

2026 BIENNIAL MEETING AGENDA



Thursday, September 17, 2026

7:00 - 9:00 p.m. **Welcome Event**

Location: Hotel Sorrento, 900 Madison Street, Seattle

Friday, September 18, 2026

7:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. **Sessions/Program**

Location: Virginia Mason Volney Auditorium

Saturday, September 19, 2026

7:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. **Sessions/Program**

Location: Virginia Mason Volney Auditorium

5:00 - 8:00 p.m. **Celebratory Social**

Location: The Sunset Club, 1021 University Street, Seattle

Friday, September 18, 2026

7:00 a.m. **Meeting check-in, Continental breakfast**

7:30 a.m. **The 12th Annual John A. Ryan Jr., MD Lecture in Surgery**

Navigating Personal Strife and Patriarchal Hurdles: An NIH R01 Journey

Amy J. Wagner, MD - Professor, Pediatric Surgery

Wisconsin Children's, Medical College of Wisconsin, Class of 2009

Introduction by Dr. Thomas Biehl

8:30 a.m. **Break**

8:40 a.m. **2026 Meeting of the VMSA: Welcome and Opening Remarks**

David White, MD - Chair, Virginia Mason Surgical Association

8:45 a.m. **International Surgery**

Kevin Beshlian, MD ***Life in the Field Hospital, Stories from Gaza*** (20 min)

Tom Biehl, MD ***The Benefits of a Surgical Mission*** (10 min)

Riley Johnson, MD ***Global Surgery Fellowship Reflections*** (10 min)

Panel Q&A (10 min)

9:45 a.m. ***High Standards, Strong Relationships: What High Performing Schools and Surgical Teams Have in Common***

Dan Besett, MEd - Wilson High School Retired Principal, Tacoma, WA

American International School, Lagos, Nigeria, Superintendent

Introduction by Dr. Shanley Besett Deal

Speaker Q&A (10 min)

10:45 a.m. **Break**

11:00 a.m. **Panel Discussion: Case Discussions of Real-Life Professionalism Challenges in Surgery**

Moderator: **Jennifer Preston, MD**

Panel Discussants:

Jeffrey Brooks, MD ***Substance Abuse and Depression***

Rachel Heneghan, MD ***Partner & Practice Challenges***

Jared Brandenberger, MD ***Litigation Impact***

Pat Thirlby ***Surgeon Spouse Reflections***

Jen Stevane, MD ***Surgical Wellness***

Audience Q&A

12:30 p.m. **Lunch**

1:15 p.m. **Rockson Liu, MD - *Navigating the Extraperitoneal Space***

1:45 p.m. **Family Feud** - Hosts: **Ryne Marshall, MD** and **Shanley Deal, MD**

2:45 p.m. **Adjourn**

Saturday, September 19, 2026

7:30 a.m. **Meeting check-in, Breakfast**

8:00 a.m. ***Career Transitions, Moving In and Out of Leadership***

Tam Pham, MD - Professor, University of Washington School of Medicine

Medical Director of Burn Surgery, Harborview Medical Center

Introduction by Dr. Ida Wilson

9:00 a.m. **Breast Symposium**

Christina Weed, MD ***Management of the Axilla***

Angelena Crown, MD ***HRT and Breast Cancer Risk***

Nicketti Handy, MD ***Breast MRI***

Nanette Robinson, MD ***Deescalation***

10:00-10:15 a.m. **Morning Break**

10:15 a.m. ***Surgical Hucksters and the Double Edged Sword of Surgical Competence***

Terry Simpson, MD

Introduction by Dr. John Ryan

10:45 a.m. **Shanley Deal, MD - *State of the Residency***

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 **Resident Cases**

Celeste Murtha, MD ***Just an Inguinal Hernia, Huh?***

Sanjana Kanamuri, MD ***Emergent Sternotomy for Left Atrial Appendage Perforation during Catheter Ablation: A Case Report and Review***

Haoyi Lei, MD ***Aortic root repair and SAVR after annular rupture following TAVR***

Marika Rossetto, MD ***Cholangitis in a Patient 8 years after RYHJ for bile duct injury: the importance of long term follow up***

Dominique Liddy, MD ***A Rare Case of Aortic Rupture Secondary to Intra-Aortic Balloon Pump Placement***

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. **Lunch + Alumni Bingo Networking**

1:00 p.m. **Alumni Cases**

Ryne Marshall, MD *Trans Atlantic Diverticular Exchange*
Elliot Scott, MD *What to Know About the New Thyroid Guidelines*
Allison Porter, MD *The Most Organs I Have Removed Under a Single Anesthetic*
Erik Simchuk, MD *Avoiding the Wrath of Venus: Challenging Venous Variants in Upper GI Surgery*
Bart Bradshaw, MD *Adventures in Hernia Repair*
Phil Bilderback, MD *Stomach in Knots-Literally: A Case of Gastric Volvulus*
Peter Zimmer, MD *Surgical Care for Gastroparesis*
Elizabeth Kline, MD *Evolution of Robotic Thoracic Surgery at a Faith-Based Private Multispecialty Hospital*
Ida Wilson, MD *Bullseye*
Jennifer Preston, MD *The Hiatus has a New Resident*
Jen Stevane, MD *A Use Case for Surgeon Wellness*

2:30 p.m. **Adjournment**

5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. **Celebratory Social Event** - Hors d'oeuvres and Cocktails

Awards Ceremony

Best Resident Case Presentation
Best Alumni Case Presentation

The Sunset Club

1021 University Street (around the corner from Blackford Hall)
Seattle, WA 98101
Tel: 206-624-2545

