As winter is now over, it is time for another update. The department continues to do well with respect to all three missions. Our clinical volume continues to rise with both case number and wRVU. Research is thriving with a significant increase in grant submissions and new awards. Lastly, educational programs are ever present, with the Residents as Teachers Conference, robotic simulation sessions, educational grand rounds, and the “Mindful Self Compassion” course being led by Karen Bluth, PhD.

In February, the Department of Surgery had a strong showing at the Academic Surgical Congress in Jacksonville, Florida (Figure 1). The department had 20 abstracts being presented as oral or quick shot presentations. We had additional faculty delivering invited talks and serving as panel discussants. Overall, it was a meeting full of innovative ideas on academic surgical topics.

Since the last newsletter, many members of the Department have been recognized with honors and awards. In particular, I would like to call attention to two awards. Dr. Jen Jen Yeh received the 2017 Oliver Smithies Investigator Award for her research accomplishments (Figure 2). Dr. Trista Reid received the first ever Craver Medical Student Teaching Award for her outstanding teaching efforts (Figure 3). Both of these awards are bestowed by the School of Medicine and bring significant recognition to the efforts of our faculty. We could not be more proud of Drs. Yeh and Reid!
Our strategic planning process is on track. During this final phase, clinical programs were identified for strategic growth and prioritized (Figure 4). Business plans have been developed. We are now in the final process of drafting the 5 year strategic plan publication, in addition to implementing the many goals that have already been set.

At the end of April, the Department of Surgery will honor the careers of two faculty members who will be departing UNC; Dr. Scott Hultman and Dr. William Adamson (Figure 5). Please join us in celebrating their careers at UNC and wishing them the best on their new journeys. The date and time of the individual celebrations will be distributed via email. We thank Drs. Hultman and Adamson for their years of service to the UNC Department of Surgery.

Lastly, the department has been actively recruiting faculty in several different areas. I am happy to announce that Dr. Andrea Hayes-Jordan will be joining UNC as the Chief of the Division of Pediatric Surgery and Surgeon in Chief of Children’s Hospital (Figure 6). She will be joined in her division by Dr. Don Nakayama and Dr. Michael Philips, both of whom will be returning to UNC. I am also excited to announce that Dr. Mahesh Sharma will be joining UNC as the Section Chief of Congenital Cardiac Surgery. Dr. Stephanie Downs-Canner will be joining the Division of Surgical Oncology as a breast surgeon and surgeon scientist. Dr. Stephen Heisler will be joining the Division of Vascular Surgery as a podiatrist. Join me in welcoming our new faculty to UNC!

Melina R. Kibbe, MD
Chair, Department of Surgery
Colin G. Thomas, Jr. Distinguished Professor of Surgery
VISION
To be the nation’s leading public academic Department of Surgery

MISSION
The Department of Surgery’s mission is to provide the highest quality patient care to all people through innovation, world-class research, and training the next generation of surgical health care professionals and scientists

With a commitment to the wellness and treatment of adults and children in North Carolina and beyond, the Department’s dedicated team of support includes:

- **Resident Trainees**
  - General Surgery: 44
  - Plastic: 12
  - Cardiothoracic: 5
  - Oral/Max: 1
  - Urology: 3

- **Fellow Trainees**
  - Critical Care: 2
  - MIS: 1
  - Surgical Oncology: 2
  - Transplant: 1
  - Vascular: 2

**RESEARCH DEVELOPMENTS**

- **59** Grant Submissions
- **$2,947,580.25** Total Research Grant Dollars
- **$1,990,855.11** Federal Grant Dollars
- **$330,034.88** Clinical Trial Dollars

*Direct Research Dollars for FY2017*
Academic Surgical Congress

The Department of Surgery had 20 abstracts presented as oral or quick shot presentations at the Academic Surgical Congress in Jacksonville, FL. The 2018 Surgical Congress faculty, resident and fellow presentations are as follows:

**Purcell LN (PGY3), Gallaher JR (PGY7), Cairns BA (Burn), Charles AG (Trauma).** Outcomes in Pediatric Patients with Congenital Colorectal Diseases in Sub-Saharan Africa (Oral).

**Cools KS (PGY4), Kim HJ (Surg Onc), Yeh JJ (Surg Onc), Sanoff HK, Stitzenberg KB (Surg Onc).** Postoperative Morbidity and Mortality of Neoadjuvant Therapy After Pancreatectoduodenectomy (Oral).

**Schlottmann F (Fellow, GI), Strassle PD (Database), Cairns BA (Burn), Patti MG (GI).** Postoperative Outcomes after Esophagectomy for Cancer in Elderly Patients (Oral).

**Knowlin LT (Fellow, Burn), Cairns BA (Burn), Charles AG (Trauma).** Alcohol Intoxication and Burn Injury Outcomes: A Propensity Score Analysis (Oral).


**Scarlet S (PGY4), Reiter A, Crown J (Vascular), Meyers MO (Surg Onc).** Blind Spots in the Feedback Process - Exploring Trainee and Faculty Perceptions (Oral).

**Xiao N, Mansukhani N, Fregolete D, Kibbe M (Chair).** The Effect of Author Gender on Sex Bias in Surgical Research (Oral).

**Brown RF (PGY4), Cools K (PGY5), Shah M (PGY7), Stepp W (Fellow, Burn), Reid T (Trauma), Charles AG (Trauma).** Incidence and Histopathologic Variations in Appendiceal Neoplasm Presenting as Acute Appendicitis (Oral).

**Nayyar A (Postdoctoral Research Associate), Roughton MC (Plastics), Kalliainen LK (Plastics).** Journal Club in US Plastic Surgery Training Programs: Are We Doing It Right? (Oral).

**Schlottmann F (GI-Fellow), Murty NS (Education), Patti MG (GI).** Simulation Model for Laparoscopic and Robotic Foregut Surgery (Oral).

**Gallaher JR (PGY7), Jefferson M, Varela C, Cairns B (Burn), Charles AG (Trauma).** The Malawi Trauma Score: A Model for Predicting Trauma-Associated Mortality in a Resource-Poor Setting (Oral).

**Strassle PD (Database), Samples J, Sickbert-Bennet EE, Weber DJ, Sadiq TS (GI), Chaumont N (GI).** Incidence and Risk Factors of C. difficile Infection in Patients with Ileal Pouch-Anal Anastomosis (Oral).

**Lumpkin ST (PGY4), Strassle PD (Database), Chaumont N (GI).** Risk Factors for 30-Day Readmission after Colorectal Surgery: Does Transfer Status Matter? (Oral).

**Nayyar A (Post-Doc Research), Patterson K (Education), Roughton MC (Plastics), Wu C (Plastics).** What is Your Piece of the Pie? A Survey of Surgeons’ Perceptions on Scope of Practice (Oral).


**Williams FN (Burn), Chrisco L (Burn), Cairns B (Burn), Jones S (Burn).** Mortality Discrepancies in Skin Sloughing Disorders Compared to Burns in a Tertiary Care Burn Center (Oral).

**Nguyen MH, Carr J (PGY7), Damitz LA (Plastics), Kim HJ (Surg Onc), Hultman C (Plastics).** Sarcoma Resection: Outcomes Related to Methods of Reconstruction and Tumor Locations (Oral).
Academic Surgical Congress Photos
DEPARTMENT NEWS

IN THE LOOP

Research
It is great to see that so many grants have been submitted lately. Did you know that NC TraCS offers grant writing workshops and one on one help with writing your proposals? For more information, please visit their website. Keep up the momentum!

Also, please save the date for the 2018 Nathan A. Womack Surgical Society Research Day and Graduation Ceremony on Friday, June 15th. Dr. Clifford Ko will be our visiting professor. We are now accepting abstract submissions, please submit yours by May 11th!

Thanks,
David W. Ollila, MD
Director of Mentorship Program

Mentoring
We have turned the calendar and are now in the third quarter of the academic year. Hopefully, you have met with your mentor or mentee at least twice by now. As we head into spring, remember a more formal meeting with updates on progress will be needed.

If you are having difficulty with your pairing, either as a mentor or mentee, please don’t hesitate to contact me directly. I am here to help facilitate fruitful mentor-mentee relationships.

So many strong and accomplished women in Duke Surgery and UNC Surgery.
An empowering community fostering mentorship and sponsorship!
Simulation Center

The simulation for our residents – I to V – continues to expand very well. In January, we had a Da Vinci unit and hope to have new and improved simulators based on perfused tissue blocks (Figure 1 and 2). As done in the past, we will have sessions for colorectal surgery, foregut surgery and thoracic surgery. Our goal will be to have a unit permanently in the Simulation Center.

In December, the Simulation Center hosted a course for Senior and retired Surgeons sponsored by the American College of Surgeons. Some of these surgeons are now willing to function as instructors and mentors for our residents.

March 6, 2018 (7:00 AM) or March 8, 2018 (4:00 PM)
March 13, 2018 (7:00 AM) or March 15, 2018 (4:00 PM)
March 27, 2018 (7:00 AM) or March 29, 2018 (4:00 PM)
April 03, 2018 (7:00 AM) or April 5, 2018 (4:00 PM)

Education

AnnaMarie Connolly, MD was our guest at Education Grand Rounds on January 3, 2018, and she led us in a vigorous discussion around the important topic of feedback. Residents and faculty should continue to use the SIMPL as a means to have case-by-case dialogue.

The Educators Research Group continues to meet the third Friday of every other month at noon. Alice Chuang MD, MEd visited on November 10, 2017 and provided helpful tips for faculty and residents looking to collaborate in the study of surgical education. Please join us for lunch and future discussions about educational research.

We continue to work on wellness for all our trainees and to ensure the quality of the learning and work environment. In March and April, the department will sponsor a “Mindful Self-Compassion” course taught by Karen Bluth, PhD from the integrative medicine program at UNC. Residents will be assigned by their program coordinators for one of the following sessions. The 7:00 AM sessions will be held in Bondurant 030 and the 4:00 PM sessions will be held in the Health Sciences Library (527).

- March 6, 2018 (7:00 AM) or March 8, 2018 (4:00 PM)
- March 13, 2018 (7:00 AM) or March 15, 2018 (4:00 PM)
- March 27, 2018 (7:00 AM) or March 29, 2018 (4:00 PM)
- April 03, 2018 (7:00 AM) or April 5, 2018 (4:00 PM)
Advanced Practice Providers

In today’s rapidly evolving healthcare environment, it is imperative that resources and services be allocated in the most cost efficient manner. Appropriate billing and reimbursement is not only a mechanism for tracking utilization but it is essential to the success of the system. To this end, the APP group is undertaking a dedicated push into 2018, beginning with participation in educational seminars developed this past fall to identify and improve reimbursement by focusing on payer systems, improving documentation and optimizing billing and coding processes. It is our goal over the coming months to identify and capture all billable services provided by our group in areas ranging from the clinic setting to the operating rooms, acute care areas and ICUs.

Renee E. Edkins, DNP, MA, NP-C
Advance Practice Providers (APP)

Program Director’s Corner

The Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery program continues to thrive, and just received notification that we are approved for accreditation without outcomes, which is the highest level of RRC approval in the current accreditation system (NAS).

Drs. Jeyhan Wood and Paul Diegidio were recently in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic for an ACGME-approved rotation/medical mission trip, which serves hundreds of children with a variety of problems from cleft lip and palate to congenital hand deformities to burn scar contractures. We applaud them for their efforts.

Michelle Curtis Roughton, MD
Program Director for Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Division Chiefs’ Corner

Clinical Affairs

Despite being in the throes of a cold spell in the middle of the winter season, the clinical divisions have been extremely busy. We have spent the past several months on-boarding two Division Chiefs, Alessandro Fichera, MD (GI) and Lynn Damitz, MD (Plastics). This was key as they are joining the other division chiefs and departmental leadership in the strategic planning process which is being led by Dr. Kibbe and the strategy analysis group at UNC Health Care.

Our division chiefs have also been actively involved in the processes of achieving our clinical mission. One specific aspect involves managing patient transfer requests from outside facilities. The Healthcare system is completing a transition from a legacy program to an internal process, the Patient Logistics Center, which will handle our patient flow including transfers and patient movement from the Emergency Department through the hospital. This new entity which resides inside the hospital is staffed 24/7 and integrates our electronic medical record system with real-time needs, think NASA Mission Control Center. This is a critical program as the hospital is frequently at >95% capacity which challenges us as we provide service and accessibility for patients and their providers across North Carolina.

David Gerber, MD
Vice Chair for Clinical Affairs
Residents’ Corner

Resident applicant interview season has come to a successful end. The pre-interview dinners are particularly memorable for the applicants and residents alike, this year was no exception. With applicants traveling for numerous interviews, these intimate, informal gatherings help our program stand out by providing a window into the lives of residents (I still fondly remember my experience 7 years ago). Special thanks to our hosts—Jared Gallaher, Stephanie Lumpkin, Michael Wilford, and Paul Kaminsky!

As we turn toward ABSITE season, most residents are earnestly studying. Jo Grudziak coordinated a group discount on a highly-regarded question bank for the residents to take advantage of with the help of their educational funds provided by Dr. Kibbe. Thank you to both of them! Looking ahead, the senior residents have their last mock oral exams on March 19th.

C. Tyler Ellis, MD, MSCR
PGY7

Strategy and Outreach Activity

Work continues on the planning of the new surgical tower on campus, and the Panther Creek outpatient facility. Strategic programs for each of the Divisions of General Surgery are being evaluated by the Department, and many involve collaborations across surgical Divisions and clinical Departments.

Cecilia Riek, the Department’s Network Development Specialist, has been busy meeting with members of every Division, to schedule and plan outreach activities across the state of North Carolina. Several highlights include multiple visits by Surgical Oncology to Rex Hospital to highlight collaborations in pancreatic diseases (with GI medicine and Transplant Surgery), and introduce the new program in Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy (Ugwuji Maduekwe, MD). The Division also presented to the Raleigh Gut Club (Michael Meyers, MD and HJ Kim, MD), and completed several outreach visits to endocrinology groups in advance of a new marketing strategy (Lawrence Kim, MD). The GI Division met with the bariatric surgeons in Kinston (Timothy Farrell, MD and Meredith Duke, MD), and began a collaborative outreach effort with the Department of Medicine to organize a comprehensive clinic for morbid obesity. The Trauma/Acute Care Surgery Division worked with the Patient Logistic Center (PLC) to visit Fayetteville and the Cape Fear Medical Center (Elizabeth Dreesen, MD). The Burn Center continued its long-standing innovative program in teleburns, with virtual outreach efforts to Nash General and Rex Hospital. The Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery has completed multiple visits to highlight the Heart Failure program (John Ikonomidis, MD) and the Lung Transplant Program. The Division of Transplant Surgery continues to be active in outreach efforts, and has conducted several visits with GI Medicine/Hepatology to Asheboro, Durham, and Kinston. In addition, they are collaborating with Nephrology to explore opportunities with the NC Nephrology group (Raleigh), and outlying dialysis centers. The Division of Plastics and Reconstructive Surgery is scheduled for an outreach visit to Wayne Memorial (Lynn Damitz, MD and Loree Kallianen, MD) is planned to present at several grand rounds to highlight the nerve center (UNC Family Practice and Moses Cone Health).

The Division of Vascular Surgery completed several visits by Dr. Luigi Pascarella to increase awareness for the UNC program in Thoracic Outlet Syndrome (Wake Orthopedics, Rex Hospital), and the Aortic Program recently visited the Chatham Emergency Department. Finally, outreach efforts are being organized to welcome and introduce Dr. Shannelle Campbell (UNC Hillsborough) to the community.

Hong Jin Kim, MD
Vice Chair for Strategy and Outreach
DEPARTMENT NEWS

Staff, we appreciate all of your hard work and efforts. I am happy to inform you that UNC Health Care System’s Board of Directors approved Market and Merit pay increases for eligible employees in addition to the recent incentive payment, effective on December 31, 2017. I would also like to bring to your attention, that as of February 19, 2018, all remote access users will be required to use the new “MyApps” portal at https://myapps.unch.unc.edu, as the current Citrix site is scheduled for decommission.

For those of you who have expressed an interest and submitted applications for participation in the Emerging Leaders Academy, I encourage you to check your inboxes for updates and contact Rhonda Lowe at Rhonda.Lowe@unchealth.unc.edu with any questions about the program.

Having you all on our team, makes all the difference.

Staff Corner

Orna Manison, BBM
Administrative Support Supervisor

Staff, we appreciate all of your hard work and efforts. I am happy to inform you that UNC Health Care System’s Board of Directors approved Market and Merit pay increases for eligible employees in addition to the recent incentive payment, effective on December 31, 2017. I would also like to bring to your attention, that as of February 19, 2018, all remote access users will be required to use the new “MyApps” portal at https://myapps.unch.unc.edu, as the current Citrix site is scheduled for decommission.

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Having you all on our team, makes all the difference.

Medical Students

I wish to thank the faculty and residents for all their efforts in undergraduate surgical education. We now have a new set of application phase medical students. They are fresh out of their 2nd year and this is their first clinical rotation. I urge you to be patient with them, but set expectations and hold them accountable. Please make sure that they are fully integrated with your team both in and out of the operating room. All the medical students have been informed to seek feedback halfway through their rotations. Please provide them with constructive feedback. To continue to attract the best and brightest into our specialty, we have to continue to foster a positive learning environment.

Anthony G. Charles MD, MPH
Director, Medical Student Clerkship

Womack Society


The Womack Surgical Society provides opportunities for all former trainees in the UNC Department of Surgery to maintain ties with their colleagues, participate in educational opportunities, connect with current trainees, and honor the late Dr. Nathan Womack, who served as the first Department Chair.

Our Nathan A. Womack Distinguished Visiting Professor will be Clifford Ko, MD, MS, MSHS, Director of the Division of Research and Optimal Patient Care, American College of Surgeons in Chicago, IL.

Following the events from Research Day, the Womack Society will co-host a reception and awards dinner at the Carolina Inn for graduating residents and fellows.

Bruce A. Cairns, MD
President of the Womack Society
Melina Kibbe, MD (Chair) was elected to the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE’s) College of Fellows, the most prestigious group of medical and biological engineers across academia, industry, government, and clinical medicine.

William Marston, MD (Vascular) has been nominated as Secretary of the American Venous Forum (AVF). AVF is a national society that promotes venous and lymphatic health through education, innovative research, and advocacy.

David Gerber, MD (Transplant) and Alexander Toledo, MD (Transplant) discussed relevant topics in organ transplants during patient education podcast episodes hosted by the Department of Medicine. Dr. Gerber and Dr. Skip Hayashi spoke about liver transplants. Dr. Toledo and Dr. Karin True covered topics on kidney disease and transplant services.

Marco Patti, MD (GI), recently published a book entitled “The American Health Care System.” This book collates the expertise and experience of leading medical professionals to give foreign medical graduates an understanding of the American health care system.

Timothy Farrell, MD (GI) was nominated by the North Carolina Chapter of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) to the Board of Governors. Local chapters work in conjunction with the College to provide outstanding networking and educational opportunities, along with professional development resources through chapter meetings, conferences, and community outreach.

Trista Reid, MPH, MD (Trauma) was named as the 1st recipient of the Craver Professor Award. The award is named for UNC School of Medicine alum Joseph M. Craver, MD. The award honors outstanding teachers in Internal Medicine, Pediatrics and Surgery who both inspire and change the lives of medical students through their teaching.
Trista Reid, MD (Trauma) served as the Director of the UNC Advanced Surgical Skills for Exposure in Trauma (ASSET) course for PGY4 and PGY5 residents and regional trauma & general surgery physicians. Lead Faculty Primary Instructors from UNC’s Division of Trauma Surgery includes Elizabeth Dreesen, MD; Michelle Brownstein, MD; Anthony Charles, MD; Daryhl Johnson, MD; Rebecca Maine, MD; and Lauren Raff, MD. The 1-day course allowed participants to learn about the key surgical exposures in five key anatomic areas: neck, chest, abdomen & pelvis, and upper and lower extremities. The course was held on November 3, 2017 and will also be offered in Spring 2018.

Raghid Bitar, MD (Surg Onc) was elected to the American College of Surgeons Board as a Member-At-Large. Representing the State of North Carolina, Dr. Bitar will serve a 3 year term.

Stephanie Lumpkin, MD (PGY4), Paula Strassel, MSPH (Database), and Nicole Chaumont, MD (GI) were awarded the Best Association for Academic Surgery (AAS) Overall Manuscript Submission by an AAS Member at the Academic Surgical Congress for their manuscript entitled, “Risk Factors for 30-day Readmission After Colorectal Surgery: Does Transfer Status Matter?”

Jen Jen Yeh, MD (Surg Onc) was named the 2017 Oliver Smithies Investigator. The Oliver Smithies Program recognizes senior research faculty in the UNC School of Medicine who have made major contributions to research within and beyond their discipline. Smithies Investigators receive $75,000 for research over a five-year term, become members of the Oliver Smithies Society, and will present highlights of their research accomplishments at a special seminar in the fall. Dr. Yeh will also be giving a plenary presentation on her work with pancreatic cancer subtypes and therapy response. Related work was recently published by Dr. Yeh in Clinical Cancer Research and JCO Precision Oncology.

Karyn Stitzenberg, MD (Surg Onc) will be giving an invited talk on Safe Implementation of New Technology at the Society of Surgical Oncology Annual Cancer Symposium. Dr. Stitzenberg will also be presenting her work on financial burden and distress in oncology patients.

Lawrence Kim, MD (Surg Onc) was elected to the American Board of Surgery to represent the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons on the Complex General Surgical Oncology Board. Dr. Kim will be giving an invited talk on Management of Persistent/Recurrent Thyroid Cancer at the Society of Surgical Oncology Annual Cancer Symposium.
At the Society of Surgical Oncology Annual Cancer Symposium, Ben Schmidt, MD (Fellow, Surg Onc) will be giving an oral presentation on “Clinically Usable Molecular Subtyping of Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma (PDAC) from Needle Biopsies” and a poster presentation on “Automated Multiplexed Immunofluorescence Platform Quantifies CD3+/CD8+ T-Cells within Melanoma with Prognostic Significance”. Raphael Louie, MD (Fellow, Surg Onc) will be giving a case presentation on MEN2 at the Case Presentations with Fellows and Professors session. Katie Cools, MD (PGY4), will be giving a poster presentation on “Modern Trends in Neoadjuvant Therapy Utilization for Pancreatic Cancer”.

UNC Plastic Surgery was named as Chapel Hill’s favorite plastic surgeon in the magazine’s “Best of Chapel Hill 2017” publication.

Avital Yohann, MD (PGY1) received a travel scholarship to attend the 2018 Southern Association for Vascular Surgery annual meeting in January 2018.

Jared Gallaher, MD, MPH (PGY7) won the Best Region IV Committee on Trauma (COT) Clinical Paper on November 18, 2017.

Wenhan He, PhD (Postdoctoral Fellow) in Dr. Melina Kibbe’s (Chair) lab had a paper from his graduate work published in the prestigious Journal of the American Chemical Society. This work, “Roller-Wheel”-Type Pt-Containing Small Molecules and the Impact of “Rollers” on Material Crystallinity, Electronic Properties, and Solar Cell Performance, was featured on the cover of the October 2017 issue.

TAVR Team Recognized for Successful Transcatheter Procedure

A recent story about the Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR) Team has been featured in a patient video testimonial that features the team’s expertise in the new minimally invasive transcatheter aortic valve replacement procedure that replaces diseased valves without the increased risks for elderly patients that is associated with open-heart surgery. The Team includes Thomas Caranasos, MD (CT), John Vavalle, MD, Matthew Cavender, MD, Cassie Ramm, MSN and Tabitha Linville, BSN. The video testimonial features one of the TAVR Team’s patients, Tony, who has been treated successfully with the procedure.

The 129th meeting of the Southern Surgical Association was held at the Homestead in Hot Springs, VA December 3-6, 2017. The scientific program included a broad spectrum of presentations and was highlighted by the Presidential Address of Dr. Selwyn M. Vickers, Dean of the University of Alabama, School of Medicine. Dr. Vickers was introduced by Anthony Meyer, MD (Trauma), First Vice President. Melina Kibbe, MD (Chair) and Anthony Charles, MD (Trauma) were also elected into membership of the Association.
AWARDS

Corey Kalbaugh, PhD (Vascular), Robert Maile, PhD (Burn), and Trista Reid, MD (Trauma) received UNC Junior Faculty Development Awards for 2018. Junior Faculty Development Awards are presented each year by the Provost's Office to provide untenured Assistant and Associate Professors with support for their research or scholarly projects. Funding for the awards is provided by IBM and RJ Reynolds Industries funds.

Jason Crowner, MD (Vascular) along with Michael Meyers, MD (Surg Onc), Timothy Farrell, MD (GI) and colleagues received one of the UNC/Mountain Area Health Education Center (MAHEC) Academic Partnership Awards to strengthen the general surgery education partnership. Dr. Crowner and his team will receive $40,000 in the first year for this partnership with a possibility for renewal in subsequent years.

Melina R. Kibbe, MD (Chair) received the prestigious Dr. Rodman L. Sheen and Thomas G. Sheen Award at the Annual Meeting for the New Jersey Chapter of the American College of Surgeons, held on December 2, 2017 in Iselin, NJ. The Sheen Award is presented each year to honor individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the medical profession. Dr. Kibbe inspired attendees with her presentation of “When Mice are Men: Sex Bias in Surgical Research” during the annual meeting.

Thomas Egan, MD (CT) and NC State University Researcher and Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering, Marie Muller, PhD, recently learned that their FY17 Concept Award application has been accepted for funding from the Department of Defense’s Office of Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP).

Renee Edkins, DNP, NP-C (APP) and Scott Hultman, MD (Plastics) hosted Brittany Ayers, PA-C (APP) at the Regions Hospital Burn Center in St. Paul, MN as a Visiting Scholar in October 2017. The goal of the visit was to gain education on the fundamentals of selective photothermolysis in managing symptomatic burn scars along with providing insight into the role of the Advanced Practice Providers in a Laser Surgery Program. A large portion of the funding was provided by the Cheryl Jordan Scholarship, awarded by the American Burn Association to foster education and sharing of best practices among non-physician burn team members. This is the second Visiting Scholar supported by this award to work with Drs. Edkins and Hultman.

UNC Surgery Hosts Holiday Toy Drive

The first annual UNC Surgery Toy Drive was a big success. Drop boxes were placed on the floor of each surgical division and toys were collected throughout the month of December. All items donated were taken to Hillsborough Police Department for distribution to children in the local community. #UNCSurgeryGives
**NEW FACULTY**

**Shannelle Campbell, MD, MPH, FACS**  
Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, UNC Hillsborough

Shannelle Campbell, MD, MPH, FACS received her BS cum laude in Biochemistry from Clemson University in 1998. She attended Yale University where she received her MPH in 2003 and MD in 2004. Following her time at Yale, Dr. Campbell trained as a UNC General Surgery Resident from 2004-2009. Most recently, Dr. Campbell served on staff as a General Surgeon at Mary Black Surgical Specialties and as an Assistant Professor at Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine in Spartanburg, SC. Dr. Campbell's clinical practice will be located at our UNC Hillsborough campus and she will work closely with Dr. David Wayne Overby to extend our surgical services and outreach.

**NEW STAFF**

**Erica Koiki, MS (Burn)** joined the Division of Burn Surgery as an Administrative Specialist in December 2017. Prior to working in Burn Surgery, Erica managed a dental clinic in Harlem, NY which served the HIV/AIDS and homeless communities.

**Kathia Desronvil, FNP, ACNP (APP)** was hired as an Advanced Practice Provider for the CT Surgery Service in December 2017. She completed her MSN with specialization as a FNP in 2007 and a post-Master's certification as an AG-ACNP from Duke University in 2015. Kathia also recently completed a critical care fellowship at Carolinas Medical Center in 2017.

**Shamika Burwell (Vascular)** joined the Division of Vascular Surgery as an Administrative Specialist on March 12, 2018. Shamika has over 15 years of experience in healthcare and insurance, with 9 of those years being a Business Office Manager over operations of a large healthcare organization. She worked for both nonprofit and for profit organizations. As an administrative professional, she possess strong organizational skills and time management abilities.

**Ashley McPherson (Peds)** was hired as an Administrative Specialist for Pediatric Surgery. She has been with UNC HCS for 6 years. The past 3 years have been with the Pediatric Surgery Team in the clinical setting. She is actively seeking her degree in Medical Office Administration. Ashley is excited to move to the administrative side of things while continuing to work alongside such a great team. Some of her interests include efficiency and quality improvement; she welcomes a challenge! Ashley lives with her husband, two boys, (ages 5 and 1), and one rambunctious little puppy. In her free time, she enjoys blogging and novels.

**Sean Brown (Education)** is the manager of the UNC Department of Surgery Multidisciplinary Simulation Center. Prior to joining the department, Sean served as a US Army Special Forces Medic for 11 years and previously participated in the Advanced Medic Instructor Program with the UNC Department of Surgery Jaycee Burn Center. Sean looks forward to integrating his training and simulation development experience to the department to help improve simulation training for the residents and faculty.
Whitney Foxx (General and Acute Care/Plastic Surgery Clinic) is a Certified Medical Assistant with the ALBC. She graduated from Durham Tech's Medical Assisting program in 2016. She has 2 children. She is constantly looking for ways to improve herself and her environment.

Tim Downey (General and Acute Care/Plastic Surgery Clinic) has been a medical assistant since 2012. He graduated from ECPI. He previously worked at Duke University Medical Center as a tech in the operating room. Tim loves all sports. He is a Patriots fan: (but also a Tarheel:)

Natasha Fowler, CMA (General and Acute Care/Plastic Surgery Clinic) comes to us from Campus Health, where she worked as the team lead for a multi-disciplinary clinic. Last year, she earned the UNC Campus Health Peer Recognition Leadership Award. Currently, she is learning all facets of sterile processing, surgical assisting, and technical aspects of anesthesia care. Tasha enjoys singing in her church choir, and spending time with her husband and two children.

Julie Ann Kahn, RN (GI) will be starting in GI Surgery on March 26 as a division nurse. Most recently, she has been a scrub and circulating nurse in the UNC Children’s ORs working with Orthopedics, Plastic, Urology and General Surgery. She has over 16 of nursing experience and will support the upper GI service. She is a die-hard Tar Heels fan and enjoys time with her two furred children.

Javon Hughes, CMA (Vascular Administration) recently joined the Wound and Podiatry Clinic at Meadowmont to work with Dr Howard Kashefsky in the Podiatry Program. Javon graduated from Fayetteville Technical Community College and is certified by American Medical Technologists. He has been working closely with Dr Kashefsky and eventually will be performing routine wound care under Dr Kashefsky’s supervision.

Kat Wallace (Administration) was hired as Executive Assistant to Dr. Kibbe, and is excited to join the Kibbe team! She has recently moved from Charlotte NC where she was an Administrative Assistant at Southpark United Methodist Church. She and her husband Tom live in Durham with their two dogs. She enjoys spending time with her grown children, Amanda and Matt, and going to the beach.

On November 3, 2017, Elizabeth Gorsuch (Administration) hosted the Faculty Recruitment Schedule Formatting Class, where she led staff during an interactive session focused on practices for creating professional itineraries. Ted Hobgood (Staff-Administration) provided helpful tips for designing customizable templates.

Congratulations to Tammy Horne (Cardiothoracic) who recently earned her BSN degree from Winston Salem State University.

Sherito Smith (Staff-Plastics) graduated from the Emerging Leader Academy Program on January 26, 2018. The 9-month intensive certification program introduces emerging leaders to essential management skills, and provides mentoring and exposure to executives through role shadowing.

Debbie Cosentino (General and Acute Care/Plastic Surgery Clinic) was promoted from Clinical Nurse II to Clinic Nurse Manager. She has been with UNC for almost 14 years. She started in Plastics and Trauma clinic as a LPN and furthered her education along the way. She now has a Master’s degree in Nursing. She is responsible for supervising clinic staff and ensuring the flow of a busy clinic.
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES

The Art of Faculty Recruitment

• The Art of Faculty Recruitment is a workshop series organized by Elizabeth Gorsuch (Administration), to provide staff with effective techniques and best practices during the recruitment process. Workshop dates for 2018 will be announced soon.

Tuition Waiver Program

• Employees with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill are eligible to receive a tuition waiver for three courses per academic year. See the Tuition Waiver Program Site for information.

Organization & Professional Development

• Faculty and staff are invited to register for and attend organization and professional development courses offered by the UNC Office of Human Resources Organization and Professional Development team. Upcoming courses and webinars include:
  • Overcoming Procrastination: Webinar - Thursday, March 29, 2018; 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
  • Where are you Going? Goal Setting for Personal & Professional Success: Webinar - Thursday, April 5, 2018; 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
  • Overcoming Team Dysfunctions - Thursday, April 19, 2018; 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM
  • How to Deal with a Difficult Person - Tuesday, April 24, 2018; 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
  • Managing Projects Successfully - Monday, May 21, 2018; 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
  • It Takes All Types: Intro to Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) - Thursday, June 21, 2018; 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Financial Fitness Lunch Series Seminars

• The Office of Human Resources and TIAA will be hosting a four-week lunchtime series that will cover budgeting, debt control, managing risk, investment strategies and planning for retirement costs. A trained TIAA facilitator will lead each session. Sessions will be held on Wednesdays from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM in the Medical Biomolecular Research Building (G-202).
  • Week 1 - The Starting Line: Why And How Retirement Saving Should Begin Now; March 14, 2018
  • Week 2 - Money At Work 1: Foundations Of Investing; March 21, 2018
  • Week 3 - Money At Work 2: Sharpening Investment Skills; March 28, 2018
  • Week 4 - Healthy Numbers: Integrating Healthcare Into Your Retirement Plan; April 4, 2018

Lean Six Sigma Training

• Lean Six Sigma Training is provided by the UNC Medical Center’s Department of Operational Efficiency.
  Yellow Belt Training Calendar
  Frequency: 1-2 times a month
  Duration: 1 day
  Dates:
  • Thursday, April 26, 2018
  • Monday, May 14, 2018
  • Monday, May 21, 2018
  • Monday, June 18, 2018
UNC BASKETBALL GAME SELFIES
DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY HOLIDAY PARTY 2017
DEPARTMENT NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY HOLIDAY PARTY 2017
ALUMNI NEWS

Abigail Caudle, MD (2000) was recently appointed as the Executive Medical Director for Perioperative Services at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX. She is also an Associate Professor in the Department of Breast Surgical Oncology at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Have alumni news to share for the quarterly newsletter? Contact michelle_collins@med.unc.edu.

Save the Date

The UNC Department of Surgery invites you to attend

The Nathan A. Womack Surgical Society Research Day and Graduation Celebration

June 15, 2018

Research Program 11:00 AM-5:00 PM
Graduation Event 6:00 PM-10:00 PM

Featuring:
Nathan A. Womack Distinguished Visiting Professor
Clifford Ko, MD, MS, MSHS
Director, Division of Research and Optimal Patient Care
American College of Surgeons

Details and registration information to follow.

For inquiries, please contact womack_research@med.unc.edu
SURGERY GRAND ROUNDS

Wednesdays 7:15-8:15 AM at the 4th Floor Clinic Auditorium

3/21/18  
Faculty Presentation  
Ugwuji Maduekwe, MD  
Assistant Professor, Surgical Oncology

3/28/18  
Faculty Meeting  
Drs. Wesley Burks, Samantha Brody-Meltzer, and Joanne Jordan

3/30/18  
Faculty Presentation  
Nigel Mackman, PhD  
Department of Medicine, Division of Hematology/Oncology

4/4/18  
Visiting Professor  
Robert Cerfolio, MD  
Luther Hodges Lectureship  
Chief, Cardiothoracic Surgery  
New York University

4/11/18  
Chief Resident Presentations  
Tyler Ellis, MD (PGY5)  
Paul Kaminsky, MD (PGY5)

4/18/18  
Faculty Presentation  
Nigel Mackman, PhD  
Department of Medicine, Division of Hematology/Oncology

5/2/18  
Visiting Professor  
Raman C. Mahabir, MD  
Chair, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery  
Mayo Clinic - Phoenix

5/9/18  
Faculty Presentation  
Jeyhan Wood, MD  
Assistant Professor, Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery  
Scott Elton, MD, FAANS, FAAP  
Clinical Professor; Division Chief and Director of Pediatric Neurosurgery

5/16/18  
Chief Resident Presentations  
Jared Galleher, MD (PGY7)  
Jonathan Black, MD (PGY5)  
UNC Department of Surgery

5/23/18  
UNC Healthcare Strategy Team Presentation

5/30/18  
Interdisciplinary M&M  
Peggy McNaull, MD  
Associate Professor, Departments of Anesthesiology and Pediatrics

6/6/18  
AOE Speaker  
Jo Shapiro, MD  
Director, Center for Professionalism and Peer Support  
Associate Professor of Otolaryngology, Harvard Medical School

6/15/18  
2018 Nathan A. Womack Surgical Society Research Day and Graduation Ceremony  
Clifford Ko, MD, MS, MSHS  
Director, Division of Research and Optimal Patient Care, American College of Surgeons (ACS)

6/27/18  
Faculty Presentation  
Thomas G. Caranosos, MD  
Assistant Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery

Please Don’t Forget to Leave Your Ideas and Feedback in Our Department Comment Box (Located on the 3rd Floor of Burnett-Womack, across from room 3042)
RESEARCH

Abstract Deadlines

19th Congress of the International Society for Burn Injuries
November 30-December 4, 2018 (The Leela Ambience Convention Hotel, New Delhi, India)
Abstract Deadline: March 31, 2018
More information available here.

Society of Asian Academic Surgeons 3rd Annual Meeting
September 27-28, 2018 (Medical College of Wisconsin - The Pfister Hotel, Milwaukee, WI)
Abstract Deadline: May 25, 2018
More information available here.

Grant Opportunities

NC TRaCS Pilot Awards for Translational Research
Application Deadline: June 12, 2018 is the next deadlines for three NC TRaCS Pilot award programs:

- $5-50K Translational Research Matched Pilot Grants
- Drugs, Devices and Diagnostics Development (4D) Pilot Grants
- Translational Science Methods and Process Awards (TSMPA)

For more information about these pilot grant mechanisms please contact Paul Kerr or Mary Beth Cassely.

NC TraCS $2K Grant Awards
Application Deadline(s): April 17, 2018; May 15, 2018; June 19, 2018
Award Amount: $2,000
More information available here.

Research Resources

Carolina Data Warehouse for Health (CDW-H) is a central data repository containing clinical, research, and administrative data sourced from the UNC Health Care System. The CDW-H team hosts office hours twice per month (the first Wednesday and third Thursday). This is a chance for anyone with questions about datasets, i2b2, or additional CDW "stuff" to speak with an analyst; no appointment necessary. Next Dates: March 7 and March 15; April 4 and April 19; May 2 and May 17; 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM, Brinkhouse-Bullitt 218

SPIN Plus is a comprehensive funding opportunities database that gives UNC researchers access to over 40,000 funding opportunities from more than 10,000 federal and non-federal sponsors. Additional information about SPIN is available here.
Research Trainings and Events

REDCap Training - Forms (Hands On)
Get started building REDCap data collection forms for your research projects. Bring your own laptop in order to participate in the hands-on portion of this training.
March 20, 2018, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM, Brinkhous-Bullitt 219, NC TRaCS

Introduction to EMERSE
EMERSE (Electronic Medical Record Search Engine) allows users to search free text (unstructured) clinical notes from the electronic health record. This training will cover what EMERSE is, how it works, and how to use it appropriately.
March 28, 2018, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM, Brinkhous-Bullitt 219, NC TRaCS

Research Support

Grant Services
Michelle Collins, MPA, our Research Administrator, provides support for all areas of proposal development and will be your main contact for all things relating to pre-award research. Please contact Michelle as soon as you think about applying for a grant. She will help you with developing your budget, compiling the appropriate documentation for your proposal, and routing your grant for submission. Please remember external grants must be routed and submitted to the university 7-days before the due date! Request Michelle's assistance using the online service request form.

Database Management
Paula Strassle, MSPH and Charley Gaber, MPH are our Database Managers. They provide assistance for data collection and database set-up, and chart reviews. They will help you organize and think about your data so that you will be able to analyze it when you are ready. They are also in charge of the NIS, NSQUIP, and SEER databases. They can also point you to other databases that may be of assistance. Please contact them BEFORE you start any project involving data. Request their assistance using the online service request form.

Industry Sponsored Clinical Trials
Debbie Sanabria, BBA, is the Pre-Award Manager for the Department's industry sponsored clinical trials. Please contact Debbie as soon as you think about applying for clinical trial support. She will help you with budget development, compiling the appropriate documentation for your trial, and determining the next steps for coordination with the Office of Clinical Trials, the sponsor, and administration. Please remember clinical trials must be routed and submitted to the university 7-days before the due date! Request Debbie's assistance using the online request form.

Biostatistics
The Department of Surgery is collaborating with the North Carolina Translational and Clinical Sciences Institute (NC TraCS) to provide biostatistical consultations and support to our faculty members and residents. Biostatistics support can be requested through the NC TRaCS online mechanism. If you are using a database, making a database or have questions as to whether you need a biostatistician, please continue to contact Paula Strassle and Charley Gaber through the online service request form.
NEW PUBLICATIONS

CARDIOTHORACIC (CT)


VASCULAR


SURGICAL ONCOLOGY


TRAUMA


BURN


PLASTICS


GASTROINTESTINAL


TRANSPLANT


PEDIATRIC SURGERY