

Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Current Problems in Surgery

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/cpsurg

Foreword



The first formal American surgical training, introduced by Halsted in the late 19th century, was remarkably successful; in fact, it was adopted across the country and changed very little for the next century. Over the last three decades however, in response to both internal and external pressures, this paradigm has been in evolution. In this issue of *Current Problems in Surgery*, Dr. John Potts from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education in Chicago provides a masterful perspective on this topic entitled, “General Surgery Residency: Past, Present, and Future.” He begins with a historical perspective. Subsequent sections address the forces of change including the impact of accreditation, operative case requirements, and simulation. The critical role of progressive responsibility is covered in some detail. He goes on to describe the impact of duty hour regulations and the current state of surgical training, including perspectives on both the programs and the residents. He concludes with a discussion of the future of surgical training, including the impact of competency-based educational concepts, subspecialty training, and even telehealth. The presentation is lucid and provides the balanced perspective of a leader in the field. This superb treatise is a significant addition to the literature on this subject and should become a valued resource for all surgeons engaged in training surgeons.

Stanley W. Ashley, MD
Editor in Chief