

Minutes of the May 14th, 2012 Executive Council Meeting

A Spring dinner meeting of the Executive Council was held at the Capital Grille in Chestnut Hill on May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Attending were members Schoetz, Nauta, Smith, Brooks, Callery, Schwaizberg, Rubin, Chaikof, Millham, Roberts, Watkins and Executive Director Kristen Boyer. It was again a lovely meal to support a casual meeting and quite a robust discussion of all topics.

The meeting commenced with a review and approval of minutes from meetings of the 2011-2012 season recently ended. After thanking Ms. Boyer for another year of exemplary work and welcoming the new Council members, President Schoetz led a detailed discussion of the upcoming 2012-2013 schedule. It was decided that the Society would continue with five meetings convening at its current reliable venues on the first Monday of November, December, February, March and April. Dinner fees will remain the same for all. To stimulate attendance, Drs. Schoetz and Nauta will send a letter to all Boston Chairs to encourage new membership and enhanced participation of active members. A new President's Fund for donations by grateful former trainees was discussed, especially in light of the Society's new tax status to allow such.

Treasurer David Brooks next provided a concise written report of the Society's much invigorated financial position, with liquid assets now exceeding \$68,000. He provided data on the compelling cost profiles for meetings at the Waltham Westin, the Burlington Marriott and the Doubletree Hotel from the year prior. Together with their geographic appeal, these venues were again endorsed. Dr. Brooks again described and answered questions about the dues structure, which would remain unchanged. He asked Council members to reach out to any known members in arrears.

After reminiscing over the presentation of the Bigelow Medal to William Silen MD, at the 96<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in December 2011, the Council next returned to discussion of potential topics for meetings in the year ahead. It took all of coffee and dessert to reach consensus from fifteen very impressive speakers suggested. Among our most desired were L.D. Britt, MD, Gerard Doherty, MD and Councilor Patricia Roberts, MD. Various Council members volunteered to assist President Schoetz in reaching out, inviting and confirming select dates for the proposed speakers.

With no further new business requiring consideration, President Schoetz thanked the Council and adjourned the meeting by 8:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark P. Callery, MD

To open the 2012-13 season, the Society met on November 5, 2012 at the Burlington Marriott Hotel and welcomed Gerard M. Doherty, MD, the newly appointed Chair of Surgery at Boston University. After a relaxing cocktail hour and fine dinner, Dr. Doherty offered an address entitled “Dysfunctional Momentum and Master Clinicians”. All 70 members and guests in attendance learned of the concepts developed by Professors Michelle Barton and Kathleen Sutcliffe as to overcoming dysfunctional momentum in reaching organizational safety and reliability. Master clinicians and especially leaders need to understand the value of pause, stop and recalibration as challenges occur over time. Yes, a lofty topic, but Dr. Doherty made it fun and tangible for the audience.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark P. Callery, MD

The 97<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Boston Surgical Society was held on Monday December 3, 2012 at the Harvard Club on Commonwealth Avenue. President David J. Schoetz, Jr brought the meeting to order with 111 members and guests present in the Club’s Massachusetts Room.

Following Dr. Schoetz’s welcome and Presidential Report, Dr. Callery presented the Secretary’s Report indicating a current Society active membership of 521, with an additional eight nominees for new membership this year, and stable meeting attendance levels. He appealed to all for enhanced meeting attendance and participation going forward. He next asked Drs. Tara Kent, Jason Gold, Rocco Ricciardi and Vitaliy Poylin to serve as Tellers.

Dr. David Brooks presented the Treasurer’s Report in most encouraging terms. He detailed liquid assets exceeding \$68,000 against negligible debt indicating that recent cost containment measures had helped drive a financial revitalization of the Society. This was met with applause. Dr. Brooks indicated that the dues structure would remain unchanged, as would meeting admission fees. He encouraged all to pay online early and to bring Resident trainees to every meeting.

Dr. Magruder C. Donaldson next presented the slate of nominees on behalf of the Nominating Committee: for President-elect David Brooks, Vice-President William Mackey, Secretary Mark Callery, Treasurer Frederick Millham, Dinner Chairman Steven Schwaitzberg, and Councilor Steven Fishman. Once confirmed that there were indeed no nominees from the floor, this slate was enthusiastically moved forward and approved by voice vote.

The tellers reported next that all eight candidates for membership had been unanimously elected. The following new Boston Surgical Society members were welcomed by President Schoetz, Secretary Callery, members and guests as they rose to accept certificates and Red Books:

Candidate	Institution	Subspecialty	Sponsors
Timothy Counihan	Berkshire	ColoRectal	McAneny/Swanson
Gerard Doherty	BMC	General	McAneny/Stone
Laura Dominici	BWH	Surg Onc	Duggan/Golshan
Alik Farber	BMC	Vascular	Menard/McAneny
Heather Ford	Lahey	General	Birkett/Nepomnayshy
Jennifer Rosen	BMC	Surg Onc	Mendez/McAneny
Reza Saidi	UMMHC	Transplant	Comsimi/Delmonico
Thoralf Sundt	MGH	Cardiac	MacGillivray/Madsen

Following a delicious meal loud with energy and conversation, Vice-President Barbara Smith rendered a sincere and honorable introduction of her colleague and friend President David J. Schoetz, Jr, as his wife smiled with pride. Dr. Schoetz next offered a richly detailed historical address entitled “The Boston Surgical Society, the Lahey Clinic and Colon and Rectal Surgery (in Boston and Beyond)“. The audience was riveted by his thorough documentary of how Boston surgeons, and especially those from the Lahey Clinic have fundamentally contributed to this specialty over the years in all possible realms including clinincal care and innovation, education, training and leadership. The room offered a sustained and well-deserved ovation for President Schoetz’s address, but more for his guiding leadership and commitment to the Society.

The Annual Meeting concluded with ceremonial passing of the gavel from outgoing President Schoetz to incoming President Nauta, who adjourned the meeting at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark P. Callery, MD

On Monday February 4, 2013, the Society convened at the Doubletree Hotel on Storrow Drive to welcome one of Boston’s finest innovators Joseph P. Vacanti, MD, Chief of Pediatric Surgery at the MGH and Co-director of its Center for Regenerative Medicine. With 70 dazzled members and guests in attendance, Dr. Vacanti brought all through an incredible visual and data journey with his lecture entitled “From Transplantation to Tissue Engineering”. An award-winning thought leader, Dr. Vacanti explained strategies for building functioning artificial organs using stem cells and biodegradable polymer scaffolds. It was truly fascinating, and everyone left believing that the future is now.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark P. Callery, MD

On Monday March 4, 2013, our Society had the privilege of welcoming one of America's finest leaders in Medicine, L.D Britt, MD, Brickhouse Professor and Chair of Surgery at the Eastern Virginia Medical School, Norfolk, VA. After a gracious and interactive social hour at the Waltham Westin Hotel, President Nauta set the tone by introducing Dr. Britt in a most fitting and personal manner. During his address entitled "American Surgery and Healthcare Reform: Lingering Challenges", Dr. Britt revealed the struggles and complexities that tomorrow holds, but fully convinced his audience that tenacity, realism and hope are the best answers. Few can inspire and motivate like L.D. Britt, and surely, he did not disappoint.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark P. Callery, MD

The Society concluded this season meeting on Monday, April 1, 2013 at the Hyatt Regency. It was an especially beautiful evening with 75 members and guests socializing as the sun set beyond Cambridge and the Charles River. After a delicious dinner, Patricia L. Roberts, MD, BSS Councilor and Chair of Surgery at the Lahey Clinic offered with true grace an address entitled "Leadership in Surgery and the Next Generation". Dr. Roberts made it clear that unless Surgery embraces the values, diversity and spirit of today's generation, it will fall behind in Medicine and certainly in leadership. This prompted a robust audience discussion which made the message even clearer. It was a fun and stimulating evening.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark P. Callery, MD