



# MINUTES

Fundamentals of Endoscopic Surgery Committee

March 11, 2025

Time: 11am-12:30pm PST/ 1-2:30pm EST

**Chair:** Eric Pauli, MD

**Co-Chairs:** Ryan Horsley, MD; Melanie Howell, MD; Heidi Miller, MD

**Committee Staff:** Jessica Mischna

**Attendance:** Eric Pauli, Ryan Horsley, Heidi Miller, Rima Ahmad, Matthew Allemang, Raghid Bitar, Andras Fecso, Erika Fellingner, Anupam Gupta, Herbert Hedberg, Joshua Lyons, Jeffrey Marks, Luis Martin del Campo, Jose Martinez

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The meeting was called to order by Dr. Eric Pauli, who read the chair script to the committee members before each of them introduced themselves. Jessica Mischna called for approval of the minutes from the previous Fall 2024 meeting which were unanimously approved. Committee goals were reviewed, and no changes were made. No disclosure COIs were identified.

## *Testing*

Jessica Mischna shared testing metrics and noted that there are slightly lower test taker numbers thus far this academic year but attributed this to evening out of numbers post covid, and there still being a few months left in the AY. The program's financial viability was highlighted, with plans to reinvest funds into the program.

Pauli provided an update on the MCQ exam revision and summary from the item writing retreat which took place the day prior. Participants were thanked and it was shared that the questions will begin beta testing during the summer once the ABS deadline has passed. Once the new test forms are determined, the next step will be to review any low performing questions after six months. It was asked that all members take time before the Fall committee meeting to review the didactics and determine which areas need to be updated or supplemented based on updated questions.

In response to discussion about how to best help test takers that have repeated failures, Jose Martinez reminded the committee about his "bootcamp" structure. Though not needed often, he works with about one test taker a year. In his experience, the test takers issue is generally solvable – anxiety, gaming, etc. After allowing them to run through assorted simulations over the course of day or two before taking the test they go in confidently and pass.

## *Papers*

There was discussion of writing two papers, the first on what we have learned from FES 20 after its launch, the second on ergonomics for the endoscopist. Volunteers were identified to lead and assist with each.

## *International*

Luis Martin del Campo shared an update on the Spanish translation of the didactic material. He hasn't made significant progress but has several residents and fellows that will assist in the coming months.



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There is a large increase in both need and desire for endoscopy training in Mexico however most surgeons won't stop practicing to take the two-year training. Rather, they are just doing the procedures anyway.

## *Conclusion*

Lastly, Pauli reminded everyone about the requested assistance from the Fellowship Council to create flexible endoscopy lectures for their curriculum.

Meeting was adjourned.