

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM



NASS 24<sup>TH</sup>

**ANNUAL  
MEETING**

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NOVEMBER 10-14, 2009



# WELCOME TO THE NASS ANNUAL MEETING!

## DEAR SPINE CARE PROFESSIONAL,

We invite you to join your colleagues along with a diverse group of world renowned spine specialists at the 24th Annual Meeting of the North American Spine Society (NASS) in San Francisco, November 10-14, 2009, at the Moscone Center South. This meeting is a unique opportunity for you to explore the latest in spine education, research and innovation.

NASS has strategically developed an exciting educational experience that promises to be professionally challenging and rewarding. Following are preliminary highlights of a truly remarkable spine care program:

- 119 distinctive podium presentations
- An exceptional selection of 179 e-posters
- An outstanding collection of 94 focused paper presentations
- Eight symposia led by national and international spine authorities
- Distinguished faculty will present 8 pre-meeting courses (including technique workshops)
- Eight dynamic Special Interest Group discussions
- Sessions for Allied Health Professionals

San Francisco is home to the Golden Gate Bridge and offers a wide variety of entertainment activities from fascinating neighborhoods, diverse cultures, and fine dining to numerous breathtaking attractions, sightseeing tours, and much more to discover. This will be NASS' second time holding its conference in this magnificent destination.

At this year's Annual Meeting, you will have the opportunity to engage with a multidisciplinary group of spine specialists to exchange ideas and discuss timely topics on the advancement of quality, evidence-based and ethical spine care. Please join us at NASS' 24th Annual Meeting in this world-class city.

Charles L. Branch, Jr., MD  
*President*

Steven D. Glassman, MD  
David R. O'Brien, Jr., MD  
*2009 Annual Meeting Program Co-chairs*



# GENERAL INFORMATION

## MEETING OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to:

- Present current research and data to our multidisciplinary membership relevant to the advancement of spine care.
- Promote discussion of new scientific developments and best practices in spine care.
- Foster research and training through interactive panel discussions and instructional courses.

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Join the leading authorities in spine care, representing a multidisciplinary community. Orthopedic surgeons, neurosurgeons, radiologists, physiatrists, pain management specialists, anesthesiologists, psychologists, chiropractors, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, physical therapists, researchers, administrators and all other health care professionals with an abiding interest in spine care are encouraged to attend.

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### General Information

By registering in advance online at [www.nassannualmeeting.org](http://www.nassannualmeeting.org), you will reduce your registration fee and check-in time in San Francisco. Name badges will not be mailed prior to the meeting. A confirmation letter will be e-mailed after registering online. In late-October/early November, a final confirmation letter will be e-mailed to you with additional meeting information. Pre-registered general meeting attendees must check in at the Registration Area, located in the Moscone Center South Lobby, to pick up name badges in addition to the Final Program and Proceedings supplement. Badges are required for admission to the exhibit hall, all sessions, breaks and networking events. Pre-registration is only available online; please see the instructions to walk you through the simple process.

### General registration days and hours:

Tuesday, November 10	6:30 a.m.–7:00 p.m.*
Wednesday, November 11	6:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Thursday, November 12	6:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Friday, November 13	7:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 14	7:00–10:30 a.m.

*\*Also registration for Premeeting Courses.*

### Premeeting Courses

On-site registration for all premeeting courses will be located in the Moscone Center South Registration Area, except for Coding Update 2009; registration for the Coding course will be held at the course entrance in the InterContinental Hotel. Pre-registered attendees should proceed directly to the premeeting course room to pick up name badges and an agenda.

### Please Don't Be a No-show

If you cancel your plans to attend, remember to contact NASS to cancel your meeting registration and the NASS Housing Bureau to cancel your hotel reservation.

## OUTSIDE MEETING SPACE APPROVAL

Affiliate groups and exhibiting companies wishing to conduct a meeting or social function in conjunction with the NASS Annual Meeting must submit their event for approval. These meetings are allowed provided that they do not conflict with the official program and are approved by NASS. For guidelines, instructions, application form, deadlines and fees, please contact Cindy Tomala at [ctomala@spine.org](mailto:ctomala@spine.org).

# MEETING SCHEDULE

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9

7:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.	Coding Update 2009
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## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

6:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.	Premeeting Course Registration
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6:30 a.m.–7:00 p.m.	Annual Meeting Registration
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7:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.	Coding Update 2009
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8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	<b>Technique Workshop:</b> Cervical Spine Stabilization
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**Premeeting Courses:**

- Section on Spine Biologics and Research
- Section on Motion Technology

1:00–5:00 p.m.	<b>Technique Workshop:</b> Interbody Fusion Technologies
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**Premeeting Courses:**

- Advances in the Surgical Treatment of Acute Spinal Trauma
- Advanced Rehabilitation for Surgeons and Other Spine Specialists
- Critical Concepts in Adult Deformity Surgery

6:00–8:30 p.m.	<b>Welcome Reception</b> <i>InterContinental San Francisco, Grand Ballroom</i>
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## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

6:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.	Registration
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6:30–7:20 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
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7:20–7:30 a.m.	Welcome Remarks
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7:30–8:30 a.m.	General Session: Best Papers
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8:30–9:00 a.m.	<b>Introduction and Presidential Address</b>
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*Ray M. Baker, MD and Charles L. Branch, Jr., MD*

9:00–9:45 a.m.	<b>Introduction and Presidential Guest Speaker</b>
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*Charles L. Branch, Jr., MD and David McCullough*

9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Open/E-Posters Open for Viewing
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9:45–10:15 a.m.	Networking Break
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10:15–10:20 a.m.	<b>NASS Working for You:</b> Advocacy/Health Policy Update
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10:20 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	<b>Symposium:</b> Surgical Management of Lumbar Degenerative Deformity
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*Chair: Steven D. Glassman, MD*

12:00–1:00 p.m.	Networking Lunch
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1:00–2:00 p.m.	<b>Concurrent Sessions:</b>
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- Surgery–Thoracolumbar
- Diagnostics and Imaging

2:05–3:05 p.m.	<b>Concurrent Sessions:</b>
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- Biologics/Basic Science
- Spinal Injections/Interventional Treatment

3:05–3:35 p.m.	Networking Break/Members' Business Meeting
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3:35–5:05 p.m.	<b>Symposium:</b> The Hip-Spine Syndrome: What It Is and What Should We Recommend for Patients?
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*Chair: Heidi Prather, DO*

5:10–6:10 p.m.	Focused Paper Presentations Special Interest Group Discussions
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# MEETING SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12	
6:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.	Registration
6:30–7:20 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
7:20–7:25 a.m.	Announcements
7:25–8:25 a.m.	General Session: Best Papers
8:25–8:30 a.m.	NASS Working for You: Advocacy/Health Policy Update
8:30–10:00 a.m.	Symposium: Expanding Diagnostic Testing to Improve Surgical Outcomes: Present and Future <i>Chair: Scott G. Tromanhauser, MD</i>
9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Open/E-Posters Open for Viewing
10:00–10:30 a.m.	Networking Break
10:30–11:00 a.m.	<i>The Spine Journal</i> Outstanding Paper Award Presentations, including Editors Choice Award
11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surgery–Cervical</li> <li>• Biomechanics</li> </ul>
12:00–1:00 p.m.	Networking Lunch
1:00–1:45 p.m.	Keynote Address: Stephen L. Ondra, MD
1:45–1:50 p.m.	NASS Working for You: Advocacy/Health Policy Update
1:50–3:30 p.m.	Symposium: Health Policy <i>Chair: Gregory J. Przybylski, MD</i>
3:30–4:00 p.m.	Networking Break
4:00–5:00 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health Policy</li> <li>• Complications</li> </ul>
5:05–6:05 p.m.	Focused Paper Presentations Special Interest Group Discussions
6:30–8:00 p.m.	Resident, Fellow and Program Directors Reception

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13**

6:30–7:20 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
7:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.	Registration
7:20–7:25 a.m.	Announcements
7:25–8:25 a.m.	General Session: Best Papers
8:25–8:30 a.m.	NASS Working for You: Advocacy/Health Policy Update
8:30–10:00 a.m.	Symposium: Spine and Sports: Implications for the Senior Athlete <i>Chair: William J. Sullivan, MD</i>
9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Open
9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.	E-Posters Open for Viewing
10:00–10:30 a.m.	Networking Break
10:30–11:00 a.m.	Research Grants, Young Investigator Grants and Research/Clinical Traveling Fellowships Presentations
11:00–12:00 a.m.	General Session: Deformity
12:00–1:00 p.m.	Networking Lunch
1:00–1:05 p.m.	NASS Working for You: Advocacy/Health Policy Update
1:05–2:35 p.m.	Symposium: Controversies in Cervical Spine Surgery <i>Chair: Mitchell J. Campbell, MD</i>
2:35–3:05 p.m.	Networking Break
3:05–4:05 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motion Preservation</li> <li>• Trauma</li> </ul>
4:10–5:10 p.m.	Focused Paper Presentations Special Interest Group Discussions

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14**

6:30–7:20 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
7:00–10:30 a.m.	Registration
7:20–7:25 a.m.	Announcements
7:25–8:25 a.m.	General Session: Best Papers
8:25–8:30 a.m.	NASS Working for You: Advocacy/Health Policy Update
8:30–10:00 a.m.	Symposium: The Degenerative Lumbar Spine and the NASS Guidelines Committee: A Challenge for Evidence-based Medicine and NASS Members <i>Chair: Christopher M. Bono, MD</i>
9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.	E-Posters Open for Viewing
10:00–10:30 a.m.	Networking Break
10:30–11:30 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biologics/Basic Science</li> <li>• Deformity</li> </ul>
11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.	Symposium: Innovative Imaging Technologies for Spinal Disorders <i>Chair: Jeffrey T. Summers, MD</i>
1:00 p.m.	Meeting Adjourns

# PRESENTER INFORMATION

## PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

### Speaker Ready Room

The Speaker Ready Room is located in Rooms 202-210 on the East Mezzanine Level of Moscone Center South. For the convenience of our course faculty, symposia speakers and paper presenters, NASS now offers a pre-meeting presentation upload site where all speakers can upload their talks prior to arrival. We encourage all presenters to use this service to reduce waiting time in the Speaker Ready Room. Details and a URL will be sent to all presenters in the coming weeks.

### Speaker Ready Room hours of operation:

Tuesday, November 10: 6:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.  
Wednesday-Friday, November 11-13: 6:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.  
Saturday, November 14: 6:30–11:00 a.m.

### Paper and Symposia Presenters

Trained staff will be available to assist with any audiovisual needs. It is REQUIRED that all speakers visit the Speaker Ready Room located in Rooms 202-210 of the Moscone Center South to submit their presentation materials and convey any last minute requests at least 3 hours prior to the scheduled session start time. Speakers will not be permitted to use their own laptops for their presentations.

### General/Concurrent Session Paper and Focused Paper Presentations

Please note that you have five minutes to present your paper in a digital format such as PowerPoint® or Keynote. This will be an electronic-only meeting. The number of slides will be restricted to a maximum of 20, with no exceptions.

### Special Note to Presenters

If you are unable to present at your designated time, you must send someone in your place. Please contact Erica Taffs immediately by e-mail at [etaffs@spine.org](mailto:etaffs@spine.org) or by phone at (630) 230-3668, or by fax at (630) 230-3768 if there is a change in presenters. Per the policies outlined in the Call for Abstracts, abstracts may not be withdrawn after acceptance. If an accepted abstract is not presented, the ensuing penalty is that the entire author group cannot submit an abstract to any NASS meeting for two years.

## E-POSTER INFORMATION

E-Poster information and instructions will be sent to authors via e-mail. The poster viewing hours at Moscone Center are:

Wednesday-Friday, November 11-13 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.  
Saturday, November 14 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

# MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

## WELCOME RECEPTION

The Welcome Reception marks the official start of the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, November 10, from 6:00–8:30 p.m., in the Grand Ballroom at the InterContinental San Francisco. This is an opportunity to see familiar faces and meet new colleagues.

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG) DISCUSSIONS AND FOCUSED PAPER PRESENTATIONS

NASS invites you to attend a few of the many Special Interest Group discussions offered this year. Topics are based on the current trends and issues in spine care. Join your peers in an open, casual forum that encourages a mutual exchange of ideas and discussion. These one-hour discussion groups convene after the paper presentations conclude on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. In the Focused Paper Presentations, multiple papers on related topics are presented and presenters will have PowerPoint® presentations detailing their research. Discussion will follow the abstract presentations. There also will be SIGs for each of the educational tracks this year. Refer to the Final Program for more details.

## THE SPINE JOURNAL AND NASS AWARDS AND HONORS

Honor your fellow colleagues as NASS presents the following awards:

- **The Spine Journal Outstanding Paper Awards** including Editor's Choice Award, Thursday, November 12, 10:30–11:00 a.m.
- **Research Grants, Young Investigator Grants and Research/Clinical Traveling Fellowships** to those who have made advancements in spine care and research, Friday, November 13, 10:30–11:00 a.m.

## PRESENTATIONS AVAILABLE ONLINE

Included in your registration fee is access to the Annual Meeting presentations in one comprehensive online source. After the meeting, all paid registrants will receive a link that will include all oral paper presentations, symposia, Focused Paper Presentations and e-Posters.

## EXHIBIT HALL

See the latest in technology, products and services from companies who can help you manage your professional goals and strategic objectives. The Exhibit Hall (Halls ABC) will be open Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. and Friday from 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. *Absolutely no cameras are allowed in the Exhibit Hall! Violators will be removed from the premises and cameras will be confiscated.*

## RESIDENT/FELLOW/PROGRAM DIRECTOR EVENTS

### Program Directors Meeting

There has been a positive response to the Spine Fellowship Match for 2010. In an effort to maintain enthusiasm and to discuss any issues or concerns about the recent Match, there will be a Fellowship Directors luncheon meeting on Wednesday, November 11 from 12:00–1:00 p.m. in Rooms 228-230 at the Moscone Center.

### 2009 Resident, Fellow and Program Directors Reception

NASS is proud to announce the 7th Annual Resident, Fellow and Program Directors Reception taking place on Thursday, November 12 from 6:30–8:00 p.m., in Rooms 228-230 at Moscone Center. The main goal of the reception is to support physicians and resident physicians interested in a career in spine care. The reception provides an opportunity for residents, fellows or potential fellows to mingle with each other and the program directors as well as provide a casual setting to enjoy cocktails and hors d'oeuvres with colleagues.

# MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

## EDUCATIONAL TRACKS

NASS offers specialty educational tracks for Allied Health Professionals. The Final Program and the NASS Web site will list sessions that are of particular interest as well as special interest groups and symposia.

## TOUR INFORMATION

San Francisco has many exciting activities and attractions that will make your visit an unforgettable experience. Cosmopolitan flair, spectacular scenery and cultural diversity make San Francisco one of the top destinations in the entire world! For information on city tours, local attractions and activities in and around San Francisco, visit the San Francisco Information Desk located in the lobby of Moscone Center South. Visit [www.onlyinsanfrancisco.com](http://www.onlyinsanfrancisco.com) prior to your arrival for additional information. NASS has not contracted with a destination management company to provide specific tours and activities this year.

## MEMBER SERVICES

Membership information, publications and NASS logo items will be available in the NASS Resource Center located in the NASS exhibit hall of the Moscone Center. NASS staff members will be present to answer questions about the membership application process and benefits. Various publications will be available for viewing and purchase, as well as NASS logo polo shirts, kids t-shirts, coffee mugs, ties and lapel pins.

### **NASS Resource Center hours of operation are:**

Wednesday, November 11	9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Thursday, November 12	9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Friday, November 13	9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

## **NASS Membership**

Not a member? Save up to \$300 on your registration fee! For more information about becoming a member or to request a membership application, call the NASS office toll-free at (866) 960-6377. NASS membership is not required in order to attend the Annual Meeting.

## **NASS Job Connection**

Connecting employers and candidates just got easier. Through the NASS Job Connection, NASS' online job recruitment service, job seekers can search by specialty or by geographic location free of charge. Employers can post positions for a nominal fee. Now with the Online Career Center conference tool, candidates and employers can flag that they will be attending the 24th Annual Meeting, allowing for easy connection during the conference. For more information, visit [www.spine.org](http://www.spine.org) or call (888) 884-8242. While at the meeting, please visit the NASS Job Connection located in the NASS Resource Center of the Exhibit Hall.

## **NASS Cyber Cafés**

Keep in touch with your home or office while at the conference—visit the NASS Cyber Cafés located in the Exhibit Hall and Registration Area. Several computers with internet access will be available. Moscone Center South also has limited WIFI internet access available on a complimentary basis in public areas.

## PRESIDENTIAL GUEST SPEAKER

### David McCullough

Wednesday, November 11

9:00–9:45 a.m.

Mr. David McCullough will be the Presidential Guest Speaker at this year's Annual Meeting. Mr. McCullough's most recent book, *1776*, ranked the number one *New York Times* national bestseller. His previous work, *John Adams*, remains one of the most widely read American biographies and inspired the seven-part mini-series on HBO, produced by Tom Hanks and starring Paul Giamatti and Laura Linney. He has written other outstanding books and his work has been published in ten languages and nearly 9,000,000 copies are in print.

Mr. McCullough is twice winner of both the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize. In December 2006, he received the Presidential Medal of Freedom—the nation's highest civilian award. He is twice winner of the prestigious Francis Parkman Prize. For his work overall he has been honored by the National Book Foundation Distinguished Contribution to American Letters Award and the National Humanities Medal, and he has received more than forty honorary degrees. A gifted speaker, Mr. McCullough has lectured in all parts of the country and abroad, as well as at the White House. He is also one of the few private citizens to speak before a joint session of Congress.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

### Stephen L. Ondra, MD

Thursday, November 12

1:00–1:45 p.m.

Dr. Ondra, a NASS member, was appointed to the Obama Administration as the Senior Policy Advisor on Health Affairs in the Office of the Secretary at the Department of Veterans Affairs. In that role, he will have broad responsibilities in helping to develop policies regarding the issues that impact our veterans, other federal sector beneficiaries and on national health care reform. He will be on indefinite leave from Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago, while he is in government. As the Keynote Speaker, Dr. Ondra will provide an insider view of health policy.

[Click here for a complete bio.](#)

# ACCOMMODATIONS

## WHY YOU SHOULD STAY IN NASS CONTRACTED HOUSING

Each year NASS contracts a block of rooms at a variety of hotels for Annual Meeting participants. In order to secure sleeping rooms at a lower rate, NASS must guarantee that a certain percentage of those rooms are occupied by meeting attendees each night. If NASS fails to occupy those rooms, NASS is liable to pay a fee to compensate the hotels for lost revenue. Not reaching the guarantees at the hotels not only will cost NASS, but the members and attendees as well. To compensate, NASS may have to raise the registration fees for meetings, spend less on member services and have limited function space at future destinations to convene our Annual Meeting. To allow NASS to continue to add value to the Annual Meeting, it is imperative that participants of the 24th Annual Meeting stay at NASS contracted hotels and go through the NASS housing reservation system. If you have any questions regarding NASS Housing, please contact the NASS Housing Bureau at (800) 545-1773 (US & Canada) or (404) 584-7458 (International), or via e-mail at [nassannualmeeting@ambassadors.com](mailto:nassannualmeeting@ambassadors.com).

## HOW TO RESERVE YOUR ACCOMMODATIONS

Meeting registration must be completed and processed in order to reserve hotel accommodations. NASS will continuously monitor the housing reservations list to make sure that all individuals with reservations are also officially registered for the NASS Annual Meeting. NASS reserves the right to cancel housing reservations that do not meet these criteria.

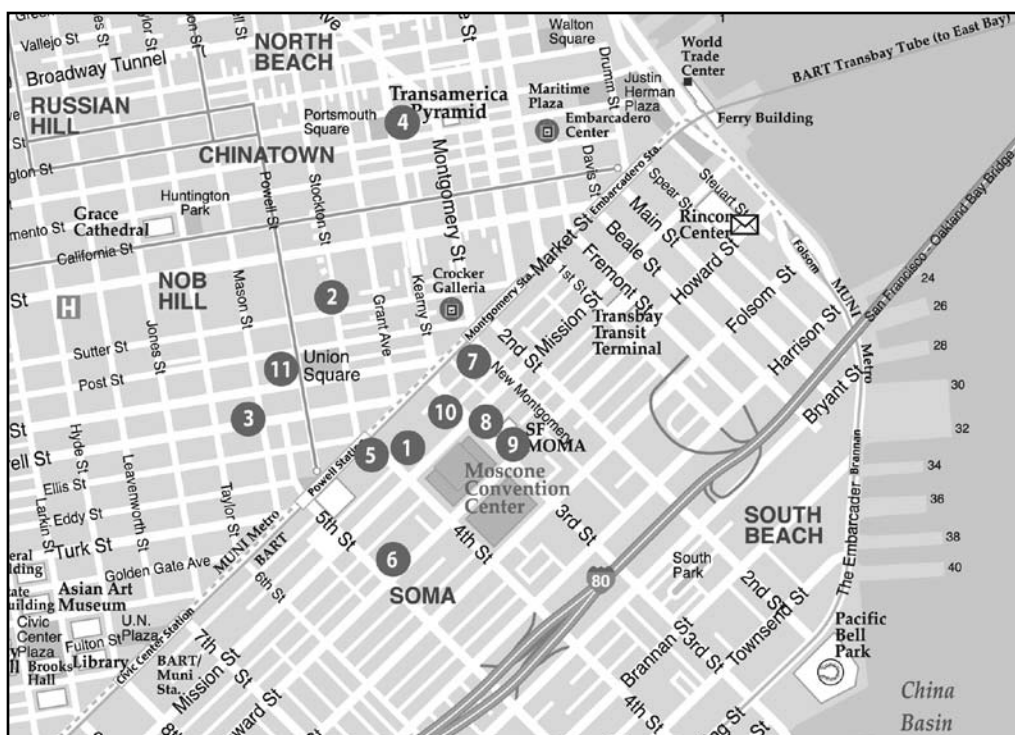
Reservations must be made through the NASS Housing Bureau. Methods are:

- **Online:** [www.nassannualmeeting.org](http://www.nassannualmeeting.org) (following meeting registration process)
- **Telephone:** (800) 545-1773 (U.S. & Canada) or (404) 584-7458 (International)
- **Fax:** (888) 267-0943 (U.S. & Canada) or (949) 219-2316 (International)
- **E-mail:** [nassannualmeeting@ambassadors.com](mailto:nassannualmeeting@ambassadors.com)
- **Mail:** NASS 24th Annual Meeting, c/o Ambassadors, 240 Peachtree Street, Suite 22-S-10, Atlanta, GA 30303.

*Hotels will not and cannot accept reservations directly.* Reservation hours via telephone are from 9:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. (ET). The only hotel rooms that can be reserved are those contracted within the NASS housing block listed below. The hotel room reservation cut-off date is October 12, 2009. All hotel reservations are made on a first-come, first-served basis and are subject to room availability and the discounted rate may not apply after the cut-off date. In the event that all NASS contracted room blocks are sold out prior to the cut-off date, NASS will attempt to secure additional housing for our attendees. This is not a guarantee since it is based on rates and availability within the city of San Francisco during our meeting dates.

## HOTEL CANCELLATION/CHANGE POLICY

Changes to existing reservations can be made online using the confirmation number and password listed on your confirmation; via e-mail to [nassannualmeeting@ambassadors.com](mailto:nassannualmeeting@ambassadors.com); or by calling (800) 545-1773 Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. (ET). You must have the confirmation number of the reservation you wish to change in order to make any changes. Changes can be submitted up to Tuesday, November 3, 2009. After November 3, 2009, changes need to be communicated directly with the hotel. Cancellations to existing reservations must be made according to the individual hotel's cancellation policy, which is noted on your confirmation. Failure to cancel your reservation according to the hotel cancellation policy will result in a charge to your credit card. Please visit <http://www.nassannualmeeting.org/Pages/RegistrationHousing/Default.aspx> to register for the 2009 Annual Meeting and secure hotel accommodations. Please note that all rates are quoted as single or double occupancy.



- 1. San Francisco Marriott**  
 (Headquarter Hotel)  
 55 Fourth Street  
 \$269 single/double  
 0.1 miles from Moscone Ctr. South
- 2. Grand Hyatt San Francisco**  
 345 Stockton Street  
 \$239 single/double  
 0.5 miles from Moscone Ctr. South
- 3. Hilton San Francisco**  
 333 O'Farrell Street  
 \$239 single/double  
 0.5 miles from Moscone Ctr. South
- 4. Hilton San Francisco Financial District**  
 750 Kearny Street  
 \$199 single/double  
 0.9 miles from Moscone Ctr. South
- 5. Hotel Palomar**  
 12 Fourth Street  
 \$250 single/double  
 0.2 miles from Moscone Ctr. South
- 6. InterContinental San Francisco**  
 888 Howard Street  
 \$275 single/double  
 0.2 miles from Moscone Ctr. South
- 7. The Palace Hotel**  
 2 New Montgomery Street  
 \$255 single/double  
 0.4 miles from Moscone Ctr. South
- 8. St. Regis Hotel**  
 125 Third Street  
 \$359 single/double  
 0.2 miles from Moscone Ctr. South
- 9. W San Francisco**  
 181 Third Street  
 \$259 single/double  
 0.2 miles from Moscone Ctr. South
- 10. Westin San Francisco Market St.**  
 50 Third Street  
 \$242 single/double  
 0.3 miles from Moscone Ctr. South
- 11. Westin St. Francis**  
 335 Powell Street  
 \$229 single/double  
 0.5 miles from Moscone Ctr. South

## TAXI SERVICES

Yellow Cab Cooperative, Inc.  
(415) 626-2345

Luxor Cab, Inc.  
(415) 282-4141

## AIRPORT SHUTTLES

Several companies provide shuttle service between most of the NASS contracted hotels and San Francisco International Airport. SuperShuttle San Francisco ([www.supershuttle.com](http://www.supershuttle.com)), Airport Express San Francisco ([www.airportexpresssf.com](http://www.airportexpresssf.com)), and American Airporter Shuttle ([www.americanairporter.com](http://www.americanairporter.com)) are located outside of baggage claim at the airport. Please contact them online for schedules and tickets.

## PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

There are various forms of public transportation available in San Francisco. For all Bay Area transit agencies, and traveler information including weather, traffic conditions, and parking, call TravInfo at (415) 817-1717 or visit [www.511.org](http://www.511.org).

- **BART** (Bay Area Rapid Transit—[www.bart.gov](http://www.bart.gov)) or **MUNI Metro** (San Francisco Municipal Railway): BART offers regional public transportation services and MUNI Metro provides light rail service throughout the city of San Francisco. To reach Moscone South, take BART or MUNI Metro to the Montgomery Station
- **Caltrain** ([www.caltrain.com](http://www.caltrain.com)): Caltrain offers a frequent schedule into the nearby station at Fourth & Townsend Streets, located within a few minutes' walk of Moscone South.

## DRIVING DIRECTIONS

### To Moscone Center from San Francisco International Airport (SFO):

1. Exit airport (SFO) North on Interstate 101.
2. Exit I80 East to Fourth Street Exit.
3. Turn left on Bryant Street, left on Third Street and another left on Howard Street.
4. Moscone Center is on the 700 block of Howard Street; South is on your left.

### To Moscone Center via the Bay Bridge:

1. Take Fremont Street Exit to Howard Street.
2. Moscone Center is located on the 700 block of Howard Street; Moscone South is on your left.

### To Moscone Center via the Golden Gate Bridge:

1. Take the Lombard Street Exit to Van Ness Avenue and turn left.
2. Travel south to Grove Street—approximately two miles.
3. Turn left on Grove Street.
4. Continue to Market Street; cross Market Street and travel south on 8th Street to Folsom Street.
5. Turn left on Folsom Street, left on Third and left on Howard.
6. Moscone Center is on the 700 block of Howard Street; South is on your left.

## PARKING AT THE MOSCONE CENTER

There is plenty of parking at Moscone Center and the surrounding areas. Moscone Center Garage is located at 255 Third Street (Folsom & Howard, across the street from Moscone South's Esplanade Ballroom), and the fee is \$2.50/hour with a maximum of \$25 per day. Additional nearby parking facilities are:

- **Fifth & Mission Parking Garage**, 833 Mission Street (between Fourth & Fifth Streets, adjacent to Moscone West).
- **Hearst Parking Center**, 45 Third Street (entrance on Stevenson, 2 blocks from Moscone South/North buildings)
- **Museum Parc Garage**, 300 Third Street (entrance on Third and on Folsom Streets).

# EDUCATIONAL CREDITS

## CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION (CME) CREDIT

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essentials and Standards of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME). The North American Spine Society is accredited with commendation by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians and takes responsibility for the content, quality and scientific integrity of this CME activity. NASS designates this educational activity for a maximum of 28.25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*<sup>™</sup>. Participants should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

The American Medical Association has determined that physicians not licensed in the U.S. to participate in this CME activity are eligible for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*<sup>™</sup>. Please look for information on the Annual Meeting Web site ([www.nassannualmeeting.org](http://www.nassannualmeeting.org)) and in the Final Program to be distributed on-site at the meeting. Because each state has different requirements for nurses, physical therapists and other non-physician providers, please contact your credit granting organization for their requirements.

The American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) accepts Category 1 credit from AOACCME, prescribed credit from the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) and *AMA PRA Category 1 CME Credit*<sup>™</sup> for the Physician's Recognition Award from organizations, such as NASS, accredited by the ACCME.

## CME/CEU CERTIFICATES

You will now have the opportunity to submit your meeting evaluation electronically and have the capability to print out a CME certificate for the sessions you have attended once you have completed the evaluation. Further details regarding this feature will be available in the Final Program.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE) CREDIT FOR ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

NASS is proud to offer other types of continuing education units (CEUs) to accommodate non-physician attendees' certification requirements. The following indicates the status of CEU accreditation for non-physician attendees:

**Professional Coders**—Coding Update 2009: Essentials and Controversies of Operative and Nonoperative Spine Care Coding has prior approval of the American Academy of Professional Coders for 16 Continuing Education Units. Granting of this approval in no way constitutes endorsement by the Academy of the program, content or the program sponsor.

**Nurses and Chiropractors**—Accreditation varies for every state certification agency. Please retain this brochure, the Final Program and a copy of your certificate when completing the recertification process.

**Nurse Practitioners**—Application is pending for continuing education credentialing through the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP). Please look for information on the Annual Meeting Web site ([www.nassannualmeeting.org](http://www.nassannualmeeting.org)) and in the Final Program to be distributed on site.

## DISCLAIMER

The material presented at the 24th Annual Meeting is made available by the North American Spine Society for educational purposes only. The material is not intended to represent the only, nor necessarily the best, method or procedure appropriate for the medical situations discussed; rather, it is intended to present an approach, view, statement or opinion of the faculty which may be helpful to others who face similar situations. NASS disclaims any and all liability for injury or other damages to any individual attending the meeting and for all claims which may arise out of the use of the techniques demonstrated therein by such individuals, whether these claims shall be asserted by physicians or any other person. On occasion, slight changes in program content or faculty may occur after the Preliminary Program has been distributed. The Final Program will contain confirmed program content, faculty and presenters. Any further changes from the published Final Program will be announced at the beginning of the session.

## DISCLOSURE INFORMATION

### **NASS Financial Conflict of Interest Disclosure Policy**

Since the last Annual Meeting, the NASS Board has significantly revised its disclosure policy for both members and nonmembers participating in NASS activities. Going several steps further than the original policy (which was adopted in January 2006), the new policy adopted by the NASS Board of Directors at the Toronto Annual Meeting in October 2008 requires that participants disclose estimated dollar amounts of all relationships held in the calendar year preceding disclosure. NASS recognizes that professional relationships with industry are essential for development of new spine technologies and medical advancement. According to the NASS Ethics Committee, which authored the new policy, "the goal is to create an environment of scientific validity, in which learners can accurately judge whether the information they receive is objective and unbiased, and to be sure that our members are current and forthright in their dealings with one another and with their colleagues and patients." The establishment of uniform disclosure requirements frees individuals from having to decide which relationships might influence his or her decision-making and which are irrelevant; transparent disclosure allows the audience to participate in the interpretation of the significance. Anyone speaking at the Annual Meeting has been required to provide complete disclosure of all conflicts of interest.

### **Commercial Support Disclosure**

As a sponsor accredited with commendation by the ACCME, the North American Spine Society must ensure balance, independence, objectivity and scientific rigor in all its sponsored activities. All individuals participating in a sponsored activity are expected to disclose to the activity audience any significant financial interest or other relationship (1) with the manufacturer(s) of any commercial product(s) and/or provider(s) of commercial services discussed in an educational presentation and (2) with any commercial supporters of the activity. ("Significant financial interest or other relationship" may include but is not limited to: grants or research support, employee, consultant, major stockholder, member of the speaker's bureau, etc.) Disclosure information will be made available visually on a PowerPoint® slide before each presentation, in the Final Program, orally by the moderator and in *The Spine Journal* Proceedings supplement.

### **Program Committee Statement on Resolution of Conflict of Interest in Presentations**

The intent of this disclosure is to ensure that all conflicts of interest, if any, have been identified and have been resolved prior to the speaker's presentation. By doing so, the North American Spine Society has determined that the speaker's or author's interests or relationships have not influenced the presentation with regard to exposition or conclusion; nor does the Society view the existence of these interests or commitments as necessarily implying bias or decreasing the value of the presentation.

## FDA Disclosure

If a device or drug requiring FDA approval is identified as an important component of a presentation, the author must indicate the FDA status of those devices or drugs as Approved, Investigational or Not Approved for distribution within the United States. The Final Program and *The Spine Journal*™ Proceedings supplement will include all FDA status information. Certain medical devices and drugs identified at the 24th Annual Meeting may have FDA clearance for use for specific purposes only, or in restricted research settings. The FDA has stated it is the responsibility of the physician to determine the FDA status of each drug or device he or she wishes to use in clinical practice and to use these products in compliance with applicable law.

## 2008-2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NASS would like to thank the following Board members for their leadership and guidance throughout the year:

Charles L. Branch, Jr., MD, President  
Ray M. Baker, MD, 1st Vice President  
Gregory J. Przybylski, MD, 2nd Vice President  
Heidi Prather, DO, Secretary  
Michael H. Heggeness, MD, PhD, Treasurer  
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Marjorie Eskay-Auerbach, MD, JD, Ethics Committee Chair  
Alexander J. Ghanayem, MD, Administration & Development Council Director  
Charles A. Mick, MD, Advocacy Council Director  
William Mitchell, MD, Professional, Economic & Regulatory Chair  
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Daniel K. Resnick, MD, Clinical Research Development Chair  
David J. Rothman, PhD, Ethicist  
Jerome Schofferman, MD, Section Development Chair  
Eric Truumees, MD, Education Publishing Chair  
Jeffrey C. Wang, MD, Continuing Medical Education Chair  
William C. Watters, III, MD, Research Council Director  
F. Todd Wetzell, MD, Governance Committee Chair  
Eric J. Muehlbauer, MJ, CAE, Executive Director

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE INDEX

All participants provided estimated dollar amounts per the NASS Disclosure Policy through the NASS on-line disclosure module. NASS staff then translated that information into dollar ranges for purposes of this index. These ranges are as follows:

- None: Existing relationship but no remuneration in prior calendar year
- Level A. \$100 to \$1,000
- Level B. \$1,001 to \$10,000
- Level C. \$10,001 to \$25,000
- Level D. \$25,001 to \$50,000
- Level E. \$50,001 to \$100,000
- Level F. \$100,001 to \$500,000
- Level G. \$500,001 to \$1M
- Level H. \$1,000,001 to \$2.5M
- Level I. Greater than \$2.5M

## Board of Directors and Program Committee Disclosure

- Akuthota, Venu:** Other office: AAPMR Musculoskeletal Council Chair (A), Emerging Technologies in Spine Course (B); Grants: Bob Doctor Grant (B), American Physical Therapy Association (D); Other: PM&R Journal Senior Editor (B).
- Baker, Ray M.:** Private Investments: Laurimed (C); Consulting: Medtronic (B for 2008, relationship since dissolved 2009); Board of Directors: ISIS (None).
- Bono, Christopher M.:** Royalties: Life Spine (B); Consulting: DePuy Spine (B), Medtronic Sofamor Danek (B); Speaking and/or teaching arrangements: DePuy Spine (C), Stryker Spine (B); Boards of Directors: North American Spine Society (None); Other Offices: Applied Spine (B); Research Support: Staff and/or materials: Archus Orthopedics (B), Synthes Spine (D); Grants: Stryker Spine (D); Fellowship Support: DePuy Spine (E).
- Branch, Charles L.:** Royalties: Medtronic (G); Consulting: Medtronic (E); Speaking and/or teaching arrangements: Medtronic (Disclosed in Consulting); Trips/travel: Medtronic (Disclosed in Consulting); Board of Directors: American Board of Neurological Surgery (None).
- Eskay-Auerbach, Marjorie:** Consulting: Stryker Spine (B), DePuy Spine (D).
- Faciszewski, Tom:** Trips/travels: MedCAC (None).
- Ghanayem, Alexander J.:** Boards of Directors: Cervical Spine Research Society (None); Research Support: Staff and/or materials: Synthes Spine (F), Simprica (E); Grants: Department of Veterans' Affairs (F).
- Glassman, Steven D.:** Royalties: Medtronic (H); Consulting: Medtronic (F); Trips/travel: Medtronic (Nonfinancial, travel paid); Research Support: Staff and/or Materials: Medtronic (E), Norton HealthCare (F); Grants: Norton HealthCare Community Trust Fund (F); Fellowship Support: Norton HealthCare (F).
- Heggeness, Michael H.:** Royalties: Relievant Medsystems (C); Stock Ownerships: Relievant Medsystems (45,000 shares, 4%); Consulting: Relievant Medsystems (D); Scientific Advisory Boards: Relievant Medsystems (None); Research Support: Investigator Salary: Department of Defense (C).
- Mick, Charles A.:** Nothing to disclose.
- Mitchell, William:** Speaking and/or teaching arrangements: DePuy Spine (B), North American Spine Society (B); Other: Fellowship Spine Surgery Center (3 shares), Cooper CyberKnife Center (B).
- Muehlbauer, Eric J.:** Consulting: International Spinal Injection Society (B); Trips/travels: International Spinal Injection Society (B); Others: NASS Exhibitors (I): Abbott Spine (E), Alphatec Spine, Inc. (E), DePuy Spine A Johnson & Johnson Company (F), Globus Medical Inc. (E), Medtronic Spinal and Biologics (F), NuVasive, Inc. (F), Orthofix, Inc. (E), Osteotech, Inc. (E), Stryker (F), Synthes Spine (E), Zimmer Spine (F), K2M (D), Alphatec Spine (C), DePuy Spine (D).
- O'Brien, David R.:** Nothing to disclose.
- Prather, Heidi:** AAPM&R (None).
- Przybylski, Gregory J.:** Stock Ownerships: United Healthcare (300 shares); Private Investments: South Jersey CK Leasing (1 share, 0.02%); Speaking and/or teaching arrangements: DePuy Spine (B), North American Spine Society (B), Eli Research (B); Trips/travels: Practicing Physicians Advisory Council to CMS (A), Relative-Value Update Committee of AMA (B); Boards of Directors: NASS (None), Warren Township Board of Education (None); Scientific Advisory Boards: United Health Group (B), Humana (C), DePuy Spine (B); Other Offices: Eli Research Advisory Editor (B), Council of State Neurosurgical Societies (B), AANS-CNS (None).
- Rao, Raj D.:** Boards of Directors: North American Spine Society (None); Scientific Advisory Boards: US Food and Drug Administration Scientific Advisory Panel on Orthopaedic and Rehabilitation Devices (B); Other Offices: American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons—Diversity Advisory Board (None).
- Resnick, Daniel K.:** Nothing to disclose.
- Rothman, David:** Other: President, Institute for Medicine as a Profession (IMAP).
- Schofferman, Jerome:** Boards of Directors: American Academy of Pain Medicine (None); Fellowship Supports: Medtronic Sofamor Danek (F), NuVasive (D).
- Standaert, Christopher J.:** Consulting: Washington State Health Care Authority Health Technology Clinical Committee (B); Trips/travel: Practicing Physicians Advisory Council for Dept. of HHS/ CMS (travel reimbursement).
- Truumees, Eeric:** Royalties: Stryker Spine (B); Stock Ownerships: Doctor's Research Group (number of shares unknown, percent of ownership unknown); Consulting: Stryker Spine (D), DePuy Spine (B), Osteotech (D), Globus (A); Speaking and/or teaching arrangements: Stryker Spine (D); Trips/travels: DePuy (B); Scientific Advisory Boards: Doctors Research Group (disclosed in Stock Ownerships).
- Vaccaro, Alexander R.:** Royalties: DePuy Spine (F), Biomet Spine (F), Globus (F), Medtronic (F), K2M (C), Aesculap (B); Stock ownership: K2M (percent of ownership unknown), Cytonics (percent of ownership unknown), Disc Motion Technology (D), ZygoLoc (percent of ownership unknown), Progressive Spinal Technology (percent of ownership unknown), Computational Biodynamics (percent of ownership unknown), Stout Medical (D), Bonovo Orthopaedics (percent of ownership unknown), ElectroCore (percent of ownership unknown), Vertiflex (percent of ownership unknown), Flagship Surgical (percent of ownership unknown), In vivo (percent of ownership unknown), Pearl Diver (percent of ownership unknown), Small Bone Innovations (percent of ownership unknown), Neucore (percent of ownership unknown), Crosscurrent (percent of ownership unknown), Vertilink (percent of ownership unknown), Orthovita (percent of ownership unknown), Syndicom (percent of ownership unknown), Biomerix (percent of ownership unknown), Spinemark (percent of ownership unknown), Paradigm Spine (percent of ownership unknown), Spinology (percent of ownership unknown), VertebroN (percent of ownership unknown), Replication Medica (percent of ownership unknown), Breakaway

# PROGRAM COMMITTEE/REVIEWERS

Imaging (percent of ownership unknown), Cross Tree Medical (percent of ownership unknown), Globus (percent of ownership unknown); Consulting: DePuy Spine (D), Osteotech (None), Orthofix (B), Vertiflex (A), Vertebro (B), Stryker Biotech (C), Stryker Spine (F), K2M (B), Medtronic (D), AO Spine (B); Other office: NASS Program committee (None); Research Support: Staff and/or Materials: AO Spine (D), Medtronic (D).

**Wang, Jeffrey C.:** Royalties: Medtronics (D), Stryker (E), Seaspine (E), Osprey (B), Aesculap (B), Biomet (F), DePuy (B); Consulting: Fziomed (B, relationship ended), Lanx (F), MTF (B), Facet Solutions (B), Syndicom (A), Depuy (B); Speaking and/or teaching arrangements: Stryker (D), SeaSpine (B), Vertiflex (B); Trips/travel: Depuy (B), Stryker (B); Scientific Advisory Boards: VG Innovations, Corespine, Expanding Orthopedics, Syndicom, Osprey, Flexuspine, Amedica, Bone Biologics, Curative Biosciences, Facet Solutions, PearlDiver, Pioneer, SeaSpine (options), Axis (none); Grants: Fonar (B); Fellowship Support: AO Foundation (E).

**Watters, William C.:** Consulting: Stryker (C); Scientific Advisory Boards: Intrinsic Therapeutics (None); Others: Blackstone Medical, Inc. (No amount provided).

**Wetzel, F. Todd:** Stock ownership: Relieva MedSystems (45,000, percent of ownership unknown); Scientific Advisory Board: Medtronic (Travel reimbursement).

## 2009 SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM COMMITTEE

NASS would like to thank the following members for their valued time, effort and dedication in planning the educational content for this year's Annual Meeting:

Charles L. Branch, Jr., MD  
*President*

Steven D. Glassman, MD  
David R. O'Brien, Jr., MD  
*2009 Program Co-chairs*

Christopher J. Standaert, MD  
Alexander R. Vaccaro, MD  
*2010 Program Co-chairs*

Venu Akuthota, MD  
William Mitchell, MD  
*2008 Program Co-chairs*

Venu Akuthota, MD  
*Education Council Director*

Jeffrey C. Wang, MD  
*Continuing Medical Education Chair*

## 2009 SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM REVIEWERS

NASS would like to thank the following volunteers who spent numerous hours reviewing abstracts:

Venu Akuthota, MD  
Howard S. An, MD  
Neel Anand, MD  
Paul A. Anderson, MD  
Paul M. Arnold, MD  
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Jeffrey C. Wang, MD  
Peter G. Whang, MD  
Michael L. Whitworth, MD  
Jon J. Wilson, DO  
Kirkham B. Wood, MD  
S. Tim Yoon, MD, PhD  
Jack E. Zigler, MD  
Michael R. Zindrick, MD

# REGISTRATION DETAILS

## REGISTRATION CATEGORIES

- Early Registration Deadline: September 14, 2009—Save \$200 with the early registration discount and ensure that you will have accommodations in an official NASS hotel.
- Pre-registration and Housing Deadline: October 19, 2009—After October 19, you must register on site at the Moscone Center South.
- On-site registration fees increase \$100. Please register early, so you will not be charged the higher registration fee on site at the convention center.
- Note: One Day registrations are not available this year.

## GENERAL REGISTRATION FEES

Registration fees for the NASS 24th Annual Meeting are designated in US currency. Only US currency will be accepted; no cash is accepted on site. We accept Visa, MasterCard and American Express. Fees include all education sessions from Nov. 11–14; Welcome Reception, Tuesday, Nov. 10; and Continental breakfasts (Wed.–Sat.) and lunches (Wed.–Fri.).

**Member Discount:** Save up to \$300 on your registration fee by joining NASS. Please e-mail [membership@spine.org](mailto:membership@spine.org) for information on how to become a member.

NASS Member	By 9/14	9/15-10/19
MD, DO, PhD (Active/Associate/Corresponding)	\$675 USD	\$875 USD
DC, PA, NP, RN, PT (Affiliate)	\$375 USD	\$575 USD
Full-time Medical/Scientific Researcher	\$375 USD	\$575 USD
Retired (Emeritus Member)	\$225 USD	\$425 USD
Resident/Fellow (In-training) (You must provide a letter from your training program director or you will be charged the member physician rate.)	\$150 USD	\$250 USD
Nonmember	By 9/14	9/15-10/19
MD, DO, PhD	\$975 USD	\$1175 USD
Nonmember Nonphysician (No guest passes allowed)	\$995 USD	\$1195 USD
Affiliate Health (DC, PA, NP, RN, PT, Medical Assistant, Practice Manager, Technician, Office Staff)	\$525 USD	\$725 USD
Resident/Fellow (You must provide a letter from your training program director or you will be charged the member physician rate.)	\$200 USD	\$300 USD
Commercial Business Interest (This category is for non-clinical professionals wishing to attend the meeting. NO guest passes allowed! Financial Researcher, Venture Capitalist, Investment Banker, Insurance Professional, Attorney, Non-exhibiting Company Representative, etc. This includes those who plan on attending the exhibit hall only.)	\$995 USD	\$1195 USD
<b>Guest</b> (Over 13 years of age): \$250 USD (Limit 1 guest. Includes participation in all lunches and the Welcome Reception. <b>Nonmember Nonphysician and Commercial Business Interest registrants are not permitted to purchase guest registrations.</b> Guest refers to a spouse or significant other, not a business associate, staff colleague or student who will attend scientific sessions.)		

Premeeting Courses & Technique Workshops Tuesday, November 10	Member		Nonmember	
	By 9/14	9/15-10/19	By 9/14	9/15-10/19
Coding Update 2009 (November 9-10)	\$575 USD	\$625 USD	\$675 USD	\$725 USD
<b>Half-day Courses (a.m.: 8:00 a.m.–Noon; p.m.: 1:00–5:00 p.m.)</b>				
Section on Spine Biologics and Research (a.m.)	\$150 USD	\$250 USD	\$250 USD	\$350 USD
Section on Motion Technology (a.m.)	\$150 USD	\$250 USD	\$250 USD	\$350 USD
Advances in the Surgical Treatment of Acute Spinal Trauma (p.m.)	\$150 USD	\$250 USD	\$250 USD	\$350 USD
Advanced Rehabilitation for Surgeons and Other Spine Specialists (p.m.)	\$150 USD	\$250 USD	\$250 USD	\$350 USD
Critical Concepts in Adult Deformity Surgery (p.m.)	\$150 USD	\$250 USD	\$250 USD	\$350 USD
<b>Technique Workshops (Physicians Only)</b>				
Cervical Spine Stabilization (8:00 a.m.–Noon)	\$475 USD	\$675 USD	\$675 USD	\$875 USD
Interbody Fusion Technologies (1:00–5:00 p.m.)	\$475 USD	\$675 USD	\$675 USD	\$875 USD

## REGISTRATION

**BY INTERNET ONLY**—Register quickly and easily at [www.nassannualmeeting.org](http://www.nassannualmeeting.org). Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, it is a convenient way to register and reserve a hotel room. We accept Visa, MasterCard and American Express.

## REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

If you have attended a NASS Meeting or purchased a product you will have a username and password. **Your username is your e-mail address and password is either your NASS member ID number or an assigned ID number.** Here are ways to locate your ID number:

- You may have received an Annual Meeting promotional e-mail that contained your username and password; or, your ID number (password) is listed on the mailing panel of this preliminary program.
- Depending on the information in our database, you may be able to request your password online at [www.spine.org](http://www.spine.org). “Forgot Password” is located below username and password login.
- If you cannot locate your ID number (password) and you have an established NASS login, send a request to [registration@spine.org](mailto:registration@spine.org).
- Call NASS at (866) 960-6277 or (630) 230-3600.

*Please note: If you are a NASS member, your membership dues must be paid to receive the member registration rate.*

**If you are a first-time NASS meeting attendee**, you will be registered automatically at the nonmember nonphysician rate of \$995 (early) or \$1195. If you should be registered under a different category (listed on page 20), e-mail your request including your name, title, credentials, company, mailing address, job description, registration category, and phone number to [registration@spine.org](mailto:registration@spine.org). **If you are a nonmember resident/fellow or coding course member staff, see page 22 for instructions.**

**If you do not have a username and password**, please select “Register Online” and “Sign Up as a New Contact” located below the username and password login.

### How do I register?

1. Please read and review all instructions before registering.
2. Select “Register Online”.
  - **If you have your username** (e-mail address) and password (ID number), please enter that information and select “Login.”
  - **If you do not have a username and password**, select “Sign Up as a New Contact” located below username and password.
    - a. Enter your information and select “Create Contact.”
    - b. Select “Ok.”
    - c. A username and password will be e-mailed to you.
    - d. If username and password do not work right away, try again in 5 minutes.
3. If you would also like to have another person receive a confirmation invoice, please enter his or her e-mail address under “E-mail CC.” A confirmation letter will automatically be sent to the e-mail address we have in our database.
4. After you register, select “Submit Payment” and you will automatically be e-mailed a confirmation letter. Your registration will automatically be cancelled if you don’t select “Submit Payment.”
5. After clicking “Submit Payment” a link will be displayed towards the bottom of the page in red to reserve your hotel room. If you decide to reserve your room at a later date, your link to register for housing will be on your confirmation letter.
6. Please add [registration@spine.org](mailto:registration@spine.org) and [CRMAdmin@spine.org](mailto:CRMAdmin@spine.org) to your safe list, to receive your confirmation letter and future e-mails.

# REGISTRATION DETAILS

## REGISTRATION POLICIES

- **Cancellation Policy:** Cancellation of registration must be submitted in writing via mail or e-mail and must be postmarked or dated on or before October 19 to receive a refund less cancellation processing fee. Cancellation processing fees: General Registration \$125 USD; Premeeting Technique Workshops \$75 USD (each); Premeeting Workshops \$25 USD (each); and Guests \$50 USD. **There will be no refunds after October 19, 2009 regardless of cause.**  
**E-mail:** registration@spine.org **Mail:** NASS, 7075 Veterans Blvd., Burr Ridge, IL 60527
- **Change Policy:** If you need to modify your registration, please e-mail registration@spine.org. This function cannot be processed online. Registrations are not transferable.
- **Coding Course Member Staff:** If you are attending the Coding Course and you are staff of a NASS member, you will automatically be charged the nonmember rate. After your registration is complete, please e-mail registration@spine.org with the member name and you will be credited the difference between member and nonmember. **NOTE:** Please do not use your doctor's username and password to register. You will need to register yourself by creating a new contact.
- **Commercial Business Interests and Nonmember Nonphysicians:** These registration types are not permitted to purchase Guest registrations. Guest registrations under these categories will be cancelled and your credit card will be credited \$250.00.
- **Disclaimer:** NASS reserves the right to allocate up to \$300 of all Annual Meeting registrations to assist in funding the further development of the Spine Education and Research Center (formerly Spine Masters Institute), in order to advance spine education.
- **Media Registration:** Credentialed members of the media may register to attend the conference and are required to provide NASS staff with a copy of their press credentials and letters of assignment. Qualified media outlets must be represented by editorial staff, not advertising or marketing staff. Publishers will not be considered part of the editorial staff. Media interested in attending should contact the Communications Department at (630) 230-3650 or llaw@spine.org for instructions on registering. Only two registrations are allowed per media outlet.
- **Guest Registration: Limit one guest per attendee**—includes participation at all lunches and the Welcome Reception. MAY NOT be used as registration for associates who will be attending scientific sessions. Guest refers to a spouse or significant other, not a business associate, staff colleague or student.
- **Premeeting Course Only Registration:** If you are registered for a Premeeting Course only, Guest registrations are not allowed. If a guest is registered under this category, your guest will be cancelled and your credit card will be credited \$250.00.
- **Residents/Fellows:** In order to receive the nonmember resident rate, please fax a letter from your program director stating that you are a resident/fellow in good standing with the dates of your residency/fellowship on letterhead to (630) 230-3709. If you are not in our database, create a new contact. After you create a new contact, e-mail registration@spine.org and inform the registration manager that you faxed a letter from your program director. When the letter is received, you will receive an e-mail to register online. A valid Student ID is required for on-site badge pickup.
- **Technique workshops:** These workshops are for **physicians only**. If you register for a technique workshop and you are not a physician, your workshop registration will be cancelled and your credit card will be credited the payment amount.
- **Transfer Policy:** Registration fees are not transferable.





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