

Participation in National Committees

J. Brantley Thrasher, MD, FACS
Department of Urology
Kansas City, Kansas



ACCME guidelines require disclosure of financial or commercial interest

I have no relevant financial or commercial disclosures



Organized Urology

- **AUA**
- **RRC-(ACGME)**
- **ABU-(ABMS)**
- **SAU**
- **AUA Sections-(8 geographic sections)**
- **Subspecialty Societies**
- **ACS**
- **AACU**

Why Get Involved in Organized Urology?

Lead me, follow me or you get out of my way?

AUA Leadership Program

- **Competitive program offered through the Sections every 2 yrs**
- **Identifies future leaders in the AUA Sections and the AUA**
- **One year duration with a graduation ceremony at the annual meeting**
- **Group project completed with a small group from your section**

AUA Leadership Program

- **Two and ½ days at the main office in Linthicum**
- **You learn about the AUA corporate structure, organization and leaders**
- **1 day dedicated to leadership**
- **Receive significant reading material**
- **Meet in your small group with your mentor at the JAC and via teleconf.**

Basic Axioms

- **Develop a mentoring relationship**
- **Express an interest**
- **Focus on your passion**
- **Learn to disagree without being disagreeable**
- **Be punctual, collaborative and detail oriented**
- **Exhibit humility and gratitude**

Mentor Program

- **Choose your mentor wisely!**
- **Must be willing to put forth the effort to teach, evaluate and provide constructive criticism**
- **Models integrity and self-less service**
- **Truly cares about your growth personally and professionally**

Early Success

- Your first committee, task force or assignment might not be your first choice
- Your performance is always being watched
- Perform 360 degree evaluation
- Every job you take on-remember MAD-
Make A Difference!

Focus Your Efforts

- **With early success come multiple opportunities-(ex. SUCPD)**
- **Focus on your passion and exhibit purpose, passion and perseverance**
- **Learn to say no (no one cares how many races you start but how many you finish)**

Conflict Resolution

- Urology is a small fishbowl
- Learn to “play well in the sandbox”
- One disgruntled colleague is 10 times more vociferous than an ambivalent/thankful one
- Negotiation is an art
- There is never a reason to be rude or confrontational- you can always disagree without being disagreeable

Express an Attitude of Gratitude

- Thank those who help move you up
- Make it a personal thanks-(not an email)
- Always look for feedback—good or bad, learn from each situation
- Strive to improve

Humble vs Haughty

- You need to showcase your work but show humility
- Always publicly praise those who help
- Provide your own feedback to those who gave you the opportunity-(publications)
- Eager to help vs quick to irritate

Conclusion

- **Identify a good mentor for your professional development**
- **Discover your passion but remain flexible**
- **Regardless of the task, make a difference**
- **Learn to focus on you passion as opportunities multiply**
- **Have an attitude of gratitude!**

Wiener Dog?

