



**26<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY EDUCATORS CONFERENCE**  
**February 9 - 11, 2023**

*Replenish, Restore, and Refresh*

**Marriott Savannah Riverfront**

100 General McIntosh Boulevard  
Savannah, GA 31401

Reservation: (800) 285 – 0398

Reservation must be made by **January 9, 2023, or until room block is filled.**

Single and Double Occupancy: \$198 (additionally local and state tax is 13% + \$5.00 state fee and \$1.00 city occupancy fee)

Check-in time: 4:00 p.m. (early arrivals not guaranteed)

**AST Registration Fees**

- Leadership Symposium
  - \$100.00 (AST member and nonmember)
- Educators Conference
  - AST Member: \$275.00
  - Nonmember: \$480.00 (includes one-year membership)

**Thursday, February 9: Leadership Symposium (registration limited to 50 people) 6.5 CE**

- 8:00 – 9:30 am ***Sharing Our Leadership Stories***  
Richard Fruscione, CST, MA, FAST  
Carolyn Ragsdale, CST, MA, FAST  
Eboni Saurage, CST, EdD, FAST
- 9:40 – 10:30 am ***Leadership: An Interactive Focus Session***
- 10:40 – 11:30 am ***Peer Round Table Discussions: Topics***
  - \* Mentoring Those Behind and Beside You
  - \* The 3 P's of Time Management as a Leader – Plan, Prioritize, Perform
  - \* Leading Teamwork Communication
  - \* The Human Knot: Service, Knowledge, and the Pathway to Leadership
  - \* Self-Advocacy: Tell Them Who You Are As a Leader – Portfolio Creation
- 11:40 am – 12:20 pm **Lunch** (AST sponsored)
- 12:30 – 2:20 pm ***Peer Round Table Discussions*** (continued)
- 2:30 – 3:30 pm ***Visit Exhibitors – Completing a Degree That Contributes to Your Leadership Goals***

- 6:30 – 7:00 am *Replenish and Restore: Sunrise Yoga*
- 7:00 – 7:45 am **Breakfast**
- 7:45 – 8:00 am *AST Welcome*  
Kevin Craycraft, CST, FAST, AST President
- 8:00 – 8:50 am *Creating Our Future: Getting to NEXT Together*  
Keynote Presentation  
Bill Carr – Communication Expert & Award-Winning Humorist
- 9:00 – 9:50 am *Encouraging Resilience through Peer  
And Instructor Support*  
Anna Campbell, CST, CSFA
- 10:00 – 10:50 am *Finding Balance Through Creativity in the  
Classroom*  
Krista Vylasek, CST
- 11:00 – 11:50 am *Item Writing and Review: Let’s Develop a Test Together*  
Angie Burton, CST, FAST  
Margaret Rodrigues, CST, CSFA, FAST
- 12:00 – 12:45 pm **Lunch** (Grab and Go)

<b>Time</b>	<b>Classroom Management Track</b>	<b>Lab and Technology Track</b>	<b>Professional Preparation Track</b>
1:00 – 1:50	<i>Effective Didactic &amp; Practicum Teaching Strategies for Surgical Technology</i>  Ashley Smith, CST Tammy Schaefer, CST, CSFA	<i>Grey Areas of Lab Skills</i>  Chris Blevins and AST	<i>NBSTSA: Certification and System Updates</i>  Ben Price
2:00 – 2:50	<i>One is the Loneliest Number – The Solo PD</i>  Javier Espinales, CST	<i>Providing the Tools to Build a Strong Foundation</i>  Carol Lavender, CST	<i>NBSTSA: How the CST and CSFA Exams are Written – A Lesson in Test Item</i>  Andrew Falcone

3:00 – 3:50	<b><i>Teaching Students on Transgender Patient Care</i></b> Carolyn Ragsdale, CST, FAST	<b><i>The Sales Pitch; Preparing for Life After Graduation</i></b> Richard Fruscione, CST, FAST Kendra Thompson, CST	<b><i>Evaluator Training</i></b>  ARC/STSA
4:00 – 4:50	<b><i>Advocacy; A Safety Priority</i></b> Kenisha Dillard, CST	<b><i>Developing Site Relationships that Last</i></b> Heather Osness, CST	<b><i>Evaluator Training</i></b>  ARC/STSA

- 5:00 – 6:00 pm ***Educator Enrichment***  
Poster Hall
- 6:30 – 7:30 pm **Reception**
- 7:40 - 9:00 pm\* **Ghosts and Gravestones Trolley Tour\***  
<https://www.ghostsandgravestones.com/savannah/tickets>

\*Requires separate purchase at registration. Attendance capped at 34 seats.

## **Saturday, February 11**

**6 CEs**

- 7:00 – 7:45 am **Breakfast**
- 8:00 – 10:00 am ***Peer Conversations***
- 10:10 – 11:00 am ***Peer Conversations Summary***
- 11:10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. ***Beyond Our Tech Skills: The Foundation of Quality Patient Care***  
Gina Chambers, CST  
Glenda McCloskey, CST
- 12:00 – 12:50 p.m. **Lunch – Sponsored by the NBSTSA**
- 1:00 – 1:50 p.m. ***Teaching Tech Sciences, Not My Favorite Topic***  
Grant Wilson, CST, FAST  
Carla Crayton, CST
- 2:00 – 2:50 p.m. ***What Next!?***  
Bill Carr – Communication Expert & Award-Winning Humorist