

Message from the President

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news

EASTERN ASSOCIATION
FOR THE SURGERY
OF TRAUMA

ADVANCING SCIENCE • FOSTERING RELATIONSHIPS • BUILDING CAREERS

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Strategic Goals

LEADERSHIP

Prepare young surgeons to become leaders

DEVELOPMENT

Promote unique programs for the career development of young surgical leaders

SCHOLARSHIP

Provide education and training across the continuum of acute surgical care

FELLOWSHIP

Encourage a sense of community for personal professional growth

COLLABORATION

Work with our stakeholders to advance patient care and trauma systems



Better Together

Professional organizations such as the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma (EAST) continue to shape the landscape of American medicine. EAST's drive to improve the care of the injured patient has not wavered in more than 30 years. However, the way in which we approach our mission is reengineered, reconsidered, and reevaluated nearly every day. EAST's path forward has always focused on the young and early career surgeon as a key variable in the outcomes of trauma patients. Many EAST programs

fall exclusively under the sole purview of EAST and aim directly at these young surgeons. For example, our **leadership development workshop** and **mentoring program** are signature EAST items.

However, some endeavors we undertake rely on collaboration with other organizations to achieve our mission. We do not exist in a vacuum. There are dozens of professional societies whose work might overlap with EAST's. To truly change the world we need to work together under the overarching umbrella of trauma surgery—rather than splintering off into the **American Association for the Surgery of Trauma** (AAST), the **American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma** (ACS-COT), or the **Western Trauma Association** (WTA). We must not see these groups as direct competitors. We are working to change that landscape. The most vivid analogy I can provide is to the world of board games. There's a new style of non-competitive, cooperative games such as "Forbidden Desert" and "Pandemic" where the players don't try to beat each other but they try to work together to collectively beat the game. The **National Trauma Institute** (NTI) and **Coalition of National Trauma Research** (CNTR) are ideal examples of this type of collaboration. A single individual trauma organization could never have done what we have been able to do together; by using one collective voice we convinced the federal government to provide tens of millions of dollars for trauma research. Next up, a dedicated trauma research institute in the **National Institute of Health** (NIH).

Our ongoing decade-long relationship with the **Society of Trauma Nurses** (STN) reemphasizes the multidisciplinary nature of trauma care. We collaborate with nurses every day in the trauma bay, ICU, and operating room. Why wouldn't this relationship flow over to our respective professional organizations? We continue to build alliances and create practice management **guidelines** in collaboration with sister organizations such as the **Pediatric Trauma Society** (PTS), the **Chest Wall Injury Society** (CWIS), the **Trauma Anesthesiology Society** (TAS) and the **Society of Critical Care Medicine** (SCCM). Most recently we have been

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growing our connections with other organizations, expanding beyond the traditional scope of trauma surgery. Our new relationships with the **Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES)**, the **American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP)**, the **American Burn Association (ABA)** are bringing EAST expertise and programming to their national meetings and hosting their members to present at the EAST Annual Scientific Assembly. We have partnered with the **Society of University Surgeons (SUS)** to fund and enroll participants in the “**Promising Leaders Program.**”

Finally, EAST is growing our affiliations to reach out to the public regarding injury prevention, one of our most important roles, especially in this time of heated debate about gun safety. Earlier this year I had the honor of representing EAST in Chicago at a collaborative meeting of nearly 50 professional organizations for a **Medical Summit on Firearm Injury Prevention**. Our collective voices will remind the country that gun violence and firearm safety are matters of public health rather than partisan or political issues. #ThisIsOurLane Just this month, a new **public service announcement** co-sponsored by EAST, alongside three leading national organizations (**Brady, Giffords, and End Family Fire**) debuted to improve awareness of safe storage of firearms. By working together, we have the opportunity to reach a wider audience and make a larger impact on the public locally, nationally, and around the world.

Please contact me any time via email (ehaut1@jhmi.edu) or Twitter ([@elliotthaut](https://twitter.com/elliotthaut)) about EAST-related matters.



Elliott R. Haut, MD, PhD, FACS
EAST President

EAST Mission Statement

EAST is a scientific organization providing leadership and development for young surgeons active in the care of the injured patient through interdisciplinary collaboration, scholarship, and fellowship.

EAST Vision Statement

EAST seeks to improve care of the injured by providing a forum for the exchange of knowledge in the practice of trauma surgery; to promote trauma prevention, research, and improved trauma systems design; to encourage investigation and teaching of the methods of preventing and treating trauma; and to stimulate future generations of surgeons to meet the challenge.

EAST is on LinkedIn!

EAST is on LinkedIn! EAST is dedicated to advancing science, fostering relationships, and building careers through education, research, and fellowship. Build your network, connect with your peers, and stay updated on the latest EAST news by following along at [linkedin.org](https://www.linkedin.org). Search for Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma and stay “in” touch!

