Dr. Loren Engrav has been a vital asset to the Department of Surgery for 35 years. Among his many roles, Dr. Engrav founded and then served as Chief of the Division of Plastic Surgery for more than two decades, as well as serving as the Associate Director of the Washington Burn Center. By bestowing on Dr. Engrav the title Professor Emeritus, the Department of Surgery recognizes his vast contributions that have helped shape the department.

Following his essential role in the development of the Plastic Surgery clinical care program, Dr. Engrav transitioned his career to begin focusing on another core mission: research. An extremely productive academician with 144 published journal articles, Dr. Engrav has been a leader in the study of burn care and rehabilitation. He has regularly collaborated with key current and past departmental research leaders such as Dr. Nicole Gibran (current Director of the UW Medicine Burn Center at HMC), Dr. Matthew Klein, and Dr. David Heimbach.

With major grants from the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, Dr. Engrav made significant contributions to understanding hypertrophic scarring and improving long-term outcomes after burn injury. His collaborative work since the mid-1990s in developing and validating the Duroc/Yorkshire model of hypertrophic scarring has been highly important in the field.

Dr. Engrav was the first author of an expansive look at Harborview Burns from 1974-2006 published in PLoS ONE this past summer. With co-authors from the other members of the Burn Division at HMC, Dr. Engrav describes the important changes in burn injury demographics, prevention and care. They conclude with the challenge that models of burn care must continue to be adapted in accordance with the changes.

Considering his roles as both an innovative clinician and researcher, it would be difficult to overstate the value that Dr. Engrav brings to the Department of Surgery and to the field of burn care in the United States.

In August, 2012, Eileen Bulger, MD, Professor, Trauma & Critical Care, became the Chief of Trauma for Harborview Medical Center. She fills the vacancy left by Dr. Jerry Jurkovich, when he left the University in March 2012.

In the public announcement made of this appointment, Susan Stern, MD, Professor and Division Head, Emergency Medicine at Harborview Medical Center said: “The appointment of Dr. Bulger to this important leadership position is extremely well-deserved. We all know she will be terrific in her new role. Eileen is the consummate team player and collaborator.”

Previously, in addition to her robust clinical, research and teaching activities, Dr. Bulger was the Emergency Department Medical Director at HMC for 3.5 years. In that role, she was a great advocate for patients, an advocate for the ED, and instrumental in moving forward with the residency program development.

The search committee, over the course of several months, interviewed several highly qualified individuals and chose Dr. Bulger from among these individuals. The Department and the entire UW Medicine community congratulate her upon this appointment. The Harborview trauma service is one of the most prestigious in the country and we know that Dr. Bulger will most capably fulfill the duties of this role.

Eileen Bulger, MD
Professor & Chief of Trauma
Harborview Medical Center
UW School of Medicine

Nahush Mokadam, MD, Associate Professor, Cardiothoracic Surgery

I know of few leaders who have the poise, presence, and intellect of Dr. Pellegrini. He not only leads by example, but also gives us an opportunity to express our individualism. I aspire to his equanimity. He truly represents quiet grace.