



February 28, 2017

Dear International President or IFSSH Representative:

Since 2000, the American Society for Surgery of the Hand has facilitated the International Traveling Fellows Program, which allows hand societies worldwide to send a fellow to the United States to **visit ASSH members' facilities and attend the ASSH Annual Meeting free of cost.** These visits will take place in the weeks prior to and after the ASSH Annual Meeting in San Francisco, California, USA over 7-9 September 2017. You would be responsible for the cost of your fellow's:

- Travel
- Housing
- Food

**One fellow from each society may apply for this program.**

Last year, we refocused the program and redefined eligibility. Fellows must be younger than 45 years of age, and may not have previously participated in the program. Each application will consider applicant's English-language publications.

Participating fellows now travel together in groups rather than traveling independently. The new format encourages fellows to build relationships with other international surgeons, and allows host institutions to prepare more robust educational experiences for the fellows. The itinerary can be found on the following page.

If your society would like to participate in this program, please **complete** and send the enclosed application to Haley Licata, ASSH Governance Manager at [hlicata@assh.org](mailto:hlicata@assh.org) by **April 19, 2017**. This deadline is important, as the fellows will need adequate time to plan their travel, if accepted.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Ghazi Rayan, MD  
President, American Society for Surgery of the Hand

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The 2017 proposed itinerary\* is as follows:

	<b>8/28 – 8/29</b>	<b>8/31 – 9/1</b>	<b>9/7 – 9/9</b>	<b>9/11 – 9/12</b>	<b>9/14 – 9/15</b>
Group A	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI	Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN	ASSH Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA	Stanford University, Stanford, CA	Loyola University, Chicago, IL
Group B	University of Chicago, Chicago, IL	Loyola University, Chicago, IL		Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, NY	Duke University, Durham, NC
Group C	Curtis Hand Center, Baltimore, MD	Duke University, Durham, NC		Rush University, Chicago, IL	University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Group D	New York University, New York, NY	Hospital for Special Surgery, New York, NY		Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA
Group E	Hospital for Special Surgery, New York, NY	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA		Curtis Hand Center, Baltimore, MD	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

\*Note: Though fellows may indicate a group preference in their application, group assignments will be made by the International Relations Committee. Fellows should not begin planning travel until they have received confirmation of their group assignment from ASSH.