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Chairman – The Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons (SLS)

Innovator – Educator - Pioneer

In the early 1980's I was publishing a women's health newsletter and received a package of information from Professor Kurt Semm, the then unknown father of laparoscopic surgery. When I read the material I knew that I had to visit Professor Semm in Germany and see for myself. I realized the tremendous benefits to patients and the future potential of Minimally Invasive Laparoscopy. By the way, in those early years there was great criticism by the established medical community about this new idea of performing major surgery through small incisions, I knew that I had to persist in improving understanding to overcome this criticism, and worked to train surgeons about this new revolutionary way of helping patients. I saw the need for education on a broader scale and founded **SLS** to establish standards and education for this then new field. SLS has grown over the past 25 years to the largest non-profit multispecialty medical society of its kind in the world and of course minimally invasive and laparoscopic surgeries are now the gold standard for many fields.

Founder – ORReady

World Initiative to improve the outcome for Six Million Surgical Patients

Recognized as an innovative contribution to the field of CME and Patient Safety, **ORReady** has been selected for the ACME 2011 Medical Specialty Societies Member Section Great Idea Award. The objective of the ORReady Initiative is to improve surgical outcomes worldwide and to be a hub of information for surgeons and facilities that want to become CentersOfMerit for surgical safety. Implementation of the ORReady's simple proven protocols could help OR teams work together to reduce errors and complications thus improving outcomes for patients globally. Various forms of the steps suggested in ORReady have been adopted by top centers, surgeons, and nurses in multiple specialties, reducing their errors by 40% and cutting deaths in half. Visit the **ORReady website** (www.SLS.org/Outcome) to learn about these powerful tools.

Clinical Professor Emeritus University of Miami, School of Medicine

As a young clinician I arranged to bring Professor Semm and his team from Germany to the US to the UM Medical School and Jackson Memorial Hospital and organized the first training courses for MIS, again there was skepticism about this new technology, but I wasn't deterred. Over the years I've worked to bring these concepts to the world with training and education physicians in multiple specialties and countries.

Personal Mission "It's The Outcome"

Family

I am fortunate to have a wonderful life partner, my wife Janis Chinnock Wetter – Together we have worked around the world in non-profit postgraduate medical education to advance better patient outcome and teach Minimally Invasive Surgery
Steven Wetter, Clare Tremer – Children
Jack & Luke Wetter – Grandsons

Interests

Since childhood I have has been fixing and restoring things, making things work better some adventures included an antique radio at age 13, a 100 year old player piano during Medical School, Antique sports car during Residency, Arts and Crafts and Mission Furniture and historic homes and gardens and not in the least the fixing and helping improve the fields of surgery and medical education.
I love to make things work better and I love classic things.

Professional Experience

Non-profit Medical Editor and Non-profit Medical Publisher

I am Founding Editor of the classic medical textbook in Minimally Invasive Surgery, and under my stewardship **Prevention & Management of Laparoendoscopic Surgical Complications**, is now in its **Fourth and Digital Edition**, The First edition was a sellout and translated in Mandarin and Portuguese. The Second Edition was even more innovative and was the first of its kind open access online medical textbook. The third edition, broke new ground in Open-Access Medical Education with embedded videos that walk surgeons through difficult procedures and translations to twenty languages. The non-profit third edition is available for free, over the Internet, to surgeons, residents and students in multiple specialties and countries around the world.

JLSL, Journal of the Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons JLSL, My interest in publishing lead to **co-founding and the role of Managing Editor**, JLSL has worldwide circulation, I used my interest in computers and the internet to develop this innovative differently published "Journal For A New Era" a highly rated peer review journal, listed on *Index Medicus* and MEDLINE, this was and is a pioneering publication in open access, free distribution over the internet and as such JLSL has skyrocketed to the top 100 of over 10,000 scientific publications in downloads of scientific information. This breakthrough Idea a Non-Profit Journal by a Non-profit publisher, is not the standard model and has lead to this normally unobtainable success. In 2010 JLSL became 100% Open Access on PubMed Central one of the early top tier journals tp reach this new important standard.

A similar interest lead to **the innovative online journal *Laparoscopy Today*** and recently CRSLs which along with SLS' **forward thinking non-profit educational websites** at the forefront of web technology and ever evolving with the internet to present and allow sophisticated searches of the latest information and education from National and International Meetings, Textbooks, Surgical Videos, all uniquely open access to serve the world medical community.

"This is quite honestly the most impressive information available to surgeons today."

*Richard M. Satava, MD
Professor, University of Washington Medical Center
Senior Science Advisor, US Army Medical Research and Materiel Command*

Additional Appointments

Editorial Board – Gen Surg and Laparoscopy News- McMahon Publishing

Editorial Board – Laparoscopy Update –Williams & Wilkins

Delegate – AMA House of Delegates

Peer Reviewer –Stemmler Fund, National Board of Medical Examiners

Historical Perspective of MIS – Kiel University, Kiel Germany

Judge – American Orchid Society

2007 **Visiting Professor** – Societa Italiana di Endoscopia Ginecologica ,Palermo, Italy

2006 **Visiting Professor** – Croatia Congress MIS Dubrovnik, Croatia

2002 **Visiting Professor** Appointment -Harbin Medical University, China

2002 **Delegate** Congress of Gyn Endoscopy and Innovative Surgery, Berlin, Germany

2002 **Visiting Professor** - Surgeon in the 21st Century- Beijing, China

2002 **Delegate** - International Society for Gynecologic Endoscopy, Berlin, Germany.

2002 **Delegate** - European Association of Endoscopic Surgery, Lisbon, Portugal

2000 **Visiting Professor** – Singapore General Hospital

1999 **Visiting Professor** – French Laparoscopy Society
1999 **Visiting Professor** – 4th Brasileiro de Video-Cirurgia, Florianopolis, Brazil
1999 **Visiting Professor** – University Tor Vergata , Rome
1999 **Delegate** Asian and Oceanic Congress of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Keynotes

2010 **Keynote** – Australian Gynaecological Endoscopy & Surgery Society and International Society of Gynecologic Endoscopy, SLS sessions, Sydney Australia
2009 **Keynote** – Society for Minimally Invasive Therapy – Sinia, Romania
2008 **Keynote – Surgical Education** – Training vs Complications Latin American Cirugia Endoscopia, Guatemala City, Guatemala
2008 **Keynote** – International Society of Gynecology Endoscopy
2006 **Keynote** – Society for Medical Innovation and Technology
2005 **Keynote** – Congress of European Association of Endoscopic Surgeons
2003 **Keynote** – First European Endoscopic Surgery Week, Glasgow, Scotland
2000 **Keynote** – Jubilee World Meeting University Professors, Host –Pope John Paul II, Vatican, Rome. Mankind and Cancer - Surgical Oncology at the Start of the Third Millennium. Rome, Sept 2000. " Treatment of Cancer Patients: Ethical and Legal Issues" Vatican, Rome
2000 **Keynote** – First Meeting Israel Society of Gynecologic Endoscopy
World Congress of GYN Endoscopy, Tel Aviv, Israel 2000

Medical, Surgical and Educational Firsts

In my 25year surgical career, I performed many of the **first Advanced Laparoscopic Surgeries** in US and in Florida for **appendectomy, ectopic pregnancy, ovarian cysts, hysterectomy, video laparoscopy** and more.

My interest in design and innovation contributed to many of the early and current laparoscopy instruments in use today that have helped foster advanced minimally invasive surgery in fields of Gynecology, General Surgery, Endourology, Bariatric Surgery and Robotic Surgery.

Awards and Honors

2010 2011 ACME(Alliance for CME) Medical Specialty Great Idea Award for ORReady

2009 Jurnalul de Chirurgie [Journal of Surgery] –Honorary Editor

2004 **Honorary Chair** – Endoscopic Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland

2004 **Honorary Mayor** – Worcester, UK in recognition by the Endoscopic Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland

2004 **Excel Award** – Each year is given to a surgeon who has made outstanding contributions to laparoendoscopy and minimally invasive surgery. Recipients have been from various specialties and nationalities, all having the common element of excellence in the field

U/M School of Medicine **Distinguished Alumni** -Alumni Association

2002. **Honorary Advisor** Beijing Anzhen Hospital Training Center for Endoscopic Technology, China

2000 **Honorary Director** Hunan Provincial Peoples Hospital PRC, Hunan

2000 Appointment Honorary Consultant – Training Center for Pediatric Laparoscopic Surgery, Children’s Hospital of Hunan Province, China

1999 **Tribute** by the Congresso Brasileiro Video Cirurgia

1999 **Honorary Director** at Opening of First Laparoscopy Training Center in China , Fushon (Guangzhau, China)

1996 – **Professor**, Asociacion Mexicana De Cirugia Laparoscopica

In 1995 Paul was recognized with U/M Medical School **Teaching Award** for commitment to excellence, enthusiasm for teaching, based on the Innovative Freshman and sophomore course he helped create and teach for 20years.

1995 **Certificate of Appreciation and Recognition** – Chinese Academy of Medical Science for academic activities in China for helping to bring Minimally Invasive Training techniques to China.

1995 Asociacion Costarricense De Cirugia - **Professor**

1993 **Alpha Omega Alpha** – Alumnus Member University of Miami

1988-89 **Anastasia Society** U/M Med School For Leadership in Medical Education

1980 American Academy of Family Physicians For Teaching activity in Family Practice

MECO For outstanding support for the Medical Education and Community Orientation Program of the American Medical Student Association

Education

1971-75 **University of Miami, School of Medicine, M.D.'75**
Vice-President, Sophomore Class
Member **Omicron Delta Kappa**-National Leadership Society
1969-71 **University of Miami, B.S.** awarded 1971 Chemistry
Alpha Epsilon Delta-Premedical Honor Society, Vice President.
Irwin Honor Scholarship

Post Graduate Training

1975-79 **Resident and Chief Resident**
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Jackson Memorial Hospital, University of Miami.

Harvard Medical School Gynecologic Pathology

University of Colorado, Beth Israel Hospital OB/GYN

Advanced Pelviscopy, Laparoscopy Prof. Kurt Semm, M.D. Kiel, W. Germany

1979-97

Gynecology Centre of South Miami
Practice of Gynecology, Gynecologic Surgery, Fertility
Laser, Laparoscopic and Pelviscopic Surgery
Staff Privileges:

Doctors Hospital
Jackson Memorial/University of Miami
South Miami Hospital

Panelist - *Health Views* TV Show PBS

Publisher - *Well Aware Women's Health Letter*

Delegate - First Meeting ALACE - Latin American Assn Endoscopic Surgeons

1996 Visiting Professor Operative Laparoscopy Russia, Romania - Citizen Ambassador Program

1995 Delegate - Association of Surgeons of South Africa

1995 Visiting Professor - Operative Laparoscopy in China - Chinese Academy of Medical Science

1995 Delegation Leader - Citizen Ambassador Program, Minimally Invasive Surgery - Peoples
Republic of China

1990 Vice President- Medical Staff Doctors Hospital

1989 Member of the Board of Governors of the John T. MacDonald
Foundation at Doctors Hospital - Coral Gables

1986-88 Chairman-Gynecology Department-Doctors Hospital

1970-71 Department of Surgery, University of Miami Kidney Transplant Research

Professional License and Societies

Alliance for Continuing Medical Education
American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists
American Fertility Society
American Society of Association Executives
Council of Science Editors
Diplomat American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology
European Society of Gynecologic Endoscopy
Fellow American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Fellow American College of Surgeons
Florida State Board of Medical Examiners
Minimally Invasive Robotic Association
National Board of Medical Examiners
The Society for Medical Innovation and Technology
Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons
William A. Little Obstetrical and Gynecological Society

Industry

1980's -Member of Design Team at **Symbiosis Corporation** for first high-quality, low-cost disposable laparoscopic instruments, including 5 and 10mm scissors, dissectors, and grasping devices. Which later became part of the line for Ethicon Endosurgery
1990's **CNS Technology** – Collaborated in development of Brachytherapy seeds for treatment of prostate cancer.
1990's Co-founder of **Syntheon LLC** which has developed devices in use today for Gastrointestinal, Cardiovascular, Urologic and Minimally Invasive Surgery, and has resulted in at least 4 spin-off corporations.

Scientific Chairman of the Following Conferences

18th International Congress and EndoExpo Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons, Annual Meeting, Boston, MA September 2009

17th International Congress and EndoExpo Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons, Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL September 17-20, 2008

AsianAmerican MultiSpecialty Summit III Laparoscopy and Minimally Invasive Surgery, Honolulu, HI, Feb 6-9, 2008

16th International Congress and EndoExpo Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons, Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA September 5-8, 2007

EuroAmerican MultiSpecialty Summit III Laparoscopy and Minimally Invasive Surgery, Miami Beach, FL Feb 21-24, 2007

15th International Congress and EndoExpo Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons, Annual Meeting, Boston, MA September 6-9, 2006

AsianAmerican MultiSpecialty Summit II Laparoscopy and Minimally Invasive Surgery, Honolulu, HI, FL Feb 8-11, 2006

14th International Congress and EndoExpo Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons, Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA September 14-17, 2004

EuroAmerican MultiSpecialty Summit II Laparoscopy and Minimally Invasive Surgery, Miami Beach, FL Feb 23-26, 2005

13th International Congress and EndoExpo Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons, Annual Meeting, New York, NY September 29- Oct 2, 2004

AsianAmerican MultiSpecialty Congress of Laparoscopy and Minimally Invasive Surgery Honolulu, HI Conference 2/4-27/04

12th International Meeting of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons, SLS Annual Meeting, Endo Expo 2003 Las Vegas, NV Annual Meeting/Conference 9/22-25/03

InterAmerican MultiSpecialty Congress of Laparoscopy and Minimally Invasive Surgery Miami Beach, FL Conference 2/20-22/03

11th International Meeting of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons, SLS Annual Meeting, Endo Expo 2002 New Orleans, LA Annual Meeting/Conference 9/11/02-9/11/02

Focused Issues for Gynecologists and General Surgeons Miami Beach, FL Conference 2/22-23/02

10th International Meeting of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons, SLS Annual Meeting, Endo Expo 2001 New York, NY Annual Meeting/Conference 12/5/01-12/8/01

Focused Issues for General Surgeon, Gynecologist, Urologist Miami Beach, FL Conference 2/23-24/01

9th International Meeting of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons, SLS Annual Meeting, Endo Expo '2000 Orlando, FL Annual Meeting/Conference 12/6/00-12/9/00

4th Global Symposium: New Diagnostic Micro-Laparoscopic Techniques: for use in the Office, Emergency Room, Intensive Care Unit, and Operating Room, Miami Beach, FL Conference 2/25-26/00

8th International Meeting of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons, SLS Annual Meeting, Endo Expo 1999 New York, NY Annual Meeting/Conference 12/5/99-12/7/99

Management of Endometriosis and Leiomyoma of the Uterus and Abnormal Uterine Bleeding New York, NY Post Graduate Course 12/4/99

Selected Problems in Minimally Invasive Surgery for General Surgeons New York, NY Post Graduate Course 12/4/99

Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy and Common Bile Duct Management: The 21st Century New York, NY Post Graduate Course 12/4/99

Advanced Laparoscopic Techniques: Stress Urinary Incontinence, Pelvic Floor Reconstruction and Hysterectomy New York, NY Post Graduate Course 12/4/99

Advanced Micro-Laparoscopic Techniques: Outpatient, Diagnostic and Emergency Room Laparoscopy under Local Anesthesia New York, NY Post Graduate Course 12/4/99

Prevention and Management of Laparoscopic and Endoscopic Surgical Complications New York, NY Post Graduate Course 12/4/99

3rd Global Symposium. New Diagnostic Micro-Laparoscopic Techniques: For use in the Office, Emergency Room, Intensive Care Unit, and Operating Room Miami Beach, FL Conference 2/26/99-2/27/99

7th International Meeting of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons, SLS Annual Meeting, Endo Expo 1998 San Diego, CA Annual Meeting/Conference 12/10/98-12/12/98

Office Ultrasound and Ultrasound Guided Breast Biopsy San Diego, CA Post Graduate Course 12/9/98

Nissen Fundoplication San Diego, CA Post Graduate Course 12/9/98

New Techniques: Stress Incontinence, Pelvic Floor Reconstruction and Urogynecology San Diego, CA Post Graduate Course 12/9/98

Micro-Laparoscopic Techniques: Outpatient, Diagnostic and Emergency Room Laparoscopy San Diego, CA Post Graduate Course 12/9/98

Prevention and Management of Laparoendoscopic Surgical Complications San Diego, CA Post Graduate Course 12/9/98

Prevention and Management of Laparoendoscopic Surgical Complications New York, NY Conference 4/17/98-4/18/98

Micro-Laparoscopic Techniques: Outpatient Endoscopy & The New Diagnostic Laparoscopy Miami Beach, FL Conference 2/27/98-2/28/98

6th International Meeting of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons, SLS Annual Meeting, Endo Expo 1997 Orlando, FL Annual Meeting/Conference 12/4/97-12/6/97

Micro-Laparoscopic Techniques & Office Endoscopy Orlando, FL Post Graduate Course 12/3/97

Abdominal Ultrasonography for Laparoendoscopic Surgeons Orlando, FL Post Graduate Course 12/3/97

Prevention & Management of Laparoendoscopic Surgical Complications

Orlando, FL Post Graduate Course 12/3/97

The New Diagnostic Laparoscopy
San Antonio, TX Conference 5/8/97-5/10/97

Electrosurgery for the Laparoendoscopic Surgeon
San Antonio, TX Post Graduate Course 5/8/97

Endo Expo 1996
Orlando, FL Annual Meeting/Conference 12/5/96-12/7/96

Surgical Techniques
Orlando, FL Post Graduate Course 12/4/96

Laparoendoscopic & Office Based Ultrasound - A Vital Diagnostic Component: Indications,
Contraindications & Techniques Orlando, FL Post Graduate Course
12/4/96

Prevention and Management of Laparoendoscopic Surgical Complications
New York, NY Conference 9/27/96-9/28/96

Laparoscopic and Intraoperative Ultrasonography
New York, NY Post Graduate Course 9/26/96

Prevention and Management of Laparoendoscopic Surgical Complications
San Francisco, CA Conference 5/10/96-5/11/96

SLS International Video Festival
Cancun, Mexico Conference 2/23/96-2/24/96

A hands-on Laparoscopic Suture Lab (Simulated)
Orlando, FL Post Graduate Course 12/8/98

Endo Expo 1995 Orlando, FL Annual Meeting/Conference 12/7/95-12/9/95

Surgical Energy Sources: Safety, Applications, Efficacy and Outcomes
Orlando, FL Post Graduate Course 12/7/98

Prevention and Management of Laparoendoscopic Surgical Complications
Boston, MA Conference 9/15/95-9/16/95

Prevention and Management of Laparoendoscopic Surgical Complications
San Diego, CA Conference 5/19/95-5/20/95

Expo 1994: Laparoendoscopic Surgery: New Vistas
Orlando, FL Annual Meeting/Conference 12/8/94-12/10/94

SLS International Video Festival
Maui, HI Conference 8/19/94-8/20/94

Prevention and Management of Laparoendoscopic Surgical Complications
Seattle, WA Conference 6/10/94-6/11/94

Endo Expo 1993: Laparoendoscopic Surgery: What's New on the Horizon?
Orlando, FL Annual Meeting/Conference 12/9/93-12/11/93

Laparoendoscopic Surgical Complications Prevention and Management
San Diego, CA Conference 3/26/93-3/27/93

Endo Expo 1992: Toward Excellence in Laparoscopic Surgery
Orlando, FL Annual Meeting/Conference 12/3/92-12/5/92

American Laser Institute Lab: Hands-on Wet Lab
I-Adv. Lap for the Gen Surg II-Adv Lap for the Gyn III-Lap Cholecystectomy
Orlando, FL Laboratory Course 12/2/92

The First SLS Meeting - How to Use What the Experts Know to Avoid Laparoendoscopic Surgical
Complications Palm Beach, FL Conference 3/31/92-3/14/92

Moderator Gynecology section 4th World Congress of Endoscopic Surgery, Kyoto, Japan June 1994
Guest Lecturer Association of Laparoscopic surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland 1994,
Cancer Information Center, University of Miami
"Current Status of Pap Smear and Pelvic Exam in Cancer Screening"
Grand Rounds, Dept OB-GYN, University of Miami
"Diagnosis and Treatment of Pelvic Mass in Pregnancy"
School of Medicine, University of Miami
"Examination of The Female Patient"
Grand Rounds, Dept OB-GYN, University of Miami
"Pelviscopic Surgery"
Trends in Operative Laparoscopy