2026 Midwestern Vascular Surgical Society Annual Meeting Recap

The Drake Hotel, Chicago, IL | September 17–19, 2026

By Loay Kabbani, MD, MVSS Secretary and Program Committee Chair

The 2026 MVSS Annual Meeting marked the Society's 50th anniversary and brought the vascular community back to The Drake Hotel in Chicago, the historic home of the first annual meeting. From September 17 to 19, members gathered for three days of science, education, mentorship, and fellowship across the region.

The meeting welcomed 341 professional registrants, including 116 members, 23 non-member physicians, 108 fellows and residents, 37 allied health professionals and associate members, and 57 medical students. The Society also reached 847 total members in 2026, reflecting continued growth across active, associate, candidate, medical student, and senior membership categories.

341	146	49+	847
Professional registrants	Abstracts submitted	Institutions represented	Total MVSS members

Abstract Submissions and Presentations

146	28	13
Abstracts submitted	Plenary presentations	Rapid-fire presentations
12	**30**	**60**
Case reports	Poster presentations	E-posters



The scientific program featured 146 abstracts from more than 40 institutions: 28 plenary presentations, 13 rapid-fire presentations, 12 case reports, 30 poster presentations, and 60 e-posters. The program also included 16 Szilagyi Award submissions, three Guthrie Award submissions, and one Pfeifer Award submission.

President Ross Milner, MD, opened the meeting and delivered his presidential address, “Leadership Through Care: For Our Patients, For Our Teams, and For Ourselves.” President's Invited Guest Speaker Ravi Veeraswamy, MD, of the Medical University of South Carolina joined the program, and Honorary Guest Lecturer Geeta Lal, MD, of the University of Iowa spoke Saturday morning.

New Horizons and Educational Programming

The New Horizons Program, led by Gregory Kasper, MD, featured three sessions spanning aortic dissection and failing endografts, asymptomatic carotid stenosis in the post-CREST-2 era, translational science, femoropopliteal disease, and deep venous arterialization. A new Translational Science Showcase highlighted research in molecular biology, imaging and computational analysis, biomedical engineering, artificial intelligence, device development, and clinical trials.

The Advanced Practice Provider Symposium, Medical Student Program, and Simulation Assessment Course ran alongside the main scientific sessions. Together, these programs showcase our commitment to education at every career stage, from early exposure for medical students to technical assessment and professional development for senior trainees and practicing clinicians.

Cook Medical Sizing Showcase

Cook Medical sponsored the inaugural MVSS Sizing Showdown, an aortic planning and sizing competition for trainees. Participants used laptops and sizing software to plan the same aortic case, with accuracy as the primary measure and time used as a tiebreaker. The program began with physician-led instruction, followed by the competition with support from Cook Medical representatives.

Pyramid Competition

The Pyramid Competition added another energetic trainee-focused event to the meeting, giving participants an opportunity to test their vascular knowledge in a fast-paced, team-based competition.





50th Anniversary Gala

The meeting culminated Saturday evening with the 50th Anniversary Gala, a black-tie celebration honoring five decades of scientific exchange, mentorship, leadership, and friendship within MVSS. A reception in the Drake Room was followed by dinner and entertainment in the Gold Coast Room, providing a fitting close to a milestone meeting in the hotel where the Society's annual-meeting tradition began.

On behalf of the Program Committee, **thank you** to the speakers, moderators, abstract presenters, committee members, faculty volunteers, staff, industry partners, and attendees who made the 50th Anniversary Meeting so memorable. The strength of this year's program reflected the energy, generosity, and shared purpose of the entire MVSS community.