Carlos A. Pellegrini, MD, FACS, FRCSI (Hon.), The Henry N. Harkins Professor and Chair, Department of Surgery, University of Washington, Seattle, was named President-Elect of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) during the Annual Business Meeting of Members, which took place October 3, 2012 at McCormick Place. Dr. Pellegrini has been a Fellow of the College since 1982 and has played a leadership role in the organization, particularly as Chair of the Board of Regents (2010-2011).

Dr. Pellegrini began serving on the ACS Board of Regents in 2002 and served on the Regents’ Finance, Honors, and Communications Committees. He is the outgoing Chair of the ACS Committee for the Accreditation Review of Education Institutes, the Committee on Medical Motion Pictures (1991-1992), the Central Judiciary Committee, and International Guest Scholarship Subcommittee of the International Relations Committee. He serves on the Steering Committee on Simulation-Based Surgical Education and the Task Force on the Resident 80-Hour Work Week and was Co-Chair of the 2012 Surgeons as Leaders Course. In addition, he was President of the Northern California Chapter of the ACS (1990-1992).

A former member of the board of directors of the American Board of Surgery (2003-2009), he has served as president of a number of surgical societies, including the Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract (1999-2000), the American Surgical Association (2005-2006), the Society of Surgical Chairs (2007-2008), the World Organization of Specialized Studies of Diseases of the Esophagus (2010-2012), and the International Society of Digestive Surgery (ISDS) (1992-1994). He also served two consecutive terms as chair of the Digestive Disease Week Council and is active in many other national and international surgical associations.

View Dr. Pellegrini’s acceptance speech from the Department of Surgery’s YouTube site: https://youtu.be/CCgEQ29sfOw

William H. Campbell, MD, FACHE, Chief of Staff at the VA Puget Sound Health Care System (VA) & Carlos Pellegrini, MD, Chair, Department of Surgery announced that Dr. Roger Tatum, Associate Professor, General Surgery has been selected as the permanent Service Line Leader for Surgery at the VA. They commented that “Dr. Tatum has distinguished himself as a transformational leader, implementing numerous improvements through the Surgery Service during his tenure as the Acting Service Line Leader for Surgery. Following a comprehensive search, Dr. Tatum was selected from a highly competitive pool of national candidates for this key leadership position.”

Dr. Tatum is an Associate Professor within the Department of Surgery and practices general surgery with particular interest and training in minimally invasive surgery, especially of the foregut. In addition, Dr. Tatum is the director of medical student surgical education for the Department of Surgery, with oversight of all required and elective medical student experiences within the Department. He is also Chair of the Elective Clerkship Committee within the UW School of Medicine.

The Department congratulates Dr. Tatum on this new appointment.

Martin Montenovo, Fellow, Division of Transplant

When I moved to this country, something I found very frustrating was how to make a good asado (BBQ) with the type of grill used here. Dr. Pellegrini spent a lot of time explaining to me how the grill works and has to be used. I immediately became his best cook. From then on, I have had to cook every year for the annual resident BBQ. I think he taught me how to BBQ on purpose, so now he has someone else to rely on for the cooking!!! We all know how picky Dr. Pellegrini is with the asado!!!

Dr. Roger Tatum: Appointed Service Line Leader for Surgery VA Puget Sound Health Care System