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**UNC DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY**

**Chair**
Melina Kibbe, MD

**Vice Chairs**
David A. Gerber, MD
Timothy M. Farrell, MD
Jin Ra, MD
Jen Jen Yeh, MD
Hong Jin Kim, MD

**Clinical Affairs**
Education
Quality and Safety
Research
Strategy & Outreach

**Division Chiefs**
David A. Gerber, MD,
Bruce A. Cairns, MD
John S. Ikonomidis, MD, PhD
Alessandro Fichera, MD
Anthony G. Charles, MD, MPH
Andrea Hayes-Jordan, MD
Lynn A. Damitz, MD
Hong Jin Kim, MD
Mark Farber, MD

Abdominal Transplant Surgery
NC Jaycee Burn Center Surgery
Cardiothoracic Surgery
Gastrointestinal Surgery
General & Acute Care Surgery
Pediatric Surgery
Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery
Surgical Oncology
Vascular Surgery

**Directors**
Luigi Pascarella, MD
David W. Ollila, MD

Medical Student Clerkship
Mentorship Program

**Residency Program Directors**
Benjamin E. Haithcock, MD
Michael O. Meyers, MD
Jeyhan S. Wood, MD

Cardiothoracic Surgery
General Surgery
Plastic Surgery

**Fellowship Program Directors**
David A. Gerber, MD
Timothy M. Farrell, MD
Bruce A. Cairns, MD
Elizabeth Dreesen, MD
David W. Ollila, MD
Mark Farber, MD

Abdominal Transplant Surgery
Adv. Minimally Invasive and Bariatric Surgery
Burn Surgery
Critical Care Surgery
Complex General Surgical Oncology
Vascular Surgery

**Associate Chair for Administration**
Joellen Buckio, MHA

**Public Communications Specialists**
Sheerah Coe

On the cover: Dr. Michael Phillips with Ruth Sykes and her parents Heath and Abbey. Read their story on pg 23.

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Spring always brings hope and new beginnings, and we have many reasons to be optimistic as we move forward with our new leaders, William Roper, UNC Interim President, Wesley Burks, UNC School of Medicine Dean and UNC Health Care System CEO, and Christy Page, UNC School of Medicine Executive Dean. Their focus on integrating the UNC health care system to better serve the needs of the people of North Carolina advances our longstanding mission for a more efficient and productive healthcare system that strives to provide the highest quality patient care.

This spring also brings several notable accomplishments. In March, we celebrated Match Day. We matched 13 individuals to general surgery this year! That represents 8% of the medical school class, which is double the national statistic of 4% pursuing general surgery. We also had one student match into thoracic surgery and two students match into vascular surgery – both exceeding national average data. I am thrilled to report that all four of our ACGME residency training programs matched extremely well! General Surgery matched seven medical students into the categorical PGY1 positions, and seven into the preliminary PGY1 positions. Plastic Surgery matched two into their categorical PGY one positions. Cardiothoracic Surgery matched one into their categorical PGY1 position. And our Vascular Surgery Integrated Program matched one into their categorical PGY 1 and one into their categorical PGY 2 position.

Our faculty continue to garner awards, honors and funding at an impressive rate. Already this year, our department has received a remarkable $4,475,484 from new extramural grants and clinical trials and $118,000 from institutional funding. Extramural funding has been obtained from a wide variety of sources including the National Institutes of Health (Cairns, Maile, Kibbe, Egan), North Carolina Office of EMS (Schiro), and Thoracic Surgery Foundation (Mody). This funding will allow our faculty to conduct important basic, translational, and clinical research to advance improvements in patient outcomes in the prevention, detection, diagnosis and the treatment of disease. Additionally, our faculty have also received institutional awards from campus-sponsored affiliates and institutes, such as the UNC Institute for Healthcare Quality Improvement (Phillips), UNC TraCS (Downs-Canner), and UNC MAHEC (Farrell and Patti). The projects funded range from using technologies to improve clinical outcomes to enhancing educational opportunities for our trainees.

Our residents and faculty also continue to represent the best of academic surgery by garnering national awards for research and local awards for clinical excellence and quality improvement. It is evident that our faculty reputation is growing nationally as our officer appointments and memberships continue to increase in national societies. Notably, Andrea Hayes-Jordan, MD, Professor and Chief of Pediatric Surgery and Surgeon-in-Chief of the UNC Children’s Hospital has been named President-Elect of the Society for Black Academic Surgeons. William Marston, MD, Professor of Vascular Surgery, was recently elected membership to the American Surgical Association.

Given the many accomplishment of our faculty, it is fitting that on Monday, May 13, 2019, we recognized faculty excellence by awarding an endowed professorship within the Department. To that end, I’m delighted to announce Anthony Charles, MD, as our new Oliver R. Rowe Distinguished Professor (feature story on page 4).

Next month we celebrate the culmination of our research and training endeavors through the Nathan A. Womack Surgical Society Research Day and Graduation Ceremony on June 7th. Our 2019 Research Day promises to be an exciting experience for all who attend.

Lastly, we are very pleased to welcome a new faculty member to the Department: Jennifer Carr, MD, as an Assistant Professor in the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Melina R. Kibbe, MD, FACS, FAHA

Colin G. Thomas Jr. Distinguished Professor and Chair
Department of Surgery
Professor, Department of Biomedical Engineering
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

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**Research + Publication data is for calendar year 2018**
Anthony Gbolahan Charles, MD, MPH, honored with the Oliver R. Rowe Distinguished Professorship

On Monday, May 13, 2019, Anthony Gbolahan Charles, MD, MPH, was honored with the Oliver R. Rowe Distinguished Professorship. The event, which took place at the Carolina Inn, Chapel Hill, was marked by speeches that touched upon the impact and history of the Professorship as well as comments that honored and recognized the late philanthropist Oliver R. Rowe and the remarkable career of Dr. Anthony Charles.

During the event, Cristy Page, MD, MPH, Executive Dean, UNC School Of Medicine, expounded on the value of a distinguished professorship and what it means to UNC Surgery, and to the individual to which it is bestowed. “A Distinguished Professorship,” she explains, “is one of the most prestigious awards that we can bestow on our faculty and a symbol of the value your colleagues have placed on your research and scholarship, teaching and service. It represents the importance of legacy for future generations and the accomplishments of the individual being celebrated, in this case, the very deserving Dr. Anthony Charles.”

Anthony Meyer, Chair Emeritus, UNC Department of Surgery, touched upon the history of the Oliver R. Rowe Distinguished Professorship of Surgery. It was established in 1976 to support the NC Jaycee Burn Center through a generous gift from the late Oliver Reagan Rowe. Mr. Rowe received a BS in engineering from UNC in 1925, graduating first in his class, and as a TarHeel he left behind a lasting impact. The Oliver R. Rowe Distinguished Professorship recognizes the late Mr. Rowe’s legacy of business leadership and philanthropy in North Carolina. The professorship established through his generosity helps recruit and retain world-class surgeon leaders and support advancement in the UNC Department of Surgery for generations to come.

The Rowe Distinguished Professorship recognizes Dr. Charles’s accomplishments as a remarkable surgeon, teacher, and leader in NC and around the world. Dr. Anthony Charles is Professor, Chief of the Division of General and Acute Care Surgery, Director of Adult ECMO, and Director of Global Surgery of the UNC Institute for Global Health & Infectious Diseases. Dr. Charles is recognized as an academic surgeon scientist passionate about global surgery research outcomes and clinical practices, as well as the advancement of the education mission of our institution through high quality learning experiences.

Dr. Charles joined UNC as a research fellow in June 2006 and the Department of Surgery as an Assistant Professor in August 2006. His interest in outcomes research led him to earn his MPH from the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health in August 2008. In 2013, Dr. Charles became an Associate Professor with tenure, and in 2018, a Professor with tenure in the Department of Surgery. He was also recently named the Director of Global Surgery of the UNC Institute for Global Health & Infectious Diseases and inducted into the Order of the Golden Fleece, UNC’s oldest and highest honorary society.

Anthony is a rare force of nature with giant accomplishments and his ‘investiture’ is a celebration of SUCCESS.”

-Myron S. Cohen, MD, Director for the UNC Institute for Global Health & Infectious Disease.

Dr. Charles has been a Principal and Co-principal Investigator on numerous grants from the National Institutes of Health with a focus on trauma and burn injuries and health care disparities. He has 94 peer-reviewed publications in top tier journals, five book chapters, and 31 published abstracts to his credit.

In his role as Medical Student Clerkship Director, he has a direct impact in shaping the learning experience for the next generation of physicians. Dr. Charles has received numerous medical student and resident teaching awards, including the UNC School of Medicine Distinguished Medical Alumni Teaching Award.

In her remarks, Dr. Melina Kibbe, Chair of the Department of Surgery, spoke about Dr. Charles’ many accomplishments, not just as a general surgeon but in his multiple roles as an educator, mentor, researcher, husband, and father. She spoke at length about his journey
to becoming a physician including the intertwined love story between he and his wife Celeste noting that, “this is not the path of an individual but one who is supported by many.”

During her speech, Dr. Kibbe referenced Dr. Trista Reid who had remarks about Dr. Charles. “Anthony Charles has been my mentor for over 12 years now, from when I was a medical student, a public health student, a general surgery resident, and now a faculty member. His infectious energy, passion for teaching, and ability to excel in all areas of academic surgery were pivotal in inspiring me to go into academic surgery. Whenever I have a question or concern he is always there for me, and I can’t thank him enough for all that he has done for me as a mentor and a friend!”

Dr. Charles concluded the evening with his own remarks thanking the many people in the room who came to support him and to celebrate this accomplishment with him. “My journey here has been a very interesting one. A lot of people have helped me get to where I am today. First I want to thank my wife and my children, their support has been pivotal to my success. When I finished my fellowship I had a private practice job lined up. One of my mentors recommended I try academic medicine first, so I moved to Carolina and I haven’t regretted a day since.”

He continued by thanking Dr. Anthony Meyer for recruiting him and to George F. Sheldon, MD, Chair Emeritus, UNC Department of Surgery for taking him on as a mentee. Dr. Charles joked about their weekly hour long mentor meetings and the sage advice Dr. Sheldon imparted to him. He finished his remarks by thanking Dr. Kibbe and Dr. Patti for continuing the UNC Surgery dedication to academia, scholarship and excellence.

Dr. Kibbe put it simply when she said, “Anthony – you are a true inspiration to all of us. We are fortunate to know you, and to work alongside you. While I did not have the pleasure of knowing him personally, I know that Dr. Sheldon would be extremely proud of you, as we all are.”
Luigi Pascarella, MD, Leads Week Long Boot Camp for 4th Year Medical Students
March 21-25, Chapel Hill, NC

Recently, 4th year medical students had the exciting opportunity to take part in a week long boot camp that included hands-on simulations and lectures hosted by the Department of Surgery and lead by Luigi Pascarella, MD. Over this five-day period, 26 highly driven individuals took part in the specialty-specific boot camp, during which time they learned valuable skills and insight into what the next 5 to 7 years might look like as a surgical resident.

Their first day included an introduction and refresher into central venous lines, arterial lines and managing shock and bleeding, as well as a lecture by Melina Kibbe, MD, Chair of UNC Surgery on the “10 Steps to Success in Academic Surgery.” Learners also participated in a collaborative environment that included attendees of the anesthesia boot camp that was kicked off with a lecture by David Zvara, Chair of the Department of Anesthesia entitled, “Tips for Success as an Intern”.

“It was very important that we bring surgery and anesthesia together for shared lectures and simulations. Cultivating a team approach for surgical patients is essential to bring them the best possible care,” explains Luigi Pascarella, MD, Clerkship Director and Associate Professor of Surgery.

This interactive boot camp also provided participants a chance to practice suturing, tying and closing complex wounds. They learned airway management, intubation and the placement of chest tubes. Their final day focused on laparoscopy, the first time this discipline has been offered since the inception of the program.

This year’s boot camp attracted the highest number of medical students matching to surgery in over a decade thanks to the efforts of Anthony Charles, MD, Chief, Division of General and Acute Care Surgery and Luigi Pascarella, MD, Clerkship Director, who have cultivated an inclusive learning environment along with the UNC Department of Surgery Faculty. It was sponsored by both the UNC Medical School and the UNC Department of Surgery.

Special thanks from Dr. Pascarella to Dr. Kibbe for supporting the boot camp as well as to Dr. Arielle Perez, Dr. Marco Patti, the Vascular Surgery Fellows and the General Surgery Residents for their help as Instructors. And thank you to Neal Murty, Simulation Lab Manager for his help with the Sim Lab.
In the first week of February Jeyhan Wood, MD, Pediatric Plastic Surgeon with UNC Surgery traveled to Santa Domingo, DR. It was her third consecutive year traveling to the area on a mission trip with Medical Aid For Children Of Latin America (MACLA Inc). She along with Michelle Roughton, MD, Paul Diegidio, Plastics Resident, and UNC CRNAs and PACU nurses joined the mission to help children and adults in an underserved part of the world. This year, with their help, the organization was able to better the lives of over 80 patients, most of them children.

MACLA was established in 1985, Thomas E. Geraghty, MD, a plastic and reconstructive surgeon in Kansas City. MACLA was founded for the purpose of surgically treating poor residents in the Dominican Republic and other third-world countries in the repair of cleft lips and palates, burn scar contractures, and various other correctable physical deformities. In 2015, Dr. Geraghty retired and turned over the reigns of MACLA Inc. to Dr. John Michael Quinn.

Each morning, doctors, nurses, and team members, a total of about 50 volunteers, boarded a bus at 6:30am to be transported to the hospital. They began operating at 7:30am, two beds per operating room, with many not putting their surgical tools down until 4pm.

Dr. Wood and her team were responsible for first-stage ear reconstruction, completing eight in total over the week. “While it’s a cosmetic surgery,” says Dr. Wood, “it’s also so they can wear glasses and not be made fun of. They can feel more socially accepted.” She also helped other teams with a second-stage ear reconstructions and some adults with ear traumas from burns or machete accidents. Patients and their families traveled hours to get to the hospital, many without a vehicle. They came by horseback or donkey with a majority of them leaving the same way after surgery. Volunteers were able help some families by securing cabs back to their homes, paying for the trips with their own money.

A huge resource for the MACLA volunteers as well as the patients, were the members of the local Peace Corps. The Peace Corps help with the mission annually, feeding the volunteers, serving as liaisons and interpreters during the mission and even some volunteering in the PACU and operating room.

This mission has a huge impact not just on the children but on the doctors willing to volunteer their time and skill. “There’s a handful of kids from my first year,” explains Dr. Wood, “that I’ve seen now for three years and they have all different stories but they were all born without an ear. Now you can see their self-confidence change, they smile more, they hold their heads up more, they look you in the eye more directly, and it’s really amazing. It makes you feel good in your heart to be able to provide a service like that for families that truly need it and don’t have the financial resources to provide it for their children.”

The Fulghum Family of Reston, VA donated over 100 Beenie Babies to the MACLA Foundation. Dr. Jayhan Wood transported them to the Dominican Republic on her trip and was able to give a child a little gift to comfort them during their stressful experience.
A Look at Match Day 2019

156 UNC School of Medicine students found out where they will be going to complete their residency training.

Original article featured in UNC Health Care Newsroom March 15, 2019
To watch the YouTube video click here.

Welcome to UNC School of Medicine Match Day 2019
March 15, 2019

CHAPEL HILL, NC - On Match Day, medical students from across the country find out where they will be going to complete their residency training. For the last several months students have crisscrossed the country, visiting and interviewing at different programs. The students rank their top choices; the residency programs do the same. Then, the National Resident Matching Program matches students and programs based on these rankings.

Since students have rated their top destinations, they have a sense of where they might be going, but they don't know for sure until they run down the stairs of the Medical Biomolecular Research Building auditorium, jump onto the stage, and get the blue envelope with their Match results.

Students walk into the hallway to find some privacy in this big moment. Or, they go back to share the result with their families.

Here's what the UNC School of Medicine Class of 2019 found in those envelopes:

- 156 Students matched into 24 specialties
- Students will complete their residency training in 31 states and the District of Columbia
- 65 students, more than 40 percent of the class of 2019, will complete their residency training in North Carolina
- The most popular specialties: Internal Medicine (27 students), Pediatrics (17 students), OB/GYN (15 students), Emergency Medicine (15 students), General Surgery (13 students)

“Congratulations to you all on this memorable occasion,” said Wesley Burks, MD, Dean of the UNC School of Medicine and CEO of UNC Health Care. “You’ve thought for years about the type of doctor you would like to become and now you are here ready to begin the next phase of your training. This is a day you will always remember.”

“Congratulations to you all on this memorable occasion” – Wesley Burks, MD
HIGHLIGHTS & HONORS

FACULTY

Thomas Caranasos, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, was appointed as the Interim Medical Director of the CVT-ICU.

Nicole Chaumont, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Gastrointestinal Surgery, was chosen to be a faculty mentor for Physician Leadership in Quality & Safety (PLQS), a School of Medicine Scholarly Concentration, for 2019-2020.

Timothy M. Farrell, MD
Professor of Surgery, Division of Gastrointestinal Surgery, was inducted into the American Surgical Association.

Andrea Hayes-Jordan, MD
Professor and Chief, Division of Pediatric Surgery, was selected as the President-elect for the Society of Black Academic Surgeons.

David Gerber, MD
Professor and Chief, Division of Abdominal Transplant, was elected to serve as Associate Councilor, Region 11 of the United Network of Organ Sharing and Region 11 representative on the OPTN/UNOS Membership and Professional Standards Committee.

Melina Kibbe, MD
Professor and Chair, Division of Vascular Surgery, won the Women Leaders in Medicine Award from the American Medical Student Association (AMSA) and received the Presidential Citation Award from the Association of VA Surgeons.

Lawrence Kim, MD
Professor of Surgery, Division of Surgical Oncology, was appointed to the editorial board of the Annals of Surgical Oncology.

William Marston, MD
Professor of Surgery, Division of Vascular Surgery, was elected to membership of the American Surgical Association.

Robert Maile, PhD
Associate Professor of Surgery, Division of Burn Surgery, was elected to Professional Development Committee, Society for Leukocyte Biology.

Karyn Stitzenberg, MD, MPH
Associate Professor of Surgery, Division of Surgical Oncology, was asked to serve on the Colorectal Cancer Guideline Committee for the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO).
UNC Health Care administers the CG-CAHPS (Clinician and Group Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems) survey to solicit feedback from patients. The survey asks patients if they would recommend their provider’s office to their friends and family. Over the last year, for 189 providers, more than 95 percent of their patients responded “Yes, definitely!,” which places these providers in the top quartile nationally.

The 2019 UNC Health Care and UNC Faculty Physicians Award for Carolina Care Excellence is awarded in recognition of this achievement.

**Stephanie Downs-Canner, MD**
Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Surgical Oncology, was selected for the UNC TraCS KL12 Grant and was selected for the American College of Surgeons Faculty Research Fellowship.

**Gita Mody, MD, MPH**
Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, was selected to receive a TSF Research Award for her project entitled, “Improving Lung Cancer Surgery Using Patient Centered Outcomes” in the amount of $80,000 from 2019-2021.

**Thomas Egan, MD**
Professor of Surgery, Division of CT Surgery, won a MultiPI NIH R21 Award with Marie Mulley at NC State for their project entitled, “Novel Ultrasound Localization of Pulmonary Nodules during Video Assisted Thoracic Surgery to Improve Surgical Resection.”

**Michael Phillips, MD**
Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Pediatric Surgery, was selected as a 2019-2020 Improvement Scholar. He also received a grant from the IHQI for his project entitled, “Reducing Length of Stay for Pediatric Patients with Gastrostomy Tubes.”

**Timothy M. Farrell, MD**
Professor of Surgery, Division of Gastrointestinal Surgery, received a UNC-MAHEC Simulation Grant in the amount of $38,000 for one year, with Dr. Marco Patti.

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**Department of Surgery**
*Fall 2018*
Joanna Grudziak, MD
General Surgery Resident, PGYS, was selected as a 2019-2020 Improvement Scholar.

Lauren Hill, NP
Nurse Practitioner, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, won the Friend of Nursing award, presented by the UNC Department of Nursing.

Mia Klein, MD
Postdoctoral Research Fellow, General Surgery, won Best Basic Science Presentation and Trauma competition at the Association of VA Surgeons conference. Her abstract was selected to represent the AVAS at the American College of Surgeons meeting in October.

Michael Williford, MD
General Surgery Resident, PGYS, won the Henry C. Fordham Award from the UNC Medical School.

Roberto Mota, PhD
Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Bahnson Lab, received the ASIP 2019 Sobel Scholar Award at the American Society for Investigative Pathology annual meeting at Experimental Biology 2019.

Dr. Charles turns 50!

On April 21, Easter Sunday, UNC Surgery represented by Marco Di Corpo, MD, Julie Khan, Alex Toledo, MD, and Marco Patti, MD provided Easter dinner to the patients and families in the UNC SECU House.
NEW FACULTY

Jennifer Carr, MD
Assistant Professor, Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

Dr. Carr received a Bachelor of Liberal Arts and her Medical Doctorate from the University of Missouri in 2007. From 2007-2014 she pursued her general surgery residency training at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, during which time she was recognized with multiple teaching awards. From 2014-2017, she pursued her plastic surgery residency training also at the University of Iowa, and was named the Administrative Chief Resident. In 2017, she joined the staff at Maine General Medical Center in Augusta, Maine. To read Dr. Carr's Q and A click here.

NEW HEALTHCARE STAFF

Christin Heverly, MSN
Family Nurse Practitioner
Burn Surgery

Christin Heverly is a board-certified Family Nurse Practitioner. She earned her undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 2007 and her graduate school degree at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2017. Christin practiced as a medical-surgical, trauma, and orthopedic registered nurse in the Triangle region prior to re-joining the UNC HealthCare team. Her hobbies include coaching both CrossFit and volleyball, hiking with her dog, and spending time with family.

Charles Locke, MHS
Physicians Assistant
CVT Intensive Care Unit

Charles Locke, MHS, PA-C, attended UNC at Wilmington for his undergraduate studies in Athletic Training. He then returned closer to home to serve as a Paramedic in Nash and Franklin County before becoming a member of the second ever Physician Assistant class at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, graduating in 2018. Charles completed a rotation in the CTICU during his clinical year of PA school and this strongly influenced his decision to enter the realm of critical care. In his free time, Charles enjoys spending time with family, playing bass guitar, and kayaking.
PUBLICATIONS | CARDIOTHORACIC


Serrano Rodriguez P, Strassle PD, Barritt AS 4th, Watkins R, ...


PUBLICATIONS | BURN


PUBLICATIONS | CARDIOVASCULAR


PUBLICATIONS | GASTROINTESTINAL


**PUBLICATIONS | GASTROINTESTINAL**


**PUBLICATIONS | GENERAL & ACUTE CARE**


PUBLICATIONS | GENERAL & ACUTE CARE CONTINUED


PUBLICATIONS | PEDIATRIC


PUBLICATIONS | PLASTICS


PUBLICATIONS | SURGICAL ONCOLOGY


PUBLICATIONS | VASCULAR


RESEARCH

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: May 16; June 5 and 20; July 3 and 18; August 7 and 15 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM, Brinkhous-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

Introduction to Statistics and Strategies for Data Analysis
NC TraCS is offering a 1-week course entitled “Introduction to Study Design and Strategies for Data Analysis.” This course is intended as an introduction to statistical terms, methodologies and analysis strategies most commonly used in clinical/translational research. The goal of this course is to help participants with understanding the necessary vocabulary and fundamental concepts they can use to communicate with biostatisticians. Register for this training here. Next Class: July 16-20, Bioinformatics 1131

Research Electronic Data Capture (REDCap) Training
REDCap, is a secure web application that can be used to build and manage case report forms, surveys and other data capture mechanisms for clinical research. NC TraCS offers training classes to assist researchers in getting started with building REDCap data collection forms for their research projects. For more information about REDCap or to sign-up for future trainings, please visit the website.

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. For more information about EMERSE or to sign-up for future trainings, please visit the website.

DATABASE MANAGEMENT

Paula Strassle, MSPH and Charley Gaber, MPH are our Database Managers. They provide assistance for data collection, 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 in charge of the NIS, NSQUIP, and SEER databases and can also point you to other databases that may be of assistance. Please contact them BEFORE you start any project involving data. To request their assistance, please complete the online service request form. ***Note that we will have no database support for the month of June, so please plan accordingly.***

EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE AND RESEARCH

Clinical librarian and liaison from the Health Sciences Library. Provides support for evidence-based practice and research, including

- Focused or comprehensive literature searching
- Critically appraising evidence
- Collaborating on systematic reviews
- Advice on presenting/publishing results
- Education on research tools and resources, including searching PubMed and other literature databases, SPIN for finding funding sources, Covidence for systematic reviews, and citation management software.

To request systematic review assistance, please complete the online request form. For any other requests, contact Rebecca at mccall@unc.edu.

RESEARCH SUPPORT

PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT
Grace Chen, BA, our Research Administrator, provides support for all areas of proposal development including clinical trials and will be your main contacts for all things relating to pre-award research. Please contact Grace 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, routing your grant for submission and coordinating with the Office of Clinical Trials, the sponsor, and administration. Please notify Grace as earlier as possible, but at least 6 weeks before the due date, as external grants must be routed and submitted to the university 7-days before the due date!

To request grant submission assistance, please complete the online service request form.

To request clinical trial contract submission, please complete the online service 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 website. If you are using a database, creating 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.
ABSTRACT DEADLINES

15th Annual Academic Surgical Congress
Meeting Date: February 4-6, 2020
Location: Orlando, FL
Abstract Deadline: August 2019 - pending announcement
More information available here.

Southern Surgical Association Annual Meeting 2019
Meeting Date: December 8-11, 2019
Location: Hot Springs, VA
Abstract Deadline: June 30, 2019
More information available here.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

FACULTY

American College of Surgeons (ACS) - George H.A. Clowes, Jr., MD, FACS Memorial Research Career Development Award
Application Deadline: August 1, 2019
Award Amount: Up to $45,000 for up to 5 years
More information available here.

Association for Academic Surgery (AAS) - Joel J. Roslyn Faculty Research Award
Application Deadline: August, 2019 – pending announcement
Anticipated Award Start Date: March 1, 2020
Award Amount: Up to $50,000 for 1 year
More information available here.

The UNC Center for Gastrointestinal Biology and Disease (CGIBD)
Letter of Intent Deadline: July 1, 2019

RESIDENT + TRAINEES

Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma (EAST) - The John M. Templeton, Jr., MD Injury Prevention Research Scholarship
Letter of Intent Deadline: July 2019 - pending announcement
Application Deadline: October, 2019
Anticipated Award Start Date: July 2020
Award Amount: Up to $10,000 for 1 year
More information available here.

Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma (EAST) - Trauma Research Scholarship
Letter of Intent Deadline: July, 2019 – pending announcement
Application Deadline: October, 2019
Anticipated Award Start Date: July, 2020
Award Amount: Up to $40,000 for 1 year
More information available here.

Association for Academic Surgery (AAS) - Trainee Research Fellowship Awards

BOTH

NC TraCS $2K Grant Awards
Application Deadline(s): May 21, 2019, June 18, 2019, July 16, 2019, and August 2019
Award Amount: $2,000
More information available here.
HEALTHCARE UPDATES

INTRODUCING THE NEW EMPLOYEE REFERRAL PROGRAM: “DISCOVERY”
UNC Health Care is pleased to introduce a new Employee Referral Program called “Discovery.” As part of the Discovery program, current employees at UNC Medical Center and UNC REX who refer qualified external applicants for specific positions, and who meet the referral guidelines, will have the opportunity to earn $3,000. For eligibility details and the list of positions eligible at each entity, click here. Step by step instructions can be found here.

Coming May 10: Total Compensation Statements
UNC Health Care Human Resources is pleased to announce that 2018 Total Compensation Statements have been created for UNC Health Care employees. These statements will be distributed electronically through email on May 10. Employees eligible to receive the 2018 Total Compensation Statement will meet the following criteria:
• Current active employees hired prior to Dec. 16, 2018.
• Employee working 20+ hours p/week as of Dec. 31, 2018.
• Employed in a non-temporary position (excludes Per Diem, Pay Per Visit, Pay Per Class, Temporary and Resident status employees).

CALL FOR PHOTOS FEATURING COWORKERS
Later this year, a customized, mobile wayfinding app will be available to help patients, visitors and staff find their way from one end of the hospital to the other at UNC Medical Center and UNC REX Healthcare. We are partnering with a company named Gozio Health to launch this app. We have the opportunity to feature your photo welcoming patients and visitors to your part of the hospital.

No fancy equipment is required – a mobile phone photo is great – but please be sure to exclude any patients or patient-identifying materials in the background.

When a patient or visitor uses the app to make their way to a café, registration, a patient care access point, for example, these photos will appear when they have reached the destination. Please visit our intranet page for examples. Submit your own photos to empnews@unchealth.unc.edu

ACTIVE SHOOTER RESPONSE TRAINING
This instructor-led course will teach employees how to respond during an active shooter situation. Register for the course through LMS here. Click here for an event flyer that lists all the sessions for this course.

All sessions will take place in the Old Clinic Auditorium. Available sessions:
• Monday, June 10, 9 - 11 a.m.
• Tuesday, June 11, 9 - 11 a.m.
• Wednesday, June 12, 9 - 11 a.m.
• Friday, June 14, 10 a.m. - noon

EPIC@UNC UPDATES
Coming in May: New Value Care Banner Colors in Epic@UNC Help Identify Exclusive/Narrow Network Populations: If you have any questions about the Value Care banners and new icons, please email the UNC Health Alliance at HealthAlliance@unchealth.unc.edu.

In early May 2019, new green-colored banners in Epic@UNC will identify patients aligned to an exclusive or narrow network Value plan. These plans include Cigna Connect ACA and BCBS Blue Value ACA. These two patient populations have limited or no out-of-network coverage, and their care should remain with a UNC Health Alliance provider or facility. When making a referral, be sure to use the hyperlink from the banner to the Longitudinal Plan of Care (LPOC) to find providers who are in-network for these patients. Find more information and screenshots here.

New Icon for patients aligned to an Exclusive/Narrow Network Value Plan
In addition to the green banner, patients in an exclusive or narrow network Value plan will also be identified by a new icon in several different Epic@UNC views. When you see the green banner or the green ‘funnel’ icon (see example at left), you will know that the patient is aligned to either an exclusive or narrow network Value plan. Your action is to keep the patient within the UNC Health Alliance network, so that the patient does not incur out-of-network costs from their payer. REMEMBER: The banner does not replace benefit verification; always check insurance status.

NGACO Patients Continue to be Identified with a Blue Banner New Icon
Blue banners will continue to be used to identify patients aligned to our NGACO. A patient can be classified as NGACO Complex or NGACO Non-Complex:
• NGACO Complex: These patients may be enrolled in Intensive Case Management (ICM) to help coordinate their care. You can refer these patients to ICM for assistance with barriers to care or resource coordination.
• NGACO Non-Complex: These patients are not necessarily enrolled in Intensive Case Management, but if their conditions are impactible or warrant extra help, consider referring them to ICM.

In addition to the blue banner, NGACO patients will also be identified by a new icon in several different Epic@UNC views (see example at left). When you see the blue banner or this ‘connection’ icon, it is your alert that the patient is aligned to our NGACO and that their care is being tightly coordinated with their PCP and care management team. Your action is to “connect them” to their care team, their PCP, or to applicable NGACO services that can help manage their care. REMEMBER: The banner does not replace benefit verification; always check insurance status.
What are some insights you share with your residents at the Hernia Center?

I think the most important thing is to look at hernias as a disease process. Have them apply a preoperative, perioperative, post-operative and long term approach to that disease just like we do with other types of disease. I think that level of care with hernia patients is key and each little piece has depth to it that requires coming to clinic and seeing these individuals.

Do you think hernia is seen as a less complex disease than other conditions?

I think one of the things about hernia is that they have termed it something that limits peoples understanding of the complexity of it. There is currently an effort amongst my colleagues to rebrand the term hernia into abdominal core health, which to me is probably the future.

Can you elaborate more about collaboration in surgery?

I think the effect (it) will have long term in surgery is not known. I think it will make better collaborators which is important. There are many examples that often times the best surgeons in the operating room don't translate into the best leaders, CEOs, Chairs of Departments. The personality traits that make you a successful surgeon aren't bad because they often make you a successful surgeon but if you don’t acknowledge them and then control them outside of that environment then you'll suffer. That balance I think is the art of being good at two things, not just one.

How do you move the needle forward with Quality Improvement in Surgery with speed but also with caution?

Michigan has been successful in their Michigan Surgical Quality Collaborative (MSQC). They are a prime example of how you can make changes that can impact practice and publish high quality research. One way to do it is a learning healthcare system. Research drives your clinical practice so what you find changes what you do. Clinical practice changes research, meaning you see things happening within your clinical practice and develop questions that come up every day which will influence what you want to study.

Quality improvement, clinical practice and research are inextricably linked in a learning health system

Step 1: Identify a significant (common or clinically important problem
Step 2: Determine current indications for the intervention (DCL)
Step 3: Identify strategy to study indications
Step 4: Design a study to evaluate the effect of the implementation of the interventions.
Step 5: Evaluate the results
Step 6: Identify areas for improvement

So how do you become a learning healthcare system?

A learning healthcare system requires science and informatics, patient-clinician partnerships, incentives and a continuous learning culture
GRAND ROUNDS

Wednesdays 7:15 am - 8:15 am at the 4th floor Clinic Auditorium

5/22/2019
Faculty Meeting

5/29/2019
James F. Newsome Distinguished Visiting Professor
Keith Lillemoe, MD, Chief of Surgery, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA

6/5/2019
Faculty Talk
Corey Kalbaugh, PhD, Assistant Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery

6/7/2019
Nathan A. Womack Distinguished Visiting Professor + Research Day
Yuman Fong, MD, DSc, Sangiacomo Chair in Surgical Oncology, Chairman of the Department of Surgery City of Hope Medical Center

6/12/2019
Faculty Talk
Luigi Pascarella, MD, Associate Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery

6/19/2019
Education Awards
Timothy Farrell, MD, Professor of Surgery, Division of GI Surgery and the Vice Chair of Education

6/26/2019
Interdisciplinary M & M
Peggy McNaull, MD, Associate Professor of Anesthesiology and Pediatrics and Vice Chair for Patient Safety & Quality Improvement

6/26/2019
Nathan A. Womack Distinguished Visiting Professor: Yuman Fong, MD, DSc (Hon), Sangiacomo Chair in Surgical Oncology, Chairman of the Department of Surgery City of Hope Medical Center

7/3/2019
No Grand Rounds due to Holiday

7/10/2019
Department Photos

7/17/2019
TBD

7/24/2019
UNC Visiting Professor
James Sanders, MD, Chair, UNC Department of Orthopedics

7/31/2019
Ethel F. and James A. Valone Distinguished Visiting Professor
Gordon Lee, MD, Professor of Surgery, Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at The Standford University Medical Center

WOMACK RESEARCH DAY

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

June 7, 2019

To register for Research Day, please click here.
Graduation Celebration is by Invitation Only.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
This year’s event will take place on the ground floor of the UNC School of Dentistry (Koury Oral Health Sciences Building).

10:15 AM – 11:30 AM Poster Set-Up and Registration | Main Street (Ground Floor)
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM Resident Career Development Session with Dr. Fong | (Lunch) G508 (Ground Floor)
12:30 PM – 2:00 PM Poster Presentations | Main Street (Ground Floor)
2:00 PM - 3:45 PM Oral Presentations | G411 (Ground Floor)
3:45 PM – 4:45 PM Nathan A. Womack Distinguished Visiting Professor Keynote Lecture | TITLE: Technology Development in Surgery: From Robotic Surgery to Gene Surgery | Yuman Fong, MD | G411 (Ground Floor)
6:00 PM – 10:00 PM Nathan A. Womack Alumni and Awards Reception and Graduation Celebration | Carolina Inn

For more information click here.
Carter Mae Kennedy
Fighting a Rare Tumor

On October 26, a petite 4-year old girl walked through UNC hospital, dressed as Disney’s Princess Elsa. Her body vibrated with excitement as her long blue train trailed behind her, her blond wig braid bouncing on her back as she held a pumpkin bucket tightly in her hands. Read

Pastor John Hedgepeth
A Desire to Help and Heal

Pastor John Hedgepeth has spent over 50 years providing advice and guidance to members of his Northwood Temple Church. When it came to his own medical needs, he turned to the doctors at UNC Health Care for support. Read his journey from diagnosis to recovery. Read

Ruth Sykes
A Journey to Birth

Diagnosed in utero, Abbey and Heath Sykes found out that their child was suffering from Sacrococcygeal Teratoma (SCT), a rare fetal tumor. “Just because there is something not quite right in utero, these great doctors can give your child a fighting chance. Read more.

Deanna Williams
power of 3D Technology

Deanna Williams was a 27-year-old mother of two, pregnant with her third child, a ticking time bomb. She had no idea she had been born with a rare congenital heart defect and that her pregnancy could unexpectedly put too much pressure on her heart leading to. Read more.

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Watch all videos
Corey Kalbaugh, PhD
Alessandro Fichera, MD
Stephanie Downs-Canner, MD
Chirag Desai, MD
Jeyhan Wood, MD
Luigi Pascarella, MD
Katharine McGinigle, MD
Timothy Sadiq, MD
Marco Patti, MD
Jason Long, MD
John Ikonomidis, MD, PhD
Trista Reid, MD
Bruce Cairns, MD
Don Nakayama, MD
Mahesh Sharma, MD
Melina Kibbe, MD
David Overby, MD
Timothy Farrell, MD
Andrea Hayes-Jordan, MD
Gita Mody, MD, MPH
Benjamin Haithcock, MD
Michael Phillips, MD
David Gerber, MD
Thomas Caranasos, MD
Shannelle Campbell, MD
Kristalyn Gallagher, DO
Anthony Charles, MD, MPH

“(Dr. Caranasos) Your dedication, humility, and work ethic are an inspiration! We are honored to know you and have you as a friend!” - Jacquelyn Hoffman Golden

“(Dr. Campbell) She is an awesome person and surgeon.” - Joseph Romano

“I was blessed to have Dr. Haithcock perform my double lung transplant in October 2008. He’s not only an extraordinary surgeon, but he’s also an extraordinary human being. I will never be able to express how much I love him and for how grateful I am for him!” - Chris Keen

FACEBOOK COMMENTS
MAKE A GIFT
Philanthropy inspires innovation and paves the way for healthier futures for our patients. Gifts to the Department of Surgery advance surgical care in the operating room and the clinic, enable us to pursue bold ideas in the research arena, and provide a rigorous training experience for tomorrow's surgical leaders.
For information about ways to support the UNC Department of Surgery or to make a gift, please contact Mary Margaret Carroll, Senior Executive Director of Development at the Medical Foundation of NC, at mary.carroll@med.unc.edu, (919) 843-8443 or visit go.unc.edu/uncsurgery.

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.

VISION
To be the nation's leading public academic Department of Surgery.