

## 2016 New Faculty

Continued from page 13



### Janelle Sousa, MD

Dr. Sousa is an Assistant Professor in the Division of Plastic Surgery at the University of Washington Medical Center. She offers a full range of plastic and reconstructive surgery, specializing in reconstructive microsurgery of the head & neck, extremities, and breast. Dr. Sousa was born and raised

in Anchorage, Alaska, then completed her undergraduate studies, medical school, and plastic surgery residency at the University of Washington. She completed a fellowship in Reconstructive Microsurgery at The Royal Melbourne Hospital in Melbourne, Australia. Outside of the hospital, Dr. Sousa loves spending time with her husband and son, running with her dog, Georgia, cooking, and enjoying all of the outdoor activities Seattle offers.



### Nicole Zern, MD

Dr. Zern is an Acting Assistant Professor in the Division of General Surgery practicing at the UW Medical Center, the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance (SCCA) and the UW Medicine Eastside Specialty Center. She specializes in endocrine surgery including benign and malignant thyroid disease, para-

thyroid disease and adrenal tumors. She completed medical school at Emory University in Atlanta, GA and then moved west to Seattle for general surgical residency. She has just returned after a year of Endocrine Surgery Fellowship in Sydney, Australia. Dr. Zern is originally from the Midwest but now considers Seattle home. She is an active member of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) and the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons (AAES). Outside of surgical practice, Dr. Zern enjoys travelling with her husband, David, spending time with friends and she is an avid college football and basketball fan.

## 67th Annual Strauss Lecture



Dr. Robert S.D. Higgins

The 67th Annual Strauss Lecture was held on Friday, October 14th, 2016. Dr. **Robert S.D. Higgins**, William Stewart Halsted Professor of Surgery, Surgeon-in-Chief at Johns Hopkins Medicine, and Director of the Department of Surgery at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, was the invited lecturer. His topic was “Surgery in the Next Millennium...Honoring the Past and Creating a Sustainable Future Now.”

Before joining Johns Hopkins in July 2015, Dr. Higgins was the Surgeon-in-Chief and Director of the Comprehensive Transplant Center at Wexner Medical Center at The Ohio State University. He has held leadership positions at various organizations, including President of the United Network for Organ Sharing, Treasurer of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons, President of the Society of Black Academic Surgeons, and President and founding member of the Association of Black Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgeons. Dr. Higgins is a leading authority in the field of heart and lung transplantation, and coronary artery bypass surgery. His research includes: the mechanisms of cell injury in failing hearts; health economics and policy; and, the impact of racial disparities on surgical outcomes.

The Strauss Lecture is supported by the **Alfred A. Strauss MD, Endowed Lectureship in Surgery**, established by the estate of Mrs. Margery Friedlander, daughter of Dr. Strauss. Dr. Strauss possessed a rare combination of skill, vision, and drive. The lectureship carries on the visions and traditions of this inspiring man.

Preceding the Strauss Lecture was the Harkins Surgical Symposium for Resident Education. Presenters at this year’s Symposium included:

- **Tam Pham**, MD, Associate Professor, Division of Trauma, Burn, and Critical Care Medicine—“*Telehealth Initiatives in the Burn Center*”
- **Joseph Cuschieri**, MD, Professor, Division of Trauma, Burn, and Critical Care Medicine—“*Hypothermia, Coagulopathy, and Acidosis: The Evolving Vicious Triad*”
- **Rebecca Petersen**, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor, Division of General Surgery—“*Updated Algorithm for Abdominal Wall Reconstruction*”
- **Greta Bernier**, MD, Acting Assistant Professor, Division of General Surgery—“*Transanal Minimally Invasive Surgery (TAMIS)*”

(continued on page 15)

## 67th Annual Strauss Lecture

Continued from page 14

- Dan Wu, MD, **VA**—“What Surgeons Should Know About Personalized Cancer Medicine”
- Gary Mann, MD, **MD Anderson**—“Management of Peritoneal Surface Malignancies— Reason for Optimism, or an Exercise in Futility?”
- Peter Neligan, MB, Professor, Division of Plastic Surgery—“Current Treatment of Lymphedema”
- Rob Rush, MD, **Madigan Army Medical Center**—“The ‘War’ on Low Volume Surgery”
- Giana Davidson, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor, Division of General Surgery—“Shared Decision Making and Conflict with Informed Consent: How is Research Changing the Conversation in Appendicitis and Diverticulitis?”
- Josh Hermsen, MD, Assistant Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery—“Heart in a Box”
- Robert Higgins, MD, Professor, Johns Hopkins University—“Surgical Education in the New Millennium— Innovations on the Horizon”
- Niten Singh, MD, Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery—“New Concepts and Trials for Preserving Limbs”
- Sherene Shalhub, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery—“Descending Thoracic Aortic Dissection: A New Look at an Old Disease”
- Elina Quiroga, MD, Assistant Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery Diversity Council Update and—“Vascular Surgery Global Health: Training International Colleagues with Educational Opportunities for our Residents”
- Matthew Sweet, MD, Assistant Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery—“Fenestrated and Branched Endografting for TAAA: The UW Experience”
- Susanna Shin, MD, Assistant Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery—“Bifurcated—Bifurcated Aneurysm Repair: A Novel Technique to Repair Infrarenal Aortic Aneurysms in the Setting of Common Iliac Artery Aneurysms”
- Benjamin Starnes, MD, Professor & Chief, Division of Vascular Surgery—“Personalized Endovascular Surgery”

## #GettingToKnowDOS—Dr. Nicole Gibran



Dr. Nicole Gibran

Photo credit: Michael Hilleary

For this issue, Surgery Synopsis staff interviewed Dr. Nicole Gibran, Director of the **Regional Burn Center** and Professor in the **Division of Trauma, Burn & Critical Care Surgery**. Dr. Gibran was appointed Director of the Regional Burn Center in 2012. She is a distinguished clinician and researcher and has achieved many awards and honors in her life, including becoming the first woman to hold the office of President of the **American Burn Association (ABA)** in 2012. As she responded to the question of why she became a burn surgeon, “A career in burns would allow me to marry a career in research in wound

repair and response to injury with a clinical practice.” She has done all that in impressive fashion. In #GettingToKnowDoS” we get to know her other interests, likes, dislikes and what might have been an alternative career.

### Synopsis: What was the last book you read?

**Gibran:** I hate to admit the last book I read, my husband was horrified I’d waste my time on historical fiction. It was *Three Sisters, Three Queens* by Philippa Gregory. It’s the story of Henry VIII’s two sisters, Margaret and Mary, and his wife Catherine of Aragon. I bought it because we were stuck at the Auckland airport from 6am to 11pm, so this helped pass the time.

### Synopsis: What is the next book you’re planning to read?

**Gibran:** I’ve just started reading *Tribe* by Sebastian Junger. He also wrote *The Perfect Storm*. He was a war correspondent in Sarajevo. It’s an analysis of post-traumatic stress in soldiers. He’s building an interesting argument that PTSD is not so much about trauma, but rather about the loss of community, loss of belonging to their squadron. It’s an interesting thesis and very controversial. The other book I’m reading is about how to grow an organic orchard. I have three apple trees, and I would like to get a couple of pear trees and some stone fruit, maybe peaches and plums.

(continued on page 16)