



Society of University Surgeons Lifetime Achievement Award

Background:

In 2004, the Society of University Surgeons (SUS) initiated a Lifetime Achievement Award (LTAA). This award was designed to recognize individuals who have had a sustained career in academic surgery with contributions to surgical science. In addition, these individuals have demonstrated a commitment to the SUS whereby they have participated in the Society even after superannuating to Senior Membership status. Their participation in the Society is evidenced by the annual attendance at the Academic Surgical Congress and active participation and discussion of papers, attendance of member events and society functions.

The SUS seeks to honor and recognize these individuals because of their embodiment of the principals of the Society. We seek to recognize these individuals to establish role models for younger generations of surgeons to honor and emulate their contributions to the science of surgery, and moreover to the SUS. As this award has emerged, it is quite clear that it is an extremely popular and instills a great sense of accomplishment and pride within the membership.

Nominating Process:

The membership of the SUS will be solicited for recommendations for the Lifetime Achievement Award. The nomination is accompanied by a brief description of the nominee's accomplishments in academic surgery, and also the nominee's commitment to the Society as evidenced by attendance and participation in meetings, and mentorship of SUS members. The nomination should take into consideration the academic and clinical accomplishments of the nominee including those in research, administration, clinical practice, and/or mentoring. These nominations will be forwarded to the SUS Secretary who will collate the nominations.

The time period will require that all nominees will be forwarded to the SUS Secretary within two months of the annual February meeting. Following closure of the nominations, the Secretary will collate all of the nominations and forward them to the past ten Presidents, including the current President of the SUS (11 individuals). This committee will review all nominations, and they will select the award winner. Following selection of the award winner, the awardee will be notified by the Secretary of the SUS, and at that time.

Award Process:

The award will be presented to the awardee at the Academic Surgical Congress in February. There will be a specified time where the President will introduce an individual selected to introduce the winner. Following this, the award winner will have an opportunity to speak. The presentation will occur during the Lifetime Achievement Award Winner session, which takes place immediately prior to the SUS Presidential Address, and one-half hour will be allotted for this.