



**American College of Surgeons/Metropolitan Philadelphia Chapter  
Executive Council Meeting  
December 5, 2011  
Conference Call**

**MINUTES**

**Council Members Present**

Michael DellaVecchia, MD, PhD, FACS, President  
Chris Tzarnas, MD, FACS, President-Elect  
Christopher Pezzi, MD, FACS, Immediate Past President  
Ned Carp, MD, FACS, Vice President  
Scott Goldstein, MD, FACS, Secretary  
Francis Ferdinand, MD, FACS, Past President  
R. Anthony Carabasi, MD, FACS, Governor-at-Large  
Linwood Haith, MD, FACS, Governor-at-Large  
Jeffrey Butcher, MD, FACS, Member-at-Large  
Sunir Garg, MD, FACS, Member-at-Large  
Niels Martin, MD, FACS, Member-at-Large  
Andrew Resnick, MD, FACS, Member-at-Large  
Gary Xiao, MD, FACS, Member-at-Large  
Jennifer Keeler, Chapter Administrator  
Lauren Ramsey, Meeting Manager

---

**Call to Order**

President Michael DellaVecchia, MD, FACS called a meeting of the Executive Council of the Metropolitan Philadelphia Chapter of the American College of Surgeons to order at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, December 5, 2011.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Motion Carried:** It was properly moved and seconded to accept the minutes of the September 19, 2011 council meeting.

**President's Report**

Dr. DellaVecchia welcomed Sunir Garg, MD, FACS to the Council.

He reported that he attended the Pennsylvania Medical Society's House of Delegates meeting. He noted that a focus of the Medical Society was getting all of medicine to work together. To that end, they are exploring the possibility of providing affordable lobbyist representation to specialty societies. Jennifer Keeler noted that the concept is in its infancy, but it would probably be similar to the staffing that she provides to the chapter in that the lobbyist would work with various clients and bill groups appropriately based on their needs. The council discussed this concept and felt that it may be worth exploring. Jennifer will notify the Medical Society of the Chapter's interest. Contacting the ACS to inquire if they offer a similar service was also discussed.

**Secretary's Report**

Scott Goldstein, MD, FACS reviewed the membership report. He noted that 2011 was a strong year and that membership dues revenue increased. Jennifer noted that the difference between the amount billed and the amount collected reflected the \$25 early bird discount that was offered to members who paid their dues before January 31.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Dr. DellaVecchia asked the Council to review the October financial statements. Jennifer noted that the Chapter should end the year in the black.

The 2012 proposed budget was reviewed.

**Motion Carried:** It was properly moved and seconded to approve the 2012 budget.

### **Governors' Report**

Linwood Haith, MD, FACS referred Council members to the report submitted by Enrique Hernandez, MD, FACS. He reported that attendance at the Clinical Congress was up this year and that the largest number of fellows paid College dues since 2007. He said that the 2012 Clinical Congress is being planned and the program committee is open to suggestions. Fellows can submit ideas through the ACS website until March 2012.

### **Committee Reports**

**2012 Annual Dinner Program** – Dr. DellaVecchia said the main topic to be discussed is how much to charge for exhibit space. Lauren Ramsey proposed slightly lowering the cost and adding the benefit of placing the exhibitors' logos on the chapter website. Chapter staff felt that lowering the rate may attract additional exhibitors. The Council decided to keep rates the same, since many of the exhibitors returned year after year. The top exhibit rate of \$4,000 was eliminated, since no company ever purchased that level of support. The Silver level of support will receive a logo on the meeting page of the website and the Gold level will have the logo link to their website.

Save the Date postcards for exhibitors will be created and mailed to council members for distribution. Lauren will send the council a copy of the invitation letter and exhibitor form, which will also be sent to the all companies included on the exhibitor datafile. Save the Date emails will be sent to members rather than mailing postcards.

**Mock Oral Boards** – Christopher Pezzi, MD, FACS reported that the 2011 Mock Oral Boards were again a success. The pass rate was 50%, which is lower than the actual Boards. Dr. Pezzi said that he is considering how the program can expand next year. Penn expressed an interest in participating, where in the past they have declined. Lankenau can accommodate up to 50 examinees. There was a discussion about charging residents to attend, but the general feeling was that this program was offered as a service to Philadelphia residency programs. Faculty members volunteer their time because programs have to send one examiner for every examinee registered. There was a discussion about obtaining feedback from residents on their experience. Chapter staff will create a survey to send to participants. A draft will be sent to the council for their input. Dr. Pezzi noted that he will send a thank you letter to all examiners.

**Young Surgeons Event** – Jeffrey Butcher, MD, FACS reported efforts to recruit residents and young surgeons. He said that all Council members should push to get residents to join, since there is no charge for residents to belong to the Chapter. Since a lot of residents move away from Philadelphia, the more valuable efforts is to recruit young fellows to join the Chapter. There was a discussion about the list of Young Surgeons in the Chapter area and the fact that it was not accurate. It was suggested that lists of recent new fellows be used for recruitment purposes. Chapter staff will send these to Dr. Butcher, Dr. Kolff and Dr. DellaVecchia. They are working to plan a Young Surgeon reception. The event will be held in an art museum and corporate support will be secured to offset costs.

### **Other Business**

**Contribution to ACS Foundation**- Jennifer requested that the council approve a \$1,000 contribution to the ACS Foundation, as this is the amount the Chapter has given in the past.

**Motion Carried:** It was properly moved and seconded to contribute \$1,000 to the ACS Foundation.

**Medical School Surgical Day** – Dr. Pezzi reported that a medical student recently attended a Philadelphia Academy of Surgery meeting. He requested that the Academy sponsor a Medical Student Surgery Day. In the past, Jefferson held this event but they want to expand to include all local medical schools. The Academy agreed to sponsor the venue for the event. Dr. Pezzi suggested the Chapter also support this meeting with a \$500 or \$1,000 contribution. Other ways to support the event were discussed, such as providing a speaker. Dr. Pezzi will get more information to share with the Council.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:54p.m.

**SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

**Action 12/5/11 – 1**

**Motion Carried: It was properly moved and seconded to accept the minutes of the September 19, 2011 council meeting.**

**Action 12/5/11 – 2**

**It was properly moved and seconded to approve the 2012 Budget.**

**Action 12/5/11 – 3**

**It was properly moved and seconded to contribute \$1,000 to the ACS Foundation.**