For the first time, the International College of Surgeons (Chicago, USA) will be holding a quality Australasian regional forum, in collaboration with the North Australian Surgeons. The focus is to bring together renowned international and regional experts in the fields of minimally invasive surgery of relevance to general surgical specialties. The cutting edge state of the art, knowledge, skills and technologies will be discussed with emphasis on day-to-day practice. Both international and national speakers will be participating.

**Accepted abstracts – published in International Surgery (indexed on Medline)**

**OPTIONAL PROGRAMS**

**Masterclass in laparoscopic gastrointestinal surgery**
18 March 2008 The Townsville Hospital, Townsville, with options to participate in
- **Live demonstrations in laparoscopic large bowel surgery**
  16 – 17 March 2008, Townsville
- **Live demonstrations in laparoscopic hernia surgery**
  18 March 2008, Townsville
- **Live demonstrations in laparoscopic gastrointestinal surgery**
  16 – 17 March 2008, Cairns
- **Live demonstrations in laparoscopic gastrointestinal surgery**
  17 March 2008, Mackay

**Anastomosis and stapling workshop for surgical trainees**
18 March 2008 Townsville

**Perioperative nursing workshop**
18 March 2008 Mater Hospital Pimlico

**FACULTY (confirmed to date)**

Les Elise Bokey (Australia)
Jonathan Golledge (Australia)
John Lumley (Australia)
Les Nathanson (Australia)
Earl Owen (Australia)
Yi Mao (China)
Jose Miguel Alvear (Equador)
Wai Lun Law (Hongkong)

Michael Li (Hongkong)
Sharez Parey (India)
Fumio Konishi (Japan)
Fidel Ruiz-Healy (Mexico)
Bryan Parry (New Zealand)
Manuel Huaman (Peru)
Christopher Chen (Singapore)
Said Daee (USA)

**Conference Topics include:**

Recordings of congress and selected live demonstration / masterclass likely available to participants online or on disc after event.

Program (regularly updated), abstract submission & registration available ONLINE ONLY at [www.jcu.edu.au/event/cossymp](http://www.jcu.edu.au/event/cossymp)

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**Email:** yikhong.ho@jcu.edu.au  
**Telephone:** 4796 1417