68th Annual Strauss Lecture & Harkins Symposium

The 68th Annual Strauss Lecture was held Friday, October 13th, 2017 with invited lecturer Dr. Andrea Pusic, Professor at Cornell University and Weill–Cornell, Medical College, Director of Patient–Reported Outcomes and Surgical Experience, (PROSE), and Attending Surgeon at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Her lecture topic was “Patient–Reported Outcomes in Surgery: Improving Clinical Care and Quality.”

Dr. Pusic is an internationally–renowned innovator and leader in the area of Patient–Reported Outcomes (PROs) and Surgical Experience, an area of increasing importance in the current healthcare environment in terms of measuring quality, assessing value, and influencing how healthcare is funded. Her research focuses on the measurement of quality of life and patient satisfaction in surgery. The PRO instrument she developed for breast surgery, the BREAST–Q, has been widely adopted for research and clinical care, and has served as the basis for the development of other outcome measures in surgery, including the FACE–Q (for facial reconstructive and aesthetic surgery), BODY–Q (for bariatric and body–contouring patients) and most recently, the CLEFT–Q (for children and adults with cleft lips and palates).

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 was an honor graduate of the University of Washington in 1904 and a member of the committee which successfully advocated for the founding of the School of Medicine at UW in 1946. Dr. Strauss possessed a rare combination of skill, vision, and drive and the lectureship carries on the visons and traditions of this inspiring man.

Preceding the Strauss Lecture was the Harkins Surgical Symposium for Resident Education, a one–day educational conference for regional surgical residents which focuses on technical aspects of surgery with talks by local and national experts in their fields. Residents from the University of Washington, University of British Columbia, Swedish Medical Center, Virginia Mason Medical Center, and Madigan Army Medical Center are all invited to attend this annual event, and Department of Surgery remains committed to providing this symposium free of charge to residents, fellows, and medical students.

Each year the Harkins Society recognizes the professional achievements and humanitarian services of one of its members, and this year’s Distinguished Alumnus was Dr. Kim Lynch. Dr. Lynch was nominated by Dr. Lorrie Langdale, Professor & Chief, Section of General Surgery, VA Puget Sound Health Care System, and selected unanimously by Harkins Society leadership. Dr. Lynch also spoke at the Symposium on the topic of mentorship. Dr. Lynch received her medical degree from the University of Washington School of Medicine and also completed her surgical residency here. She is a renowned clinician for our veterans at the Boise VA Hospital and surgeon educator for our WWAMI Idaho trainees. She humbly describes herself as a “worker bee” but to her patients and students she far exceeds this description.

This year’s Harkins Symposium speakers:

Dr. Kari Keys, Assistant Professor, Division of Plastic Surgery “Clinical Pathways: What Works and What Doesn’t”

Dr. Jeffrey Friedrich, Professor, Division of Plastic Surgery “Advances in Hand Reconstruction”

Dr. Raymond Tse, Associate Professor, Division of Plastic Surgery “Contemporary Approaches to Measure Outcomes: Treatment of Cleft Lip and Palate”

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Dr. **Srinivas Susarla**, Assistant Professor, Division of Plastic Surgery “Mandibular Morphology in Robin Sequence”

Dr. **Peter Neligan**, Professor, Division of Plastic Surgery “A Smile is a Curve That Sets Everything Straight”

Dr. **Hakim Said**, Associate Professor, Division of Plastic Surgery “Staying Ahead of the Curve in Breast Reconstruction”

Dr. **Alexander Gougoutas**, Assistant Professor, Division of Plastic Surgery “Early Cosmetic Surgery and the Evolution of American Vanity Culture”

Dr. **Nahush Mokadam**, Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery “Flipping the Classroom?”

Dr. **Aaron Cheng**, Associate Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery “Chest Wall Deformities: Resection and Reconstruction Considerations”

Dr. **Farhood Farjah**, Associate Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery “Management of Cervical and Thoracic Esophageal Anastomotic Leaks”

Dr. **Roger Tatum**, Professor and Chief of VA Division, Surgeon–in–Chief, VA Puget Sound Health Care System “How Antireflux Surgery Suppresses GERD”

Dr. **Saurabh Khandelwal**, Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery “Sleeves, Balloons, and Tubes – Is Gastric Bypass on Its Way Out?”

Dr. **Nicole Zern**, Assistant Professor, Division of General Surgery “What’s New in the Management of Thyroid Nodules?”

Dr. **Teresa Kim**, Acting Assistant Professor, Division of General Surgery “Integrating Surgery into Multimodal Management of Sarcoma”

Dr. **Kim Lynch** (pictured page 5), Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Boise Idaho “Harkins Distinguished Alumna Lecture on Mentorship”

Dr. **Andrea Pusic** (pictured page 5), Attending Surgeon, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Director, Patient–Reported Outcomes and Surgical Experience (PROSE) Professor, Cornell University and Weill–Cornell Medical College “Surgical Outcomes from the Patient Perspective”

Dr. **Sam Mandell**, Assistant Professor, Division of Trauma, Burn and Critical Care Surgery “ECLS in Trauma”

Dr. **Erik Van Eaton**, Associate Professor, Division of Trauma, Burn and Critical Care Surgery “Are There Patient–Centered Outcomes in the Surgical ICU?”

Dr. **Lena Sibulesky**, Assistant Professor, Division of Transplant Surgery “Expanding the Number of Donors”

Dr. **Nicole Zern**, Assistant Professor, Division of General Surgery “What’s New in the Management of Thyroid Nodules?”

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