

Meet Executive Council Member, Dr. Alessandro Fichera



Born and raised in Rome, Italy and therefore an avid soccer fan. Home team S.S. Lazio. Do not get me started! I have two brothers and we grew up in a very "active and energetic" household. We are still very close despite years of roughhousing.

I am the first born of a gastroenterologist and a pediatrician, who were seriously convinced that surgeons are not real doctors...I do not think they were right.

Being the older "responsible" brother with both parents working full time, I had to feed the "little ones." I learnt to cook and it is now my passion and form of therapy. I can cook Italian with my hands behind my back, but I enjoy venturing into other ethnic food.

I am the Division Chief of Colorectal Surgery, the Surgery Safety and Quality Officer and the President Elect of the Medical Staff at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, Texas. I currently serve as a member-at-large on the ASCRS Executive Council. I am currently the Chair of the Committee on Committees of the Executive Council, member of the Credentials Committee, chair of the Regional and Affiliated Society Committee, and the Council representative on the Video Based Education Committee, the Steering Committee on Pelvic Floor Disorders and the History of the ASCRS committee.

Over the years my personal career interests have focused on the management of inflammatory bowel diseases. The chronic nature of these disease allow the physician to develop a personal relationship with the patients and their families. Furthermore, surgery for Crohn's disease is never boring and requires intellectual curiosity and extensive surgical skills. At the Executive Council meeting this month there had been an extensive discussion around the time and location of future annual scientific meetings to avoid overlapping with important holidays and also offering our membership diversified meeting locations. I am certain the Executive Council will come up with a brilliant plan for the foreseeable future.



I am the proud father of twin boys: Paolo and Patrizio. They just graduated from University of Washington. Paolo has started Dental School at UW, and Patrizio will start working for a marketing company. They both thought being a doctor is too hard.

I like to have fun at work and I enjoy listening to and singing the blues in the operating room. Sometimes I feel I am the only one enjoying the singing part. What keeps me going is seeing my mentee advance in their career and receiving simple thank you cards from my patients. I do not forget the people that have helped me along the way.