

2010 – 2011 ANNUAL REPORT
For the Board of the
Canadian Association of General Surgeons

Name of Committee: __Program__

Submitted by: __David Urbach/Sean Cleary__

CAGS Vision: *The Canadian Association of General Surgeons is the voice of the specialty of General Surgery in Canada.*

CAGS Mission: *The Canadian Association of General Surgeons promotes the training, education, continuing professional development, thoughtful practice and research essential to the provision of the exemplary surgical care Canadians expect and deserve.*

CAGS Objectives:

- *CAGS contributes to the content and processes of all general surgery residency training programs to enhance residents' career development.*
- *To provide the facility for every CAGS member to fully meet their individual CME requirements and re-certification obligations.*
- *CAGS will effectively advocate all issues relating to the specialty of general surgery across Canada*
- *CAGS contributes to the health of Canadians through the promotion of general surgery research.*

1) Committee Activities

Please list any 2010 – 11 committee activities that have supported the CAGS vision, mission and objectives:

Development of CSF Program, the central annual event for continuing professional development of Canadian general surgeons

The program contributes to general surgery residency programs in numerous ways, including the National Laparoscopic Suturing Competition, CAGS Resident Education Symposium (Competency-based training), CAGS resident research awards presentations, CAGS residents dinner

The CSF meeting is a mechanism for CAGS members to meet their individual CME requirements

Various sessions in the 2011 program advocate for the specialty of general surgery in Canada, including: CAGS Community Surgery Symposium: Unemployment/ Underemployment in general surgery—the elephant in the room?, CAGS/OAGS/ SWOSA Round Table Discussion: The itinerant and locuming surgeon—has the time gone, or come?, CAGS/TAC symposium: Acute Care Surgery—Clinical Updates, CAGS Presidential Address by Dr. Reid: Canadian General Surgery—is it what it is, or is it? Can deconstruction theory instruct our future?

The CSF program provides multiple opportunities to contribute to the health of Canadians through the promotion of general surgery research, including programming multiple paper sessions, poster sessions, and research awards

2) Committee Goals

Please list any committee goals for the 2010 – 2011 year that will support the CAGS vision, mission and objectives:

Continue to incorporate feedback from CAGS members, committees and executive in developing the CSF program

Continue to emphasize programming for community general surgeons, including clinical sessions and sessions of interest to community surgeons

3) Recommendations to the Board

Please list any recommendations to the CAGS Board that will assist the Committee in performing its activities and achieving its goals for 2010 - 2011:

Develop a strategy to promote the CSF meeting more effectively to community general surgeons. A very large proportion of CSF attendees are university-based surgeons and trainees. There is an enormous potential audience of general surgeons in Canada who may not perceive the CSF program as relevant to community surgical practice, although the program contains a wealth of programming that is relevant to community-based practice. CAGS can use existing partnerships with the provincial/regional organizations to promote the CSF more aggressively to this audience.

4) Long-term Goals

Please list any long-term (2011 – 2021) goals that your committee has identified:

Identify appropriate sites for future meetings

Mentor committee members to take on leadership roles on the program committee in future years