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The Massachusetts Chapter of the American College of Surgeons is pleased to announce the first annual resident competition to attend the 2012 ACS Leadership Conference and Advocacy Summit that will be held March 25-27, 2012 at the JW Marriott in Washington, DC. The MC ACS will sponsor one young surgeon to attend the conference and summit in 2012.

To be considered for the MC ACS competition please submit an essay, 1,000 words or less, on why you want to attend the conference and the role of advocacy in health care. **The recipient must be able to attend the 2012 ACS Leadership Conference and Advocacy Summit that will be held March 25-27, 2012 in Washington, DC** and will be reimbursed his/her travel expenses and registration. The winning essay will be posted on the MC ACS website, www.mcaacs.org. The recipient will be expected to give a presentation at the MC ACS 2012 State Advocacy Day that will take place in Boston. He/she will also be invited to give a report at the May 2, 2012 MC ACS Council meeting.

The theme for the 2012 ACS Leadership Conference is *Surgical Leadership for Quality and Safety*, which will be held March 25-26. The Leadership Conference will be followed by the first *American College of Surgeons' Advocacy Summit*, March 26-27, 2012. The Summit will convene hundreds of College members from across the country and across specialties to attend advocacy training and meet with their federal legislators to educate and influence them on the issues impacting ACS members, including liability reform, quality improvement, trauma, workforce, and many others. The recipient of the MC ACS scholarship will be paired with a mentor to maximize his/her experience on the Hill.

Please forward your entry to the MC ACS by email, admin@mcaacs.org. **The deadline for submitting the essay is January 4, 2012.** Any resident who submits an essay for consideration will automatically become a member of the Massachusetts Chapter, ACS. If you have any questions about the competition, please contact the administrative offices, 978-927-8330. I look forward to receiving your entry.

Sincerely,


Marc S. Rubin, MD, FACS
President