AUA Staff Liaison: Jody Donaldson

Chair: Matthew Gettman, MD

Terms of Office: Chair – two-years (renewable once)
Members – three-years (renewable once)

Committee Makeup

Members appointed based on expertise. Consists of approximately 12 members plus 2 members that specialize in new surgical technologies. Coding & Reimbursement Chair and Society of Urological Robotic Surgeons representative serve as non-voting members of the committee. In the final year of the chair’s term, a chair-elect may be selected from the members to serve a one-year term prior to ascending to chair.

Mission Statement

The Committee's educational mission is to evaluate, analyze and disseminate laparoscopic, robotic and new surgical technologic skills efficiently to the urological community. Relevant aspects of surgical simulation and skills assessment will be evaluated and utilized in this process whenever possible.

Committee Meetings

Once a year in person and three other meetings annually by teleconference. All communication is via email correspondence.

Time Commitment

Chair: 30 hours per year
Member: 20 hours per year

Qualifications/ Responsibilities

Chair: The Chair should be a nationally recognized accomplished laparoscopic and robotic urologist who has clinical credibility and has been involved in teaching laparoscopic, robotic and new surgical technology to the urological community. The Chair will oversee the work of the committee in preparation of the annual program and annual report for the meeting at the AUA. In addition, time is spent in a variety of activities throughout the year to address the educational needs with regard to laparoscopic, robotic and new surgical technology of the AUA membership and to assess the training in both the community and in residency programs.

In this regard several activities have been completed over the past few years; these include: development of questionnaires to assess laparoscopic, robotic and new surgical technology in community practice, development of a questionnaire to evaluate minimally invasive urologic surgery training at the resident level, creation of manuals and an online curriculum on laparoscopic, robotic and new surgical technology training for residents in training, and creation of AUA courses specifically in the area of teaching “advanced” skills in minimally invasive urologic surgery as well as standard operating practices documents for Robotic Surgery and for Live Surgery.
Members: Members should have had extensive experience in laparoscopic and/or robotic surgery and/or new surgical technology. Academic members of this committee should have participated in laparoscopic, robotic and new surgical technology courses. It would be preferable if these individuals have also served as course directors, including AUA or university sponsored educational activities in these areas of minimally invasive urologic surgery. Members will contribute to the work of the committee in preparation of the annual program and annual report for the meeting at the AUA. In addition, time is spent in a variety of activities throughout the year to address the educational needs with regard to laparoscopic, robotic and new surgical technology of the AUA membership and to assess the training for both community urologists and resident training programs.

Recent Accomplishments (2014-2015)

- **Online Robotic Surgery Course** – All nine modules of the online Robotic Surgery Course were reviewed and updated in 2015 and CME for this course was renewed for three additional years.
- **Robotic Surgery Videos** – A work group of members from the committee was formed to develop new videos for the online Robotic Surgery Course.
- **Robotic Surgery SOP Revisions** – Revisions to the Robotic Surgery SOP were approved by the Board.
- **Laser Safety Course** – We have been given approval to plan a laser safety course that will be offered at the upcoming annual meeting.
- **Telemedicine** – work by the subcommittee resulted in a white paper that is currently being used as a template by the HIT group for the association’s position paper on telemedicine in urology. The general topic of telemedicine as it pertains to telementoring, telepresence, and telesurgery continues to be evaluated by the committee.