

2026

ANNUAL MEETING



MAY 29 & 30, 2026

OMNI RICHMOND HOTEL | RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

CME INFORMATION

CME

Successful completion of this CME activity, which includes participation in the evaluation component, enables the learner to earn credit toward the CME requirements of the American Board of Surgery's Continuous Certification program.

Diplomates of the American Board of Surgery

By attending an ACS-accredited activity, you may choose to participate in the automatic transfer of your CME credits to the ABS via the ACCME. If you are a physician and Diplomate of the American Board of Surgery (ABS). This is a free offering.

Opt in to Automatically Send your CME Data to the ABS

The direct automatic transfer applies to all learners who have an ACS profile, are Diplomates of the ABS, and have provided their ABS ID and date of birth in the ACS MyCME Portal on the Board Certification page.

Step-by-Step Instructions to Access MyCME and Opt-In to transmit your CME data:

- Log in to your [MyCME Portal](#)
- Select the Board Certification tab
- Enter the American Board of Surgery
- Enter your ABS ID
- Enter your day and month of birth
- Next go to the send CME data tab
- Toggle to Opt-In (green) "Yes! I choose to opt in and permit the ACS to automatically transfer all my ACS-accredited CME data to my chosen specialty board earned March 1, 2021, and forward."

Please note if you have successfully transmitted your ACS-accredited CME credits to the ABS via ACCME, then you can skip steps 2-6, and go directly to the Send CME Data tab, and Toggle to Opt In (green). Once you have opted to automatically transfer your CME credits to the ABS, please allow 24 hours after transferring claiming your CME credits before you log into your ABS account to confirm the credits are in your ABS CME Repository. You may opt-out at any time. For more information or to request assistance, contact mycme@facs.org

Program Objectives

This activity is designed for physicians.

- The goal of this activity is to implement a forum for the latest information regarding clinical practice and research in the field of surgery.
- Attendees will identify cutting-edge treatment for surgical issues, both general and subspecialty.

Release, Review, and Termination Dates

This activity was originally released on May 30, 2026, and most recently reviewed on May 30, 2026. The activity will terminate on July 29, 2026.

Disclosures

In accordance with the ACCME Accreditation Criteria, the American College of Surgeons must ensure that anyone in a position to control the content of the educational activity (planners and speakers/authors/discussants/moderators) has disclosed all financial relationships with any ineligible company held in the last 24 months. Please note that first authors were required to collect and submit disclosure information on behalf of all other authors/contributors, if applicable. Please see the insert to this program for the complete disclosure list.



Commercial Promotion Acknowledgement

The Virginia Chapter, American College of Surgeons wishes to recognize and thank the following companies for their commercial promotion towards this activity: Castle Biosciences, IntegraLife, Intuitive Surgery, J&J MedTech, Karl Storz Endoscopy - America, Medtronic, Naterra Oncology, PolyNovo North America, SpringWorks Therapeutics, Stryker Endoscopy, Takeda, Veracyte, and Vertex Pharmaceuticals.

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION CREDIT INFORMATION

Accreditation
The American College of Surgeons is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™
The American College of Surgeons designates this live activity for a maximum of 8.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.



CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Poster Session

Visit the posters on Saturday. CME credit can be claimed for the in-person Poster Session. Make sure to also view the Virtual Poster Session and vote for your favorite!

Exhibits

We extend our sincere appreciation to companies that have supported this conference. All refreshments will be served in the exhibit area.

Play to Win Raffle

At registration, attendees will be given a "Play to Win" game card. Visit all of the vendors to get a signature from each one. We will raffle off two Amazon gift cards! The raffle will be held on Saturday after the final networking break.

Saturday Afternoon Family Activities & Evening Gathering

The Chapter has arranged two optional family-friendly activities on Saturday afternoon: a Segway Tour of Richmond and a TukTuk Tour of Richmond. Pre-registration and advance payment are required. If you wish to inquire about availability during the conference, please visit the registration desk.

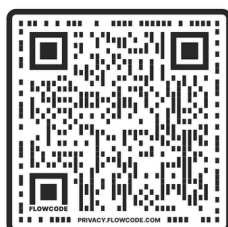
Whether or not you participate in one of the tours, all attendees are invited to join us for an informal gathering at Casa del Barco beginning at 6:30 PM. Casa del Barco is conveniently located two blocks from the Omni (320 South 12th Street).

Get in touch! Susan McConnell | Chapter Administrator
2821 Emerywood Parkway, Suite 200 | Richmond, VA 23294 | 804.622.8139
smcconnell@ramdocs.org | www.VirginiaACS.org



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GUEST SPEAKER

AI IN SURGERY AND SURGICAL EDUCATION

Tyler J. Loftus, MD, PhD

University of Florida

Tyler J. Loftus, MD, PhD is an Associate Professor of Surgery in the Division of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery at the University of Florida College of Medicine. He serves as Program Director of the General Surgery Residency and Assistant Chair of Performance Improvement for the Department of Surgery.

Dr. Loftus earned his medical degree from the Medical University of South Carolina and completed his general surgery residency and surgical critical care fellowship at the University of Florida. He also completed a PhD in Biomedical Informatics, with research focused on clinical decision support and data-driven improvement in surgical care.

His clinical practice centers on trauma surgery, emergency general surgery, and surgical critical care. Dr. Loftus's research integrates artificial intelligence and machine learning into surgical decision-making, with an emphasis on improving patient outcomes, optimizing perioperative care, and advancing surgical education.

Dr. Loftus' NIH-sponsored research focuses on machine-learning enabled postoperative triage decision support and patient value-informed decision support for surrogate and proxy decision makers. Dr. Loftus is passionate about advancing surgical education and technical skills development.



GUEST SPEAKER

THREE FUNDAMENTAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS FOR SURGEONS

Gretchen Schwarze, MD, MPP, FACS

Professor of Surgery

Morgridge Endowed Professor of Vascular Surgery

University of Wisconsin - Madison

Gretchen Schwarze MD, MPP is the Morgridge Professor of Vascular Surgery and a Professor in the Departments of Surgery and Medical History and Bioethics at the University of Wisconsin.

She received her medical degree from Harvard Medical School and master's degree in public policy from the John F. Kennedy School of Government. She completed residency at the Massachusetts General Hospital. Her fellowship training in vascular surgery and clinical ethics was at the University of Chicago Hospital and Clinics.

She is a practicing vascular surgeon and health services researcher with research interests focused on informed consent, high-stakes decisions, and end-of-life care for older patients with complex illnesses. With 15 years of external funding, including grants from the NIH and PCORI, she has received more than \$13 million in support for her innovative work.

She is a member of the National Academy of Medicine and is an alumna of the Greenwall Faculty Scholars Program and the Cambia Foundation Sojourns Scholar programs. She lives in Madison, WI with her husband who is a transplant surgeon.

AGENDA

FRIDAY, MAY 29

COUNCIL & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 3:30 – 4:30 pm | Virginia Chapter, ACS Council Meeting
<i>Roanoke Room</i> |
| 4:35 - 5:35 pm | Committee on Trauma Meeting
<i>Rappahannock Room</i> |
| 4:35 - 5:35 pm | Committee on Cancer Meeting
<i>Roanoke Room</i> |
| 4:35 - 5:35 pm | Global & Humanitarian Surgery Committee Meeting
<i>Canal Room</i> |

SOCIAL EVENTS FOR ALL MEETING ATTENDEES

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 5:45 - 7:00 pm | Welcome Reception
<i>Meeting Attendees, Guests, and Vendors welcome!</i>
<i>Magnolia & Wine Room</i> |
| 7:00 - 8:15 pm | Sponsored Dinner SpringWorks Therapeutics
<i>Meeting Attendees and Guests</i>
<i>Roanoke Room</i> |

AGENDA

SATURDAY, MAY 30

7:00 am

Registration Opens

Potomac Prefunction

7:00 - 7:55 am

Breakfast with Exhibitors | Poster Session

Potomac Prefunction | Atrium Balcony | Shenandoah Room

7:00 - 7:55 am

Sponsored Breakfast | Vertex Pharmaceuticals

Roanoke Room

7:00 - 7:55 am

Association of Women Surgeons, Virginia Chapter Breakfast

Canal Room | Breakfast available in Potomac Prefunction

7:00 - 7:55 am

Committee on Trauma Breakfast & Presentations

Rappahannock Room | Breakfast available in Potomac Prefunction

COT 3rd Place Winner: Long-Term Psychiatric Burden After Microsurgical Reconstruction for Open Tibia Fracture: A National Claims Cohort
Robert Devito, MD | University of Virginia

COT 1st Place Student Winner: Delayed-Phase CT in High-Grade Renal Trauma: Increased Interventions Without Improved Outcomes and the Predictive Value of Symptoms at Follow-Up
Ryan Mancoll | EVMS at ODU

COT 1st Place Student Winner: Association of Cannabis Use with Metacarpal and Phalanx Fracture Complications
Naomi Ghahrai | VCU

MAIN SESSION | POTOMAC ROOM

8:00 - 8:05 am

Welcome Remarks

William H. Ward, MD, FACS

Virginia Chapter, ACS President

8:05 - 8:50 am

Guest Speaker

AI in Surgery and Surgical Education

Tyler J. Loftus, MD, PhD

Associate Professor, Program Director of the General Surgery Residency Program

University of Florida

AGENDA

- 8:50 - 9:35 am **Panel Discussion: AI in Surgery**
Moderator: *Laura Fluke, MD*
Panelists: *Tyler J. Loftus, MD, PhD, Thomas Shin, MD, PhD, Michael Amendola, MD*
- 9:35 - 10:00 am **Break with Exhibitors | Poster Session**
Visit exhibitors for a chance to win an Amazon gift card!
Potomac Prefunction | Atrium Balcony | Shenandoah Room
- 10:00 - 10:10 am **Trauma Paper Winner – First Place**
PiVOT: Management of Peripheral Vascular injury Outcomes for Trauma across Virginia and Implications for Practice
Catherine Zwemer, MD | Inova Fairfax Medical Campus
- 10:10 - 10:20 am **Trauma Paper Winner – Second Place**
Trauma Video Review: How We Improve Resuscitation in the Bay
Madeleine Brill-Edwards, MD | EVMS at ODU
- 10:20 - 10:30 am **Cancer Paper Winner – First Place**
Beyond BMI: Association of Artificial Intelligence-Derived CT Body Composition with Survival in Melanoma Treated with BRAF/MEK Inhibitors
Mackenzie Mayhew, MD | University of Virginia
- 10:30 - 10:40 am **Cancer Paper Winner – Second Place**
Pre-Operative Endocrine Therapy Preserves Health-Related Quality of Life in the POWER Trial
Prisca Obidike, MD | University of Virginia
- 10:40 - 11:00 am **American College of Surgeons Update**
Sharon M. Henry, MD, FACS
First Vice-President Elect | American College of Surgeons
- 11:00 - 11:20 am **What's New at the Department of Surgery | Carilion**
Michael Nussbaum, MD, FACS
Chair & Professor, Surgery
Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine

AGENDA

11:20 am - 12:20 pm **Lunch with Exhibitors | Poster Session**
Visit exhibitors for a chance to win an Amazon gift card!
Potomac Prefunction | Atrium Balcony | Shenandoah Room

11:20 am - 12:20 pm **Sponsored Lunch | Castle Biosciences**
Roanoke Room

MAIN SESSION | POTOMAC ROOM

12:20 - 12:25 pm **Hey Chat– What Should I do? Analysis of LLM Responses to Angiographic Emergencies**
Tania Gupta, BS (presented by Graham Gardner, MD)
Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine

12:25 - 12:30 pm **Esophageal Reconstruction following Bipolar Esophageal Exclusion: A 10-year, Single-Center Experience**
Cody Tragesser, MD | Virginia Commonwealth University Health Systems

12:30 - 12:35 pm **Leveraging Expression of Tumor Microenvironment GAGs to Enhance Platinum-based Therapy in Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma**
Vashti Bandy, MD | Virginia Commonwealth University Health Systems

12:35 - 12:40 pm **Implementation of a Dedicated Emergency General Surgery Service at a Small Community Hospital: A Preliminary Analysis**
Colby Mallett, MSPH | Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine

12:40 - 12:45 pm **TRPV4 Inhibition Preserves Mitochondrial Integrity in Cardiomyocytes and Inflammatory Cells and Attenuates Myocardial Ischemia-Reperfusion Injury**
Daniella Wong, MD (presented by Andrew Phillips, MD) | University of Virginia

12:45 - 12:50 pm **What's the Rush? Challenging the Early Surgery Paradigm for Older Adults in Emergency General Surgery**
William Rice, BS | EVMS at ODU

AGENDA

12:50 - 1:35 pm

Guest Speaker

Three Fundamental Communication Skills for Surgeons

Margaret “Gretchen” Schwarze, MD, MPP, FACS

Associate Professor

Department of Surgery, Division of Vascular Surgery

University of Wisconsin-Madison

1:35 - 1:55 pm

Break with Exhibitors | Poster Session

Visit exhibitors for a chance to win an Amazon gift card!

Potomac Prefunction | Atrium Balcony | Shenandoah Room

1:55 - 2:15 pm

Business Meeting

2:15 - 2:35 pm

Legislative Update

Catherine Hendricks

Manager, State Affairs

ACS Division of Advocacy & Health Policy | Washington, DC

2:35 - 2:45 pm

Bigger – Lehman First Place Winner

Urban and Rural Disparities in Access to Heart and Lung Transplantation

Adishesh Narahari, MD, PhD

University of Virginia

2:45 - 3:30 pm

Resident Panel Discussion: Building a Sustainable Career: Protecting Your Time & Avoiding Burnout

Moderator: TBD

Panelists: TBD

3:30 pm

Final Announcements | Adjourn

4:00 pm

Family Activities

6:30 pm

Gathering at Casa del Barco

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Postoperative Venous Thromboembolism Risk after Neoadjuvant Pembrolizumab for Patients with Triple-negative Breast Cancer

Charlotte Burch, BS

Does Presence of Fistula Impact Postoperative Outcomes in Patients Undergoing Surgery for Diverticulitis?

Beshoy Fahmy, MD

Assessment of a Low-Cost Laparoscopic Surgery Trainer and Novel Hand-Held Scope for Single-Session Dexterity Improvement in Medical Students

David Grace

Prognostic Value of KRAS Mutation for Patients Undergoing Hepatectomy for Advanced Colorectal Cancer

Gabrielle Grob, BA

Proximal Ganglionic Intestine in Hirschsprung Disease is Fibrotic and Stiff

Prisca Obidike, MD

Topical Neck Cooling Attenuates Myocardial Ischemia-Reperfusion Injury in a Porcine Model

Andrew Phillips, MD

Novel Gene Signatures Correlate with Clinical Outcomes in Carcinomatosis Associated Appendiceal Cancer Patients

Arunima Punjala, MD

Enteroenterostomy at Time of Pancreaticoduodenectomy is Associated with Lower Incidence of Postoperative Delayed Gastric Emptying

Elexa Rallos, BS

Robotic Versus Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy in Emergency General Surgery: Do Older Adults Benefit More Than Younger Adults?

William Rice, BS

Axillary vs Subclavian Artery Injuries: Characteristics and Outcomes

Benjamin Samberg, BS

Safety and Immunogenicity of Helper Peptide Vaccine Plus BRAF/MEK Inhibition for Advanced Melanoma

Amrita Sarkar, MD

Building Trust in Entrustment: Faculty and Resident Perspectives on Entrustable Professional Activity Integration

Devin Shah, MD

Adapting Coronary CT for Lung Cancer Risk Prediction Using a Radiomic Deep Learning Model

Benjamin Zollinger, MD

VIRTUAL POSTERS

Mermaid Magic: Use of Acellular Fish Skin Substitute in Pediatric Burn Management

Madison Baldauf, BS

Exploring Disparities in Colorectal Cancer: Civilian versus Inmate Access to Care

Vashti Bandy, MD

Postoperative Venous Thromboembolism Risk After Neoadjuvant Immunotherapy for Advanced Melanoma

Charlotte Burch, BS

Learning Curve and Patient Outcomes of Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy: One Surgeon's 10-year Experience

Mohamad Chehab, MD

Use of Skin Substitute to Facilitate Tension-Free Closure Over the Vascular Pedicle and Selective Periphery in Upper Extremity Microvascular Reconstruction

Megan Daniels, MD

Mental Health Diagnoses Impact Rate of Textbook Outcomes for Operative Management of Distal Radius Fractures with Volar Plating

John Dennen, BS

Textbook Outcomes for Operative Management of Distal Radius Fractures with Volar Plating

John Dennen, BS

The Impact of Presentation in Concurrent Atlanto-Occipital and Atlantoaxial Dislocations on Outcomes: A Case Series of Two Young Females

Sabrina Elliott, MD

Primary Retroperitoneal Tumors Presenting as Ruptured Aneurysms

Ayesha Farooq, MD

Low Velocity, High Stakes: Multidisciplinary Management of a Transfixing Transcarotid Arrow Injury

Devon Freudenberger, MD

ChatGPT Responses to Commonly Asked Colon and Rectal Cancer Questions from Patient Perspective

Tania Gupta, BS

Police Pursuit Fatalities in the United States, 2009–2023: A National Analysis of FARS

Andrew Hendrix, MD

Efficacy of Adjuvant immunotherapy after Radiofrequency Ablation for Hepatocellular Carcinoma

Stephen Johnston, MD

Heart Transplant Outcomes in Re-do Heart Transplants vs Bridge to Heart Transplant with Fully Magnetically Levitated Centrifugal Flow Durable Left Ventricular Assist Device in the Modern Era

Tobi Kamoru, BS

Socioeconomic Disadvantage Does Not Predict Reconstructive Approach Following Mastectomy at a Relative Value Unit-Based Academic Medical Center

Benjamin Ke, BA

Evaluating Textbook Outcomes and Resource Utilization in Immediate Free Flap Breast Reconstruction Compared to Immediate Tissue Expander Breast Reconstruction

Benjamin Ke, BA

A Propensity Score-Matched Analysis of Geographic Distance in Immediate Free Flap and Implant-Based Breast Reconstruction

Benjamin Ke, BA

Cutting Through Expectations: Single Institutional Insights from Students, Residents, and Faculty on the Third-Year Surgical Clerkship

Ryan Mancoll, BS

Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation in Trauma Before and After COVID-19: Associations of Utilization, Timing, and Outcomes

Ryan Mancoll, BS

Predictors of Surgical Delay in Symptomatic Cholelithiasis

Tamriage Martin, MD

Total Percutaneous Aortic Arch Repair Using a Surgeon-Modified Two-Vessel Fenestrated Endograft for an Expanding 8.3cm Arch Aneurysm in a High-Risk Patient

Laiba Murad, BS

Digital Circulation: A Content Analysis of Peripheral Artery Disease Information on TikTok

Karishma Setia, BS

Diagnosis and surgical management of a traumatic temporal artery pseudoaneurysm

Karishma Setia, BS

Gender Differences in National Institutes of Health Funding Among Surgical Oncologists from 2013-2023

Bhoomi Shah, BS

Training Like an Athlete: Simulated Practice and Objective Rehearsal Training (SPORT) to Optimize Performance on High-Stakes Surgical Exams

Devin Shah, MD

The Post-Op Check: Essential for Patient Care or Just a Checkbox?

Hayne Song, MD

Psychological Safety in the Operating Room: Resident Perspectives in General Surgery

Caitlin Tallant, MD

Trends in Gender and Racial Diversity Among Surgical Subspecialties: A 10-Year Analysis

Ohm Tripathi, BS

Patterns Of The Healthcare Expenditure Across Payers, Hospital Systems, Gender And Race For Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy Over Last Decade: An Analysis Of The Healthcare Cost And Utilization Project (Hcup)

Ohm Tripathi, BS

Trauma Video Review: How We Improve Trauma Resuscitation in the Bay

Alexandra Van Horn, MD

Use of a Skin Substitute as a Temporizing Method for Coverage in Severe Thumb Avulsion Replantation, A Case Report

Hisham Vohra, BS

Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy for Desmoplastic Melanoma: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Peyton Yee, BS

Integration of Clinical Risk Factors Improves Lung Cancer Risk Stratification by Radiomic Machine Learning

Benjamin Zollinger, MD

Using Unique Social Determinants of Health to Identify Patients At Risk of Not Receiving Lung Cancer Screening

Benjamin Zollinger, MD

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