graduated from Duke University School of Medicine. He then completed a general surgery residency followed by a surgical oncology and endocrinology fellowship at The Johns Hopkins Hospital. Dr. Chen is Chairman of the Department of Surgery at University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), and the Surgeon-in-Chief of UAB Hospital and Health System. He is a Professor of Surgery and Biomedical Engineering, and holds the Fay Fletcher Kerner Endowed Chair. His clinical interests include endocrine surgery. His lab has been continuously funded for 17 years and studies the role of Notch signaling in thyroid and neuroendocrine cancers. He served as the American Cancer Society MEN2 Thyroid Cancer Professor. Dr. Chen is an Associate/Section Editor for Annals of Surgery, Scientific American Surgery, and The Oncologist, and serves on 6 other editorial boards. He is also the Past-President of Association for Academic Surgery, the Secretary-Treasurer for Surgical Biology Club II, President of the Society of Clinical Surgery, and the President-Elect of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons. Dr. Chen has mentored over 100 faculty, post-doctoral fellows, residents, medical students, and undergraduates in his lab. He has published over 470 original research and review articles and has edited 15 textbooks. He been recognized for his passion for teaching and mentoring the next generation of surgical leaders.

Julia Tchou, MD, PhD, Chair, Scholarship Committee

Julia C. Tchou, MD, PhD, is Section Chief of Breast Surgery in the Division of Endocrine and Oncologic Surgery, Department of Surgery at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. She is an Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery at Penn, and serves as the Co-Director of the Rena Rowan Breast Center, Abramson Cancer Center. She earned her undergraduate science degree in biochemistry from the College of Mount Saint Vincent, and her medical and doctoral degrees from the State University of New York (SUNY) in Stony Brook. She completed her residency in general surgery at The Johns Hopkins Hospital. Her practice focuses exclusively on the interdisciplinary management of patients with breast cancer. Her research focuses on the breast cancer tumor microenvironment, cancer stem cell biology, and development of new therapeutic targets for breast cancer.
SAAS Committees

Program Committee

Herb Chen, MD, Committee Chair (2015-17)
University of Alabama, Birmingham
Allan Tsung, MD, Ex Officio (2016-2019)
University of Pittsburgh
Mike Chen, MD (2015-17)
University of Alabama, Birmingham
Jayleen Grams, MD, PhD (2015-17)
University of Alabama, Birmingham
Eugene Kim, MD (2015-17)
USC-Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles
Jessica Zagory, MD (2015-17)
Louisiana State University - New Orleans
Amy Lu, MD (2016-18)
Loyola University
Anai Kothari, MD (2016-18)
University of Washington
Jennifer Kuo, MD (2016-18)
Columbia University
Cheong Jun Lee, MD (2017-18)
Medical College of Wisconsin

Scholarship Committee

Julia Tchou, MD, Committee Chair (2016-18)
University of Pennsylvania
Lyen Huang, MD, MPH (2015-17)
Stanford University
Anthony Yang, MD (2015-17)
Northwestern University
Linwah Yip, MD, (2016-18)
University of Pittsburgh
Thomas Wang, MD, PhD (2016-18)
University of Alabama, Birmingham
Daniel Chu, MD (2016-18)
University of Alabama, Birmingham
Local Hosts

_Herb Chen, MD_

Herbert Chen, MD, obtained his BS from Stanford University and graduated from Duke University School of Medicine. He then completed a general surgery residency followed by a surgical oncology and endocrinology fellowship at The Johns Hopkins Hospital. Dr. Chen is Chairman of the Department of Surgery at University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), and the Surgeon-in-Chief of UAB Hospital and Health System. He is a Professor of Surgery and Biomedical Engineering, and holds the Fay Fletcher Kerner Endowed Chair. His clinical interests include endocrine surgery. His lab has been continuously funded for 17 years and studies the role of Notch signaling in thyroid and neuroendocrine cancers. He served as the American Cancer Society MEN2 Thyroid Cancer Professor. Dr. Chen is an Associate/Section Editor for _Annals of Surgery, Scientific American Surgery_, and _The Oncologist_, and serves on 6 other editorial boards. He is also the Past-President of Association for Academic Surgery, the Secretary-Treasurer for Surgical Biology Club II, President of the Society of Clinical Surgery, and the President-Elect of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons. Dr. Chen has mentored over 100 faculty, post-doctoral fellows, residents, medical students, and undergraduates in his lab. He has published over 470 original research and review articles and has edited 15 textbooks. He has been recognized for his passion for teaching and mentoring the next generation of surgical leaders.

_Jayleen Grams, MD, PhD_

Jayleen Grams is an Associate Professor in the Department of Surgery, Division of Gastrointestinal Surgery and Associate Program Director for the MIS Fellowship at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She completed her MD-PhD at the University of Alabama and her surgical residency at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. She went on to complete an MIS Fellowship at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York, New York. Dr. Grams' clinical interests include foregut and bariatric surgery. Her research laboratory studies the impact of bariatric surgery on the skeleton. She is active in the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons serving on the Publications Committee and the Research Committee; Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract for which she is the Chair of the Resident and Fellows Education Committee and Representative to the Fellowship Council for the Unified Standards Task Force; Association for Academic Surgery for which she is on the Program Committee and previously served as a Councilor. She serves on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Surgical Research and is Co-Editor of the upcoming SAGES Manual of Foregut Surgery.
SAAS Award Winners

**Resident Development Scholarship**

A travel grant supporting attendance of a surgical trainee at the Association of Academic Surgery's Fall Courses held each year prior to the American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress

2014  Vikas Dudeja, MD - Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
2015  Lyen Huang, MD, MPH - Stanford University
2016  Zhi Ven Fong, MD, MPH - Massachusetts General Hospital
2017  Deepa Cherla, MD - Cleveland Clinic

**Junior Faculty Award**

A travel grant supporting the attendance of a faculty member within 5 years of their first appointment at the Surgical Investigators' Course at the Academic Surgical Congress

2015  Peter Chang, MD - Beth Israel Deaconess
2016  Daniel I. Chu, MD - University of Alabama at Birmingham
2017  Ching-Wei D. Tseng, MD - MD Anderson Cancer Center

**Academic Surgical Congress Research Award**

Granted to the highest scoring abstract submitted by a SAAS member as either first or senior author at the Academic Surgical Congress

2015  Chris Goodenough, MD (presenting author)
       Michael Liang, MD (senior author)
       University of Texas, Houston
2016  Jason Castellanos, MD (presenting author)
       Nipun Merchant, MD (senior author)
       University of Miami
2017  Syed N. Zafar, MBBS, MPH (presenting author)
       Nabil Wasif, MD (senior author)
       Howard University
Society of Asian Academic Surgeons Best Abstract Award

Granted to the highest scoring abstract presented at the SAAS Annual Meeting

2016  Julie Goswami, MD (presenting author)
       Allan Tsung, MD (senior author)
       University of Pittsburgh

2017  Michael Fenlon, MD (presenting author)
       Kasper Wang, MD (senior author)
       Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, USC
Guest Faculty

Anupam Agarwal, MD
Executive Vice Dean
University of Alabama at Birmingham

Kirby Bland, MD
Chair Emeritus of Surgery
University of Alabama at Birmingham

Gerard Doherty, MD
Chair of Surgery
Brigham and Women's Hospital

Yuman Fong, MD
Chair of Surgery
City of Hope

Mona Fouad, MD, MPH
Senior Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion
University of Alabama at Birmingham

Warner Huh, MD
Director, Division of Gynecologic Oncology
University of Alabama at Birmingham

John Hunter, MD
Chief Clinical Officer
Oregon Health Sciences University
Chair
American Board of Surgery

Shelley Hwang, MD, MPH
Chief, Section of Breast Surgery
Duke University

Vigneshwar Kasirajan, MD
Chair of Surgery
Virginia Commonwealth University
Clifford Ko, MD, MS, MSHS  
Vice Chair of Surgery  
University of California, Los Angeles  
Director of ACS NSQIP  
American College of Surgeons

Jeffrey Matthews, MD  
Chair of Surgery  
University of Chicago

Richard Schulick, MD  
Chair of Surgery  
University of Colorado

David Shibata, MD  
Chair of Surgery  
University of Tennessee Health Science Center

Steven Stain, MD  
Chair of Surgery  
Albany Medical Center

Doug Tyler, MD  
Chair of Surgery  
University of Texas Medical Branch

Sandra Wong, MD, MS  
Chair of Surgery  
Dartmouth University

David Yuh, MD  
Chair of Surgery  
Stamford Hospital
Guest Speakers

James B. McClintock, PhD

James B. McClintock is the Endowed University Professor of Polar and Marine Biology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of California at Santa Cruz (1978) and his doctoral degree from the University of South Florida (1984). In 1987, after completing a National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of California at Santa Cruz, he joined the faculty of the Department of Biology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He became a Full Professor at UAB in 1997 and has also served as Dean of the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics (1999-2003) and as Interim Dean of the Graduate School (2003-2005). He recently returned from his 15th research expedition to Antarctica where over the past two decades he and his research collaborators have become among the world's authorities on Antarctic marine chemical ecology and drug discovery and have developed an award winning interactive educational outreach web site (www.antarctica.uab.edu). He has published over 250 scientific publications, and his research has been featured in a variety of public media outlets including NPR, National Geographic Magazine, Smithsonian Magazine, Discover Magazine, Scientific American Magazine, CNN, the Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, Chicago Tribune, Los Angeles Times, and The Weather Channel. He has been the recipient of numerous awards and distinctions including the UAB Ellen Gregg Ingalls Recognition for Excellence in Teaching and the UAB Caroline P. and Charles W. Ireland Prize for Outstanding Scholarship. He is an elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, an elected Trustee of The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and an elected Fellow of the Explorer's Club.
Larry Chang, MBA

Larry Chang is an Executive Advisor at Ascend, dedicated to develop, mentor and advocate for Asian leaders in Corporate America. Larry joined the Ascend Board in 2008 and was the co-President, Northern California Chapter, from 2009 to 2012. He earned his BSE from the University of Michigan, and MBA from the University of California Berkeley. Larry started at Hewlett Packard in 1975, and was VP Supply Chain for the Personal Systems Group, VP/CFO for the Personal Computer Organization, and VP/CFO for the Enterprise Systems Group. He advised the CFO and COO of Haier as an independent consultant from 2007 to 2009. In July of 2016 Larry was elected to the board of Silicon Valley FACES, a new adventure for him to help mitigate bias, bigotry and violence among at-risk students at high schools in his local community.

Denise Peck, MBA

Denise is an Executive Advisor to Ascend, the largest non-profit Pan-Asian organization for business professionals in North America, and a business advisor to startups and company founders in Silicon Valley. She has a BA degree from U.C. Berkeley, and an MBA from Stanford University. Denise co-developed and teaches a two-day course for Ascend, “Executive Insights for Women”, which is targeted at helping Pan-Asian women professionals to succeed in their career journeys. She is a co-author of Hidden in Plain Sight: Asian American Leaders in Silicon Valley, the Ascend research report released in May 2015, which analyzed the low representation of Asian executives in technology companies. Denise is a former senior executive of Cisco Systems. During her 14 years at Cisco, she held a number of Vice President positions in marketing, operations, engineering services, and IT, in San Jose, California and in Shanghai, China. Denise was a long time executive sponsor of Cisco’s diversity initiatives, advocating on behalf of women and Asian employee networks. Prior to Cisco, Denise held senior marketing management positions over 13 years at Sun Microsystems.
Selwyn M. Vickers, M.D., is senior vice president for Medicine and dean of the School of Medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Dr. Vickers, a member of the Institute of Medicine, is a world-renowned surgeon, pancreatic cancer researcher, pioneer in health disparities research and a native of Alabama. Dr. Vickers earned baccalaureate and medical degrees from the Johns Hopkins University and completed surgical training there, including a chief residency. He completed two summer post-graduate research fellowships with the National Institutes of Health and training at John Radcliffe Hospital of Oxford University, England and was an instructor of surgery at Hopkins for one year. In 1994 he joined the UAB faculty as an assistant professor in the Department of Surgery. From 1995 to 1999 he was a Robert Wood Johnson Research Fellow. From 2000 to 2006 he directed the section of gastrointestinal surgery. During his first tenure at UAB Dr. Vickers received numerous honors, including the Argus Society for Excellence in Teaching Award numerous times, the Best Clinical Professor award and the President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. In 2000 he became the first member of the faculty chosen by students as commencement speaker. In 2006 Dr. Vickers became the Jay Phillips Professor and Chair of the Department of Surgery at the University of Minnesota Medical School, where he served until his return to UAB in 2013.
Upcoming Meetings

**Sep 22, 2018**  Medical College of Wisconsin

Host: Doug Evans, MD, Chair of Surgery
Local Arrangements Chair: Cheong Jun Lee, MD

2019  Boston University
Host: Jennifer Tseng, MD, Chair of Surgery
Program

**Thursday, September 21, 2017**

13:00-14:15  Executive Council/Program Committee Meeting
14:30-15:00  Registration
15:00-16:45  Scientific Sessions

*Breast/Endocrine Surgery*
  *Bradley 400*
  Moderated by: Shelley Hwang, MD and Jennifer Kuo, MD

*General/Colorectal Surgery*
  *Ireland 406*
  Moderated by: Mitu Agarwal, MD and Daniel Chu, MD

*Pediatric Surgery*
  *Dearth Tower Conf 1*
  Moderated by: Mike Chen, MD and Eugene Kim, MD

*Surgical Oncology*
  *Lee 404*
  Moderated by: Yuman Fong, MD and David Shibata, MD

*Trauma/Critical Care/Acute Care/Cardiothoracic Surgery*
  *Dearth Tower Conf 2*
  Moderated by Benjamin Wei, MD and David Yuh, MD

*Other Surgical Topics*
  *Fellows 408*
  Moderated by: Clifford Ko, MD, and Cheong Jun Lee, MD


16:45-17:15  Coffee break
17:15-18:15  Drug Discovery in Antarctic Seas
  *James McClintock, PhD*
  Endowed University Professor of Polar and Marine Biology

21:00-23:00  Welcome Reception - Rooftop Bar, Redmont Hotel

**Friday, September 22, 2017**

06:45-07:30  Registration and breakfast
07:30-08:30 Welcome from Dr. Herb Chen and local program: “Should Asians be considered an under-represented minority?”

08:30-09:00 Presidential Address
    Paul Kuo, MD, MBA
    Professor and Chair, University of South Florida

09:00-10:00 Learning from personal experience: Difficult conversations
    Jerry Doherty, MD
    John Hunter, MD
    Rich Schulick, MD
    Doug Tyler, MD
    Sandra Wong, MD, MS
    Moderated by: Herb Chen, MD

10:00-10:25 Coffee break

10:25-12:00 Plenary Scientific Session
    Moderated by: Paul Kuo, MD, MBA and Kenric Murayama, MD

12:00-13:00 Lunch

13:00-13:45 In conversation with:
    Selwyn Vickers, MD
    Dean of the Medical School
    Senior Vice President for Medicine
    University of Alabama at Birmingham
    Moderated by:
    Herb Chen, MD
    Professor and Chair, University of Alabama at Birmingham

13:45-15:45 Workshop with Ascend: Conducting Difficult Conversations.
    Larry Chang, MBA
    Denise Peck, MBA

15:45-16:00 Coffee break

16:00-17:30 Leadership and Career Development Breakout Sessions with Leaders in Academic Surgery

17:30-18:15 SAAS Business Meeting

18:15-21:30 Friday Reception - EastWest Restaurant, 2306 2nd Ave N
Leadership and Career Development
Breakout Sessions

For medical students/residents

1) Bringing up the next generation of academic surgeons
   Herb Chen, MD

2) Challenges to leadership as an Asian-American
   Warner Huh, MD and Shelley Hwang, MD

3) Interviewing: pearls for a successful job interview
   Vigneshwar Kasirajan, MD and Steve Stain, MD

For fellows/junior faculty

1) Bringing up the next generation of academic surgeons
   Kirby Bland, MD and Sandra Wong, MD, MS

2) Challenges to leadership as an Asian-American
   David Shibata, MD and David Yuh, MD

3) Interviewing: pearls for a successful job interview
   Kenric Murayama, MD and Doug Tyler, MD

For mid and senior level faculty

1) Bringing up the next generation of academic surgeons
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