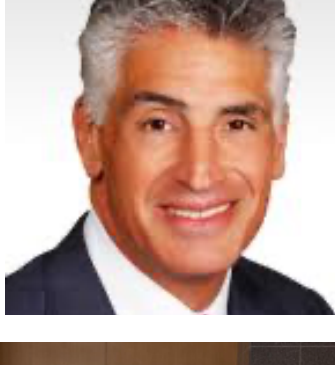




## PRESIDENTIAL WELCOME

Michael S. Conte, M.D.



Dear Colleagues,

It is my great honor to serve as the Western Vascular Society President for 2020-21. I visited Past President (1990) Dr. Ronald Stoney last fall and as he passed me the gavel from its beautiful new box we both felt the continuum of the rich history of the WVS. Amid the pandemic we had a successful virtual meeting with record numbers of abstracts submitted, and members attending. This was no surprise. I have observed the commitment to excellence in Western Vascular Society in my roles as member, recorder, and incoming president over the last eleven years. This next year, I will work closely with the Executive Council to bring you an outstanding program in Jackson Hole, WY at the Four Seasons October 16 - 19, 2021. The Program Committee led by Chair Dr. Venita Chandra will collect abstracts sponsored by members from January 31 - April 25.



The WVS has always served a crucial role in the development of the vascular community in the western region of the United States and the Pacific Rim. Our obligations to the members are to make sure you have the resources you need to promote excellence in vascular care in your communities, advance science and education, and create opportunities for trainees interested in our specialty. In 2020, the Executive Council team steered by Dr. Ben Starnes and Dr. Roy Fujitani created a vision and mission statement. Our team also refined concepts for two new committees: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion led by Dr. Elina Quiroga, and the Vascular Surgery Interest Group led by Dr. Misty Humphries. This new vitality will help lead us into the next decade aware of the needs of our members as well as dedicating resources to the medical students they mentor.



While the pandemic experts cannot promise we will have live conferences in 2021, we will forge ahead trusting that there is nothing that will hold back our members from coming together to share their work, engage in debate, and continuing to advance our field. Decisions about live, virtual and or hybrid meeting format will be made in a timely manner. The memberships' health and well-being is our first priority...but it would sure be great to see everyone in person in Jackson Hole and hoist a toast!

**Michael S. Conte, M.D.**  
President, Western Vascular Society  
Professor and Chief, Division of Vascular & Endovascular Surgery  
Edwin J. Wylie, M.D. Chair in Vascular Surgery  
Co-Director, UCSF Heart and Vascular Center  
Co-Director, UCSF Center for Limb Preservation  
Director, Vascular Surgery Integrated Residency Program  
University of California San Francisco, CA



## PROGRAM CHAIR WELCOME

Venita Chandra, M.D.



Hello Western Vascular Community!

We are so excited to continue to raise the bar as we plan the 36th Western Vascular Society Annual Meeting for October 16-19, 2021 at the Four Seasons Jackson Hole in Wyoming.

As always, we plan to feature original research and studies from our expert membership. Please note the Call for Abstracts is open and will remain open until our deadline of April 25, 2021. I would like to encourage all of you to submit your personal work, or sponsor papers from our young colleagues; medical students and vascular trainees are all welcome.

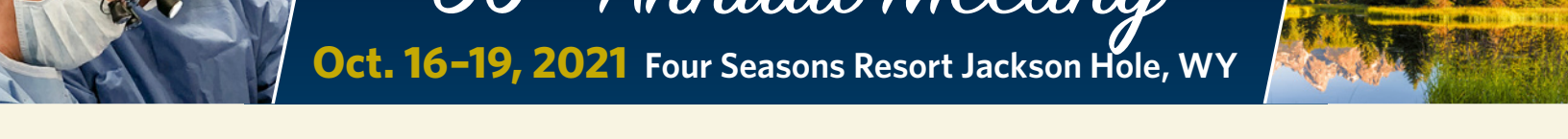
Be sure to indicate on the submission process if you prefer a full, mini or ePoster presentation. All presentations are valuable to the program. Please bear in mind the full presentations make up less than 15% of the accepted abstracts and have expectations associated with them including completion of manuscript prior to the conference and submission to JVS immediately after the conference. Thanks to the hard work of our society Recorder Dr. Matthew Mell our accepted abstracts have one of the highest rates of publication in the Journal of Vascular Surgery!

We invite you all to join us as in the largest vascular surgery scientific meeting in the western region. Our scientific program represents an outstanding educational opportunity, and the best-in-class meeting location will foster member interaction and collaboration - truly the hallmarks of the WVS.

**OVERALL LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** This activity is designed for: vascular surgeons, fellows, residents, and general surgeons interested in vascular interventions and find the art and science of vascular surgery rapidly changing with respect to scientific discovery and surgical technology. This meeting will feature oral scientific presentations by members, sponsored guests, and trainees that will serve to expand our knowledge and illustrate the incorporation of new science, techniques and practices. Full learning objectives for this CME accredited program will be available after the scientific program is finalized. CME and Self-Assessment credit hours for the program will be estimated and accessed by AMEDCO in Joint providership with Western Vascular Society. Looking forward to seeing you all in Jackson Hole in October!

Sincerely,

**Venita Chandra, M.D.**  
WVS Program Committee Chair



**FOUR SEASONS JACKSON HOLE**  
7680 GRANITE LOOP ROAD, P.O. BOX 544,  
TETON VILLAGE, WYOMING 83025, U.S.A.  
<https://www.fourseasons.com/jacksonhole/>  
Toll Free: 800-295-5281  
Email: [Reservations.jac@fourseasons.com](mailto:Reservations.jac@fourseasons.com)

**GUEST ROOM BLOCK**  
Rates are available for the group October 13-21 to allow for 3 days pre or post events. Regular published rate is \$600 for a guest room and \$800 plus for a one bedroom suite.

**Western Vascular Society negotiated rates are as follows.**  
**Guest Room single or double \$375.00**  
**One Bedroom Suites \$575.00**  
Parking is \$40.00 per night

Nestled in a verdant mountain valley, the Four Seasons Jackson Hole is a Five-Star alpine Resort is surrounded by some of America's most rugged peaks, celebrated ski runs and an inspiring array of wildlife in nearby Grand Teton National Park.



**OPTIONAL EVENTS**  
Working with Local Arrangements Chairman Dr. Mark Morasch Western Vascular Members will have options to join in on group events that may include wildlife tours, group hiking and a trip to the National Wildlife Museum in Jackson, WY. Attendees can also arrange a shuttle trip to Jackson for shopping, or a visit to the Million Dollar Cowboy Bar.

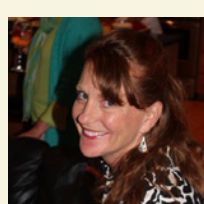
**COVID PROTOCOL**  
<https://www.cdc.gov>

Jackson Hole Four Seasons Resort opened and has been welcoming guests since June 2020 in accordance with an enhanced global health and safety program. Upon arrival, there will be a screening procedure that may include temperature checking and questions regarding health and recent travel. Employees will be wearing masks and all guests (age 10 and above) will be required to wear a mask or face covering when in public indoor spaces and when receiving in-room service. Masks are strongly recommended for children age 2-9 years old. In accordance with local health authorities, some restaurant and facility services and hours may also be modified.

**The registration and student scholarship applications for the meeting will open July 15. Registration options for those who prefer to not travel will be announced at that time as well.**

**TRAVEL**  
You will fly into the Jackson Hole Airport and it is a 35-minute drive to the resort. All car rental companies are represented at the airport. On peak arrival and departure days we will arrange group shuttle service.

**CONTACT**  
**Heather Roderick**  
Executive Director,  
Western Vascular Society  
1411 5th St.  
Anacortes, WA 98221



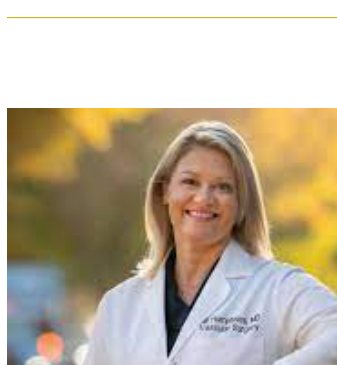
Telephone: 360-420-6906  
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Email: [heather@surgicalcs.com](mailto:heather@surgicalcs.com)  
Web: [www.surgicalcs.com](http://www.surgicalcs.com)



## Recorder's Update

Matthew Mell, M.D.

The quality of our presented research remains exemplary as determined by our manuscript acceptance rate, which is competitive with other vascular societies! Manuscripts from our 2019 meeting are still coming in. To date, 85% of full presentations and 70% of all presentations were accepted for publication to the Journal of Vascular Surgery, with 3 manuscripts still in revision. From our 2020 meeting all full presentations have been submitted, along with 40% of the mini-presentations and e-posters. Twelve manuscripts have been accepted, with another 21 in various stage of revision. We are looking forward to our ongoing success!



## VSIG Update

Misty Humphries, M.D., Chair

Happy Spring! The newly organized VSIG Committee is keen to go to work. I am proud to introduce my fellow committee members Dr. Niten Singh and Dr. Leigh Ann O'Banion. Together we are hosting our first Medical Student Outreach Webinar April 29, 2021 at 6pm. This will feature three member surgeons who have had different paths to success: Dr. John Rollo, Dr. Sharon Kiang and Dr. Niten Singh. Please share this link with the medical student in the community. Other plans for 2021 include a study of the current status of Vascular Surgery Interest Groups of Western Vascular Institutions. To date we have gathered data to indicate we have 3 out of 10 institutions who have a VSIG and most of the others are working to coordinate one in the future. COVID has had an impact on our members work in this area. With any luck the meeting in Jackson Hole will be live and we can host a mentorship event and an symposium for the medical students who attend. If you are interested in VSIG or mentoring a medical student at the meeting please reach out to [heather@surgicalcs.com](mailto:heather@surgicalcs.com).



## DEI Update

Elina Quiroga, M.D., Chair

It is my honor to serve as the first Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Chair for Western Vascular Society. I am supported by the strong work of committee members Dr. LeAnn Chavez and Dr. Ni Kabu Kabutey. Our goal is to collaborate with all WVS members to provide a comprehensive approach to diversity and inclusivity, access, and equity; we will also work to empower medical students, residents, fellows and members to build a diverse and inclusive society.

As we are starting our work, we want to learn more about all of you. We want to understand who we are as individuals and vascular surgeons; we want to learn to find out more about the composition and needs of WVS, and ensure we concentrate our efforts in intentionally addressing DEI concerns and initiatives that matter to our membership. Please contribute to our work by completing the short survey you'll receive in the next following weeks, and don't hesitate to contact us if you have any suggestions or questions for our Committee!

Thank you in advance for supporting our work,

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee for the Western Vascular Society



## WESTERN VASCULAR SOCIETY

### 2021 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

**President**  
MICHAEL S. CONTE, MD

**President Elect**  
VINCENT ROWE, MD

**Secretary-Treasurer**  
AHMED ABOU-ZAMZAM, MD

**Recorder**  
MATTHEW MELL, MD

**Program Chair**  
VENITA CHANDRA, MD

**Membership Chair**  
TIMOTHY LIEM, MD

**Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Chair**  
ELINA QUIROGA, MD

**Vascular Surgery Interest Group Chair**  
MISTY HUMPHRIES, MD

**Past President, Councilor**  
BENJAMIN W. STARNES, MD

**Past President, Councilor**  
YORK N. HSIANG, MB, CHB, MHSC, FRCS

**Past President, Councilor**  
E. JOHN HARRIS, MD

**Local Arrangements Chair**  
MARK MORASCH, MD

### MISSION

The Western Vascular Society promotes and inspires education, research, inclusion and leadership in the art and science of compassionate vascular health in the Western United States, Canada and the Pacific Rim.

### VISION

The Western Vascular Society (WVS) seeks to advance excellence and innovation in vascular health through education, research, public awareness and advocacy. WVS membership is recognized in the vascular communities of the Western United States, Canada and the Pacific Rim as a mark of the highest professional achievement. WVS seeks to advance excellence and innovation in vascular health.

### VALUES

Education | Research | Public Awareness | Advocacy | Career Development | Diversity

[westernvascularsociety.org](http://westernvascularsociety.org)