**Report on the Liaison Activities of the SCCPDS and the AAST Critical Care Committee**

President Luchette and fellow members it is a pleasure to report on the liaison activities between the SCCPDS and the Critical Care Committee (CCC) of the AAST. The first involvement of this new position was to participate in the review of abstracts under the classification of critical care submitted to the AAST for the 2013 annual meeting. There were 143 abstracts submitted in this category and 18 total abstracts were accepted for oral presentation, two of those being for the “quick shot” session. The Critical Care Committee was also requested to submit 3 luncheon topics, one of which was selected by the Program Committee for presentation.

The Critical Care Committee met at the annual meeting last month and three of the 10 appointed members were in attendance besides myself. The CCC normally picks two topics for review articles to be published in the JT and these were discussed as well as a blurb for the AAST News Letter. The content of the critical care section of the AAST web site was reviewed as well a problem with presenting this link on the home page for easy routing. With regard to web based learning, there appears to be parallel efforts here regarding teaching material on these web sites and an opportunity for consolidation of information definitely exists. There was also a discussion about the chair of the AAST Critical Care Committee attending the SCCPDS meeting.

Finally there was a discussion about how the Critical Care Committee of the AAST has become somewhat deemphasized since the development of acute care surgery. There have apparently been discussions at levels higher than the committee about making the Critical Care Committee an add hock entity.

This leaves two topics open for discussion. First is should we invite the chair of the ASST Critical Care Committee to attend this meeting? I personally feel this reciprocating effort will only strengthen our relations with AAST and can’t see any negatives in supporting this alliance. Second, how do the members of this organization feel about the potential deemphasis of critical care as a part of the AAST mission? This Mr. President completes my report.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Maxwell

Representative to the AAST