SAVE THE DATE!
2nd Annual Surgery Research and Womack Alumni Day
June 16, 2017

The date has been set for next year’s Research Day. This year we are going to partner with the Womack Society and get our Alumni involved! Continuing with our showcase of your great work last year, we will be working on didactic and informational sessions, “meet the professor” sessions, and oral and poster presentations with best presentation awards. For the Womack Society portion of the event, the Colin G. Thomas Jr. Lecturer will be Dr. Adil Haider.

Adil Haider, MD, MPH, FACS is an active trauma and critical care surgeon, prolific researcher, and the Kessler Director for the Center for Surgery and Public Health (CSPH), a joint initiative of Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Harvard Medical School, and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. He is also the Deputy Editor of JAMA Surgery and holds numerous leadership positions. Dr. Haider is credited with uncovering racial disparities after traumatic injury and establishing the field of trauma disparities research. He is regarded as one of the foremost experts on healthcare inequities in the United States.

Resident attendance and abstract submission mandatory. Fellows and medical students are strongly encouraged and welcome.

Faculty attendance mandatory.

We need poster judges. Contact jjyeh@med.unc.edu.

John S. Ikonomidis, MD, PhD, will become the new chief of the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery at UNC on March 1. Dr. Ikonomidis, a cardiac surgeon, is Horace G. Smithy professor of surgery and chief of the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) in Charleston, SC. His research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) since 2001, and he has served as a co-investigator on several VA Merit awards. He is an author of more than 140 medical journal articles. His research interests include the study of a unique murine model of thoracic aortic aneurysms as well as studies in clinical aneurysm specimens. He has served as PI or investigator on clinical trials involving heart valve devices, ventricular assist devices, myocardial protection, and intraoperative interrogation of the myocardium. From 2015 to 2017, he is serving as chair of NIH’s Bioengineering, Technology and Surgical Sciences (BTSS) Study Section, which reviews applications for millions of dollars in research grants, and is on the Data and Safety Monitoring Board of the Cardiothoracic Surgical Trials Network.
Dr. Caranasos (Cardiothoracic), Dr. Ke Cheng (bioengineer at UNC and NC State University), and other researchers at NC State and a Chinese university have developed a synthetic version of a cardiac stem cell published in Nature Communications in January. These synthetic stem cells offer therapeutic benefits comparable to those from natural stem cells and could reduce some of the risks associated with stem cell therapies. Additionally, they have better preservation stability and the technology can be generalized to other types of stem cells. Read more https://www.med.unc.edu/ct/news/cardiac-stem-cell.

Dr. David Gerber (Abdominal Transplant) was named Medical Director of the UNC Center for Transplant Care and the UNC Hospitals Jason Ray Transplant Clinic. http://news.unchealthcare.org/news/2016/december/gerber-named-medical-director-for-center-for-transplant-care-transplant-clinic

Laquanda Knowlin presented her work entitled “The Effect of Preexisting Respiratory Comorbidities on Burn Injury Outcomes” (Research Snapshot) at the 46th Critical Care Congress in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Dr. Anna Pavlov (PRS, PGY2) gave an oral presentation on her work with Dr. Michelle Roughton (Plastic Surgery) on “Letters of Recommendation for Integrated Plastic Surgery Residency Highlight Unconscious Gender Bias” at the American Society for Peripheral Nerve meeting in Hawaii, January 2017.

Dr. Kate McGinigle (Vascular Surgery) gave a plenary presentation on “Increased stroke rate in medically managed carotid stenosis patients” at the Southern Assoc for Vascular Surgery in Naples, FL on January 20, 2017. Other authors are Mary Hunter Benton, Daniel J. Luckett, Jason P. Fine, and Dr. William A. Marston (Vascular Surgery).

Conferences:

Jared Gallaher (PGY4) will be competing in the National Committee on Trauma (COT) Paper Competition on March 2 in Washington DC.

Thomas M. Egan, M.D., M.Sc., (Cardiothoracic Surgery) is a member of NIH study section - ZRG1 SBIB-Q (02) Member Conflict: BTSS and SAT Member Conflict February 17, 2017.
Tuesday, February 07, 2017 – Clinical/Outcomes: Global Surgery QuickShot Session – 7:30 AM - 9:30 AM

- Bryce Haac, MD – Injury Characteristics, Risk Factors and Outcomes Following Falls in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Sara Scarlet, MD – Treating Pediatric Hydrocephalus in Sub-Saharan Africa: Outcomes After Shunt Placement
- Laura Purcell, MD – Adult Trauma Mortality Characteristics: Pre-hospital versus In-hospital Deaths

Tuesday, February 07, 2017 – Clinical/Outcomes: Oncology QuickShot Session 1 – 7:30 AM - 9:30 AM

- C. Ellis, MD – Measuring Complete Response After Neoadjuvant Therapy for Rectal Cancer: Do X’s Really Equal 0’s?

Tuesday, February 07, 2017 – Clinical/Outcomes: Cross Disciplinary QuickShot Session – 7:30 AM - 9:30 AM

- Christopher Tignanelli, MD – Interdisciplinary Morbidity and Mortality Conference, A Method for System-Wide Improvement

Wednesday, February 08, 2017 – Clinical/Outcomes: Trauma/Critical Care Oral Session 2 – 7:30 AM - 9:30 AM

- Jeremy Holzmacher, MD – Platelet Transfusion Does Not Improve Outcomes in Brain Injured Patients on Antiplatelet Therapy

Wednesday, February 08, 2017 – Education I - Simulation Oral Session – 7:30 AM - 9:30 AM

- Philip Wasicek, MD – Virtual Reality Simulation for Endovascular Skills for Trauma: Final Results of a Trainee Experience
- Rebecca Brown, MD – A Performance Comparison of an Inexpensive, Homemade Central Line Simulator to Commercial Models

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Upcoming Meetings
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• Swathi Balaji, Ph.D. – IL-10 Regulates the Perivascular Hyaluronan Metabolism to Improve Pulmonary Hypertension in CDH

Thursday, February 09, 2017 – Clinical/Outcomes: Trauma/Critical Care - Quality of Care Oral Session – 7:30 AM - 9:30 AM

• Laquanda Knowlin, MD – Burn Injury Outcomes in Patients with Preexisting Diabetic Disease

Thursday, February 09, 2017 – Education II Oral Session – 7:30 AM - 9:30 AM

• Rebecca Brown, MD – The Effect of a Resident Driven Educational Workshop on Medical Student Transition to Clinical Medicine

Thursday, February 09, 2017 – Basic Science: Pediatrics And Wound Healing QuickShot Session – 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

• Mansi Shah, MD – Decreased Angiogenesis in Slit3Knockout Mice with CDH Results in Reduced Pulmonary Arterial Branching

Thursday, February 09, 2017 – Trauma/Critical Care/ Vascular/Global Surgery QuickShot Session – 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

• Felicia Williams, MD – Burn Injury in Diabetics Leads to Significant Increases in Hospital-Acquired Infection and Mortality

Thursday, February 09, 2017 – Education QuickShot Session 2 – 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

• Heather Logghe, MD – #ILookLikeASurgeon: A Global Social Media Movement Advocating Diversity and Surgical Culture Change

Southeastern Surgical Congress February 25-28, 2017 in Nashville, TN

• Rebecca Brown (PGY2) will be presenting a poster of her work with Dr. Erickson (Pediatric Surgery) on “Large Gap Congenital Pyloric Atresia with Meconium Peritonitis: When Gastrojejunostomy Is The Best Option”.

• Jonathan Black (PGY4) will be giving an oral presentation of his work with Dr. Yeh (Surgical Oncology) on “Outpatient total thyroidectomies”.

• Laquanda Knowlin for her work with Drs. Cairns (Burn Center) and Charles (General and Acute Care Surgery). “The Effect of Smoking Status on Burn Inhalation Injury Mortality.”

American Burn Association March 21-24, 2017 in Boston, MA

• Dr. Felicia Williams (Burn Center). “Burn injury and the diabetic patient: Significant increases in risk of hospital-acquired infection and mortality.”

• Dr. Samuel Jones (Burn Center). “Persistent gender-based disparities in burn mortality: A single institution study from 2004 – 2013.”

• Dr. Sara Scarlet (PGY1). “Positive blood alcohol level on admission associated with increased mortality.” (Poster)

• Dr. Sara Scarlet (PGY1). “No evidence of race-based disparities in burn mortality: A single institution study from 2004 – 2013.” (Poster)

Society of Black Academic Surgeons April 27-29, 2017 in Chicago, MA

• Dr. Samuel Jones (Burn Center) will be presenting “The Status Of Gender And Race-Based Disparities In Burn Mortality: A Single Institution Study From 2004-2013”
New Publications


- Strassle PD, Williams FN (Burn Center), Napravnik S, van Duin D, Weber DJ, Charles A (General and Acute Care Surgery), Cairns BA (Burn Center), Jones SW (Burn Center). Improved Survival of Patients With Extensive Burns: Trends in Patient Characteristics and Mortality Among Burn Patients in a Tertiary Care Burn Facility, 2004-2013. J Burn Care Res. 2016 Oct 17. [Epub ahead of print]


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Young S, Banza L, Munthali BS, Manda KG, Gallaher J (PGY4), Charles A (General and Acute Care Surgery). The impact of the increasing burden of trauma in Malawi on orthopedic trauma service priorities at Kamuzu Central Hospital. Acta Orthop. 2016 Sep 2:1-5.


Research Resources

Database Manager

Contact Paula Strassle, MPH our database manager BEFORE you start a project involving data collection or setting up a database, e.g. chart reviews. She will help you organize and think about things so that you will be able to analyze it when you are ready. Paula is also in charge of NIS, NSQUIP, SEER databases (http://www.med.unc.edu/surgery/education/resident-research-opportunities/available-databases) if you would like to use them or have questions about them. She may also point you to other databases that may help you.

Request Paula’s help using http://www.med.unc.edu/surgery/database-manager-request-form. Paula should be the point of entry for most of you and will communicate with the Biostats Team to distribute expertise/personnel needs.

Biostats Team

Jason Fine, PhD, Professor of Biostatistics will lead the biostatistics team with the help of his graduate research assistant Daniel Luckett. Request their help using http://www.med.unc.edu/surgery/contact-forms.

Suggestions?

Have you been doing research that you think should be included in this newsletter? Do you have any news from your research team, received any awards, published papers? Any other announcements? Let Jen Jen know at the email below!

\[ Jen Jen Yeh, MD  
Vice Chair for Research  
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