

**52** National  
Surgical  
Week  
nd Congress



ASOCIACIÓN  
COLOMBIANA  
DE CIRUGÍA

# International guests

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# 52<sup>nd</sup> National Surgical Week Congress



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August 18-21,  
2026

Cartagena, Colombia  
LAS AMÉRICAS CONVENTION CENTER

## Sharon Henry President of the SPT International guests

- Trauma surgeon, acute care surgeon, and surgical critical care specialist at the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, University of Maryland Medical Center. She is Professor of Surgery and Director of the Division of Wound Healing and Metabolism, as well as head of the Soft Tissue Infection Service. She is internationally recognized for her expertise in complex soft tissue infections (including necrotizing fasciitis), severe trauma care, and damage control surgery. Dr. Henry has held leadership roles within the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma and the ATLS program, and is widely respected for her contributions to surgical education and trauma system development.



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## Paula Ferrada, M.D. International guests

- Distinguished trauma surgeon, acute care surgeon, and surgical critical care specialist internationally recognized for her leadership in trauma and emergency surgery. She serves as Professor of Surgery at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) and has held major leadership positions within organizations such as the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma (EAST) and the Panamerican Trauma Society. Her academic and research interests include trauma care, emergency surgery, trauma ultrasound, surgical education, and trauma systems development. Originally from Colombia, Dr. Ferrada is considered one of the most influential leaders in trauma surgery across the Americas.



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## Megan Brenner, MD International guests

- Trauma surgeon, emergency general surgeon, surgical critical care specialist, and vascular surgeon. She serves as Professor of Surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, where she combines clinical practice, research, and surgical education. Dr. Brenner is internationally recognized for her expertise in vascular trauma, endovascular trauma surgery, hemorrhage control, and the advancement of innovative techniques such as REBOA for the management of critically injured patients.



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**Juan Carlos Salamea**  
**MD, MPH, FACS**  
International guests

- Trauma, acute care, and surgical critical care surgeon and Professor of Surgery at Universidad del Valle and Fundación Valle del Lili in Cali, Colombia. He is a leading expert in the trauma and emergency surgery team, with global clinical expertise in damage control surgery and the management of severely injured and critically ill surgical patients. His academic and research interests focus heavily on trauma systems development, damage control resuscitation, surgical outcomes improvement, and the management of complex abdominal trauma. He is highly active in international clinical research and multi-center trials, playing a key role in training the next generation of trauma surgeons and fellows across Latin America and worldwide.



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## Edgar Rodas MD, Secretary SPT International guests

- General and Trauma Surgeon with an international career spanning both Ecuador and the United States. Throughout his professional journey, he has been actively involved in emergency surgery, trauma care, and surgical education, contributing to the advancement of trauma systems and emergency medical services. His expertise includes the management of complex injuries, acute surgical conditions, and multidisciplinary care of critically ill patients. In addition to his clinical work, Dr. Rodas has participated in international educational initiatives, clinical research, and collaborative programs aimed at strengthening trauma care and promoting the exchange of knowledge and best practices across Latin America and beyond.



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## Antonio Marttos, M.D. International guests

- Trauma, burns, and surgical critical care surgeon and Professor of Surgery at the DeWitt Daughtry Family Department of Surgery at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. He serves as the Co-Director of the William Lehman Injury Research Center, with clinical expertise in the comprehensive management of severely injured, burned, and critically ill surgical patients. His academic and professional interests encompass trauma systems development, emergency general surgery, global surgery, and multi-disciplinary injury research. He is actively involved in clinical research and plays a major role in advancing trauma care and global health initiatives through extensive peer-reviewed publications and professional collaborations.



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## Marcelo Ribeiro International guests

- Trauma and emergency surgeon with an outstanding academic and clinical career in both Brazil and the United States. He serves as Professor of Surgery at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and attending trauma surgeon at the renowned R. Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, one of the world's leading trauma centers. He is also a Professor of Surgery at the Pontifical Catholic University of Sorocaba and has held leadership positions within the Brazilian Society for Integrated Trauma Care (SBAIT) and the Panamerican Trauma Society. His professional interests include trauma surgery, emergency surgery, surgical education, clinical research, and trauma systems development.



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## Andre Campbell International guests

- Trauma surgeon, acute care surgeon, and surgical critical care specialist, serving as Professor of Surgery at the University of California, San Francisco and attending trauma surgeon at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital, one of the leading trauma centers in the United States. Trained at Harvard University, UCSF, and Columbia University, he is internationally recognized for his leadership in trauma care, surgical education, violence prevention, and critical care. Dr. Campbell has held major leadership roles within the American College of Surgeons and is widely respected for his contributions to trauma systems development, surgical training, and health equity initiatives



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## Aurelio Rodríguez International guests

- Trauma, emergency, and surgical critical care surgeon internationally recognized for his contributions to the care of severely injured patients and the advancement of modern trauma surgery. Throughout his career, he has held leadership positions at major academic institutions and Level I trauma centers across the United States, integrating clinical excellence with research and specialist training. His expertise includes damage control surgery, thoracic and abdominal trauma, surgical critical care, and trauma systems development. Dr. Rodríguez has authored numerous scientific publications and has been actively involved in national and international surgical societies, helping shape trauma care and surgical education worldwide.



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## Enrique Ginzburg, M.D. International guests

- Distinguished trauma surgeon, acute care surgeon, and surgical critical care specialist, serving as Professor of Surgery at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine and Trauma Medical Director at the Ryder Trauma Center at Jackson South Medical Center. With more than 30 years of experience, he is internationally recognized for his leadership in trauma systems, emergency surgery, and humanitarian medicine. Dr. Ginzburg has led trauma training initiatives throughout the Middle East, Israel, and Latin America and has participated in humanitarian and medical education missions in Haiti, Iraq, Ukraine, and other countries. His career reflects a commitment to clinical excellence, research, surgical education, and global trauma care advancement



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## Juan Carlos Puyana, MD International guests

- Trauma, acute care, and surgical critical care surgeon internationally recognized for his contributions to research, medical education, and trauma system development. He serves as Professor of Surgery and Critical Care Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, where he has led pioneering research in trauma physiology, sepsis, inflammation, and critical care. Originally from Colombia, Dr. Puyana has built an outstanding academic career in the United States, integrating clinical practice, scientific innovation, and specialist training. He has authored numerous high-impact publications and remains actively involved in international initiatives aimed at improving trauma care and the management of critically ill patients worldwide.



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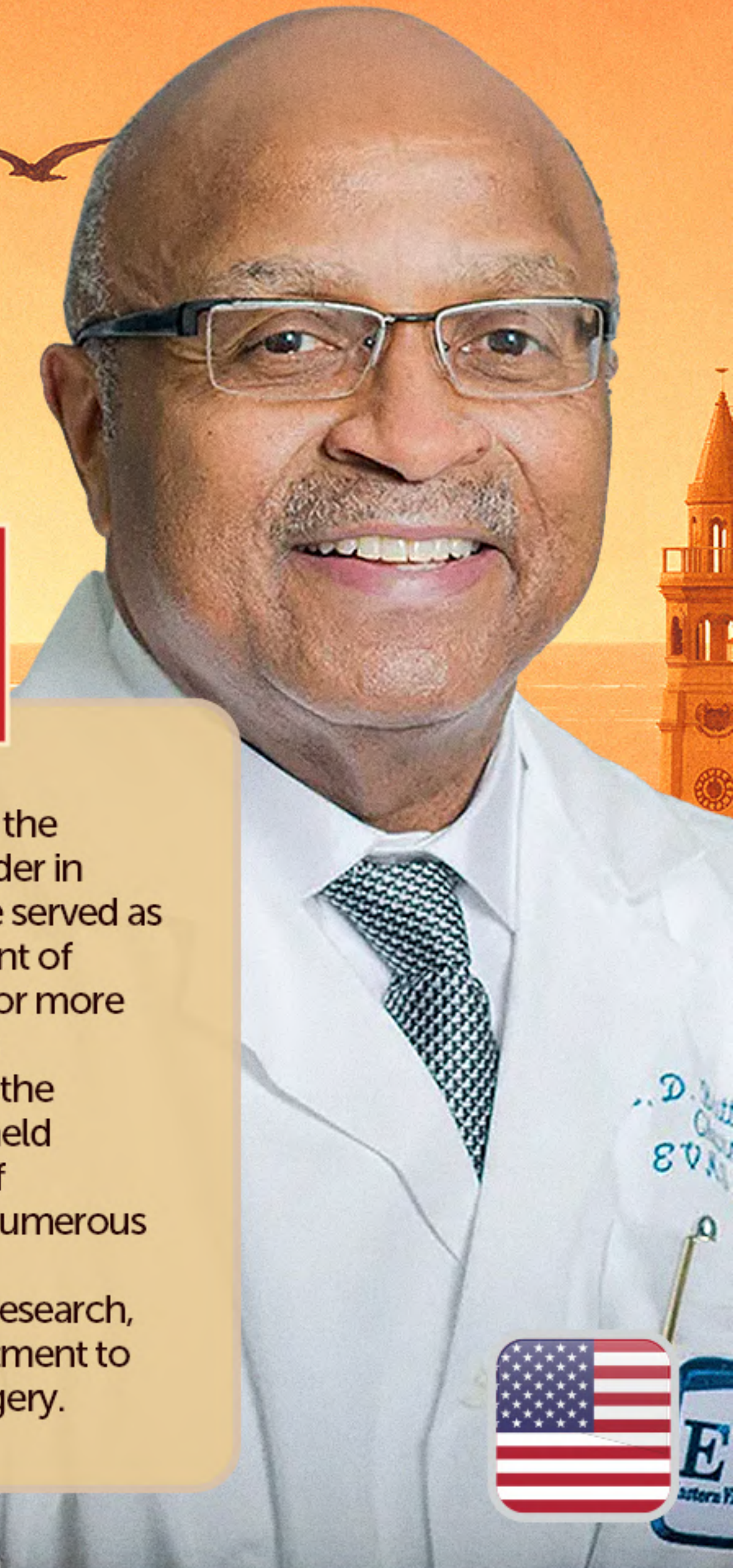
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## L.D. Britt International guests

- Is one of the most influential academic surgeons in the United States and an internationally recognized leader in general surgery, trauma, and surgical education. He served as Distinguished Professor and Chair of the Department of Surgery at Eastern Virginia Medical School (EVMS) for more than three decades. Dr. Britt is widely known for his contributions to trauma care, vascular surgery, and the training of future generations of surgeons. He has held leadership positions within the American College of Surgeons, the American Surgical Association, and numerous other prestigious professional organizations. His distinguished career combines clinical excellence, research, institutional leadership, and a longstanding commitment to medical education and professional diversity in surgery.



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## Dr. Michel Aboutanos International guests

- Distinguished trauma surgeon, acute care surgeon, and surgical critical care specialist. He serves as Professor of Surgery, Chief of the Division of Acute Care Surgical Services, and Medical Director of the Level I Trauma Center at the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System. Internationally recognized for his leadership in trauma systems development, injury and violence prevention, emergency surgery, and trauma education, Dr. Aboutanos has also held leadership positions within the Panamerican Trauma Society.

*Michel B. Aboutanos, MD, MPH, FACS  
Chief, Acute Care Surgical Services*



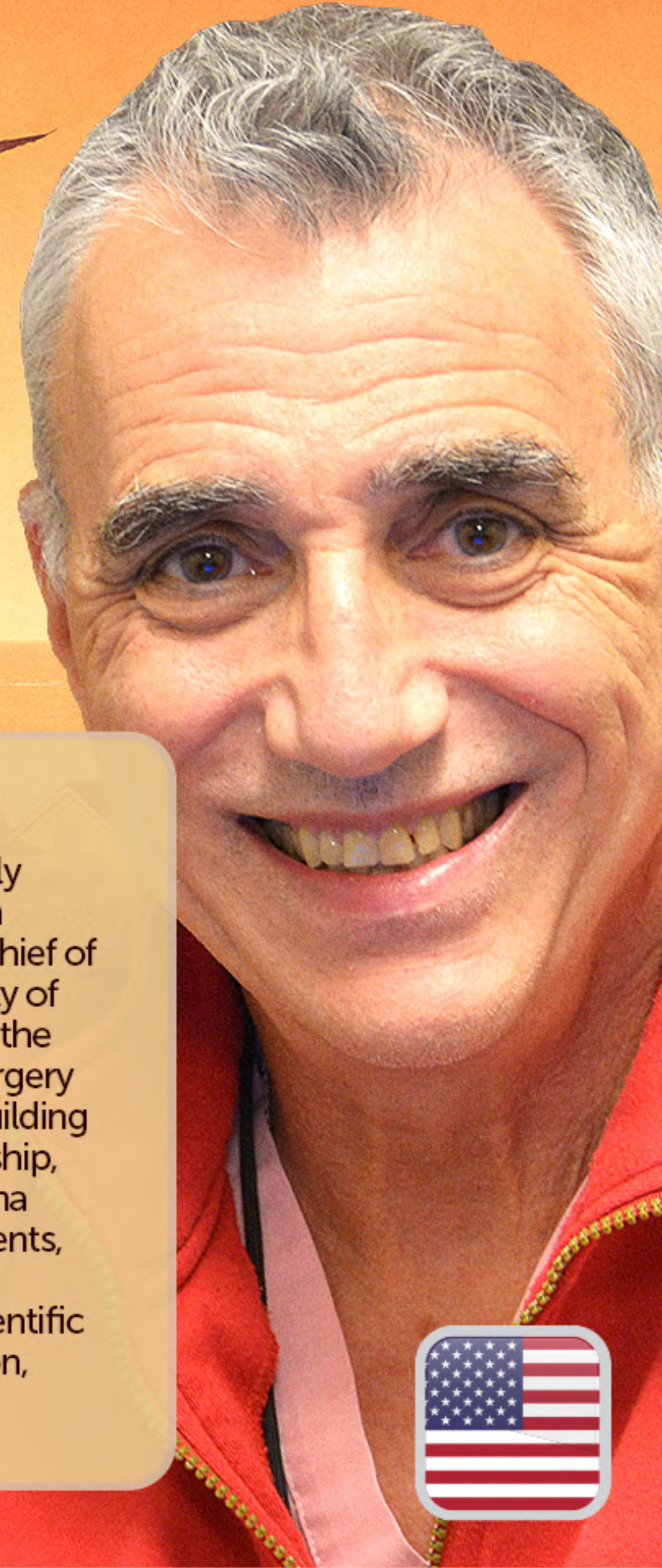
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## Thomas Scalea, MD International guests

- Trauma, acute care, and surgical critical care surgeon widely recognized as one of the world's leading figures in modern trauma systems development. He serves as Physician-in-Chief of the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center at the University of Maryland Medical Center, a global reference institution for the care of severely injured patients. He is trained in general surgery with advanced specialization in trauma and critical care, building a distinguished career in clinical practice, academic leadership, and institutional development. His expertise includes trauma system organization, management of critically injured patients, damage control surgery, and the development of surgical intensive care units. Dr. Scalea has authored numerous scientific publications and has led international initiatives in education, research, and quality improvement in trauma surgery.



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**Raul Coimbra**  
M.D., Ph.D., FACS  
International guests

- Trauma, acute care, and surgical critical care surgeon and Professor of Surgery at Loma Linda University School of Medicine. He serves as the Surgeon-in-Chief at Riverside University Health System Medical Center, with extensive clinical expertise in the management of severely injured patients, surgical critical care, and emergency general surgery. His academic and professional interests include trauma system development, global health, surgical outcomes, and medical education. He is actively involved in clinical research, has held major leadership roles within the American College of Surgeons, and plays a key role in the training of surgical residents and fellows in trauma and acute care surgery.



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**Dr. Sharven Taghavi**  
MD, MPH, MS, FACS, FCPC  
International guests

- William Henderson Endowed Chair of Surgery III Division Chief, Trauma & Acute Care Surgery Associate Professor of Surgery, Tulane School of Medicine, Tulane Violence Prevention Institute New Orleans



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