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Letter FROM THE CHAIR

Neil Weissman, MD, FASE, 2025 – 2027 ASE Foundation Board Chair & Annual Appeal Committee Chair



On behalf of the ASE Foundation Board and Annual Appeal Committee, thank you for your support in 2025. I feel honored that I get to take a few moments to recount all the successes of the Foundation over the past year. It is a nice feeling to take time to reflect before looking to the future to what's next. I hope you'll indulge me. In 2025, the ASE Foundation:

- Awarded **50** Travel Grants & Scholarships
- Supported **50** Top Investigators
- Funded **\$75,000** in Early-Career Development Grants for Echo-Scientists (EDGES)
- Hosted the inaugural **Bijoy Khandheria Memorial Lectureship**, which was established in 2024 by the Khandheria family
- Evaluated **3,902** patients during **2** Global Health Outreach Events in Senegal and India
- Honored **26** women in our Spring Giving campaign
- Raised a record-breaking **\$40,320** for GivingTuesday
- Surpassed the \$250,000 Annual Appeal goal, raising over **\$290,000** from over **2,550** donors

Congratulations to you, our donors. You are what makes us successful.

In the beginning of 2025, I talked about how excited I was about the prospect of helping the Foundation move to the next generation of giving to help build a solid, sustainable, and reliable funding source through philanthropy. I am thrilled to share that we have established the Foundation's first endowment, the ASE Presidents' Legacy Fund. The fund was created to honor individuals who have made substantive contributions to ASE at the time of a life event. Thanks to the generosity of several past and current leaders at ASE, the fund already has received more than \$250,000 in pledged support in just the last few months! If you want to contribute to this fund, you can access donation information online on the [ASE Foundation website](#), under Support Our Work.

I firmly believe that endowments will be transformative

for our organization as we position ASE and the Foundation for another 50 years of success. I anticipate the ASE Presidents' Legacy Fund to be the first of many Foundation endowments. If you are interested in discussing the creation of a new endowment or an estate gift, please contact us at Foundation@ASEcho.org.

Now, let's talk about what I'm looking forward to this year! Thanks to the more than 2,550 individuals who contributed to the 2025 Annual Appeal, we are looking forward to awarding scholarships and travel grants, funding research grants, and hosting a global health outreach event in Nepal. Applications

for the 2026 Council Travel Grants are open until March 15. The next round of Early-Career Development Grants for Echo-Scientists (EDGES) applications will open April 2. See page 7 for more details about both application cycles.

We are once again hosting our Three for Free raffle! If you missed it last year, we raffled off a complimentary registration to this year's Scientific Sessions. Join us in congratulating the lucky winner, Jeannette Yuen, MD, FASE! This year's raffle prize is a complimentary ticket to the 2027 Gala! To be eligible, you must donate at least \$50 to three ASE Foundation fundraisers: For the Love of Hearts (February 8-15), Coffee Day (September), and GivingTuesday (December). The winner will be selected at random. All are welcome to participate!

If you are heading to the Rockies this June for ASE 2026, make sure you stop by the ASE Foundation Booth. We will have a beautiful display of photos available for purchase, you can track your steps for the CV Challenge, make a donation, and say hello, of course! Our premiere fundraising event, the Research Awards Gala, will be on Saturday, June 27. [Tickets are on sale now!](#) This year's theme is Enchanted Forest, and we will be honoring ASE's 2026 award winners. More details are available on page 8.

I am really looking forward to what 2026 has in store, and I hope you will make the Foundation part of your year. We are grateful for your continued support.

“
I firmly believe that endowments will be transformative for our organization as we position ASE and the Foundation for another 50 years of success.
”

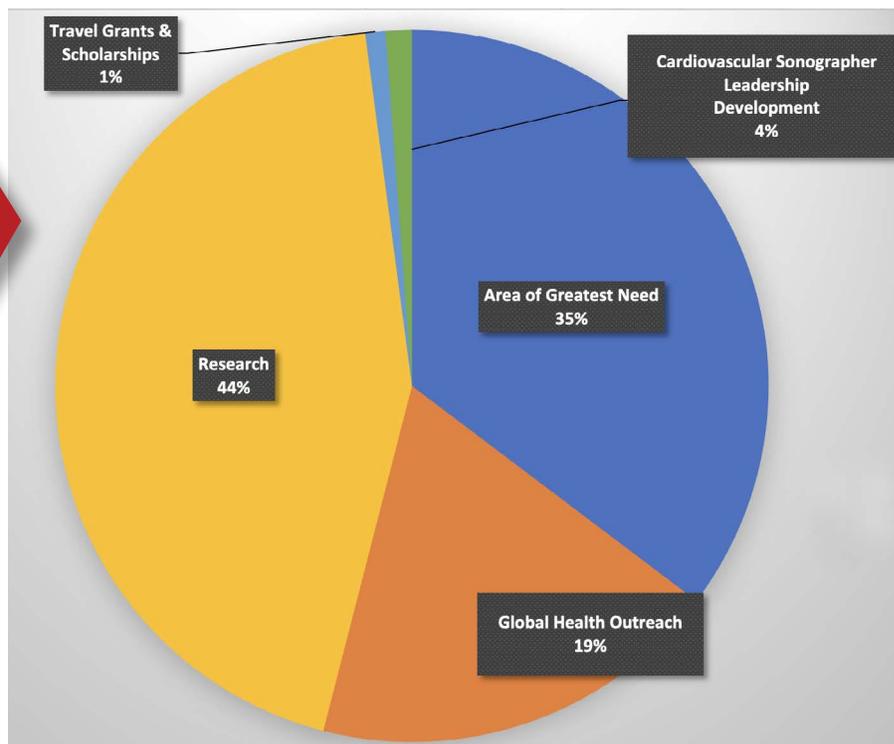
2025 Annual Appeal GIVING REPORT

The ASE Foundation reached 116% of its \$250,000 fundraising goal for the 2025 Annual Appeal, raising **\$291,252.58!** Donors allocated their gifts as follows:

In addition to the 2,579 individual donors who contributed to the Annual Appeal (see pages 9-11) we are honored to thank the following partner organizations:

2025 Annual Appeal Supporters

ASE Cardiovascular Sonography Council Steering Committee
ASE Circulation & Vascular Ultrasound Council
ASE Leadership Academy Cohort 4
ASE Pediatric & Congenital Heart Disease Council Steering Committee
ASE Perioperative Echocardiography Council
Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
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MedStar Health Research Institute
New England Society of Echocardiography
Northwestern University
Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute
Siemens Healthineers
Thomas Jefferson University Hospital
University of California San Francisco
Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School



2025 Partners in Care

In-kind equipment and logistical arrangements for the Senegal and India 2025 global health events

Dalal Jamm Hospital
GE Healthcare
Indian Academy of Echo (IAE)
IAE Karnataka Chapter
Narayana Health
National Board of Echocardiography, Inc.
Philips
Senegalese Ministry of Health & Social Action
Senegalese Ministry of National Education
Senegalese Society of Cardiology (SOSECAR)
Ultrasight
University of Dakar

Ongoing Support through Multi-Year Gifts for 2025 Travel Grants and Scholarships

Elsevier Inc.
National Board of Echocardiography, Inc.

Every gift is meaningful. Every contribution makes a difference. It's not too early to start thinking about your 2026 charitable contributions. Learn about the different ways you can give to the ASE Foundation [on our website](#). Together, we can make a world of difference! Looking for your 2025 donation receipts? All donation receipts are available online in the ASE Portal at [My.ASEcho.org](#).

Your Donations IN ACTION

Research

In 2025, we launched the third installment of the Early Career Development Grant for Echo Scientists (EDGES). EDGES provides support and professional development opportunities for early career members in the Society. These grants also create avenues for the continued evolution of echocardiography through technical advancement and through new applications to meet the needs of increasingly complex patient populations. Funding allocated to our Research initiative allowed us to award three grants of \$25,000 each to Jah Yeon Choi, MD, PhD; Andrea Jones, MD, MSCE, FASE; and Yosuke Katayama, MD, PhD. Join us in congratulating them!



Jah Yeon Choi, MD, PhD
Massachusetts General
Hospital & Harvard
Medical School



Andrea Jones, MD, MSCE, FASE
University of Pennsylvania
& Children's Hospital
of Philadelphia



Yosuke Katayama, MD, PhD
University of Sydney

You can read more about each recipient and their respective projects on the EDGES page of the [ASE Foundation website](#). Applications for the 2026 cycle will open April 2.

The Foundation hosted its annual Brian Haluska Sonographer Research Award Competition and the Arthur E. Weyman Young Investigator's Award Competition at the 2025 ASE Scientific Sessions in Nashville, TN. These competitions recognize the exceptional work of young researchers, providing them the opportunity to present their original research to cardiovascular ultrasound experts from around the world and to interact, make connections, and build relationships with like-minded cardiovascular ultrasound professionals. In 2025, ASE had a record-breaking year of abstract submissions with almost 650 invited to present their research. These eight finalists selected for these competitions represent the best of the best.

The Arthur E. Weyman Young Investigator's Award Competition, named in honor of ASE Past President Arthur E. Weyman, MD, FASE, who also served as the first president of the National Board of Echocardiography (NBE), is supported by a grant from NBE to the ASE Foundation. The Brian Haluska Sonographer Research Award Competition recognizes non-physicians who served as the primary investigator on their project of original work. This competition, supported by the ASE Foundation, is named in honor of ASE member Brian Haluska, PhD, MSC (HONS), RDCS, AMS, FASE, and his incredible contributions to sonographer-led research over his career.



2025 Arthur E. Weyman Young Investigator's Award Competition winner, **Matteo Morello, MD**, (fourth from the left), from the University of Virginia Health System-CVRC, Charlottesville, Virginia. Joining him in this photo are fellow presenters and judges (left to right) **Leo Lopez, MD, FASE**, ASE 2025 Abstract Chair; **Martin Gruca, MD**, University of Chicago Medical Center, Chicago, Illinois; **Sae Jang, MD, UPMC**, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; **Yuki Sahashi, MD**, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, California; and **Jordan Strom, MD, MSc, FASE**, ASE 2025 Abstract Co-Chair.



2025 Brian Haluska Sonographer Research Award Competition winner, **Bethany Gholson, BS, ACS, RCS, FASE**, (second from the left), from the University of Virginia Health System-CVRC, Charlottesville, Virginia. She is pictured here with (left to right) **Leo Lopez, MD, FASE**, ASE 2025 Abstract Chair; **Jessica Churchill, BS, RDCS**, Brown University Health, Providence, Rhode Island; **Cassandra Polsen, BS, RDCS, FASE**, Lurie Children's Hospital, Chicago, Illinois; **Lauren Nelson, RDCS, RDMS, RVT, FASE**, Northwestern Medicine, Chicago, Illinois; and **Jordan Strom, MD, MSc, FASE**, ASE 2025 Abstract Co-Chair.

Your Donations IN ACTION

Global Health Outreach

Thanks to contributions made to this initiative, the Foundation was able to host two outreach events in 2025. In June, a team of 15 volunteers traveled to Senegal. While in country, the team participated in screenings across 14 schools where a total of 2,296 children were scanned. The team also presented at an educational symposium and hands-on workshop to about 150 clinicians. You can read more about the event in the [September/October 2025 issue of Echo Magazine](#).

In September, another team of 14 volunteers traveled to Bengaluru, India. The team participated in a four-day health camp, scanning 1,606 children and adults. They also presented to more than 150 clinicians during an educational symposium.

Donations to this initiative also support the dissemination and translation of ASE's practice guidelines to the global community. Funding in this initiative works to disseminate both English and translated guidelines and educational materials to help facilitate adoption of these quality measures by specialists worldwide.



Cardiovascular Sonographer Leadership Development

This initiative aims to combat dwindling institutional support for sonographer travel and volunteer service time. Funds raised in this initiative provide travel stipends to sonographer members volunteering in leadership positions within ASE and the Foundation.



"Receiving the travel grant as part of my service on the Executive Committee was an invaluable opportunity that allowed me to fully participate in this year's [2025] Scientific Sessions in Nashville. I was particularly inspired by the ASE Foundation's commitment to providing dedicated financial support that encourages sonographers to pursue and thrive in leadership positions within the Society. This intentional investment reflects a deep recognition of the vital perspectives and expertise that sonographers bring to cardiovascular imaging."

– Melissa Wasserman, RCCS, RDGS, FASE

Patient Education

Funding towards our Patient Education initiative advances the Foundation's direct outreach efforts to patients, increasing awareness of cardiovascular ultrasound and the crucial role it plays in optimal patient care. In 2025, the Foundation used funding to promote the [Patient Education materials](#) available on our website. We saw an increase in site visits by more than 11,000 and an increase in downloads by more than 3,000!

Your Donations IN ACTION

Travel Grants & Scholarships

Generous contributions to our 2024 Annual Appeal allowed us to award 50 travel grants and scholarships in 2025. When you donate to Travel Grants and Scholarships, you are fostering the next generation of cardiovascular ultrasound professionals by supporting their training and educational conference participation. Let's hear from some of the recipients about what this support means to them.

"This scholarship has strengthened my commitment to lifelong learning, and I hope to one day be in a position to pass on the same support and encouragement that I have been so graciously provided, to others."

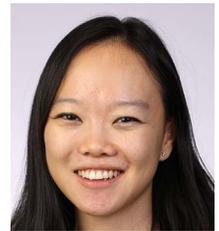
- **Naficeh Dastgheyb**, 2025 Katanick Student Scholarship Award Winner



Applications for the 2026 Council Travel Grants are open until March 15. Additional details are available on the [ASE Foundation website](#) under Available Funding.

"Thank you very much to the ASE Foundation and Pediatric and Congenital Heart Disease Council for the travel grant to attend the 2025 Scientific Sessions. This was my very first ASE experience, which I found to be immeasurably valuable and inspiring, especially as a third-year fellow interested in expanding my knowledge of pediatric cardiology and network of contacts."

- **Shannon Zhang, MD**, 2025 Pediatric and Congenital Heart Disease Council Travel Grant Recipient



"I am truly grateful for the opportunity to attend the 2025 ASE Scientific Sessions and to receive the Feigenbaum Cardiovascular Sonographer Student Travel Grant. This experience allowed me to expand my knowledge in echocardiography while networking and connecting with others in the field."

- **Roxanne Edwards**, 2025 Feigenbaum Cardiovascular Sonographer Student Travel Grant Winner



2025 NAMED LECTURERS

The ASE Foundation supports named lectures presented at the ASE Scientific Sessions. At the 2025 ASE Scientific Sessions, we hosted the **Kalmanson Lecture**, the **Gardin Lecture**, and the **Bijoy Khandheria Memorial Lecture**. Each lectureship provides a forum for honoring leaders within the field, while promoting research, education, global health, ethics, and humanitarian patient care, aligning with the Foundation's mission.

The inaugural Khandheria Memorial Lecture was presented in 2025 by **Jagat Narula, MD, PhD**, following an introductory presentation by **Jamil Tajik, MD, FASE**. This annual lectureship was established in 2024 in memory of ASE Past President, **Bijoy Khandheria, MD, FASE**. It was funded with support from an anonymous donor and the Khandheria family. Dr. Khandheria served on many ASE committees and task forces throughout his esteemed career. He helped establish ASE's educational course portfolio and was the co-director of ASE's State-of-the-Art Echocardiography course from 1995 through 2020. He helped expand ASE's visibility on the world stage. To honor his global legacy, this annual lectureship will feature a global health related topic.

Jordan Strom, MD, MSc, FASE presented the 2025 Kalmanson Lecture. Established in memory of Professor Daniel Kalmanson, a pioneer in the use of Doppler echocardiography, and funded through a grant from the International Cardiac Doppler Society, this annual lectureship provides a forum for honoring worthy investigators while promoting research and education in cardiovascular Doppler ultrasound.

Benjamin Levine, MD presented the 2025 Gardin Lecture. This lectureship was established in honor of ASE Past President and first Scientific Sessions Chair, Julius Gardin, MD, FASE. Dr. Gardin mentored numerous physicians and sonographers. This lecture series supports his passion for education by funding an annual luminary speaker at the Scientific Sessions.

In 2025, the **Richard E. Kerber Ethics/Humanitarian Lecture**, established in memory of ASE Past President **Richard "Dick" E. Kerber, MD, FASE**, was renamed the **Kerber-Kirkpatrick Ethics/Humanitarian Lecture** in memory of ASE Foundation Past Board Chair, **James Kirkpatrick, MD, FASE**, who passed in early 2025. Both championed issues of ethics and how medicine fits into the broader world. Beginning in 2026, the Kerber-Kirkpatrick Ethics/Humanitarian Lecture will be presented annually at the ASE Scientific Sessions.

The lecturers are chosen by the ASE Scientific Sessions Program Committee. To nominate someone for the committee to consider, please email Awards@ASEcho.org. If you are interested in creating a named award or endowment, please contact us at Foundation@ASEcho.org.



Jagat Narula, MD, PhD



Jamil Tajik, MD, FASE



Jordan Strom, MD, MSc, FASE



Benjamin Levine, MD

News & EVENTS



MARCH – Nepal Global Health Outreach Event

MARCH 3 – Pamela S. Douglas Research Scholar Award Application Deadline

MARCH 15 – Council Travel Grant Application Deadline

APRIL 2 – EDGES Research Grant Application Opens

JUNE 27 – 17th Annual Research Awards Gala

JULY 1 – EDGES Research Grant Application Deadline

SEPTEMBER 29 – Coffee Day

DECEMBER 1 – GivingTuesday

DECEMBER 31 – Last Day to Donate to the 2026 Annual Appeal



2026 Council Travel Grants Available APPLICATION CLOSING MARCH 15

The ASE Foundation funds Council Travel Grants for trainees to support their attendance at the annual ASE Scientific Sessions, which this year will be held in Aurora, CO. These grants are part of an ongoing effort by the Foundation and the Council Steering Committees to support trainees in cardiovascular specialties, provide echo-specific educational opportunities, and to encourage participation of these enthusiastic new members in the Councils. Recipients will receive a \$1,000 travel stipend to support their attendance at the ASE 2026 Scientific Sessions. Don't miss your opportunity to apply for a 2026 ASE Foundation Council Travel Grant. Application details are available on the [ASE Foundation website](#) under Available Funding. Contact Foundation@ASEcho.org with any questions.

2026 EDGES Available APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED APRIL 2 - JULY 1

The application to the 2026 Early-Career Development Grant for Echo Scientists (EDGES) will open April 2. The program awards three grants worth up to \$25,000 USD to fund projects that address a clinical gap in cardiovascular ultrasound imaging through research led by an early-career scientist. There are no specific research themes that will be prioritized, and clinical gaps may include, but are not limited to: new imaging technologies, novel approaches or populations for diagnostic imaging, ultrasound therapy, workflow automation, or patient/practitioner safety. Physicians, PhDs, veterinarians, sonographers, and other healthcare professionals who are within seven years from having completed training are eligible to apply **through July 1 2026, 5:00 PM ET**.

The principal investigator must be an active ASE member. Learn more on the [ASE Foundation website](#).

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

EARLY-CAREER DEVELOPMENT GRANT FOR ECHO SCIENTISTS (EDGES)

3 GRANTS OF UP TO \$25,000

The EDGES grant will provide funding to early career clinical, basic science, or engineering investigators who are conducting research projects that address a clinical gap in cardiovascular ultrasound imaging.

ASE Foundation

Learn more at: ASEFoundation.org/EDGESResearchGrant

ASEF AT ASE 2026

Cardiovascular Challenge

Move. Those. Feet! Get ready for this year's CV Challenge. If you are attending ASE 2026, you can compete. Use your own device, phone, pedometer, smartwatch, etc., to track your progress and share your daily totals with ASEF staff at the ASE Foundation booth or by email at Foundation@ASEcho.org. We will have a leader board that is updated throughout the weekend so be sure to stop by and check on the competition.



When you stop by the booth, consider donating towards our 2026 Annual Appeal! The Challenge winners will be announced Sunday, June 28, during the lunch break. The top five competitors will

receive ASE Brand Store gift cards! Sign-up online at the ASE Foundation's [CV Challenge](#) webpage on the website under All Fundraisers or on site at the ASEF Booth.

We are looking for a sponsor for the Cardiovascular Challenge! If you are interested, please contact Foundation@ASEcho.org.

Images from the Heart Curated Photo Exhibit



The Foundation's [Images from the Heart](#) photo exhibit will be on display at the ASE 2026 Scientific Sessions this June. Stop by the ASEF booth to see the beautiful array of matted photographs submitted by ASE members. This year's exhibit will feature photos taken by Foundation volunteers who participated in recent outreach events and will be available to take home with a donation in the photographer's name. Prior year photos will also be available.

17th ANNUAL RESEARCH AWARDS GALA

The ASE Foundation invites you to our 17th Annual Research Awards "Enchanted Forest" Gala, where we will be honoring ASE's 2026 Award Recipients and celebrating cardiovascular ultrasound research. Join us for a welcome reception at Gaylord Rockies Resort, followed by dinner, award recognitions, after-event dancing, nightcap, and snack bar. [Registration for tables and individual ticket sales is now open](#). A portion of each table or ticket sale is considered a charitable donation to the ASE Foundation's 2026 Annual Appeal.

More information is available online at ASEFoundation.org/Event/Gala2026.

If you have questions, please contact Gala@ASEcho.org.

2026 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Physician Lifetime Achievement Award

Sherif Nagueh, MD, FASE

Houston Methodist Hospital, Houston, TX

Sonographer Lifetime Achievement Award

Ken Horton, ACS, RCS, FASE

Intermountain Heart Institute, Mascotte, FL

Richard Popp Excellence in Teaching Award

Smadar Kort, MD, FASE

Stony Brook University Medical Center, Stony Brook, NY

Circulation & Vascular Ultrasound Council Luminary Award

Bryan Wells, MD, FASE

Emory Healthcare, Atlanta, GA

PCHD Council Founders' Award for Lifetime Achievement

Luc Mertens, MD, PhD, FASE

The Hospital of Sick Children, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Outstanding Achievement in Perioperative Echocardiography Award

G. Burkhard Mackensen, MD, PhD, FASE

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Mentorship Award

Vince Sorrell, MD, FASE

University of Kentucky Gill Heart & Vascular Institute, Lexington, KY

Meritorious Service Award

Merri Bremer, EdD, RN, ACS, RDCS, FASE

Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 2026, 6:30 – 11:00 PM

Gaylord Rockies Resort

We hope to see you there!

Thank you to our 2025 Individuals Donors

The ASE Foundation proudly recognizes and thanks these individuals for their leadership and support. Every gift is meaningful. Together, we will continue to make a world of difference.

ASE PRESIDENTS' LEGACY FUND 2025 SUPPORTERS

Federico Asch, MD, FASE
Benjamin Byrd III, MD, FASE
Pamela Douglas, MD, FASE
Julius Gardin, MD, FASE
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*- In memory of Dr. Richard Kerber,
Dr. Roberto Lang, and Dr. James Kirkpatrick*
Judy Hung, MD, FASE
Allan Klein, MD, FASE
Randolph Martin, MD, FASE
Patricia Pellikka, MD, FASE
Geoffrey Rose, MD, FASE
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Neil Weissman, MD, FASE
Susan Wieggers, MD, FASE
David Wiener, MD, FASE
William Zoghbi, MD, FASE

2025 ANNUAL APPEAL GIVING LEVELS

Hero - \$1,500+
Visionary - \$1,000-\$1,499
Champion - \$500-\$999
Patron - \$100-\$499
Friend^ - \$15-\$99

HERO INVESTORS

Theodore Abraham, MD, FASE - *In honor of Dr. Nelson Schiller*
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**Denotes an ASE Foundation sustainer.*

Thank you to our 2025 Individuals Donors

The ASE Foundation proudly recognizes and thanks these individuals for their leadership and support. Every gift is meaningful. Together, we will continue to make a world of difference.

Jane Marshall, BS, RDCS, FASE - *In honor of Dr. Randolph Martin*

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Douglas Shook, MD, FASE

Mikel Smith, MD, FASE

Raymond Stainback, MD, FASE - *In memory of Dr. Roberto Lang*

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Sibel Enar, MD, FASE

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Gregory Ensing, MD, FASE - *In memory of Dr. Gregory Tatum*

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Shanna Hill, MD

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Helen Hunt, MA

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