



Welcome to the Illinois Surgical Society (ISS). The ISS is the forum for the Illinois surgeons to meet, share the knowledge, socialize and form lifelong friendships. The unique purpose of the ISS is to bring together a diverse group of Illinois surgeons who practice in both rural and urban settings.

Traditionally, the ISS was renowned for its Spring Meeting “wet labs”, with surgeons hosting live, in-person demonstrations and teaching sessions while operating at their home institution. Such practice allowed the Society members to visit their colleagues’ institutions while fostering the exchange of knowledge, advanced surgical techniques and innovation. Building on its tradition, the Society recently pivoted to a digital format with high quality edited videos discussed by the operating surgeon with Q&A, providing an invaluable learning experience. Our Spring Meeting is now a part of the Annual Illinois Surgical conference--the joint meeting of five Illinois surgical organizations. This combined format expands the value of ISS membership with an enhanced number of surgical experts and the latest in research and quality improvement leading to a growth of professional and social networking.

Another highlight of our annual calendar is our Fall Meeting. The Society hosts its Fall Meeting in various locations both in Illinois and out of state, often in a family-friendly resort with picturesque settings. This allows the ISS members to visit the local surgeons and reconnect with colleagues. This year we will try something new for the society. This fall, ISS will host a hands-on simulation course that will allow members to try new devices and learn new surgical procedures in a safe and learner-centered environment.

Our society aims to attract early and mid-career energetic Illinois surgeons who are eager to hone their leadership skills. A dynamic society with abundant leadership opportunities, the ISS is the place where young surgeons can be mentored by the giants of surgery to become the new generations of leaders in Illinois and nationally.

Personally, the Illinois Surgical Society has been a terrific asset of high value in my professional and personal professional life. I am honored and proud to serve as a President of the Illinois Surgical Society and encourage you to consider becoming a member and joining us at one or both of our meetings.

Michael Ujiki MD FACS FASGE
ISS President