

Editor's note: *Dr. Healy delivered this Presidential Address on October 7 at the Convocation in New Orleans, LA.*

Officers and Regents past and present, Honorary Fellows, our treasured College staff, guests, including my friend, Archbishop Hughes, and, most importantly, 2007 Initiates and your families: welcome.

First I would like to offer a special thanks to Dr. Copeland for [his] long and distinguished career in American surgery and for the many leadership roles in which [he] has served our College. [His] vision has changed our face in so many ways. [His] address to this group last year centered on mentorship. [He should] know that he has been an outstanding mentor to all of us but to me especially. [He has] been a guidepost for me to follow in my service to the College and for that I shall always be grateful.

I am deeply honored to become the 88th President of the American College of Surgeons. To be included among names such as Crile, Mayo, Cushing, Martin, Ravdin, Rhodes, Hanlon, and Spencer—as well as the other former Presidents who sit on this stage this evening—is indeed humbling. I should also say that I am especially honored to be the first otolaryngologist–head and neck surgeon to become President of this august

boddtthiadent Pre(d)-10(e)-10C 0.337 0 Td[(e)-10(s)-10(p)-10(e)-10(c)-10(g4P10(d)-C10l1.819 63mlfFF0020 B

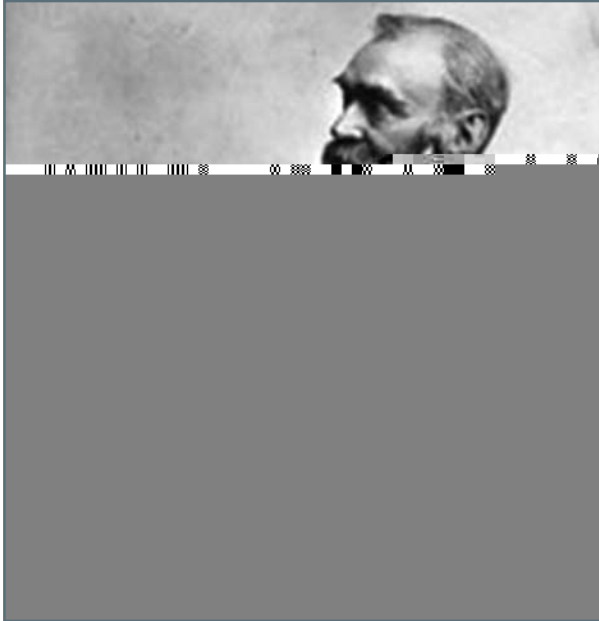
meeting these expectations is found for the most part in the six general competencies that are now embraced throughout the medical profession and will become part of the professional lives of physicians from

aspects of surgery and leave behind the human qualities, such as meaningful communication, that differentiate us from the surgical robot.

The next serious hurdle in achieving safe and quality care is the breakdown in professionalism by some of our colleagues. Breaches in professional conduct are more common than we would like to admit, but each of us has a responsibility to acknowledge and deal with this problem.

We are all aware that today we work in an environment of uncertainty laced with loss of collegiality, driven by a

new(0) 211/55 5/03/04 Feb(0) PDF F0020 BDC /ActualText FFFF0020 BDC 1.12 0



- *Caring*: Perhaps the most profound trait of a leader is that of caring. This is a simple yet fundamental characteristic of great leaders: the willingness to