As I sat at an FUS annual meeting social function over this past Labor Day, I observed many children, including my own, running around and doing things kids do when their parents are engaged in more serious matters. I also observed my parents who were present at the same event. I thought back to my younger days at similar FUS functions, where I was the overactive child having fun and my father was highly involved. Admittedly, it was a bit surreal.

I pondered the experience of my father – who has also led this association – and his colleagues, making the time and effort to solidify a foundation of education, networking, science and stewardship with and for his Floridian peers. I thought about my coming into the field as a young urologist in a time of healthcare evolution and uncertainty, and finding that leveraging FUS information and opportunities to markedly improve patient outcomes and long-term practice success was invaluable to me.

I understood the strength and perseverance it took for my father to make (and to still make) a difference in the profession. I thought about the strength I have had to muster at times to achieve my own goals. Most importantly, however, I wondered what opportunities and challenges await urologists mid-century, and whether they will have the strength to make a positive difference?

And then I thought of our urological society. I know that FUS enables our individual members to operate from a position of strength when they take advantage of the benefits of their membership. I know that patients benefit from their doctor’s strength, and we – at one point or another – are all patients.

With all that in mind, as your President for 2017 – 2018, I’m very pleased to share that:

- The FUS membership and the society overall continues to grow and strengthen compared to many state societies and regional sections.
- FUS meetings and scientific programs are clearly valued by attendees above other alternatives, and infectiously attract attendees, exhibitors and sponsors.
- The Society’s members continue to clearly impact urological health education and policy in Florida, the United States and abroad. Florida urologists are making a global difference.
- Our members are leaders both personally in their communities and professionally in their field making a positive, ongoing impact on the lives of their colleagues and those they serve.

continued on following page

Strengthen Our Association!

Do you know of a colleague who would like to join the Florida Urological Society? Just call the FUS office at (847) 517-7249 or visit our website at www.flaurological.org
During my tenure, I plan to continue building from a position of strength. One of our greatest opportunities is to include our individual voices in the larger urological discussion. Doing so can increase the strength of our collective voice at all levels of organized medicine. I plan to work with you to expand our valuable content both online and via social media. To that end, I will be working with volunteer leaders and our association management firm to establish and expand our content and presence as an association, while highlighting information that members like you put forward.

I encourage you to add your voice to those using the FUS website and various social media platforms to effectively inform and educate other Florida urologists. Share an article, a lesson, an event, or a personal story that is of value to you, your fellow FUS members, or others. Pair up with urologists in your practice, among your peers, or in related industries to provide content and perspective where doing so will add great value for others. You have a voice that your peers and I would not only appreciate, but would benefit from hearing.

To that end, contact me, the other FUS officers and board members, or simply email info@flaurological.org with any articles, links, information or perspectives worth sharing.

I would also like to take a moment to recognize our immediate past President Dr. Rolando Rivera for his excellent year as Society President. The 2017 Annual Meeting held at the JW Marriot in Orlando, as I noted previously, was especially memorable. Dr. David Hernandez and Dr. Thrushar Patel, along with Dr. Rivera, put forward an exceptional meeting. One personal highlight for me was the bestowment of the Lifetime Achievement Award to an outstanding individual – Dr. Jorge Lockhart. Dr. Lockhart has performed outstanding service and accomplished a track record of medical achievements that are truly extraordinary, widely recognized as such, and of positive and lasting quality. He truly has been a pioneer and continues to be an inspiration.

Our 2018 meeting will be held at the Saddlebrook Resort in Wesley Chapel. It is a beautiful facility with amenities for every member of the family. The program chairs for next year are Drs. Raymond Pak and Julio Gundian from Mayo Clinic – Jacksonville. In fact, we are already working hard to provide an outstanding event and look forward to seeing you there.

I would also like to thank the WJ Weiser organization, as well as our sponsors for their continued support.

I’ll close by sharing that I am honored to serve as President of the Florida Urological Society and will do so to the best of my abilities. I would like to thank my fellow members, officers, and past presidents who have helped me achieve this appointment. Moreover, I want to thank my wife, parents, and other family and friends – including you – for your unwavering support. I look forward to working with and for you in the coming year.

Visit us at www.flaurological.org today to Renew Your Membership and access the following:

- The FUS website’s Find a Provider tool, which connects you with new prospective patients
- The FUS members-only section of the Society’s website, offering unique networking opportunities with other members and urology experts
- Invaluable resources to help solve your most complex challenges – one good idea can more than cover the modest cost of membership!
Nominating Committee Report
Paul R. Young, MD

Overwhelming Number of Highly Qualified Candidates Promises Bright Future

The FUS continues to thrive. The Nominating Committee will continue to struggle with the dilemma of having more members interested in serving on the Board of Directors and the various committees than we have positions available. This of course is a good problem to have and is a sign of a strong society.

The FUS website is a good resource to view the makeup of the current board and committees.

From my experience volunteering to serve on the board or a committee will only enhance your membership in the FUS. You will understand how the society runs, get to know the members better, and gain insight through a valuable experience.

If you have any interest or have questions about responsibilities on the various committees or the board, please contact myself at young.paul@mayo.edu, or any of the Nominating Committee members. The following members were approved to fill their respective positions at the FUS Annual Business Meeting on September 3, 2017, at the JW Marriot Orlando Grande Lakes:

OFFICERS
President: Rafael E. Carrion, MD
President-Elect: Kevin K. Lee, MD, FACS
Secretary/Treasurer: Vipul R. Patel, MD, FACS
Secretary/Treasurer-Elect: Jamin Brahmbhatt, MD
Immediate Past President: Rolando Rivera, MD, FACS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Two-year terms)
Joseph A. Costa, DO
Graham F. Greene, MD
*David J. Hernandez, MD
*Ali Kasraein, MD, FACS
*Alan M. Nieder, MD
Alok Shrivastava, MD, MCH
*Newly Elected on Sept. 3, 2017

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION REPRESENTATIVES
“With over 600 members, FUS is the largest state society in SESAU”

DELEGATES TO THE SESAU
Adam J. Ball, MD, FACS Term Expired 2021
Lawrence S. Hakim, MD, FACS Term Expired 2021
Kevin K. Lee, MD, FACS Term Expired 2020
Vipul R. Patel, MD, FACS Term Expired 2019
Christopher R. Williams, MD Term Expired 2020

ALTERNATE DELEGATES TO THE SESAU
Gregory A. Broderick, MD Term Expired 2021
Paul L. Crispen, MD Term Expired 2021
Michael S. Grable, MD Term Expired 2020
Alan K. Miller, MD, FACS Term Expired 2019
David D. Thiel, MD Term Expired 2020

ALTERNATE DELEGATES TO THE FMA
*James E. Alver, MD, FACS
*Victoria Y. Bird, MD
Edward D. King, MD
*M. Louis Moy, MD
*Justin L. Parker, MD
Michael A. Poch, MD
Eduardo Puente, MD
*Arash Rafiei, MD
*Rolando Rivera, MD, FACS
*Newly Elected on Sept. 3, 2017

FMA DELEGATES
*Paul M. Arnold, MD
*Jorge R. Caso, MD, MPH
*Nicolas A. Muruve, MD
*Raymond W. Pak, MD, MBA, PharmD
*Sanjay Razdan, MD, MCh
*Claudio A. Romero, MD
*Diego M. Rubinowicz, MD
*Lucas R. Wiegand, MD
*Michael P. Zahalsky, MD
*Newly Elected on Sept. 3, 2017

FUS NOMINATING COMMITTEE 2017-2018
The composition of the FUS Nominating Committee is defined in our Bylaws. There are five voting members, consisting of two members-at-large and the three most recent past presidents. The most senior past president serves as the chair of the committee. The two members-at-large serve staggered two-year terms. For the 2017 – 2018 year, the members of our Nominating Committee will be:

Paul R. Young, MD (Chair)
Michael A. Dennis Jr., MD, FACS (Member At Large)
*Raymond J. Leveillee, MD, FRCS-G (Member At Large)
Rolando Rivera, MD, FACS (Past President)
Wade J. Sexton, MD (Past President)
*Newly Elected on Sept. 3, 2017

APPOINTED POSITIONS
In addition to the elected positions outlined above, the FUS president appoints the Annual Scientific Program Chair and several standing committees, including: Bylaws, Legislative and Government Policy, and Membership. If you have an interest in serving on any of these committees, please contact current FUS President Rafael Carrion, MD or email info@flaurological.org.

PARTICIPATION IN THE FLORIDA UROLOGICAL SOCIETY
The success of our society is based on participation by you, our members. If you would like to nominate a member of our society for a position, or if you would like to be considered for a position yourself, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee.

We would like to thank all of our members who have expressed interest in getting more involved in the FUS. Your interest is appreciated, we thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing you at the Saddlebrook Resort in Wesley Chapel, Florida, August 30 – September 2, 2018.
Secretary/Treasurer’s Report

Vipul R. Patel, MD, FACS

I am very honored to serve as the Florida Urological Society (FUS) Secretary/Treasurer. I have enjoyed being able to work aside my longtime friends and colleagues in Florida through this role.

The FUS 69th Annual Meeting held in Orlando was a great success. Drs. Trushar Patel and David Hernandez did an exemplary job organizing our scientific and academic program. This year’s meeting attracted world-class faculty including Drs. Matthew Nielsen, Brian Matlaga, Howard Goldman, Allen Morey and Alex Kutikov.

The highlights from this year’s meeting included informational sessions covering robotics, endourology, oncology, andrology and sexual dysfunction, and reconstructive and female urology. As in years past we also hosted a socioeconomic forum, urology resident programs and debates and our moderated poster session.

Financially our society is prospering. This year’s meeting had 190 attendees and more than 60 industry exhibitors and sponsors. We thank everyone that was involved in helping raise money and promote registration. We hope that in the future this meeting continues to grow and includes more of our Florida urologist community.

I would like to invite everyone to please save the date for the 2018 meeting, which will take place August 30 through September 2, 2018, at the Saddlebrook Resort in Wesley Chapel, Florida. This meeting will be chaired by Drs. Julio Gundian and Raymond Pak from the Mayo Clinic Jacksonville.

Message From the Immediate Past President

Rolando Rivera, MD, FACS

The 2017 FUS Annual Meeting, held at the JW Marriott Grande Lakes Orlando, was very memorable, and in my opinion a tremendous success and a testament to the strength and depth of our specialty in this state.

I sincerely want to thank Drs. David Hernandez and Trushar Patel who organized and executed an outstanding scientific program. The high caliber of expertise that our local and visiting faculty brings to the meetings provided an optimal learning environment. The residents continue to impress with thought provoking case presentations. It was very enjoyable to interact and learn from all of them.

My sincerest thanks to WJ Weiser & Associates; Samantha Panicola, Steven Rauchenecker, and their staff performed flawlessly and made my job that much more delightful.

Government Relations & Advocacy Update

Ross E. Weber, AACU State Affairs Manager

Supreme Court tosses out part of medical malpractice law

Saying that liability reform changes approved by lawmakers “have gashed Florida’s constitutional right to privacy,” the Florida Supreme Court recently rejected parts of a controversial 2013 medical-malpractice law. In a 4-3 decision, Justices said the 2013 law - which involved an issue known as “ex parte” communications between doctors and defense attorneys - could lead to the disclosure of patients’ private health information that is unrelated to malpractice cases. The ruling overturned a decision by the 1st District Court of Appeal in which a widow contemplated filing a medical-malpractice lawsuit against her deceased husband’s physician. As part of the ruling, Justices wrote that they were making clear that the privacy rights of people who have died are protected. (News Service of Florida, Nov. 9, 2017)

Medical malpractice records battle brews

The Constitution Revision Commission, which meets every 20 years, can put proposed constitutional changes directly on the 2018 ballot. A former general counsel to Gov. Rick Scott filed a proposal that would amend the state Constitution to place limits on what types of records could be used in lawsuits filed against doctors, hospitals and other health-care providers. Voters in 2004 approved continued on following page
a constitutional amendment that gave patients the right to access records in adverse incidents. The proposal would make it clear that access to adverse medical-incident reports does not “abrogate attorney-client communications or work product privileges for patients, health care providers, or health care facilities.” (News Service of Florida, Nov. 28, 2017)

Senate moves again on prior authorization, fail first
Senate Bill 98 amends current law to require health insurers, HMOs, Medicaid managed-care plans and pharmacy benefit managers to approve or deny prior-authorization requests in urgent circumstances within 24 hours of receiving the requests. In non-urgent situations, companies would have three days. The bill also creates a new law to address “step therapy” or “fail first” protocols used by insurance companies, HMOs and pharmacy benefit managers. Bill sponsor Greg Steube, a Sarasota Republican, told senators that if they would like to see the proposal make it into law, they need to press the House of Representatives - which, he said, killed a similar measure last year. (News Service of Florida, Nov. 8, 2017)

Panel eyes health cost transparency, certificate of need restrictions
(News Service of Florida, Nov. 25, 2017)
Constitution Revision Commissioner Frank Kruppenbacher has proposed an amendment that, if approved by voters, would require the Legislature to guarantee patients “transparency in health care.” That transparency would apply to such things as medical costs and information needed to help patients make informed decisions about treatment. Kruppenbacher offered another health care proposal that would eliminate “certificate of need” laws.

Lawmakers consider expanding patient safety disclosure mandates
House Bill 35 would require a series of measurements of patient safety. The legislation’s sponsor says the state-developed surveys would differ from national ones because they would contain questions about where staff seeks care and make the information publicly available. The annual survey also would measure issues such as the frequency of adverse events, comfort levels in reporting potential problems or errors and staff perceptions about the support of facilities for patient safety. The bill is ready to go straight to the full House for consideration after the start of the 2018 session in January. (News Service of Florida, Nov. 15, 2017)

Senators back overnight stays at surgery centers
Ambulatory surgical centers could treat patients overnight under a bill approved unanimously by the Senate Health Policy Committee. The Senate bill is similar to a House version, which is ready to go to the House floor after the 2018 legislative session starts next month. The House bill doesn’t include the restrictions on providing health care to children and would allow so-called “recovery care centers.” (News Service of Florida, Dec. 6, 2017)

Rural medical programs may add new location
Florida State University’s rural based medical program may add a new location in Citrus County. The Director of Rural Medical Education says he hopes Citrus Springs can provide opportunities for students to learn about several specialties at a time. Through FSU’s rural-based program, third and fourth year students learn how to treat patients in underserved and minority areas. (WFSU, Oct. 23, 2017)
## PAST PRESIDENTS

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<td>Rolando Rivera, MD, FACS</td>
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* Deceased

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**Address Corrections Requested**

Please notify the FUS of any changes in your contact information, including change of address, phone or fax numbers and email address. This information is disseminated only to membership and is used for networking, one of our primary missions.

Thank you!
FUS Recognizes Our 2017 Promotional Sponsors
We Invite Your Continued Support!

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Photocure

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SEEKING PARTNERS COMMITTED TO GROWTH AND EXCELLENCE
Various forms of health care industry support are vital to the overall strength of the Florida Urological Society. Partnership packages are promotional opportunities and, unlike educational grants, appropriate to discuss with your sales representatives. Customized packages offer enhanced exposure at the FUS Annual Meeting, as well as additional marketing opportunities throughout the year. FUS seeks partners who share our commitment to growth and excellence in the field of urology in the state of Florida. We hope to work in tandem with health care industry colleagues to enhance current member programs and implement new projects that will lead to improved patient care through better physician education and mentoring. Please encourage reputable and valued health care industry companies to support FUS and invite representatives to contact JP Baunach (jp@wjweiser.com) for more information.

If you have vendors you do regular business with, please invite them to become more involved with the FUS. Thank you for doing your part!

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The Health Law Firm
TOLMAR Pharmaceuticals
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University Compounding Pharmacy
Vituro Health
Wellspect Healthcare
MARK YOUR CALENDARS

FUS 70th ANNUAL MEETING
August 30 – September 2, 2018
Saddlebrook Resort
Wesley Chapel, Florida

SESUA 82nd ANNUAL MEETING
March 22 – March 25, 2018
Loews Royal Pacific Resort
Orlando, Florida