



March 5-6, 2026

23rd Congress
**MICHAEL E.
DEBAKEY
SURGICAL
SOCIETY**

CELEBRATING
OVER 70 YEARS
OF EXCELLENCE
IN RESIDENT EDUCATION

Provided by

TMC³ Helix Park
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Baylor
College of
Medicine

MICHAEL E. DeBAKEY
DEPARTMENT OF
SURGERY

Activity Co-Directors



Dr. Todd K. Rosengart
Professor and Chair of Surgery
DeBakey-Bard Chair of Surgery
Vice President, Hospital Operations
and Quality Improvement
Baylor College of Medicine



Dr. Eric J. Silberfein
Chair, Michael E. DeBakey Surgical
Society Advisory Committee
Professor of Surgery
Kenneth L. Mattox, MD Professor of Surgery
Baylor College of Medicine
Chief, General Surgery & Surgical Oncology
Ben Taub Hospital



Dr. Chris Cribari
Vice Chair, Michael E. DeBakey Surgical
Society Advisory Committee
Medical Director, Acute Care Surgery
University of Colorado Health
Northern Colorado

Surgical Society Advisory Committee

Dr. Bruce Applebaum
Dr. John Aucar
Dr. Francis 'Tripp' Buckley
Dr. Chris Cribari
Dr. James E. Harrell, Jr.
Dr. Ahmed Khouqeer
Dr. Scott A. LeMaire
Dr. Kenneth L. Mattox
Dr. David Meagher, Jr.
Dr. Todd K. Rosengart
Dr. Eric J. Silberfein
Dr. Ronney Stadler
Dr. Matthew J. Wall, Jr.
Dr. Alison Wilson

In memorium Dr. Charles H. McCollum

Presenters

Dr. John Abikhaled
Dr. Scott Becker
Dr. Shanda Blackmon
Dr. Marilyn Butler
Dr. E. Ramsay Camp
Dr. Joseph Coselli
Dr. Ronald Cotton
Dr. Chris Cribari
Dr. Mohannad Dawary
Dr. Livia Eberlin
Dr. Ramyar Gilani
Dr. N. Thao N. Galván
Dr. John Goss
Dr. Kristy Hamilton
Dr. Nathasha Hansraj
Dr. Jeffrey Heinle
Dr. Stephen Higuero
Dr. Kevin Huang
Dr. Lyahn Kyung Hwang
Dr. Panos Kougias

Dr. Kenneth Liao
Dr. Timothy C. Lee
Dr. Jorge Miranda
Dr. Jennifer Moffett
Dr. Marc Moon
Dr. Jared Mortus
Dr. John Nelson
Dr. Lyssa Ochoa
Dr. Gustavo Oderich
Dr. Carlos Palacios
Dr. Alexander Perez
Dr. Victor Portillo
Dr. Todd K. Rosengart
Dr. Catherine Seger
Dr. Youmna Sherif
Dr. Eric J. Silberfein
Dr. Ernesto Soltero
Dr. Lars Svensson
Dr. Feibi Zheng

Planning Committee

Dr. Bruce Applebaum
Dr. John Aucar
Dr. Francis 'Tripp' Buckley
Dr. Chris Cribari
Dr. James E. Harrell, Jr.
Scott Holmes, CMI
Dr. Ahmed Khouqeer
Dr. Scott A. LeMaire
Dr. Kenneth L. Mattox
Dr. David Meagher, Jr.
Dr. Todd K. Rosengart
Dr. Eric J. Silberfein
Holly Church Shilstone
Dr. Ronney Stadler
Dr. Matthew J. Wall, Jr.
Dr. Alison Wilson

Venue

TMC³ Helix Park
1885 Old Spanish Trail
Houston, Texas 77030

23rd CONGRESS

Overview

The 23rd Congress of the Michael E. DeBakey Surgical Society will take place on March 5–6, 2026, continuing a proud tradition of honoring the legacy of Dr. Michael E. DeBakey—an internationally recognized pioneer of modern medicine, visionary innovator, and humanitarian. Dr. DeBakey’s groundbreaking contributions to cardiovascular surgery and his dedication to education have shaped generations of surgeons worldwide.

Founded in 1977 by Dr. DeBakey’s trainees, the Society was established to foster international scientific exchange, recognize excellence in surgery, and support postgraduate training at Baylor College of Medicine. Over the past 45 years, the organization has upheld these goals through biennial meetings, educational programs, and the prestigious DeBakey Surgical Award, which honors surgeons who have made significant contributions to the field.

The Congress will provide a forum for:

- Scientific presentations and discussions on cutting-edge surgical techniques and research.
- Networking opportunities for alumni, faculty, and trainees from around the globe.
- Recognition of outstanding achievements in surgery through awards and honors.

This event reflects the Society’s ongoing mission to advance surgical education, promote innovation, and strengthen the global community of surgeons connected to Baylor College of Medicine.

Needs Statement

The field of surgery continues to change and develop for patient care, research and education. With growing technology through new studies from research to innovative work, the quality of patient care is of highest value and need for each surgeon to stay update to date on current trends and outcomes. It is imperative for surgeons to stay abreast from the surgical findings from etiology, abnormalities, diseases, pathology to the state of the art surgical treatment for the patient. With this, surgeons will continue to broaden their research knowledge and extend this knowledge into their teaching of residents, fellows, and medical students. The invited speakers to this program are experts in their field of surgery and/or specialty. The goal of this meeting is to bring together expert surgeons in their surgical field that are world renowned to share this knowledge and expertise with our alumni and department. This meeting will promote the latest surgical knowledge, techniques, research, and education to those attending, which will in return these surgeons will bring this knowledge of information back to their practice groups and/or departments to disseminate further increasing the continual knowledge from this meeting as well as share with others and their specialties.

Target Audience

Physicians, Fellows, Residents, Physician Assistants, Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, Medical Students, and Staff.

Additional Information

For conference questions, contact Holly Church Shilstone
Holly.Shilstone@bcm.edu

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of the conference, participants should be able to:

- Apply current evidence and emerging research in surgical care to identify opportunities for improving patient outcomes
- Apply guideline-directed and evidence-based strategies to clinical decision-making across complex cardiovascular/surgical cases commonly encountered in academic medical centers
- Identify educational and training approaches that support the development of the next generation of surgical specialists
- Examine innovative models of care delivery and practice management that enhance efficiency, quality, and patient-centered outcomes

Educational Methods

Lecture, Panel Discussion, and Case Study

Activity Evaluation

Evaluation by questionnaire will address program content, presentation, and possible bias.

Accreditation/Credit Designation

Baylor College of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Baylor College of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 9.25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Available Credit

9.25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™*
9.25 Attendance

Thursday, March 5, 2026

12:00-12:30 **Registration and Check-in** (Lunch served)

12:30-12:50 **Welcome and Introduction**
Drs. Todd K. Rosengart, Eric J. Silberfein and Chris Cribari

SESSION I - BUILDING ON OUR LEGACY

Moderator: Dr. Todd K. Rosengart

12:50-1:10 **State of the Department of Surgery**
Dr. Todd K. Rosengart

1:10-1:30 **Thoracoabdominal Aortic Repair at Baylor:
Building on the Legacy of E. Stanley Crawford**
Drs. Marc Moon and Joseph Coselli

1:30-1:50 **Robotic Heart Transplant**
Dr. Kenneth Liao

1:50-2:10 **The Pediatric Surgical Program: Dedicated Care for
Children Nationwide**
Drs. Timothy C. Lee and Sanjeev Vasudevan

2:10-2:30 **State of Trauma Surgery**
Dr. Catherine Seger

2:30-2:50 **Current Status of Endovascular Thoracoabdominal
Aortic Repair**
Drs. Gustavo Oderich, Ramyar Gilani and Jorge Miranda

2:50-3:10 **Building a Multi-institutional Abdominal
Transplantation Program**
Drs. John Goss, N. Thao N. Galván and Kevin Huang

3:10-3:30 **History of Congenital Heart Surgery at Baylor**
Dr. Jeffrey S. Heinle

3:30-3:50 **Shaping Tomorrow: The Baylor Surgical Oncology
Journey**
Drs. E. Ramsay Camp and Eric J. Silberfein

3:50-4:05 **Break - Visit with Alumni**

SESSION II - AT THE FOREFRONT OF EDUCATION

Moderator: Dr. Eric J. Silberfein

4:05-4:20 **Surgeons Must be the Captain of the Ship in the
Operating Room AND a Leader in the Community**
Dr. Lyssa Ochoa

4:20-4:35 **From DeBakey Student to Plexus: How Early
Mentorship Led to Academic Plastic Surgery**
Dr. Lyahn Kyung Hwang

4:35-4:50 **Surgical Training: ACGME and the Future...**
Dr. Ronald Cotton

SESSION III - AT THE FOREFRONT OF INNOVATION

Moderator: Dr. Shanda Blackmon

4:50-5:05 **Baylor's Surgical Innovation Track: Trainee
Experience**
Dr. Jared Mortus

5:05-5:20 **Surgical Innovation: Vision to Today's Practice**
Dr. Feibi Zheng

5:20-5:35 **Discovery with Impact: Surgical Research at Baylor**
Dr. Livia Eberlin

5:35-5:50 **Simulation and Robotic Surgery in Today's World**
Drs. Alexander Perez and Nathasha Hansraj



6:00-8:00 Reception at TMC³ Helix Park (outside)

Please join us for reception outside for dinner and music under the beautiful skies of Houston. Enjoy this time to socialize and catch up with alumni.

Friday, March 6, 2026

7:00-7:30 Continental Breakfast

SESSION IV – ALUMNI AT THE CUTTING EDGE OF CARE

Moderator: Dr. Francis 'Tripp' Buckley

7:30-7:47 **Forged at Baylor: Training that Transformed my Approach to Leadership**

Dr. Kristy Hamilton

7:47-8:04 **Evolution and the Paradox of Progress in Vascular Surgery: The Future is Bright**

Dr. Panos Kougias

8:04-8:21 **Building a Global Community of Children's Surgery Providers**

Dr. Marilyn Butler

8:21-8:38 **The Role of Reconstructive Surgery in Resource-Limited Settings**

Dr. Youmna Sherif

8:38-8:55 **Future Healthcare: Access, Affordable, High Quality, with Engagement, and Value—Can we do it all?**

Dr. Lars Svensson

8:55-9:12 **Training, Tradition, and Transformation: Leading the Next Era of Common Bile Duct Exploration**

Dr. Jennifer Moffett

9:12-9:29 **ePRO Assessment and Survivorship: The Lung Institute**

Dr. Shanda Blackmon

9:30-9:45 **Break – Visit with Alumni**

SESSION V – CURRENT TRENDS IN SURGERY

Moderator: Dr. Matthew J. Wall, Jr.

9:45-10:02 **General Surgery: Have We Given Up the Farm to Subspecialists?**

Dr. Chris Cribari

10:02-10:19 **Implementation of a Whole Blood Program at the Local Hospital and Pre Hospital Levels: Hurdles and Challenges Faced in North Texas and the Rio Grande Valley**

Drs. Victor Portillo and Carlos Palacios

10:19-10:36 **How my Surgical Training Helped Me Lead a County Medical Society**

Dr. John Abikhaled

10:36-10:53 **Recovery after Disaster from a Clinical Perspective in Puerto Rico**

Drs. Ernesto Soltero and Stephen Higuero

10:53-11:10 **60-Year History and Innovations in Cardiac Surgery in Saudi Arabia**

Dr. Mohannad Dawary on behalf of Dr. Fareed Khouqeer

11:10-11:27 **Healthcare Economics: Ambulatory Surgery**

Dr. John Nelson

11:30-12:00 **Break – Visit with Alumni**

12:00-12:05

Introduction of Keynote Speaker

Dr. Todd K. Rosengart

12:05-1:00

Keynote Address

Q & A with Scott Becker

1:00-2:30 Lunch – TMC³ Courtyard

Please join us for lunch in the courtyard. Enjoy this time to socialize and catch up with alumni.

2:40-2:50 Introduction of DeBakey Surgical Society Awardee

Drs. Eric J. Silberfein and Chris Cribari

2:50-3:20 Reflection on Leadership in Chaotic Environments

Dr. Matthew J. Wall Jr.

3:20-4:25 Tour of McNair Campus

Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center
O'Quinn Medical Tower
Lillie and Roy Cullen Tower



Keynote Speaker

Scott Becker is a partner in the Healthcare Department at McGuireWoods. He previously served on the Board of Partners of the firm and chaired the healthcare department for nearly 13 years. Scott is the founder and publisher of Becker's Hospital Review and Becker's Healthcare. He represents hospitals and health systems, healthcare companies, surgery center chains, large practices and private equity funds. Scott is a Harvard law graduate and certified public accountant.



DeBakey Surgical Society Award

Dr. Matthew J. Wall Jr. is professor of surgery in the Michael E. DeBakey Department of Surgery at Baylor College of Medicine. He obtained his medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine and completed his training in surgery and cardiothoracic surgery under Dr. Michael E. DeBakey. He joined the faculty at Baylor in 1991 and was assigned by Dr. DeBakey to work for Dr. Kenneth Mattox at Ben Taub Hospital staffing trauma, emergency, general, vascular, cardiac, and thoracic surgery. He is board certified in general surgery, surgical critical care, and cardio-thoracic surgery. At Ben Taub he has held positions including director of Emergency Surgical Services, chief of General Surgery, chief of Surgical Critical Care, chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery, medical director of Trauma, deputy chief of Surgery and chair of the Medical Executive Board.



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