

UNC SURGERY

SUMMER 2021



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SPRING NEWSLETTER DATES: May, June,
July and August of 2021

UNC DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

Interim Chair

Matt Mauro, MD

Vice Chairs

David A. Gerber, MD
Luigi Pascarella, MD
Timothy M. Farrell, MD
Jin Ra, MD
Jen Jen Yeh, MD
Hong Jin Kim, MD

*Clinical Affairs
Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
Education
Quality and Safety
Research
Strategy & Outreach*

Division Chiefs

David A. Gerber, MD
Booker T. King, MD
John S. Ikonomidis, MD, PhD
Jose G. Guillem, MD, MPH, MBA
Anthony G. Charles, MD, MPH
Andrea Hayes, 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
John S. Ikonomidis, MD, PhD

*Medical Student Clerkship
Mentorship Program*

Residency Program Directors

Benjamin E. Haithcock, MD
Michael O. Meyers, MD
Jeyhan S. Wood, MD
Ezequiel Parodi, MD

*Cardiothoracic Surgery
General Surgery
Plastic Surgery
Vascular Surgery*

Fellowship Program Directors

Chirag Desai MD
Timothy M. Farrell, MD

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

Felicia Williams, MD
Jin Ra, MD
Hong Jin Kim, MD
Ezequiel Parodi, MD

Associate Chair for Administration

Joellen Buckio, MHA

Public Communications Specialist

Sheerah Coe

On the cover: Transplant team including Drs. Serano & Toledo.

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THIS IS YOUR
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**[CHANGE
THE WORLD]**

UNC
HEALTH®

by the numbers

**Research + Publication data from academic calendar year ending 2021*



76

FACULTY

55

ADVANCED PRACTICE PROVIDERS



92

TRAINEES

363

PUBLICATIONS

75

STAFF

\$604,128

CLINICAL TRIAL DOLLARS

\$4,598,247

FEDERAL GRANT DOLLARS

55

RESEARCHERS



86

GRANT SUBMISSIONS

\$5,759,499

TOTAL RESEARCH GRANT DOLLARS

THE SEARCH FOR A NEW CHAIR



Melina Kibbe, MD, the former Colin G. Thomas Jr. Distinguished Professor and Chair of the Department of Surgery, was named the 17th Dean of the University of Virginia School of Medicine and Chief Health Affairs Officer for UVA Health effective September 15, 2021.

While she will certainly be missed at UNC Surgery, this is an outstanding opportunity for Dr. Kibbe to lead one of the nation's top public medical schools. Everyone in the department and throughout UNC Health wish Dr. Kibbe great success and look forward to following along as she begins this next phase of her career.

Dr. Kibbe joined UNC in 2016 when she became the first woman to serve as the Chair of the Department of Surgery and a key member of the UNC Health senior leadership team. Over her five-year tenure, she significantly grew the clinical enterprise and the amount of complex clinical care provided by the department. An excellent recruiter, Dr. Kibbe added an additional 20 faculty to the department and in parallel has grown the research portfolio, with federal research funding up seven-fold and the number of annual peer-reviewed publications tripled. Dr. Kibbe has enhanced the department's surgical training programs, working tirelessly to increase the number of underrepresented and LGBTQ+ faculty, trainees and staff.

The Department has enhanced existing clinical services and added new ones to better serve the people of North Carolina. Establishing a presence at Panther Creek and UNC Children's Raleigh facilities has expanded our clinical presence to better reach our patients. The Department recently finalized a new Surgery Education Center to facilitate collaboration and cutting edge educational opportunities for faculty and learners.

"It has been a tremendous honor to work alongside such incredibly talented and dedicated colleagues," shared Dr. Kibbe. "The growth of our department these past five years has been phenomenal thanks to your hard work, engagement and commitment. I am extremely proud of our achievements in advancing clinical, research and education programs. I also want to express my sincere appreciation to leadership for their ongoing support and encouragement of the Department of Surgery, which has been critical for our success. I leave here grateful for the opportunity I had to contribute to this distinguished institution and remain inspired by the time I spent with all of you. Thank you for everything!"



As the search for a new chair begins, Matt Mauro, MD, the James H. Scatliff Distinguished Professor of Radiology began his tenure as interim chair of the UNC Department of Surgery August 23.

Mauro has an extensive record of academic and clinical leadership. He currently serves as President of UNC Faculty Physicians and Senior Executive, Revenue Cycle for UNC Health. Mauro served as Chair of the Department of Radiology from 2007 to 2019 and has been a member of the UNC School of Medicine faculty since 1982. He has a longstanding appointment as a Professor within the Department of Surgery.

As Interim Chair, Mauro will continue to advance the department's work in clinical care, research, and education. "The Department of Surgery is a great strength for our medical center and system, providing the people of North Carolina with the very best surgical care, leading in research, and training the next generation of surgeons," said Mauro. "I'm excited by the opportunity to work with the faculty of this department to continue their good work."

The search is already underway for the next Chair of the Department. A search committee has been formed that includes a wide array of faculty from across the school of medicine. Focus groups are being conducted so that all members of the department from APPs, nurses, staff, trainees, and faculty can share their insight into the leader they would like to see in the role.

"On behalf of the search committee, we are dedicated to identifying a great candidate for the next chair of the Department of Surgery, which is an incredibly important leadership role at UNC," says Jennifer Wu, Interim Vice Dean of Academic Affairs, Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Chair of the search committee. "We look forward to conducting focus group meetings with the Department and welcoming candidates to UNC."

The committee encourages members of the Surgery Department to help them identify great candidates for this important leadership position. They ask for help encouraging colleagues at UNC and those external to UNC to apply for the chair position. If someone is interested, please send them the link to the [job posting](#). The posting will remain open until the position is filled.



2021 Resident & Fellow Graduates & Faculty



Dr. Melina Kibbe



Nathan A. Womack Scholar Award
& H. Max Schiebel, MD Award

Hadley Wilson, MD



Herbert J. Proctor Award for
Excellence in Surgical Research

Laura Purcell, MD





Celebration in the Education Center

Nathan A. Womack Surgical Society Graduation Celebration

Graduating Residents and Fellows attended the Department of Surgery's Graduation Ceremony on June 6, 2021 in the Burnett-Womack Surgery Education Center. While this graduation looked different from those in past years, limiting in-person attendance to graduates, White Owl recipients, and invited faculty, the ceremony was broadcast virtually and recorded.

The event began with remarks from Dr. Kibbe and the presentation of three prestigious awards. Laura Purcell, MD, a chief resident, won the Herbert J. Proctor Award for Excellence in Surgical Research. Hadley Wilson, MD, a graduating cardiothoracic chief resident won the H. Max Schiebel, MD Award, which is given to a graduate who is considered technically the most proficient in surgical procedures. Dr. Wilson also won the Nathan A. Womack Award, which is given to an outstanding graduating chief resident who showed excellence in teaching, investigation and patient care.

The Department of Surgery graduated six fellows and ten residents. Our congratulations go to Dr. Staci Aubry, Dr. Lauren Daugherty, Dr. Stephanie Gray, Dr. Ronald Hardin, Dr. Jeffrey Johnson, Dr. Mia Klein, Dr. Jeffrey Lipman, Dr. Peter Marcinkowski, Dr. Anna Pavlov, Dr. Micah Pherson, Dr. Karishma Reddy, Dr. Manuel Sanchez-Casalongue, Dr. Sara Scarlet, Dr. Charles Schafer, Dr. Andrew Schneider, and Dr. Hadley Wilson. They are ready to be the next patient champions, the next surgeon-scientists, and the next educators on the forefront of innovation.

Congratulations to the White owl recipients including Dr. Emilie Barnes, Dr. Mary Kate Bryant, Dr. Stephanie Lumpkin, Dr. Kathleen Marulanda, Dr. Emily Newton, Dr. Laura Purcell, Dr. Emily Wirtz, Dr. Shuting Zhong, and Dr. Catherine McDermott.

The department would like to congratulate all of the graduates. Your hard work and dedication have been inspiring to us all! We wish you all the best in the next phase of your journey. We will miss you!

[Watch the video:](#)



BURN CENTER VERIFICATION

The American Burn Association (ABA) conducted a site visit of the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center on June 18th, 2021. The ABA Burn Center Verification Review Committee approved the site report and has approved the Burn Center for re-verification as an Adult and Pediatric Burn Center through July 31, 2024. They commended the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center for its continued commitment to excellence and its dedication to providing quality burn care to patients.

The ABA found the Burn Center had no deficiencies and stated that they are 'a mature burn program with dedicated resources, expert personnel, and regional impact. Notable positives included a unique vocational rehab program, a highly effective after-care program, and a translational research program.'

"Thanks to the tireless work, dedication and professionalism of the burn team and support from our partners here at UNC and in the community, NC Jaycee Burn Center has once again been

reverified by the ABA as a pediatric and adult burn center," said Booker T. King, Chief of the Division of Burn Surgery.



BURN CENTER TESTIMONIAL

Thank You

My name is Kim McNairy and I was a patient at the Burn Center from May 12 - 27, 2021 in room 5414. Until now, I had never spent a night in a hospital so I had no idea what to expect. From the moment I was admitted until my discharge, I was treated better than I could have possibly imagined at the Burn Center. And this wonderful treatment goes from the person that cleaned my room, to the person that gave me my medications, the person that performed my surgery.

I was consistently treated with respect and dignity as was my spouse. The nurses, NA's, PT's, OT's and HUC's showed great patience with my many questions and concerns. I never felt rushed in any of our conversations. Being burned, as you well know, is a very frightening experience. Everyone made me feel comfortable and at ease. It was obvious that my wellbeing was their top priority as well as staying on top of my pain.

I would like to call out a few individuals for their exemplary care, and of course I do not have their last names.

Millie

Marilyn

Jason

Kat

Shelli

Jess

Brittany

Theiry

Mark

Regina

Lauren

Anthony

Brooke

Emmanuel

Nikki

You all run a top notch organization and I cannot thank you enough for the fabulous care I received while in the hospital as well as in my follow up appointments.

Thank you,
Kim McNairy

HAYES NAMED HOWARD CHAIR OF SURGERY

We are incredibly excited and proud to announce that Dr. Andrea Hayes (formerly Hayes-Jordan), Professor and Chief of the Division of Pediatric Surgery and Surgeon-in-Chief of the UNC Children's Hospital has accepted the position of Chair of the Department of Surgery at Howard University College of Medicine. This is an outstanding accomplishment for Dr. Hayes as she steps forward to lead such a storied program whose history began in 1868.

Dr. Hayes was the first African American female pediatric surgeon board certified in the United States and is an internationally recognized leader in pediatric surgery oncology. She was the first surgeon to perform cytoreductive surgery and Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy (HIPEC) in a pediatric patient.

With more than 15 years of experience, Dr. Hayes specializes in treating desmoplastic small round cell tumors (DSRCT), a rare sarcoma, which spreads throughout the abdominal and chest

cavity. Dr. Hayes has treated patients from across the globe and traveled extensively in the U.S. and abroad, teaching the operation to other surgeons.

When Dr. Andrea Hayes joined UNC, she helped our department and the institution in numerous ways including starting our pediatric HIPEC program, recruiting an outstanding team of pediatric surgeons and leading the surgical enterprise of the Children's Hospital with vision and maturity.

We will certainly miss her presence throughout the department, but we couldn't be more excited about the path ahead for her.

"My transition to chair of Howard is bittersweet," says Dr. Hayes. "I will truly miss the wonderful people here at UNC. I have made some good friends and enjoyed the NC climate. And, leading a historic surgery department such as Howard University, is an incredible opportunity I look forward to."



PLASTIC CLINIC: NEW LOCATION

To better support patients, the Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery clinic has moved locations. They no longer see patients at the clinic in the UNC Hospital on Manning drive or at the ALBC. Instead, both clinics have been consolidated into one place for easier access for our patients.

Address: 55 Vilcom Center Drive, Suite 110,
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
Phone: 984-215-6350
Fax: 984-215-6355
Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Providers: Dr. Lynn Damitz; Dr. Nishant Bhatt
Dr. Jennifer Carr; Renee Edkins, DNP
Dr. Adeyemi Ogunleye; Dr. Jeyhan Wood,



UNC Medical Center's Kidney Transplant Program is Ranked #1 in the Country

*for one year survival rate

**Data provided by www.srtr.org

For more information about our
kidney program please visit:
<https://www.unchealthcare.org/kidney>

LAHEY RECEIVES FULBRIGHT



Congratulations to Analiese Lahey, an undergraduate student in the [Rossman lab](#). She received a Fulbright scholarship!

Analiese finished up her senior year at UNC and

graduated in May 2021 with a Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience, and a Chemistry minor. For her Fulbright research, she is now at Dr. Weiland Hutner's group at the [Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics in Dresden](#).

Analiese was working on ARHGAP11B in the Rossman lab, which they had previously

published to be upregulated in certain breast cancers subtypes, along with its paralog [ARHGAP11A](#). ARHGAP11A has been characterized by them and others to promote cancer, though there is not much known about ARHGAP11B's cancer activity. Hutner's group has published a series of papers that show [ARHGAP11B is human-specific and crucial for neocortex expansion](#) and is one of the genes that make humans different from chimps and Neanderthals apparently.

Because of Analiese's interest in Neuroscience she was working on ARHGAP11B for her senior research project during the spring semester. In anticipation of that, she contacted Dr. Hutner during her fall semester about the possibility of pursuing the project with him and his team as a Fulbright scholar. He agreed, and

she went ahead with the application. She started the research phase of the project in September 2021.

Fulbright scholarships are awarded to US citizen applicants who have earned a bachelor's degree or the equivalent before the beginning of the scholarship period.

Analiese was also accepted to the (highly competitive) graduate Neuroscience program at the Max Planck in Göttingen (MSc/PhD/MD-PhD Neuroscience Program (uni-goettingen.de)) though she has deferred for the year. This is an impressive achievement – the interview process was two days in front of a panel of German scientists. She's also mentioned MD/PhD programs as well, so Göttingen may not be her final destination.

UNC HEALTH EMPLOYEE NEWS

COVID-19 Vaccine Policy Update: One Dose of Pfizer/Moderna Vaccine by Sept. 21 Preserves Ability to Receive 100% of Delayed Incentive Payment

On Tuesday, April 27, the CDC released new public health guidance. UNC Health and the State of North Carolina currently have a limited supply of the one-dose Johnson & Johnson (J&J) COVID-19 vaccine. In recognition of this supply constraint, the UNC Health [COVID Vaccine Policy](#) is being updated to allow teammates to receive either the one-dose J&J vaccine OR receive one dose of a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine by Sept. 21 and a second dose by Oct. 20 to be compliant with the COVID Vaccine Policy. We will share this information widely.

Scheduling Your Vaccine and Documenting in Self-Report Portal:

- COVID vaccine appointments can be scheduled [using this link](#) or by calling 984-215-4485. You do not have to receive the vaccine at UNC Health. Find convenient vaccination sites across North Carolina at [vaccines.gov](#).
- Teammates must update proof of vaccination in UNC Health's [Self-Report Portal](#). Please upload proof of vaccination after the first dose of a two-dose vaccine.

Additional resources:

- FAQS
 - [COVID Vaccine Policy](#)
 - [COVID Vaccines](#)
- Virtual Vaccine Q&A Sessions
 - [Thursday, Aug. 12](#)
 - [Tuesday, Aug. 24](#)
- Get the latest information on the COVID-19 vaccines at unhealthcare.org/coronavirus/vaccines

Update to UNC Health's Immunization and Health Requirements for Vendor/Supplier Personnel in UNC Health Facilities now includes COVID-19 vaccinations

On Sept. 7, vendors working in UNC Health facilities were notified of the update to the Immunization and Health Requirements that now includes the COVID-19 vaccine requirement. Vendors/Suppliers have 60 days to provide documentation and ensure that their employees are in compliance with the updated policy. UNC Health will not be responsible for reviewing or maintaining vendor/supplier immunization records or exemption requests. (Note: This updated policy applies to vendors/suppliers and does not apply to students.)

The COVID-19 vaccine requirement applies to:

- Employees and agents of vendors whose contracts with UNC Health (or any affiliate) require compliance with UNC Health's existing immunization and vaccine requirements; and
- Any vendor/supplier employees and agents who visit

or work at UNC Health facilities in connection with the supplier's provision of services and/or products.

Vendors and other covered personnel must receive a complete COVID-19 vaccine (i.e. get both doses if receiving a two-dose vaccine) by the effective date. Vendors may provide for exemptions from the vaccine requirement based on medical contraindications or for bona fide religious reasons, as determined and documented in good faith by the vendor.

Exemptions:

The following exceptions apply to UNC Health's COVID-19 vaccine requirement for employees and agents of vendors:

- Vendors who work solely in **unoccupied** UNC Health facilities as long as they DO NOT enter any UNC Health occupied space to reach the unoccupied space (such as a plumber working on the surgical tower project). Unoccupied space means those facilities that are either totally self-contained and do not have any UNC Health patients, visitors or employees, or construction projects prior to occupation and use for UNC Health operations.
- Vendors that never enter the facility (i.e., landscapers; consultants that work only on a remote basis; fully remote physicians and other providers who never visit or work in UNC Health facilities and do not have authorization to do so) or that make deliveries and/or pick up on loading dock.

New Tool Available for leaders to validate employee Epic and Lawson access – Manager's Employee Access Matrix (MEAM)

Managers, Directors, and Sponsors need to validate annually their employees, contractors, and/or student's access to Epic@UNC and/or Lawson to ensure the access is accurate and appropriate. The Manager's Employee Access matrix (MEAM) tool was created to facilitate this annual review as well as provide a mechanism to add and/or remove access for a new or transferred employee (without having to use ARC). Please complete your team's validation using the MEAM tool by Friday, October 15. Click [HERE](#) to review information and instructions. If there are any questions, reach out to the Identity and Access Management team at IAM@unhealthcare.org.

Changes to the Voluntary Shared Leave Program

Effective Sept. 1, changes have been made to the Voluntary Shared Leave Program that will make it easier for teammates, whether they are donors or recipients.

For all eligible team members whose last day worked is Sept. 1 or later, the following policy changes will apply:

- An applicant has 60 days from their last day worked to remit all required documentation and donations (instead of 30).
- A donor can now contribute PTO reducing their balance to 80 hours (instead of half of their annual accrual).

HIGHLIGHTS/HONORS FACULTY

Lynn Damitz, MD

Professor and Chair, Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, elected to serve as the American Society of Plastic Surgeons/PSF Board Vice President, Health Policy & Advocacy.



David Gerber, MD

Professor and Chief, Division of Abdominal Transplant, was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Organ Procurement Transplant Network. He also transitioned to the role of Councilor of UNOS' (United Network of Organ Sharing) Region 11.



Stephanie Downs-Canner, MD

Assistant Professor, Division of Surgical Oncology, received the Craver Professor Award from the UNC Academy of Educators.



Andrea Hayes, MD

Professor and Chief, Division of Pediatric Surgery, has accepted the position of Chair of the Department of Surgery at Howard University.



John Ikonomidis, MD, PhD

Professor and Chief, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, was appointed Faculty Mentorship Program Director effective July 1, 2021.



Luigi Pascarella, MD

Associate Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery, won the UNC SOM Whitehead Application/Individualization Phase Clinical Preceptor Excellence in Teaching Award and Medical Alumni Distinguished Teaching Professorship from the UNC Academy of Educators.



Arielle Perez, MD

Assistant Professor, Division of General, Trauma and Acute Care Surgery, won the Application/Individualization Phase Clinical Preceptor Excellence in Teaching Award from the UNC Academy of Educators.



PROMOTIONS



Katharine McGinagle, MD

Division of Vascular Surgery, was promoted to Associate Professor.



Inductees:
Faculty and
Residents



Kevin Chen, MD
General Surgery
Resident



Elizabeth Dreesen, MD
General and Acute Care
Professor

HIGHLIGHTS/HONORS RESIDENTS

Julia Button, MD

PGY 1 Preliminary General Surgery Resident, was awarded the Class of 2000 Kaiser Permanente Excellence in Teaching Award - Surgery Intern.



Taylor Carter, MD

PGY3 General Surgery Resident, is the recipient of this year's Erle E. Peacock, Jr., MD Award.



Josh Herb, MD, MSCR

PGY4 General Surgery Resident, was awarded the Pope Clinical Trainee Research award from Lineberger Cancer Center in the amount of \$5,000.



Joseph Kearny, MD

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Yeh Lab, received the Steve Sotsky Award for "most promising research in pancreatic cancer by a trainee" by the Americas Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association.

Meredith Kruger, MD

PGY5 Plastic Surgery Resident, received the 2021 Robert C. Cefalo House Officer Award.



Kathleen Marulanda, MD

PGY5 General Surgery Resident, matched at the University of Pennsylvania for a Vascular Surgery Fellowship.



Colby Ruiz, MD

PGY3 Vascular Surgery Resident, was awarded the Class of 2000 Kaiser Permanente Excellence in Teaching Award - Surgery Resident.



Benjamin Haithcock, MD
Cardiothoracic
Professor



Audrey Khourey, MD
Cardiothoracic
Resident



Sean McClean, MD
Pediatric
Associate Professor



Kate McGinigle, MD
Vascular
Associate Professor



Aurelie Merlo, MD
Cardiothoracic
Resident



Michael Phillips, MD
Pediatric
Assistant Professor

HONORS/HIGHLIGHTS STAFF, & STUDENTS

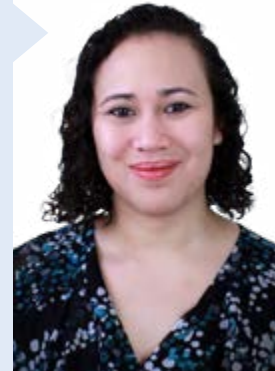
Javon Hughes

Certified Medical Assistant, Division of Vascular Surgery, was awarded the Assistive Personnel of the year Nursing Award in Procedural Care.



Cressida Mahung

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Maile Lab, received Society for Leukocyte Biology Presidential Junior Faculty / Postdoc Award.



Analiese Lahey

Undergraduate Senior, Rossman Lab, received a Fulbright Scholarship. For her Fulbright research, she went to Dr. Weiland Hutner's group at the Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics in Dresden.



Micah Willis, BSPS

CiTEM PhD student, Cairns/ Maile Burn Lab, was a Society for Leukocyte Biology Presidential Student Finalist.

GRANTS FACULTY, RESIDENTS, & STUDENTS

David Ollila, MD

Professor, Division of Surgical Oncology, was awarded a grant from the John Wayne Cancer Foundation for his proposal, "Artificial Intelligence-Aided Digital Pathology to Improve Diagnosis in Metastatic Melanoma" in the amount of \$25,000.



Philip Spanheimer, MD

Assistant Professor, Division of Surgical Oncology, is one of six winners of the Physician Scientist Training Award from the UNC School of Medicine Physician Scientist Training Program (PSTP) in the amount of \$55,000/year to support salary related expenses and an additional \$25,000/year to support his research project.



Micah Willis, BSPS

CiTEM PhD student, Cairns/ Maile Burn Lab; and Drs. Maile and Cairns, received a NIH NIGMS Diversity Supplement to R01GM131124 "Damage-Induced Activation of the TLR/mTOR/PPARgamma Axis Regulates the Immune Response After Burn and Inhalation Injury" in the amount of \$59,249.



NEW TEAM MEMBERS



Andrew Schneider, MD
Assistant Professor
General, Trauma & Acute Care

Dr. Andrew Schneider received his undergraduate degree *cum laude* from the University of Florida in 2009 before earning his medical degree at the University of Miami in 2013. He completed his general surgery residency training at the University of Chicago, during which time he also earned a Master of Biomedical Informatics. After completing his residency, he accepted a Critical Care Fellowship at UNC. Dr. Schneider has a keen interest and advanced training in EPIC and is a member of Alpha Omega Alpha and the Arnold P. Gold Humanism Honor Society.

Read more about Dr. Schneider in his [Q&A interview](#).



Jonathan Stem, MD
Assistant Professor
GI Surgery

Dr. Jonathan Stem received his undergraduate degree from Princeton in 2008 and then attended the Special Sciences Program at the University of Pennsylvania. He completed his medical degree at Wake Forest University in 2014, subsequently training as a general surgery resident at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia, PA. He recently completed a Colorectal Surgery Fellowship at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. At UNC his focus will be on colorectal cancer. Dr. Stem has multiple resident research and teaching awards to his credit.

Read more about Dr. Stem in his [Q&A interview](#).



Chelsea Hendricks
Aftercare Program Coordinator
NC Jaycee Burn Center

Chelsea graduated from East Carolina University in 2012 with a BS in Recreational Therapy. She has been working at UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill since 2013 as a Recreational Therapist in Pediatrics and Psychiatry. In 2016, she was promoted to Senior Recreational Therapist in Psychiatry and was the primary therapist on a six-bed eating disorder unit.

Chelsea loves everything water related including boating, fishing, swimming or being at the beach. She loves the outdoors and exploring nature with her family.



Jennifer Matusik, DBA, PhD
Residency Coordinator
Surgery Department

Jennifer graduated from University of Phoenix in 2019 with a BS in Psychology. She earned her MS in Criminal Justice and Applied Behavior Analysis from St. Joseph's University in 2011 and in 2020 completed her Doctor of Business Administration and Human Resources Management from NCU. She has over 15 years in various business admin roles.

Jennifer loves to read, hike, crochet, cook, listen to music and spend time outdoors. She's been married for 25 years, has four children, two dogs and loves to tell a good "Dad" joke.



Kelly Rausch, PA-C
Physician Assistant
Pediatric Surgery

Kelly graduated from The University of Georgia in 2011 with a BS in Education. She then got her Masters of Clinical Medical Science in Physician Assistant Studies at Barry University in 2013. After graduation, Kelly worked in an ICU for a year before accepting a position in 2015 at John's Hopkins All Children's Hospital in the Pediatric Surgery and Trauma unit where she remained until July 2021.

Kelly is an avid Georgia Bulldog. She watches as many of the football games that she can. She also enjoys the outdoors, hiking, walking her dog, running and playing soccer.



Jeffrey Marcotte
Physician Assistant
Burn ICU

Jeffrey graduated from the Interservice Physician Assistant Program in 2011 from the University of Nebraska Medical Center. He received his training while serving in the United States Air Force. After graduation he cared for a dedicated patient population of 2,000 military and civilian patients for 4 years. He served two tours in Afghanistan/Active Duty with an honorable discharge in 2015. During that time he was recognized as an Outstanding Medical Provider from a peer base of 12 PA's—awarded 2011 through 2014. After discharge he worked as an Emergency Medicine PA for the last 6 years before joining UNC.

PUBLICATIONS | ABDOMINAL TRANSPLANT

Overexpression of the Lias gene attenuates hepatic steatosis in Leprdb/db mice.

Xu G, Yan T, Peng Q, Li H, Wu W, **Yi X**, Zhao Y. *J Endocrinol*. 2021 Feb;248(2):119-131. PMID: 33263565.

What Survivorship Means to Liver Transplant Recipients: Qualitative Groundwork for a Survivorship Conceptual Model.

Lieber SR, Kim HP, Baldelli L, Nash R, Teal R, Magee G, Loiselle MM, **Desai CS**, Lee SC, Singal AG, Marrero JA, Barritt AS 4th, Evon DM. *Liver Transpl*. 2021 May 3. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 33942480.

Potential to Mitigate Disparities in Access to Kidney Transplant in the Hispanic/Latino Population With a Specialized Clinic: Single Center Study Representing Single State Data.

Serrano Rodríguez P, Szempruch KR, **Strassle PD**, **Gerber DA**, **Desai CS**. *Transplant Proc*. 2021 Jul-Aug;53(6):1798-1802. Epub 2021 May 10. PMID: 33985800.

What Is New with Total Pancreatectomy and Autologous Islet Cell Transplantation? Review of Current Progress in the Field. Baldwin XL, Williams BM, Schrope B, Desai CS. J Clin Med. 2021 May 14;10(10):2123. PMID: 34068902.

Overexpression of lipoic acid synthase gene alleviates diabetic nephropathy of Leprdb/db mice.

Zhao Y, Yan T, Xiong C, Chang M, Gao Q, Yao S, Wu W, **Yi X**, Xu G. *BMJ Open Diabetes Res Care*. 2021 Jun;9(1):e002260. PMID: 34183321.

Dynamic α -Fetoprotein Response-Are We Ready to Change the Dynamics of Hepatocellular Carcinoma Liver Transplant Practice?

Desai CS, Barritt AS 4th. *JAMA Surg*. 2021 Jun 1;156(6):567-568. PMID: 33950253.

On Behalf Of The Islets For Us Collaborative. Arguments against the Requirement of a Biological License Application

for Human Pancreatic Islets: The Position Statement of the Islets for US Collaborative Presented during the FDA Advisory Committee Meeting.

Witkowski P, Odorico J, Pyda J, Anteby R, Stratta RJ, Schrope BA, Hardy MA, Buse J, Leventhal JR, Cui W, Hussein S, Niederhaus S, Gaglia J, **Desai CS**, Wijkstrom M, Kandeel F, Bachul PJ, Becker YT, Wang LJ, Robertson RP, Olaitan OK, Kozlowski T, Abrams PL, Josephson MA, Andreoni KA, Harland RC, Kandaswamy R, Posselt AM, Szot GL, Ricordi C. *J Clin Med*. 2021 Jun 29;10(13):2878. PMID: 34209541.

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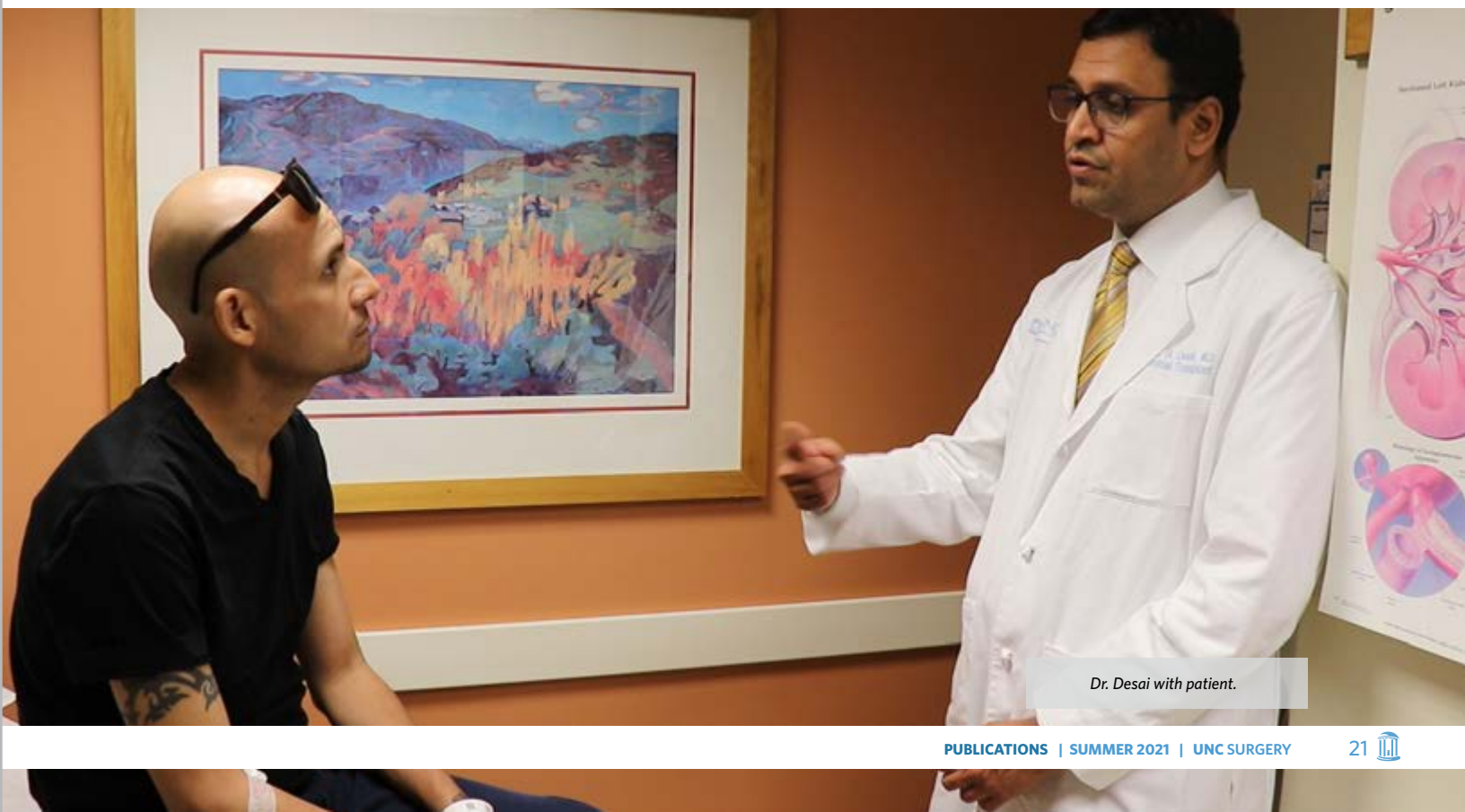
Fontanarosa PB, Flanagan A, Ayanian JZ, Bonow RO, Bressler NM, Christakis D, Disis ML, Josephson SA, **Kibbe MR,** Öngür D, Piccirillo JF, Redberg RF, Rivara FP, Shinkai K, Yancy CW. *JAMA Surg.* 2021 Aug 1;156(8):705-707. PMID: 34081109.

Equity and the JAMA Network.

Fontanarosa PB, Flanagan A, Ayanian JZ, Bonow RO, Bressler NM, Christakis D, Disis ML, Josephson SA, **Kibbe MR,** Öngür D, Piccirillo JF, Redberg RF, Rivara FP, Shinkai K, Yancy CW. *JAMA.* 2021 Aug 17;326(7):618-620. PMID: 34081100.

Publication bias is the consequence of a lack of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Rouan J, Velazquez G, Freischlag J, **Kibbe MR.** *J Vasc Surg.* 2021 Aug;74(2S):111S-117S. PMID: 34303450.



Dr. Desai with patient.

IN THE LOOP

EDUCATION

Melina Abrams led a successful retreat for the faculty entitled "Leveraging Leadership Strengths. Tools, Practice, Application," on August 28, 2021. In follow-up to the event, we encourage everyone who has not done so to take advantage of the opportunity to get connected on the Catalyst platform. There you will find interesting data on your DISC personality style and the ability to compare yourself with your colleagues.

The PGY 4 and PGY 5 General Surgery residents had a second virtual Mock Orals on 9/13/2021. Thanks to all the faculty, examinees and administrative staff who helped ensure a successful event.



Kyla Terhune, MD

Dr. Kyla Terhune, Associate Professor of Surgery at Vanderbilt University was our visiting professor for the annual Residents as Teachers conference on 9/28/2021. Her topic "Personal Development during Residency and Fellowship" was well received by learners across the department. In addition, she also gave a superb Grand Rounds on "Academic Surgery and our Responsibility to Patients: Today and Tomorrow" on 9/29/21.



Jason Mizell, MD

Other Career Development and Educational Grand Rounds this past quarter included Dr. Jason Mizell who spoke about "Business of Medicine" on 7/7/21, and Dr. Lillian Erdahl who taught us about "Social Media - Good and Bad" on 9/8/21. We are looking forward to hearing from Drs. Ross Ungerleider and Stephen Bogdewic in the first part of 2022.



Lillian Erdahl, MD

We are excited to have received an XI Robot for the Simulation Center. Please work with Neal Murty to schedule any classes or personal educational time on the robot.

Thank you for your dedication to the teaching mission at UNC.

Sincerely,



**Timothy
Farrell, MD**

Vice Chair of Education



**Muneera
Kapadia, MD, MME**

Associate Vice Chair of Education



Virtual Recruiting Update

Our program is a one-year ACGME accredited surgical critical care program. It was founded in 1987 by Dr. Anthony Meyer and is the oldest surgical critical care fellowship in the nation. We recruit two fellows per year through the match and provide an excellent well-balanced critical care experience. UNC Medical Center is a quaternary referral center as well as a Level 1 ACS verified Trauma Center for adults and pediatrics, which provides an ample educational and clinical learning experience for prospective fellow candidates. In addition to the rich clinical experience, fellows will have dedicated weekly didactic time, journal club, QI/Research experience, and a formal point of care ultrasound curriculum. We encourage and actively recruit candidates from diverse backgrounds and experiences.



For our second year of virtual interviewing we plan to follow the recommendations from our Surgical Critical Care Program Directors Society as well as our local GME to decide when to resume in-person interviewing. We will continue virtual interviews until we receive word otherwise. We conduct 3 interview sessions during the summer months and review applications in a rolling fashion until we have met our cap which is about 15-18 candidates. So we encourage applicants to apply sooner rather than later in the year. Those that wish to visit to the campus in addition to the virtual interview are welcome to do so.

Jin Ra, MD | SCC Fellow Director



The UNC Minimally Invasive Surgery fellowship graduated Jeffrey Lipman, MD, who is now in NYU Bellevue doing bariatric surgery. Our new fellow is Manuel Sanchez-Casalogue, MD, PhD who completed his general surgery residency here at UNC. Both had recent, well delivered, presentations at SAGES annual meeting, along with former fellow Ivy Haskins, MD.

Tim Ferrell, MD | Minimally Invasive Fellow Director

UNC Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Integrated Program is a six-year program. The overall objective of our program is to provide each resident with a strong foundation in surgery and comprehensive training in all aspects of plastic surgery. The goal of this program is to produce well-rounded, competent plastic surgeons who will deliver safe and effective care to the people of North Carolina and who will challenge themselves continuously in research and innovation. UNC Plastic Surgery is committed to valuing and respecting all people throughout our department and health care organization, regardless of background, lifestyle and culture. We believe the diversity of our division is an accurate reflection of the diverse patient population we serve at UNC Hospitals.



As we plan for another year of virtual interviews, we plan to host a virtual mingle the night before our interviews in hopes that we can provide our candidates a glimpse of all that our program has to offer. We hold two interview dates and keep our interview day to 20 candidates. Each year we increase significantly in the number of applications we receive and we expect the same again this year. Our interviewees particularly enjoyed the resident breakout rooms, where they had the chance to see the personality of our individual residents and the culture of our diverse program.

Jeyhan Wood, MD | Plastic & Reconstruction Surgery Resident Director

We had the unique opportunity in 2020 to have one set of in-person interviews and one set of virtual interviews. We surveyed our applicants and found that the virtual group had a much lower feel for the culture of UNC and felt less comfortable in their rank list (Grova MM et al., Ann Surg Onc 2021). Because of this data and other similar datasets, we strive to ensure that the applicant has a "feel" for the culture of our Complex General Surgical Oncology Program in advance of the interview day with videos, a fellow hosted virtual "Happy Hour" and dynamic interactions with all faculty members on the day of the interview. We look to improve on this experience in the 2022 interview season. We are committed to a high quality clinical, educational, and research experience and are looking to attract the brightest and best surgical oncology applicant possible in the virtual interview world.



David Ollila, MD | Complex General Surgical Oncology Fellowship Director

RESEARCH

RESEARCH SUPPORT

Grace Chen, BA, our Research Administrator, and **Jeneal Melvin Leone, MS, CRA**, our Research Program Coordinator, provide support for all areas of proposal development including clinical trials and will be your main contacts (see below for group assignments) for all items relating to pre-award research. They 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 or Jeneal as early as possible, but provide the budget and budget justification at least 2 weeks before the due date, as external grants must be routed and submitted to the university in advance of the due date.

Groups assigned to Grace Chen	
Burn	Vascular
Pediatric Surgery	Plastics and Reconstructive
Gastrointestinal Surgery	Abdominal Transplant

Groups assigned to Jeneal Leone	
Cardiothoracic	General and Acute Care
Surgical Oncology	Resident Trainees

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](#).

DATABASE MANAGEMENT

Chris Agala, PhD, is the Database Manager and leads our team.

- [Creation of a consult request form](#). This online request form will take the place of directly emailing anyone in the database manager group and will be for: feedback about project ideas, answering database questions, commenting on article methods, etc.
- [Email correspondence will occur through the Database Manager email](#). The Database Manager team will assist with 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. Still have questions? Check out the [FAQs and Available Databases](#). They are in charge of the NIS, NSQIP, 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](#).

All requests must be submitted at least 4 weeks before any deadlines. Projects which utilize administrative claims data (MarketScan, Medicare) will require substantially more notice, as they are much more labor intensive. For projects which require chart review or data abstraction from EMR, the data must be complete and ready for analysis at least 4 weeks before the deadline. If you have questions about how long your project may take, please submit a consult request.

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 contact Dr. Chris Agala through the [online service request form](#).

EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE AND RESEARCH

A 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 librarian Rebecca Carlson at rcarlson@unc.edu.

NIH UPDATES

- [Updated NHLBI Guidance Concerning Mentored Career Development \(K08 and K23\) Awards](#): Percent Effort.
- [Upcoming Changes to the Biographical sketch and Other Support Format page](#) for Due Dates on or after January 25, 2022
- [Biosketch Format Pages, Instructions and Samples](#)
- [Other Support sample and FAQs](#)

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 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 Date: 1st Wednesday and 3rd Thursday of every month
Time: 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Location: Brinkhous-Bullitt Building, Room 218 (Please see website for current virtual trainings)

[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

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](#).

UPCOMING ACADEMIC MEETINGS

2022 American Surgical Association

Meeting Date: April 7-9, 2022 | Location: Chicago, IL

Abstract Deadline: pending announcement

More information [available here](#).

2022 Southeastern Surgical Congress (SESC)

Meeting Date: February 5-8, 2022 | Location: Nashville, TN

Abstract Deadline: pending announcement

More information [available here](#).

2022 American Pediatric Surgical Association (APSA)

Meeting Date: May 12-15, 2022 | Location: San Diego, CA

Abstract Deadline: October 11, 2021

More information [available here](#).

2022 American Society of Clinical Oncology

Meeting Date: June 3-7, 2022 | Location: Chicago, IL

Abstract Deadline: pending announcement

More information [available here](#).

2022 Society of Surgical Oncology (SSO)

Meeting Date: March 9-12, 2022 | Location: Dallas, TX

Abstract Deadline: opened in late August 2021

More information [available here](#).

2022 American Society for Breast Surgeons (ASBrS)

Meeting Date: April 6-10, 2022 | Location: Las Vegas, NV

Abstract Deadline: November 3, 2021

More information [available here](#).

2022 American Society of Colon & Rectal Surgeons (ASCRS)

Meeting Date: April 30 – May 4, 2022 | Location: Tampa, FL

Abstract Deadline: October 17, 2021

More information [available here](#).

2022 Trauma, Critical Care & Acute Care Surgery

Meeting Date: March 28-30, 2022 | Location: Las Vegas, NV

Abstract Deadline: pending announcement

More information [available here](#).

2022 Shock Society

Meeting Date: June 4-7, 2022 | Location: Toronto, Canada

Abstract Deadline: pending announcement

More information [available here](#).

2022 American Association for Surgery of Trauma (AAST)

Meeting Date: September 21-24, 2022 | Location: Chicago, IL

Abstract Deadline: pending announcement

More information [available here](#).

2022 General Thoracic Surgical Club

Meeting Date: March 10-13, 2022 | Location: Bonita Springs, FL

Abstract Deadline: pending announcement

More information [available here](#).

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

FACULTY

NC TraCS Pilot Awards for Translational Research

Application Deadlines: December 7, 2021 for the following programs:

- [\\$5K-50K Grants](#)
- [FastTraCS Grants](#)

For more information about these pilot grant mechanisms please contact [Paul Kerr](#) or nctracs@unc.edu.

NON-FACULTY - require a Faculty mentor

NC TraCS \$2K Grant Awards

Application Deadlines: October 19

Award Amount: \$2,000

More information available [here](#).

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

TraCS is accepting applications for the TL1 program on biomedical translation for postdocs at UNC Chapel Hill who are US citizens or permanent residents. The ideal candidate has a product, idea, or research finding that is ready to move to the next translational stage.

Application Due Date: Rolling Basis

More information is [available here](#).

The NCI funded Integrated Translational Oncology T32 Training Program ([UNC iTOP](#)) will be accepting applications in Fall 2021 from outstanding post-doctoral fellows committed to a career in cancer research that will enter our program for July 2022. The mission of the program is to educate future researchers from a variety of backgrounds in the approaches and tools that will be needed to perform tissue-based research. The [training faculty consists of 16 NCI funded investigators](#) with diverse areas of translational oncology research.



GRAND ROUNDS

Wednesdays 7:15 am - 8:15 am in the Education Center, 4050 Burnett-Womack

10/20/2021

George Johnson, Jr., Distinguished Visiting Professor Omaid Velazquez, MD, Professor of Surgery, University of Miami, FL

10/27/2021

NO GRAND ROUNDS

American College of Surgeons

11/3/2021

Research Presentations

American College of Surgeons

11/10/2021

Peter Starek Visiting Lecturer

Yolonda Colson, MD, PhD, Chief, Division of Thoracic Surgery and the Hermes C. Grillo Professor of Surgery, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA

11/17/2021

Interdisciplinary M & M, please be aware of the time change for this meeting (7am).

11/24/2021

NO GRAND ROUNDS

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

12/1/2021

Faculty Meeting

12/8/2021

Quality Quarterly

Tom Ivester, MD, MPH Professor, Maternal-Fetal Medicine & Lauren Schiff, MD, Assistant Professor, Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery

12/15/2021

Oliver R. Rowe Distinguished Visiting Professor Zara Cooper, MD, MSc, Kessler Director, Center for Surgery and Public Health, Director, Center for Geriatric Surgery, Associate Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School Trauma, Burn and Surgical Care Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA

12/22/2021

Chief Resident Presentations: Emily Newton, UNC General Surgery and Catharine McDermott, CT Surgery Resident

12/29/2021

NO GRAND ROUNDS

1/5/2022

Career Corner Presentation: Joy of Learning Ross M. Ungerleider, MD, MBA, Professor of Cardiothoracic Surgery

1/12/2022

Faculty Talk

Benjamin Haithcock, MD, Professor of Cardiothoracic Surgery and Surgical Director, UNC Lung Transplant Program



Thomas E. Read, MD (5/26/21 GR)



Jeffrey Drebin, MD, PhD (6/30/21 GR)

INAUGURAL JEFFREY SCOTT BRODY ENDOWED LECTURE

Thursday, November 11 • 4pm

Location Options: Surgery Education Center or via

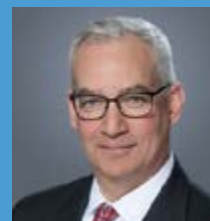
WebEx: <https://go.unc.edu/Fj8k4>

Presented by

Dr. Theodore N. Pappas

Distinguished Professor of Surgical Innovation and Vice Dean for Medical Affairs at Duke University School of Medicine

A November Weekend in Dallas, 1963



MAKE A GIFT
Brody Fund

Mr. Jeffrey Scott Brody was a proud graduate of UNC in 1984. Those who knew him describe him as a dedicated person who worked hard, played hard, loved his family, lived each day to the fullest, and enjoyed regaling others with stories, humor, and practical jokes. This Lecture honors Jeffrey and his love and commitment to UNC. His family established the lectureship through the Department in his memory.



COMMUNICATIONS



TOP YOUTUBE VIDEOS (May, June, July & August 2021)



UNC Pediatric Surgery
A Guide to Day Surgery
Views: 4,846



UNC Cardiothoracic Surgery
Residency Program
Views: 1,662



General Surgery Residency
Program Virtual Tour
Views: 429



UNC General Surgery
Residency Program
Views: 427

SOCIAL



Analiese Lahey in
Rossman lab awarded
Fulbright Scholarship

1.8k
Reach
86
Engagements

FACEBOOK



Analiese Lahey in
Rossman lab awarded
Fulbright Scholarship

4.2k
Impressions
175
Engagements

TWITTER



Day of Surgery
Pediatric Video

140
Watch Time
(hours)
4.8k
Views

YOUTUBE



Congrats to Whitehead
Award Winners

743
Reach
915
Followers

INSTAGRAM

TOP FACULTY VIDEOS (May, June, July & August 2021)



UNC Surgery Profile: Adeyemi Ogunleye,
MD (No Higher Calling Than Treating...
Views: 127



UNC Surgery Profile: Andrea Hayes,
MD (Saving Generations of Children)
Views: 108



[Published patient story, Brigid Willis](#)



[Published patient story, Lee Conner](#)



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Surgery

Department of Surgery
Burnett-Womack Bldg CB7050
Chapel Hill, NC 27599

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 Erin Kinney, Director of Development with the UNC Health Foundation, at (585) 622-7425, erin_kinney@med.unc.edu, 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.



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