

## Curt Mattson

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**Sent:** Tuesday, September 20, 2011 4:26 PM  
**To:** Curt Mattson  
**Subject:** SSO NEWS - Subspecialty Certificate - Annual Meeting Preview - Fellows News - Call for Videos

# SSO NEWS

FALL 2011

**SSO**  
Society of  
Surgical  
Oncology®

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#### Events and Deadlines

- Common Match Ranking  
Deadline: Sept. 19th
- RSVP: Residents Reception at ACS: Oct. 1st
- SSO Meeting Registration  
Open: Nov. 14th
- Breast Match  
Deadline: Nov. 18th

#### Subspecialty Certificate Proceeds on Several Fronts

SSO members continue to work with the American Board of Surgery (ABS) and the Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) on implementation of the new Certificate in Complex General Surgical Oncology.

Since its [April 28, 2011 announcement](#), the ABS has formed the Surgical Oncology Board and tasked it with the responsibility to develop both the qualifying and certifying examinations for the certificate. The Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, of the Surgical Oncology Board are Fabrizio Michelassi, MD, SSO Past President, and V. Suzanne Klimberg, MD, current SSO Vice President.

Concurrently, the ACGME and its RRC-Surgery have begun work on the surgical oncology training program requirements as the ACGME will ultimately assume the responsibility for evaluating and accrediting surgical oncology fellowship programs. Dr. Russell Berman, Chair of the SSO Training Committee, is the SSO representative on the ad-hoc RRC-S committee established by the ACGME to oversee this process.

[Read more on the SSO website...](#)

#### Fellows Institute Draws More than 120 Participants

SSO held its first Fellows Institute in Cincinnati, Ohio in August. Nearly 80 surgical and breast oncology fellows, 20 faculty, 14 corporate partners, and several SSO leaders and staff participated in two days of didactic and hands-on labs. Approximately 30 sessions included subjects ranging from the basic physics of ultrasound to the evolving role of robotics. The surgical and breast oncology fellows also took advantage of animate and inanimate labs developing their visualization, biopsy, and laparoscopic skills.

The program, intended as a complement to the fellows' training curriculum, was well received. One fellow shared, "This was an awesome experience, especially the lab portion. It should be continued annually." Another participant related that it was an "excellent opportunity to work with instruments that we might not have exposure to." The work of the program co-directors, Drs. David L. Bartlett, Charles R. Scoggins, V. Suzanne Klimberg, and Charles E. Cox, was invaluable to the success of the program.

The didactic and workshop sessions took place at the facilities of Ethicon Endo-Surgery. The SSO and the James Ewing Foundation thank the two Title Sponsors: [Ethicon Endo-Surgery, Inc.](#) and [Mammutome](#). We also recognize our three Event Sponsors: [AngioDynamics](#), [Bioptics Faxitron Medical](#), and [HIPECTreatment.com](#), and our two Supporting Sponsors: [BK Medical](#) and [Genomic Health](#).

## **2012 Annual Cancer Symposium Registration Opens Mid-November**

You are enthusiastically invited to the 65th SSO Annual Cancer Symposium, March 21-24, 2012, at the Orlando World Center Marriott, Orlando, Florida. The format and content of this year's meeting include innovations based on feedback from SSO members.

More than 650 abstracts were submitted for consideration. Abstract presenters will be notified in early November.

### **This Year's Program Highlights:**

#### **Symposia**

- Quality & Cost in Cancer Care
- The Contralateral Prophylactic Mastectomy Dilemma
- The Future of Surgical Oncology Education
- Using Health Care Systems to Improve Cancer Outcomes
- The Sun and Tanning Booths: What a Surgical Oncologist Needs to Know

#### **Great Debate Topics**

- Cytoreduction and HIPEC for Colorectal Cancer
- Transanal Excision of Rectal Cancer
- Does Margin Width Matter in Breast Conserving Surgery?

#### **Expanded Wednesday Program for Community Surgeons**

- Tumor Genomics and Targeted Therapies
- BRCA Testing and Management
- Combined Overviews of Breast, Colorectal, and HPB Cancer Care
- Coding and Reimbursement Issues
- Role of Physician Extenders in the Surgical Oncology Practice

[Read more on the SSO website...](#)

## **Fellowship Match Process Underway with Record Participants**

Match applicants are currently interviewing at 19 Surgical Oncology, 31 Breast Oncology, and 15 HPB fellowship programs. Seventy-nine Surgical Oncology and 47 HPB applicants are taking part in the Surgical Oncology/HBP Common Match, along with 67 Breast Oncology applicants for the Breast Match.

The 112 applicants participating in the Surgical Oncology/HPB Common Match—was an increase of 13 over last year. Fourteen participants have applied to both Surgical Oncology and HPB programs, a similar number to applicants to both programs last year.

There was a small increase in Breast Oncology applicants for the Breast Match this year, with 67 taking part this year compared to 63 last year.

**Deadlines** for ranking programs and applicants are **September 19, 2011** for the Common Match and **November 18, 2011** for the Breast Match.

### **Call for Procedure Videos for SSO Website**

A major new section of the SSO website currently under construction is sure to be an invaluable resource for both new surgical oncologists and more experienced hands. The Website Committee is collecting and posting procedures – open and laparoscopic – from every major disease site.

These are actual operations, not lectern-based presentations. Some have been previously published in surgical textbooks; others are produced by individual physicians and cancer centers. The committee's goal is to have multiple versions of each procedure to encourage lively debate among surgeons regarding each procedure. Currently 18 videos are posted, each with an area for ranking and discussion.

If you have surgical videos available, please contact the webmaster at [webmaster@surgonc.org](mailto:webmaster@surgonc.org). Copyrighted material is accepted, and full credit is included with each uploaded video. Click the homepage banner or see "Fellows Resources" under the Training & Education tab.

### **Discuss Your Cases Worldwide**

A new and growing area of the SSO website is the members-only "Online Tumor Board." Here presentations are available for discussion both by fellows and experienced surgeons. Cases are being posted and solicited for all major organ sites. Submit your cases by contacting the webmaster at [webmaster@surgonc.org](mailto:webmaster@surgonc.org)

### **Residents and Fellows Invited to SSO Reception at ACS**

Considering a Fellowship in Surgical Oncology or Breast Oncology? Join us for an evening of networking and refreshments at the SSO Reception for Residents and Fellows on Monday, October 24, 2011 during the American College of Surgeons' 2011 Clinical Congress in San Francisco.

Meet with SSO Leaders and Program Directors to explore opportunities in your area of interest. Current Fellows are also welcome. To RSVP or get more information, please email [priscillacondon@surgonc.org](mailto:priscillacondon@surgonc.org) by **October 1**. We hope to see you there!

### **SSO Enjoys Largest Number of Members Ever**

As of June 1, 2011, SSO membership numbers 2,665. This includes 1,885 Active, 464 Candidates, 297 Senior, 16 Associate, and 3 Honorary. These totals represent a continued upward trend in all categories of SSO

membership.

### **Annals Receives Top Rankings**

The *Annals of Surgical Oncology*, the SSO's monthly research journal, has earned a 5-Year Impact Factor of 4.443. The journal now ranks 7th out of 166 titles under "Surgery" and 39th out of 165 titles under "Oncology."

*The Society of Surgical Oncology® is the premier organization for surgeons and health care providers dedicated to advancing and promoting the science and treatment of cancer. The Society's focus on all solid-tumor disease sites is reflected in its Annual Cancer Symposium, monthly scientific journal (Annals of Surgical Oncology), special initiatives, and committee structure.*

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