

OPERATIVE NOTES

American Academy of Pediatrics - Section on Surgery Newsletter

Join a Committee

As our Immediate Past Chair Dr. Cynthia Downard stated in her Chair Address in Washington DC, the first step towards advocacy is to volunteer. There is no better time than now to consider joining a committee:

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Dr. Saleem Islam, AAP Section on Surgery, Chair 2023-24

This promises to be another wonderful year for the AAP SOSu! Taking over after Cindy Downard and the 75th year event we just had is going to be a tough ask, as she was phenomenal! She spoke eloquently about an issue close to her heart – Advocacy and leadership in that arena. She shared how she became a better advocate with the AAP’s backing and learned to become a storyteller – a key part of being an effective leader! The conference itself in the nation’s capital was outstanding with an especially inspirational symposium on advocacy, and informational sessions on opioid use and ovarian preservation. In addition, the basic and clinical science presented was superb – reflecting not only the brilliance of Pediatric Surgeon-Scientists, but the wonderful venue to present their research at the AAP SOSu.

Dr. Saleem Islam, AAP SOSu, Chair 2023-24

Of course, Diamond Jubilees (75 years of existence) are celebrated by organizations and individuals who have stood the test of time and have matured. This is reflected in the multitude of offerings and opportunities that the Section has for its members. In fact, these can be so many that at times it is both confusing as well as overwhelming. We definitely want to hear from our valued member surgeons on how we can streamline things so they can be digestible while still allowing you to truly interact and take advantage of the multiple networks available.

I am personally grateful to the SOSu members and leadership for giving me this opportunity to serve as your chair – thank you! It is an amazing honor for me and something I do not take lightly. It's also a testament to maintaining a diverse group at the AAP – I am pretty sure that I am the first Pakistani-American and Muslim to be the chair of the section! While born in the US, I spent the formative years of my life in Pakistan including high school and medical school before returning to the States for residency training and beyond over 30 years ago. After a hugely satisfying career to date in the US, an opportunity to lead the Department of Surgery at my alma mater in Pakistan came calling, and we took the plunge to move beyond our comfort zone last year! That somewhat unexpected move threw a curveball to the AAP SOSu regarding my position on the Executive committee, but their support never wavered for which I am eternally thankful.

This year we look forward to an exciting lineup in Orlando – there will be symposia on Global Child Care, Disaster and trauma management in children, as well as Long term functional outcomes after repair of Anorectal malformations among many other educational events. Of course, the Gans Lecture as well as our multiple superb scientific sessions will be there too. Orlando offers so much in terms of family activities that it's not to be missed!

We are striving hard to have a more dynamic and agile AAP Section on Surgery. We need **YOUR** help to make that happen. We want to make sure that the meeting and program is serving the needs of our members as best possible so please give us your feedback – you can email me directly if you want – islam@ufl.edu There is simply no other meeting where you can network with so many likeminded people focused on ONE thing – **“Together, We Heal Children!!”**



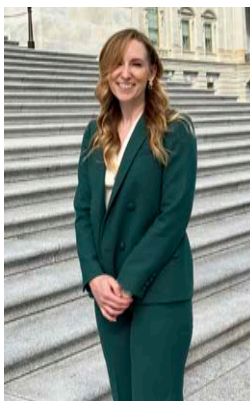
AAP Section on Surgery
Together, We Heal Children

Pre-NCE Advocacy in Action

The location of the NCE this year provided a unique opportunity for SOSu members to advocate for children. One key topic that's a pressing public health issue is **pediatric gun violence**. Five members of the section joined over 50 pediatricians the day before the meeting started to visit senators and representatives on Capitol Hill from California, Oregon, Texas, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, and North Dakota. The topics discussed were expanding background checks, support for Ethan's Law (a federal safe storage bill) and reinstating the assault weapon ban. The surgeons were able to share personal stories and state-based facts on the magnitude of the problem and how these sensible laws could help to save the lives of our patients. Legislators heard about the importance of encouraging parents who are constituents of less supportive Congressional members to write to those members. There was talk about gun safety not only in their own homes, but in the homes of friends and family. And further, there was talk about protecting children from assault weapons and unregistered or illegally obtained guns in their district or state. Our advocates believe that we need to match or exceed the number of letters these congressional delegates get from their NRA constituents. Most members of Congress and staffers were very appreciative of the visits and this was an excellent way to establish a relationship with the senators offices for input on additional child health and safety issues.



Capitol Hill Advocacy: (L-R: Garrett Zallen, Joanne Baerg, Regan Williams, Bindi Naik-Mathuria, Kirk Reichard)



Lorraine Kelley-Quon, MD, FAAP

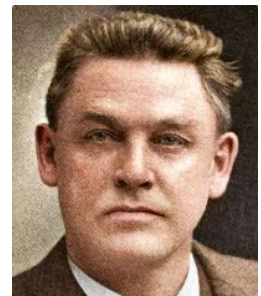
Another AAP SOSu member that took this opportunity to advocate was **Dr. Lorraine Kelley-Quon**, a pediatric surgeon and health services researcher studying the impact of **prescription opioids** for children. She engaged with one of the staffers of **Ms. Lori Chavez-DeRemer**, a moderate Republican representative from Oregon. This discussion was inspired by her recent legislative initiatives aimed at addressing the fentanyl epidemic for youth. In a proactive effort to combat the growing opioid crisis, Representative Chavez-DeRemer's commitment to expanding educational opportunities aligns with the medical community's mission to save lives. During their meeting, Kelley-Quon shared her research findings and proposed innovative policy ideas to expand access to safe prescription opioid disposal infrastructure and optimize surgeon prescribing practices. Their discussion emphasized the importance of a collaborative approach between policymakers and healthcare professionals in addressing this pressing public health concern.

If this has inspired you to become an advocate, your next opportunity to lobby on Capitol Hill will be available for all SOSu members at the **AAP Legislative Conference** on April 14-16, 2024.

November 18 is Herbert Everett Coe Day



- ◆ **1881 (November 18):** Born in Phoenix, Michigan to **Frantz Hunt** and Carrie (Everett) Coe.
- ◆ **1888:** Father moves family to Seattle, WA to begin his job as a physician.
- ◆ **1890:** Cougar attack at the Coe household, story told in newspaper in article entitled, "***Panic on Pike Street***" involving a 9-year old Herbert Coe.
- ◆ **1904:** Bachelor of Arts (AB) Degree completed
- ◆ **1906:** MD Degree at the **University of Michigan**
- ◆ **1906-7:** Serves his internship at the **Allegheny General Hospital**
- ◆ **1908:** Returned to Seattle and appointed to the staff of the Children's Orthopedic Hospital in Seattle as Assistant to **Dr. Park Weed Willis**, the first surgeon in the hospital who served as a mentor to Coe.
- ◆ **1908-11:** Worked as a Seattle bacteriologist and in that capacity, planned and opened a new laboratory for the city.
- ◆ **1912-13:** 18 months in **China** for the Washington State Department of Health, studying contagious diseases and the manner in which they were transmitted into the US. While there, he was associated with the Harvard Medical School of China in Shanghai.
- ◆ **1913-17:** Made chief of the quarantine service of the Seattle health department and put in charge of plague prevention measures.
- ◆ **1916:** Appointed medical officer in the WA state naval militia. During WWI, he served in the US Navy as medical officer of the **USS Marblehead** and later, of the US Naval training station at Seattle. After, he was a medical officer of the 1st battalion, 13th naval district, and US Naval Reserve, holding the rank of lieutenant-commander.



Frantz Coe, MD



Park Weed Willis, MD



USS Marblehead

November 18 is Herbert Everett Coe Day

- ◆ **1917** (October 10): Marries **Lucy Jane**, daughter of James Campbell, a merchant of that city. Herbert and Lucy would be married for 50 years.
- ◆ **1918: Robert Campbell Coe** (1918-2015) is born. He would become a surgeon in Seattle
- ◆ **1919**: Spent 6 months of graduate work in children's surgery at various hospitals in the East. One particularly important training experience was at **Boston Children's Hospital** where he worked with **William E Ladd**. This would be the beginning of his future career with an initial focus on neurosurgery, abdominal surgery, and plastic surgery. As time went on, he would come to focus on the latter as his true passion. After her returned to Seattle, he was placed in charge of the division of children's surgery of the Seattle City hospital, continuing until 1931.
- ◆ **1921-23**: Makes a valuable contribution to the hospital standardization program of the American College of Surgeons.
- ◆ **1922**: Becomes **Chief of Staff** at the Children's Orthopedic Hospital in 1922. During this time, he organized the first outpatient surgery for children in the United States and arranged for a nurse to go into the home during the first postoperative days to assure uncomplicated convalescence.
- ◆ **1923**: Selected by the **state commissioner of health** to organize and develop the department of maternal and infant hygiene under the provisions of the Shepard-Towner act, and he had charge of this work for 18 months.
- ◆ **1923-1936**: Chairman, **WA State Medical Association** committee on hospital standardization and survey.
- ◆ **1924: Campbell Coe** (1924-2005), his second son was born
- ◆ **1931**: President, **Seattle Surgical Society**
- ◆ **1932**: President, **North Pacific Surgical Association**
- ◆ **1933**: Took charge of cleft lip and palate surgery
- ◆ **1936**: Certified by the **American Board of Pediatrics**
- ◆ **1938**: President, **King County Medical Society**
- ◆ **1948-1955**: AAP creates the first home for children surgeons through the formation of the **Section on Surgery**. Coe serves as the SOSu Chair for 7 years.



Robert Campbell Coe, MD



Coe operating at Children's Orthopedic Hospital



Coe concluding 7 years as SOSu Chair in 1954

November 18 is Herbert Everett Coe Day

◆ **1955:** Awarded the **Clifford G Grulee Award** “for outstanding service to the American Academy of Pediatrics.” In the announcement, Grulee stated that “Herbert E Coe has been a Fellow in the American Academy of Pediatrics since 1932....Since 1920 Dr. Coe has limited his work to pediatric surgery and is recognized as one of the first to so specialize in the United States. He is also one of the few pediatric surgeons to be certified by the American Board of Pediatrics, having passed the Pediatric Board examinations in 1936.” Grulee would add, “Dr. Coe has always been an enthusiastic worker for the objectives of the Academy and it is largely because of his efforts that the Section on Surgery of the Academy was organized. This section has attracted most of the qualified pediatric surgeons of the Americas to association with the Academy and Dr. Coe’s leadership during the first few years in the life of the Section, when he served as Chairman, was a great influence in making the Section an important and integral part of the Academy.”



Clifford G Grulee Award

◆ **1960:** Coe is bestowed the **William E. Ladd Medal** by the AAP in 1960 making him only the 3rd person to have received the honor.



William E Ladd Medal

◆ **1967:** Coe becomes the 10th surgeon in its history to be awarded the **Distinguished Service Medal by the American College of Surgeons.**

◆ **1968** (November 23): Coe passes away at the age of 87. He is buried in **Lake View Cemetery, Seattle, WA** . Twenty one years later, his wife will be buried alongside him when she dies.



◆ **1968:** The Pacific Association of Pediatric Surgeons is formed and chose to name their Honor of Distinction Award, **The Coe Medal** after Herbert E Coe. It is the highest honor presented by PAPS and is awarded to someone who has practiced on the Pacific rim and who has made outstanding contributions to Pediatric Surgery. In 1984, John Stevenson was placed in charge of plans to develop a Medal of Honor bearing the likeness of Herbert Coe. It was decided in 1985 that the first medal, cast in pewter with antique gold finish, would be presented to Mrs. Lucy Campbell Coe (1887-1989). Alexander H Bill Jr, whom Coe recruited to join him in Seattle, would be the first clinician to receive the Coe Medal.

Liaison Report: ASC Committee on Trauma and AAP Committee on Pediatric Emergency Medicine



Mary Fallat, MD, FAAP

The management of injured children is an important part of the discipline of pediatric surgery. Thirty years ago, an Institute of Medicine report titled *Emergency Medical Services for Children* exposed the limited capacity of the emergency care system to address the needs of children. Three pediatric surgeons, **J Alex Haller Jr**, **Marty Eichelberger**, and **Joe Tepas** were members of the committee. The report contributed to the expansion of the EMSC program within the Department of Health and Human Services. The Section on Surgery (SOSu) has had a longstanding official liaison position with the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma (ACS COT) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Committee on Pediatric Emergency Medicine (COPEM)

to collaborate with our adult and pediatric colleagues to care for injured children. The ACS COT is over 100 years old and has a quality program that includes the verification process used by many of our country's pediatric trauma centers. Advocacy efforts involving gun violence have solidified a partnership between many organizations including the ACS COT and AAP. The COPEM writes policy statements and technical reports that include SOSu interests, and we often co-author these reports. Both the ACS COT and COPEM meet twice a year, usually in person, and have interim virtual meetings. I have been privileged to be your liaison since 2018.

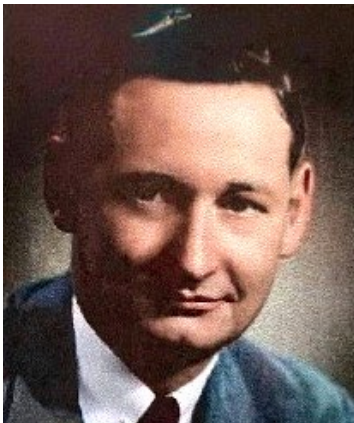
One of the timely topics involving our discipline is that of pediatric readiness (PR). This concept is 20 years old, resides within the EMSC program, and is gaining in recognition and importance across the country. The AAP and ACS COT are both partners. There are over 60 articles in print providing an evidence base confirming that severely injured or ill children who are cared for in a PR emergency department (ED) have an improved chance of survival. The program uses a checklist to evaluate its ED PR based on a score of 100, with emphasis on appointment of a nurse and/or physician Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator (PECC) to provide quality improvement (QI) efforts directed to the program (i.e., making sure there is the "right equipment in working order, right sizes, right provider training, right QI review of children's care, and a way to determine accurate sizes and doses based on the child's length".) Below are a few relevant SOSu/COPEM/ACS COT liaison activities of importance to pediatric surgeons:

- A manuscript on PR in both the EMS system and ED was published on the eve of releasing the 2022 ACS Resources for Optimal Care of the Injured Patient. There is now a PR standard in the ACS verification process for all adult and pediatric trauma centers. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/37125944/>
- The 2011 Field Triage Guidelines (FTG) for injured patients were updated, facilitated by a NHTSA

cooperative agreement award in Sept 2019 to the ACS COT. I served as the AAP representative to the Technical Expert Panel. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35475939/>

- “*System-Based Care of the Injured Child*” will be a policy statement and technical report. Authors include Drs. Katherine Flynn-O’Brien (SOSu early career physician), Vijay Srinivasan (PedCC), and Mary Fallat (serving in the liaison role). The manuscript is out for review by AAP sections, committees, and external organizations including the ACS-COT. The statement is co-authored by the Pediatric Trauma Society and the Society of Trauma Nurses.
- “*Optimizing Imaging of the Pediatric Patient in the Emergency Department*” will be a policy statement and technical report, is co-authored by Drs. Jennifer R. Marin, Todd Lyons, Ilene Claudius, Mary E. Fallat, Michael Aquino, Timothy Ruttan, and Reza Daugherty and is in copy editing and final stages before publication.

AAP Section on Surgery Famous Figures: Colin C Ferguson (1921 - 1991)



Born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada in 1921, he was educated at Ravenscourt School and the University of Manitoba Medical School (1944). He served in the Canadian Navy as surgeon-lieutenant commander. He underwent surgical training at McGill University, Montreal and completed his pediatric surgical training with Dr. Robert Gross at the Children’s Hospital in Boston in 1953. In 1952, the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Manitoba decided to appoint full-time professors in the major clinical departments. On July 1, 1953, at age 31, he was offered and accepted the position of the first full-time Professor and Head of the Department of Surgery at the University of Manitoba. On January 1, 1954, Ferguson was also appointed as Surgeon-in-Chief of the Children’s Hospital

of Winnipeg and proceeded to establish a neonatal surgical unit and surgical unit for correction of congenital heart diseases. He also reorganized the surgical residency training at all of the teaching hospitals to bring these programs entirely under university control. He stepped down in 1969 but remained a Professor of Surgery and SIC at the Children’s Hospital. He remained professor of surgery until 1986.

Colin Ferguson was on the **AAP Section on Surgery Executive Committee** from 1956 through 1958.

Passages:

Thomas Martin Holder MD, FAAP (1926-2023)

Born in Corinth, Mississippi on September 1, 1926. His father was a civil engineer and his mother a homemaker. After graduating from high school he enlisted in the navy and was stationed stateside during World War II. He attended Ole Miss and graduated from Wake Forest Medical School, in North Carolina. He did seven years of specialty residencies in general surgery, thoracic surgery, and pediatric surgery in Philadelphia at the Jefferson Medical Center with Dr. John Gibbon and in Boston with Dr. Robert Gross. Holder was the chief surgical resident at the Boston Children's Hospital, and a teaching fellow at Harvard University.



In 1960, Holder was recruited as the first Surgeon in Chief at Children's Mercy Hospital by Herbert Miller, Chair of Pediatrics at the University of Kansas. and dedicated his career to patient care and developed a premiere residency training program in pediatric surgery, teaching medical students and residents, authoring 133 scholarly articles and book chapters and several books, including "Pediatric Surgery", by Thomas M Holder and Keith W Ashcroft. He was a leader in professional service and awarded the medical students' Jayhawker Teaching Award for the professor "*who has shown the greatest devotion to his primary duty as a teacher,*" serving as president of the American Pediatric Surgical Association and winning its Distinguished Service Award, chairing the AAP Section on Surgery, and many others.

In his retirement years, Holder repurposed his remarkable small-motor skills from surgery to designing and building fine cherry furniture, fly-tying and fly fishing, hiking from his cabin in Colorado, and duck-hunting, wind-surfing, and serving Children's Mercy Hospital. He lived his motto fully; "*Tenacity is the common denominator for success.*"

Holder is one of the few pediatric surgical leaders who have been served both as **AAP Section on Surgery Chair** (1973) and **American Pediatric Surgical Association President** (1975). For his contributions to the field he was bestowed the **William E. Ladd Medal** in 1997.

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