

SURGERY *Synopsis*

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CHAIR'S MESSAGE



Douglas E. Wood, MD,
FACS, FRCSEd (ad hom)
The Henry N. Harkins
Professor and Chair

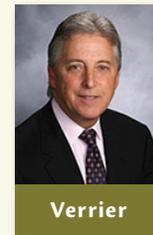
In this edition of *Surgery Synopsis*, we focus on our educational mission. For a number of reasons, the Summer/Fall issue is an excellent time to reflect on education in Department of Surgery:

First, each summer we graduate residents who have completed their surgical residency training in one of our four programs: General Surgery, Plastic Surgery, Cardiothoracic Surgery and Vascular Surgery. Some of our graduates go on to additional specialized training by entering a fellowship program; some are beginning their surgical careers—as an academic surgeon here or in other healthcare systems, or becoming a surgeon in a private group practice. While we hate to say goodbye, we're proud to have trained this elite group of surgeons and excited to see them enter the next phase of their careers.

As we say goodbye to these trainees, we also welcome the new, incoming residents to each of our programs. These four programs each have stellar

reputations—all rated in the top 10 in the country and they routinely match with their top candidates. This is in no small part thanks to a talented group of Program Directors that lead each program: Dr. **Karen Horvath**, who leads the General Surgery Residency; Dr. **Jeff Friedrich** with the Plastic Surgery Residency; Dr. **Ed Verrier**, who leads the Cardiothoracic Surgery Residency; and Dr. **Niten Singh**, who leads the Vascular Surgery Residency. You will see pictures of all our new residents in this edition and read some of the reasons they chose UW Department of Surgery to do the most important training of their career.

Education is an essential part of our mission. To ensure that it has champions at the highest levels, several years ago we created a new position, "Associate Chair of Education," and appointed Dr. Karen Horvath to this role. Along with great breadth and depth of experience, she brings all of her energy, creativity and passion to bear on education in our Department. Under her leadership and with the support of other edu-



cational champions such as Dr. Verrier, our educational programs have made important advances that have elevated the role of education in our department and it is now also an important academic pathway to promotion.

Some years ago, led by Dr. **Patch Dellinger**, then chair of the Department's Appointments & Promotions Committee, the Department revised its promotional criteria to ensure that education was valued as a legitimate part of the promotional pathway. The promotional criteria were voted on by the Department, approved by the School and recommended for approval to the Provost. This was a lengthy process, but ultimately was successful. We are very proud of this accomplishment and believe it is one of the reasons we continue to attract both great surgeons as well as great residents. We truly support education as a core of our academic

(continued on page 2)

CHAIR'S MESSAGE — *Continued from page 1*



Dr. **Tam Pham** has developed his own national profile as a leader in burn care and has accepted the position as Director of the Burn Center. Dr. Pham is passionate about caring for patients with burns and has been leading the regional management of burn victims by developing telemedicine for burn patients and developing protocols that optimize and standardize care.

mission, training the next generation of surgeons, the surgeons who will care for us and our children. Commitment to education is imbedded in the culture and fabric of the department, and it is one of the reasons our outstanding faculty want to continue to work here even if they are highly sought after by other institutions. And it is why we are fortunate to attract the very best residents as well; there is a synergy where their energy and curiosity make us better. Great residents are what make a great program, and they in turn continue to attract similar peers that enrich each other in a supportive and collaborative training environment.

Since Dr. Horvath took the role of Associate Chair of Education we have formed the Program Director's Council which oversees all of our programs, collaborates and coordinates between the residencies and suggests changes the department might make to improve our education programs. The Council also looks at what we can do to better train our faculty to be great teachers—or as Ed Verrier would call them, “surgical coaches.” Later in this issue you will read an article in which Dr. Verrier discusses his passion for surgical education and his vision for training future generations of surgeons.

We would also like to congratulate Dr. **Kristine Calhoun** on her appointment as the Director of Medical Student Surgical Education for the Department of Surgery. Dr. Calhoun is passionate about medical student education and has served with enthusiasm and excellence as the Associate Director since 2013. Dr. Calhoun succeeds Dr. **Roger Tatum** in this role, who stepped down from this role earlier this year due to his ever expanding duties as the VA Chief of Surgical Services. During his tenure, Dr. Tatum oversaw tremendous growth of the program, including expansion of the sites for surgical rotations in all five WWAMI states and in Seattle, and doubling the number of clinical faculty who teach medical students. Please read more about Dr. Calhoun's appointment and Dr. Tatum's accomplishments on page 22. Our residents are the recipients of the dedication and passion this group shows for improving their educational experience. The Department is similarly grateful for their steadfastness in promoting best educational practices and keeping this Department on the forefront of surgical education.



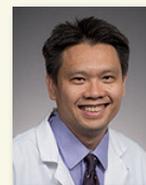
Calhoun



Tatum



Gibran



Pham

We also say goodbye to three of our most distinguished surgeons who are retiring and becoming Professor Emeriti. Dr. **Patch Dellinger**, General Surgeon and former Chief of General Surgery for many years, has retired from practice, though he retains a role in the Chief Medical Officer's Office. Dr. **Joseph Gruss**, who has retired from practice as a surgeon in the Division of Pediatric Plastic Surgery at Seattle Childrens Hospital. And Dr. **Michael Sobel** who has retired from practice as a vascular surgeon and former Section Chief at the VA. Please read more about their lives and careers on pages 19.



Dellinger



Gruss



Sobel

This has been a great year in the life of the Department and I am pleased to share highlights with you throughout this edition of *Surgery Synopsis*. We invite you to read, enjoy and send us your comments.

Sincerely,

Douglas E. Wood, MD,
FACS, FRCSEd (*ad hom*)
The Henry N. Harkins
Professor and Chair

In this issue, we also welcome several new faculty members to the Department and celebrate the promotions of ten of our faculty. Three faculty members have promoted to Professor; seven to Associate Professor. Congratulations to these individuals, who have each worked very hard to earn their promotions. You have earned the respect of the Department and recognition by the School and University.

There has been a leadership transition within the Regional Burn Center. Dr. **Nicole Gibran**, who is a world-renowned burn surgeon and researcher, has served admirably as the Director for many years. This year Dr. Gibran has been tapped to be the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education. We congratulate Nicole on this appointment and are very happy to report that she will continue her own research within the Burn Center as well.

Creating Master Surgeons

As part of our focus on education, the Surgery Synopsis team interviews one of our faculty who has played a huge role in developing residency education, both within the department as well as nationally, Dr. Ed Verrier. As the long-time Program Director of the CT Residency Program, Dr. Verrier is passionate about residency education, passionate about better understanding adult learning, and passionate about creating ever better teachers. He has written and presented extensively on educational topics, including a seminal lecture that was turned into an article, “The Elite Athlete, the Master Surgeon.” It was an inspiring interview, and we hope you enjoy reading it.

SS: You are a champion of medical education. You’ve chosen to strongly focus much of your academic career on medical education. Given your myriad skills as a CT surgeon of highest reputation and a researcher, what drew you to the educational mission so strongly?

EV: Whether you think about doing 1 surgery or 100 surgeries, you are affecting the lives of those patients and families. That’s good and impressive; but when you teach someone to do surgery, if you’re an effective teacher, you can make an impact that far outlasts your own lifetime. When I look at the 65 residents I have trained during my time as Director of the CT residency program, I know I have helped to touch thousands of lives, many more than I could just with my own surgical skills.

SS: What are the most significant changes you’ve seen in graduate medical education – as you look at it historically and over the course of your career?

EV: Actually, the foundations of surgical education have only changed a little. Society has changed a lot, technology has changed medicine, and financial constraints on medicine have dramatically changed how we practice. Major advances in medical knowledge have been realized and new tools and techniques are abundant. Surgical complexity and surgical specialization has dramatically increased. But the methods by which we teach new surgeons have actually changed very little.

SS: If the basic medical education methods have been in place for over 100 years and we continue to educate good surgeons, is a change actually needed?

EV: I believe so. Too often our teaching relies on methods that data show are not as effective as they can and should be. We too

often teach our students to defer to the experts in the room, thus discouraging them from stepping outside their comfort zone and learning experientially. We rely heavily on passive listening techniques (e.g., “Death by Power Point”) and we expect adult learners to “learn” by dumping lots of facts and figures on them.

But in reality, the adult learner learns experientially and by deliberate practice. The adult learner learns through active listening and, most importantly, I believe that the adult learner learns when they have teachers that go beyond teaching and mentoring to become “coaches.” This is something I have grown to feel very strongly about over the past few years, and which I talk about in my article “The Elite Athlete, the Master Surgeon,” which was published based on the John H. Gibbon Jr. Lecture I was invited to deliver in September 2016.

SS: For those who have not read the article, what do you see as the differences between “teaching” and “coaching?” Why should we want to have our faculty become “coaches?”

EV: Teaching is too often passive. It generally is teacher-centric and not learner focused. A teacher, who is thought of—by themselves as well as the student—as the expert, prepares material and passes it on to the learners, usually in a passive way: through lectures or verbal instructions to the students as the teacher performs a surgery or interacts with a patient or their families. It’s a “one size fits all” approach.

Coaching, on the other hand, is specific and learner-focused. As a coach you ask questions like “Where is this learner in the course of their learning? What can I do to help them get out of their comfort zone and learn by direct experience? How can I increase learning opportunities and ensure those opportunities are learner-focused?”

If you think about it, surgeons and athletes have a lot in common: both professional athletics and surgery attract talent. Both must make decisions in the heat of the moment. Both must be able to focus attention and eliminate distraction. Both must communicate with teammates to execute. Both work with broad performance systems or operational



**Dr. Edward Verrier, Professor,
Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery**

(continued on page 4)

Creating Master Surgeons

Continued from page 3

philosophies, but still often need spontaneous creative thinking skills. Both work under the limelight of transparency and exposure. Both need to be able to deal with loss and both need passion and perseverance for sustainability. The one difference to keep in mind is that the athlete performs to provide entertainment and the surgeon performs to save lives and relieve human suffering.

Sports teams do not have “teachers,” they have coaches. Coaches that know what the individual player needs; coaches that will create the environment that allows the team members to try new things and to learn by doing.

Coaches are vitally important to athletes; coaches in the surgical realm are equally vital to creating the master surgeon. Coaching is a skill that can be learned and I believe that in order to have more master surgeons, we need to develop more surgeon coaches.

SS: The Department of Surgery’s resident and fellowship programs are routinely ranked in the top 10 programs in the country. In your opinion, what has been the secret of our success?

EV: I agree, the Department of Surgery residency and fellowship programs (all of them) are in the top ten in the USA: we are creating outstanding surgeons and some true “Master Surgeons.” I think this is true because we have committed to elevating the educational mission in this Department and we do have a number of faculty that are truly gifted coaches.

The Department of Surgery has shown a strong structural commitment to our

education program. For example, several years ago we changed our promotional criteria to recognize teaching as a pathway to faculty promotion. This allows those who have passion and ability as teachers and coaches to pursue education as a promotional pathway. In addition, the Department also hosts an annual training focused on improving educational methods, which is mandatory for all faculty.

And several years ago the Department created the role of Associate Chair for Education, which is held by **Karen Horvath**.

I don’t believe we should rest on our achievements. I believe that we do need to continually examine and challenge our mindset toward education. I feel that one’s mindset is often not programmed for growth and improvement. It is too often fixed and what we believe is hidden from our conscious mind. Fixed minds interpret and respond quickly without serious consideration, resulting in teaching that is built on the approach “that’s the way I learned; if it’s good enough for me, it’s good enough for them.”

Part of her work involves leading the Residency Program Council, which is comprised of all Program Directors and Associate Directors and helps to guide and coordinate all of our departmental educational activities. This has helped to move our education program forward as a Department. This cross-department program collaboration and coordination would likely not be possible had the

department not had the foresight to create that position. Dr. Horvath has filled the role admirably for several years. This is all important and commendable work and has done much to keep our program in the top 10.

SS: But, in your opinion are there other or more things the Department needs to do?

EV: Yes. I don’t believe we should rest on our achievements. I believe that we do need to continually examine and challenge our mindset toward education. I feel that one’s mindset is often not programmed for growth and improvement. It is too often fixed and what we believe is hidden from our conscious mind. Fixed minds interpret and respond quickly without serious consideration, resulting in teaching that is built on the approach “that’s the way I learned; if it’s good enough for me, it’s good enough for them.”

One example I believe needs examination and change is our approach to didactic teaching. We need a paradigm shift. Right now, the approach is often, “I impart knowledge to the students—it’s their job to take it in and remember it.” We need to turn that into a learner-focused model. A model demonstrated by an approach called “flipping the classroom.” Flipping the classroom centers on the learner, with their first exposure to new material happening outside of the classroom (e.g., readings, lecture videos), after which learners do the harder work of application, analysis, synthesis and evaluation inside the classroom where they can learn from peers and the instructor. This has shown to be an effective way to impart didactic material.

Individually, all of us who teach students, need to have a growth mindset and continually adjust how we approach our learners. I personally approach each resident differently so that the learning opportunities are maximized. I actively try to approach my interactions with residents as a coach would – from the learner’s perspective.

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Creating Master Surgeons

Continued from page 4

I would recommend that the Department as a whole increase support of the efforts of faculty to become ever better teachers and coaches. I think the Department's educational programs would benefit from systematic training of faculty in adult learning methods. Some will become coaches and all will become better teachers. Not everyone, not even great clinicians, are destined to be great coaches. But we need to identify, cultivate and develop those with the passion and grit for education to become great teachers and coaches. We don't do enough of this; we don't do it systematically.

EV: The Department needs to help create the environment for a growth mindset to be unafraid to continually evaluate our commitment to our teaching mission. We need to continue to, systematically and structurally, incentivize behaviors and activities that will move it forward. We need to actively engage in actions that advance the science of education, because it is a Science (as well as an art). And we need to give our education mission the academic weight that has traditionally been held for our research mission.

SS: We have read "[The Elite Athlete, the Master Surgeon](#)." At the end of the speech/article you state that we need to change the conversation and then follow with a number of considerations that would get and keep the conversation going. We would invite everyone to read those considerations, but in closing, can you tell us what you think is the most important of these consideration?

EV: I guess my final thought would be that time waits for no one and change is very difficult (especially for surgeons). But training of the next generation of surgeons who ultimately become better than ourselves has to be our overriding goal as educators. With a growth mindset, internal grit, deliberate practice and coaching, that goal is obtainable.

THE HARKINS' CORNER

Dear UW Surgical Community,

Dr. **Nicole Zern**, Harkins Society Treasurer, Assistant Professor, Division of General Surgery, and I are thrilled to be starting another academic year as the Harkins Society Leadership team! We just finished out a beautiful Seattle Summer including the graduation receptions for our many finishing trainees. We wish them all the best in their future endeavors!



Dr. Greta Bernier

As the weather turns cooler, we are focusing all our attention to our upcoming Autumn events—The 69th Annual Harkins Symposium for resident education and the UW Department of Surgery reception at the American College of Surgeons.

- **October 12th– 69th Annual Harkins Symposium** to be held at Alder Auditorium 7:00 am–2:30 pm (on UW campus). This all-day symposium highlights the pearls of practice of our Department of Surgery faculty, concluding with the **Annual Alfred A. Strauss Lecture** given this year by Dr. Jonathan Woodson. We are honored to recognize the Harkins Distinguished Alumnus at this event, which will be followed by the **Annual Harkins Society Banquet Dinner**. All Harkins Members and current faculty are invited to attend! This year the dinner will be held on board the MV Skansonia, a historic ferryboat permanently docked at the south end of South Lake Union. Please see our website www.harkinssociety.org to become a member and/or register for the dinner.
- **October 23rd – UW Department of Surgery/Harkins Society Reception at the American College of Surgeons.** This event is one of the most highly attended each year and is always a great time to catch up with colleagues from across the country and world! This year's reception will be held at Legal Harborside in the Boston Seaport District at 6:30 pm. We are looking forward to seeing you all there for drinks and appetizers!

As always, we encourage you to join the Harkins Society at any time using our website www.harkinssociety.org. If you have any questions, please contact us at uwHarkins@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you all soon!

Sincerely,

Dr. **Greta Bernier**
Harkins Society President

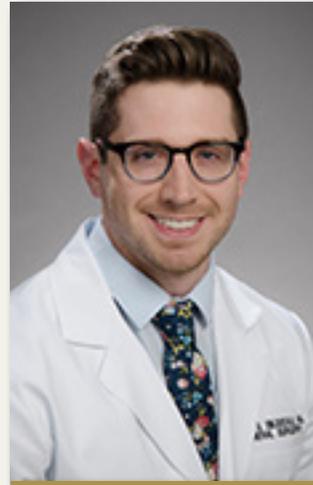
WELCOME 2018–19 NEW SURGERY RESIDENTS



Aldrin Alpuerto, MD
Cardiothoracic Surgery R1



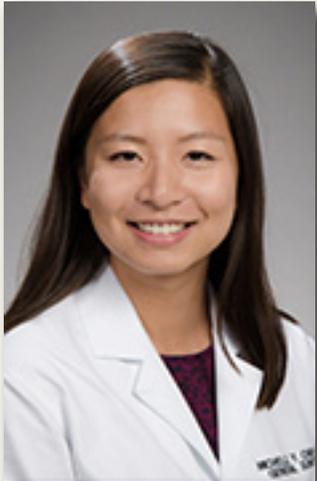
Ryan Bakhit, DO
Preliminary Surgery R1



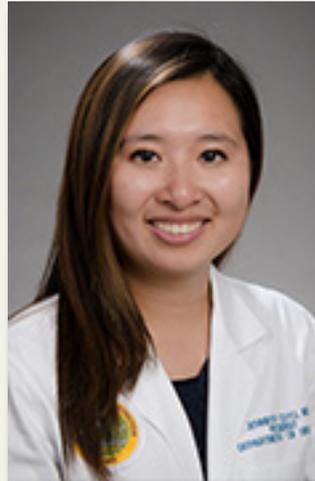
Kyle Bilodeau, MD
General Surgery R1



HingKiu Chan, MD
Preliminary Surgery R1



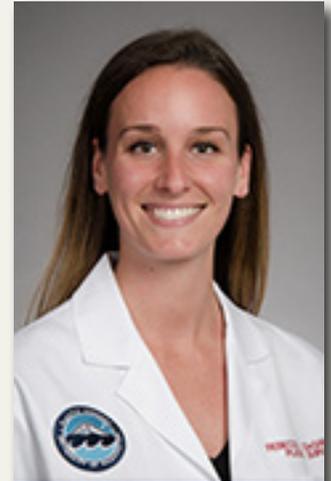
Michelle Chen, MD
Preliminary Surgery R1



Jennifer Chyu, MD
Urology R1



Matias Czerwonko Pupi, MD
General Surgery R1



Rebecca DeSanti, MD
Plastic Surgery R1

Why I Chose Residency at University of Washington Department of Surgery...

“Complex patients, great city and friendly people in program.”

“I was drawn to the diverse patient population and dynamic pathology served by the various training sites within this program. Additionally, I was very impressed by the faculty and residents that comprise the UW Department of Surgery.”

“Diverse clinical opportunities, the strength of a training program and

a strong personal support system in Seattle.”

“Its location in the Pacific Northwest, the reputation of the University, the opportunity for research collaboration, and the quest to train at UW for 15 years!”

“Reputation of the program for producing skilled surgeons, collaborative research environment, located in Seattle (and the coffee here!).”

“Its location, research, and clinical training.”

“Great urology residents and faculty and a really fun city!”

“Diversity of clinical experiences, faculty conversations from interview, strong departments in all fields, and expectation of clinical excellence.”

“Access to world class faculty in a beautiful location.”

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WELCOME 2018–19 NEW SURGERY RESIDENTS

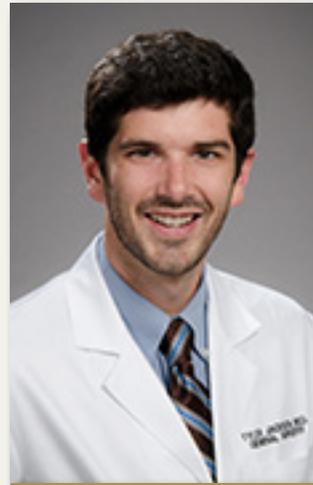
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Amir Ghaffarian, MD
Vascular Surgery R1



Thejas Hiremath, MD
Preliminary Surgery R1



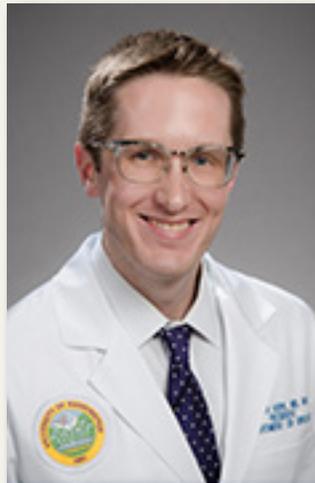
Tyler Jackson, MD
Preliminary Surgery R1



Daniel Kaufman, MD
Preliminary Surgery R1



Justin Kaufmann, DO
General Surgery R1



Peter Kirk, MD
Urology R1



Vanessa Leonhard, DO
Plastic Surgery R1



Dustin Lima, DO
Preliminary Surgery R1

Why I Chose Residency at University of Washington Department of Surgery...*(cont.)*

“The amazing clinical volume and experience coupled with the outstanding culture and clinical faculty that you get to work with. Simply put I don’t think there are many other programs in the country with as high of clinical volume and depth for hand, craniofacial and microsurgical cases.”

“Strength of program as far as volume, diversity of cases, and the collaboration and culture of the residents and faculty.”

“Prestigious medical center, top ranking surgical training program, large academic institution, welcoming staff during the interview, cultural diversity, abundant resources for education, located in a metropolitan area surrounded by beautiful nature. Other than being far from family, this program has everything I was looking for and more and because I love it here!”

“The Otolaryngology program at UW is world class. With an outstanding clinical experience and a true emphasis on academics, including a T32 research year, the opportunity just couldn’t be beat!”

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WELCOME 2018–19 NEW SURGERY RESIDENTS

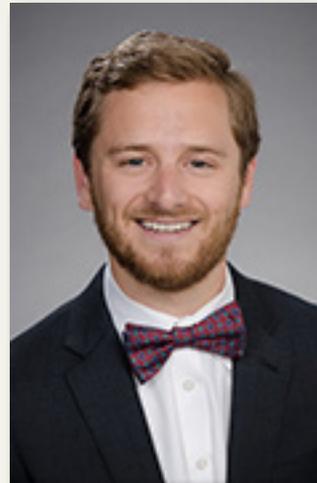
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Christopher Little, MD
General Surgery R1



Jacob LoMonaco, MD
Preliminary Surgery R1



David Ludwig, MD
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery R1



Chris Marfo, MD
General Surgery R1



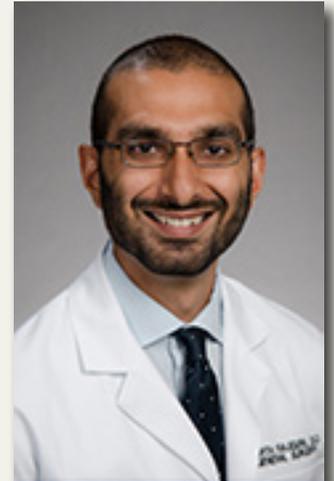
Dana Nielsen, MD
Preliminary Surgery R1



Rodney Nishimoto, MD
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery R1



Timothy Nobbee, MD
Preliminary Surgery R1



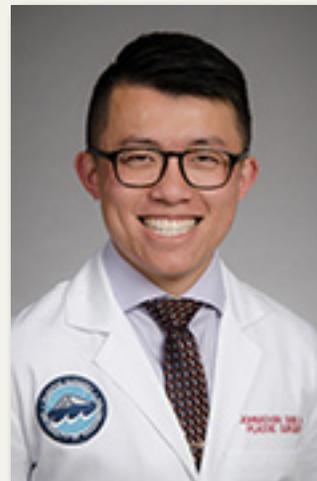
Parth Rajguru, DO
Preliminary Surgery R1



Jason Reynolds, MD
Urology R1



S. Andrew Seong, MD
Preliminary Surgery R1



Johnathan Shih, MD
Plastic Surgery R1



Phillip Tolley, MD
Plastic Surgery R1

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WELCOME 2018–19 NEW SURGERY RESIDENTS

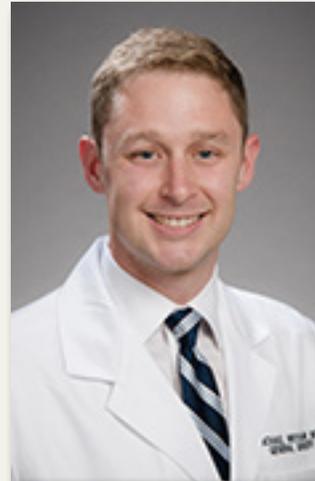
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Ethan Ungchusri, MD
Preliminary Surgery R1



Elyor Vidal, MD
Preliminary Surgery R1



Michael Weykamp, MD
General Surgery R1



Frank Yang, MD
General Surgery R1



Karen Zempenyi, MD
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery R1

2018–20 RESEARCH RESIDENTS



Sara Daniel, MD, 2018–2020

Dr. Daniel is working with the newly created University of Washington Tumor Immunology and Microenvironment (UW TIME) lab group, which comprises multiple faculty from the Departments of Surgery, Medicine, and Pathology. Building off previous work by lab members on the tumor slice culture model, Dr. Daniel's primary focus is evaluating the effects of hypoxia on the cancer microenvironment, particularly the immunosuppressive effects exhibited by the stroma and infiltrating lymphocyte phenotypes. While immunotherapy has previously had limited effects on pancreatic adenocarcinoma and other solid tumors, a better understanding of the interactions between tumors as well as the spatial relationships and metabolism of cells in the tumor environment will allow combination immunotherapy to activate intratumoral T cells. She is also working on a clinical trial with her primary mentor, Dr. **Venu Pillarisetty**, Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery, evaluating the effects of a somatostatin analogue on leak rates after pancreatic surgery.



Dara Horn, MD, 2018–2020

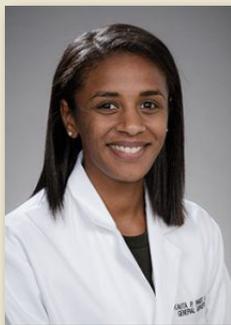
Dr. Horn is a research fellow in the **T32 Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Trauma and Burns** under the mentorship of Dr. **Grant O'Keefe**, Professor in the Division of Trauma, Burn, and Critical Care Surgery. She will be focused on translational research, applying advances in nutrition and metabolomics to improve

the outcomes and care of critically ill and injured patients, and ultimately provide more personalized therapy options. During this time, Dr. Horn will also pursue a Master of Science degree in Epidemiology through the UW School of Public Health, with a focus on clinical research methods. After residency, she plans to pursue a fellowship in trauma and critical care.



Kevin Labadie, MD, 2018–2020

Dr. Labadie is working as a research fellow under the mentorship of Dr. **James Park**, Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery, developing an antibody-directed theranostic platform for the treatment of Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC). The antibody targets glypican-3 (GPC3), a tumor associated antigen serving as a unique molecular target in HCC. Their team has successfully conjugated different radiopharmaceuticals including Zirconium-89 for diagnostic immuno-positron emission tomographic imaging and Yttrium-90 for therapeutic application. In an orthotopic xenograft tumor mouse model, Dr. Labadie will further establish the efficacy of this theranostic antibody platform as a novel radiotherapeutic treatment approach to HCC. Dr. Labadie is also conducting research in the UW Tumor Immune Microenvironment (UW TIME) lab under the collaborative guidance of Drs. Venu Pillarisetty and **Teresa Kim**, Assistant Professor, Division of General Surgery. Utilizing their tissue slice culture model, he plans to study the local immune microenvironment in pancreatic adenocarcinoma and soft tissue sarcoma with an emphasis on better understanding the role of tumor-associated macrophages (TAM) and their relationship to T-cells. He hopes to use the tissue slice culture model to study TAM-targeted therapeutics to augment and improve the efficacy of immunotherapy for pancreas and soft tissue cancers.



Kavita Pandit, MD, 2018–2020

Dr. Pandit is a trainee in the NIDDK-funded T32 fellowship in **Gastrointestinal Surgical Outcomes Research** at the **Surgical Outcomes Research Center (SORCE)** under the direction of Dr. **David Flum**, Professor, Division of General Surgery. Her research interests span multiple clinical areas, though she will focus on health disparities in surgical care across a variety of settings and populations. During this two year fellowship, Dr. Pandit will also be enrolled in the Master's in Public Health program at the University of Washington with a focus on health services. This advanced coursework will help her develop knowledge of research methodology and data analysis. She plans to eventually pursue a fellowship and career in colorectal surgery.

2018 DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY CHIEF RESIDENT GRADUATION DINNER

The 2018 Department of Surgery Chief Residents' Dinner was held at the Bell Harbor International Conference Center, Seattle, WA in June 2018. Welcome and introductions were presented by Dr. Douglas Wood, *The Henry N. Harkins Professor and Chair* and the event was emceed by Dr. Heather Evans, Associate Professor, Division of Trauma, Burn & Critical Care Surgery. A special thanks was also given to the Department of Surgery's Education staff: **Kira Martin, Gina Coluccio, Anne Long, Karyn Crowe, Khrystine Buccat, Robin Boland, Tami Hanson, Suzanne Mills, Laura Yale, Sara Torres, Caroline Riley, Katie Nowlin and Kaitlyn Ree.**

One of the traditions of this annual dinner is presenting awards in the following categories:

Harkins Society & Henry Harkins Award

This award recognizes a University of Washington School of Medicine medical student who has completed outstanding clinical work and demonstrated a strong interest in pursuing training in a surgical discipline.

Awardee—Dr. **Charles Logan**, Graduate, University of Washington, School of Medicine, Class of 2018

Resident Recognition Award for Medical Student Teaching

This award is given biannually to a Department of Surgery resident of any level who has had a positive impact on medical students through teaching and mentoring.

Awardee—Dr. **Brodie Parent**, Chief Resident, General Surgery Residency Program

Resident Academic Excellence Award

Awardees who scored in the 85th percentile on the ABSITE: Drs. **David Drouillard, Dara Horn, Kevin Labadie, Brodie Parent, Kevin Riggle, Joshua Rosen, Barclay Stewart, Kevin Sullivan and Irene Zhang**



Left to right: Drs. Barclay Stewart, Ravi Sood, Karen Horvath, Morgan Richards, Estell Williams, Katherine Flynn-O'Brien, Lacey LaGrone, Anne Ehlers, Brodie Parent, Douglas Wood & Carlos Pellegrini

Photo credit: Emily Wood

Stevenson's Faculty Teaching Award

This award salutes faculty teaching excellence and dedication to resident education. It is in memory of former faculty member John K. Stevenson.

Awardee—Dr. **Lisa McIntyre**, Associate Professor, Division of Trauma, Burn & Critical Care Surgery

Harborview Housestaff of the Year Award

This award is given to a single University of Washington resident each year from amongst a pool of 1,300 residents and fellows. This award recognizes the recipient for their "extraordinary clinical ability and humanitarian concern," as best shown through their exemplary care provided to Harborview Medical Center's patients.

Awardee—Dr. **Barclay Stewart**, Chief Resident, General Surgery Residency Program

The David Tapper Resident Teaching & Leadership Award

This award is presented to a General Surgery Chief Resident who exemplifies the teaching and leadership qualities that others seek to emulate.

Awardee—Dr. **Barclay Stewart**, Chief Resident, General Surgery Residency Program

FELLOWS FINISHING JUNE 2018

Dustin Cummings, MD, MPH

Center for Videoendoscopic Surgery
Assistant Professor of Surgery at Rutgers University

Rebecca Grace Lopez, MD

Center for Videoendoscopic Surgery
General Surgeon with Kaiser Permanente, Atlanta, GA

H. Alex Rodriguez, MD

Center for Videoendoscopic Surgery Research Fellowship
Attending Surgeon in Monterey, Mexico

Ruth "Jo" Barta, MD

Craniofacial Surgery
Assistant Professor at University of Minnesota

Morgan Evans, MD

Craniofacial Surgery
Consultant at Victoria Health Care, Canada

Minh-Bao Mundschenk, MD

Reconstructive Microsurgery
Private Practice at Kaiser Permanente, Sacramento, CA

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2018 DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY CHIEF RESIDENT GRADUATION DINNER — *Continued from page 11*

Joshua Corsa, MD
Surgical Critical Care
Private Practice at
Providence Hospital, Everett, Washington

Eleanor Curtis, MD, MPVM
Surgical Critical Care
University of Washington Palliative Care Fellowship

Chinenye Iwuchukwu, MD, MPH
Surgical Critical Care
Faculty Appointment at
the University of Mississippi

Ashley Meager, MD, MPH
Surgical Critical Care
Faculty Appointment at
Indiana University

Lara Senekjian, MD
Surgical Critical Care
Faculty Appointment at the
University of California, San Francisco

Haig Yenikomshian, MD
Surgical Critical Care
Faculty Appointment at
the University of Southern California

Catherine Kling, MD, MPH
Transplant Surgery
Assistant Professor of Transplant Surgery
at the University of Washington

Prince Esiobu, MD
Vascular Surgery
Private Practice position at
Cal Med Physicians and Surgeons, Inc., Colton, California

We are proud to have four residency training programs in our department that each are considered to be the top training programs in the country in their field. All of our residents are an integral part of our department community and they spend their early years of training working in all of our specialty divisions. We celebrate the conclusion of this residency training and proudly present them now as surgeons launching their careers.

INTEGRATED CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Edo Bedrza, MD
Congenital Cardiac Aortic Fellowship at
Medical University
of South Carolina in Charleston, SC

Christopher Burke, MD
Aortic Fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania
in Philadelphia, PA

INTEGRATED PLASTIC SURGERY RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Tamara Kemp, MD
Active Duty Military Practice at Portsmouth Naval
Medical Center, Portsmouth, VA

Erin Miller, MD
Hand Fellowship at the University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Elise Min, MD
Microsurgery Fellowship at the University of Toronto,
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Eugene Oh, MD
Private Practice, Seattle, WA

INTEGRATED VASCULAR SURGERY RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Sarasi Desikan, MD
Assistant Professor at the University of Maryland,
Baltimore, MD

INTEGRATED GENERAL SURGERY RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Anne Ehlers, MD, MPH
Advanced GI/Minimally Invasive Surgical Fellowship
at the University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Katherine Flynn-O'Brien, MD, MPH
Pediatric Surgery Fellowship at the Children's Hospital
of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI

Lacey LaGrone, MD, MPH
Trauma, Surgical Critical Care Fellowship at
Harborview Medical Center, Seattle, WA

Brodie Parent, MD, MS
Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Fellowship
at the University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

Morgan Richards, MD, MPH
Pediatric Surgery Fellowship at
Emory University, Atlanta Georgia

Ravi Sood, MD, MS
Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Fellowship
at Harvard, Boston, MA

Barclay Stewart, MD, MscPH
Trauma, Surgical Critical Care Fellowship at
Harborview Medical Center, Seattle, WA

Estell Williams, MD
Acting Assistant Professor at the University of Washington
Division of General Surgery, Seattle, WA

Photo credits: Emily Wood

It is with great pleasure we announce and welcome our new faculty members. Each new faculty member introduces an added level of experience, quality, and service to the Department of Surgery.

2018 NEW FACULTY



Dr. Lawrence N. Cetrulo

Lawrence Nick Cetrulo, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor, Division of General Surgery

Dr. **Lawrence Nick Cetrulo** is an Assistant Professor in the Division of General Surgery with additional expertise in Minimally Invasive Surgery and complex abdominal wall repair. He is most interested in the care of complex ventral and incisional hernias and focuses

on the pre-operative care to optimize outcomes for his patients. He is board certified through the **American Board of Surgery (ABS)**. He earned his medical degree from Tufts University School of Medicine then completed his surgical residency at Albert Einstein Healthcare Network in Philadelphia, PA. Finally, he finished a Minimally Invasive Surgery and Advanced Gastrointestinal Surgery fellowship at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte, NC. Dr. Cetrulo sees patients at Northwest Hospital & Medical Center.

Dr. Cetrulo is married with a dog and a cat. He and his wife enjoy cooking and baking and exploring new restaurants throughout the city. He is a Boston native, but is thrilled to be on the west coast.



Dr. Meghan Flanagan

Meghan Flanagan, MD, MPH, Acting Assistant Professor, Division of General Surgery

Dr. **Meghan Flanagan** is an Acting Assistant Professor in the Division of General Surgery, and affiliate member of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. Her area of expertise is in the evaluation and treatment of breast disease. Dr. Flanagan believes strongly in a multi-

disciplinary approach for optimal management of breast cancer, and is also dedicated to improving patient care and outcomes through clinical and health services research. She is board certified through the ABS, and received a certificate in breast surgical oncology through the **Society for Surgical Oncology (SSO)**. She earned her medical degree

from Albert Einstein College of Medicine, then completed her surgical residency at the University of Washington. During her residency she was awarded a National Institutes of Health T32 post-doctoral fellowship in Cancer Epidemiology and Biostatistics, and she also completed her MPH degree. Dr. Flanagan completed her breast specialty fellowship training at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. She is currently caring for patients at the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance and Northwest Hospital & Medical Center where she is involved in programmatic growth and expansion of the breast surgical oncology team.

When she is not caring for patients or pursuing new research ideas, Dr. Flanagan enjoys spending her free time with family and friends, rooting for the Cal Bears, shopping at farmer's markets, and enjoying the many outdoor activities that Seattle offers.

Catherine Kling, MD, Assistant Professor, Division of Transplant Surgery

Dr. **Catherine Kling** completed her undergraduate training at Dartmouth College and her medical degree at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. During her general surgery residency at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, she spent two years at University of

Washington working in the **Surgical Outcomes Research Center (SORCE)** with Dr. **David Flum**, Professor and Associate Chair for Research, and Dr. Thomas Varghese, and also obtained her Master of Public Health from UW. She completed her Abdominal Transplant Fellowship at the University of Washington in 2018.

Dr. Kling's clinical interests include kidney, liver and pancreas transplant, and living kidney donation. Her research is focused on organ allocation and use of Hepatitis C organs in aviremic patients. In her free time, she enjoys skiing, biking, hiking, kite boarding and spending time with family and friends.



Dr. Catherine Kling

(continued on page 14)

2018 New Faculty

Continued from page 13



Dr. Kathleen O'Connell

**Kathleen O'Connell, MD,
Assistant Professor,
Division of Trauma, Burn,
& Critical Care Surgery**

Dr. **Kathleen O'Connell** is an Assistant Professor in the Division of Trauma, Burn, & Critical Care Surgery, with an adjunct appointment in the Department of Medicine, Division of Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine. Her post-residency training

was completed at UW, including fellowships in Trauma & Surgical Critical Care, Palliative Medicine, a research fellowship at Harborview Injury Prevention and Research Center (HIPRC), and a Master of Public Health. Dr. O'Connell is especially interested in improving trauma care for patients over the age of 65 years, and is Co-Investigator for a 2017 UW Patient Safety and Innovations Program (PSIP) project to standardize care delivered to geriatric trauma patients admitted to the Trauma Intensive Care Unit at Harborview Medical Center (HMC) (Geri-T project). She is looking forward to starting a Surgical Palliative Care Clinic at HMC, in which high-risk surgical patients are evaluated in the pre-operative setting in preparation for major elective operations.

Dr. O'Connell is married to Dr. Matthew Pattyn, a UW Anesthesiologist and Critical Care physician who works in the VA Puget Sound Health Care System. As native Michiganders, they enjoy mini Pacific Northwest vacations with their geriatric bulldog, Bella, and are excited to expand the family with a baby girl this fall.



Dr. Estell Williams

**Estell Williams, MD,
Acting Assistant Professor,
Division of General Surgery**

Dr. **Estell Williams** is an acute care general surgeon. She provides surgical care for emergency and non-emergency situations, and takes pride in supporting patients through the important processes of planning, delivering, and quickly healing from their needed surgeries. She is an advocate for increasing access to quality, well-informed surgical care that will improve the overall

well-being of all patients. In addition to her clinical work, Dr. Williams holds a faculty appointment with the University of Washington School of Medicine (UWSOM) developing social determinants of health curriculum and medical student advising.

Dr. Williams began her college career at Xavier University in New Orleans, but was displaced by Hurricane Katrina. She completed her BS in Biology at the University of San Francisco, just across the bridge from her home of Oakland, CA. She earned her medical degree and completed her residency training in surgery at the University of Washington. Dr. Williams is continuing a legacy started at the UW as a resident of providing excellent patient care and a commitment to bringing high quality surgery care to the most marginalized communities of Seattle in order to advance health equity for all patients.

Dr. Williams' research and advocacy interests include addressing social determinants of health, healthcare disparities, healthcare workforce diversity, and pipeline programs to expose underprivileged/underrepresented youth to medicine. Outside of the hospital she can be found running outreach programs for local students, mentoring students interested in medicine, reading at the community library she owns with her husband in Beacon Hill or spending time with her family.

save the dates

**Friday, October 12, 2018, Harkins Symposium
& 69th Annual Dr. Alfred A. Strauss Lecture**

Harkins symposium will be held at 7:00am in Alder Auditorium/UW Campus. The Strauss Lecture will be held at 4:00pm in the Hogness Auditorium, Health Sciences Building. All persons in the medical and allied professions are welcome to attend. Please contact dosadmin@uw.edu for more information.

**Friday, March 22, 2019, 7:00am–4:00pm
Department of Surgery Research Symposium &
25th Annual Helen and John Schilling Lecture**

All persons in the medical and allied professions are welcome to attend. Please contact dosadmin@uw.edu for more information or visit the Department of Surgery's [Schilling Lecture & Research Symposium web page](#).

We are pleased to announce the 2018 faculty promotions. We are proud of these individuals for their passion and dedication to their commitment for the mission and vision of the Department of Surgery.

2018 FACULTY PROMOTIONS



Dr. Giana Davidson

Giana Davidson, MD, MPH,
Promoted to Associate
Professor, Division of
General Surgery

Dr. **Giana Davidson** is the Section Chief of Emergency General Surgery at the University of Washington Medical Center (UWMC). She is a health services researcher at the **Surgical Outcomes Research Center (SORCE)** and Adjunct

Associate Professor in Health Services in the University of Washington School of Public Health. She obtained a Master of Public Health degree in Epidemiology as a National Institutes of Health (NIH) T32 fellow where she focused on the long-term outcomes of acute care surgery and trauma patients. In 2013, she joined Washington State's **Comparative Effectiveness Research and Translational Network (CERTAIN)** focusing on improving quality for patients during transitions of care and comparative effectiveness research for acute care surgical patients. She is the principal investigator of a multidisciplinary collaborative, **Improving Nursing Facility Outcomes using Real-Time Metrics (INFORM)**, which focuses on bridging hospitals and Skilled Nursing Facilities in the care of patients. She is a NIH-funded investigator examining patient reported outcomes in diverticulitis management and is the Clinical Coordinating Center Director and Co-investigator for the **Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)** funded pragmatic randomized trial for appendicitis, leading the clinical operations for the Comparison of **Outcomes of Antibiotic Drugs and Appendectomy (CODA)** trial at 18 sites across the United States. She serves on the Healthcare Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Research Study Section for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. In her leadership roles, she is the UW Medicine Medical Director for Post-Acute Care and readmission reduction program and an Associate Medical Director at the UWMC. Dr. Davidson is the Young Surgeons Representative and Counselor for the WA State American College of Surgeons and serves on the Board of Directors for The Aurora Commons, a Seattle

area nonprofit focused on harm reduction interventions. In her spare time, you can find her at the beach on Whidbey Island or racing her husband and two second graders down a ski hill.

Adam Goldin, MD, MPH,
Promoted to Professor,
Division of Pediatric
General Surgery

Dr. **Adam Goldin** is a surgeon in the Pediatric General and Thoracic Surgery Division and practices at Seattle Children's Hospital (SCH). He is highly regarded for his surgical care at SCH and is regularly recognized by referring physicians, staff, and patient families as a compassionate, conscientious, and technically-exacting surgeon with excellent clinical judgment.



Dr. Adam Goldin

Dr. Goldin has been a member of the task force committee that developed the Optimal Resources for Children's Surgical Care. This multi-disciplinary group that included leaders from every national organization with a role in the surgical care of children, wrote the definitions, based in some significant part by Dr. Goldin's published research. That task force generated a consensus document published in the Journal of the American College of Surgeons that clarified what resources an institution should have to safely and effectively provide pediatric surgical care. As an extension of that work, he has been asked to serve as a Clinical Advisor to the Children's Hospital Association on their Hospital Value Study. Dr. Goldin has also played a leadership role in incorporating pediatric-specific surgical conditions in **Surgical Care and Outcomes Assessment Program (SCOAP)**. Through that platform, he also helped initiate a state-wide program called Safe and Sound, aimed at reducing the use of CT scanning for the diagnosis of appendicitis, through increased use of ultrasonography. This initiative included pediatric surgeons, general surgeons, radiologists and ER physicians from around the state, and is successfully decreasing the exposure of children to CT radiation.

Dr. Goldin served as Vice-Chair of the **American Pediatric Surgical Association (APSA)** Outcomes and

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2018 FACULTY PROMOTIONS

Continued from page 15

Evidence-Based Practice Committee from 2015–2017, and has been an active member of the APSA Research Committee and the APSA Surgical Quality and Safety Committee.

Dr. Goldin received his MD from Rush Medical College, Chicago and earned his MPH at UW.

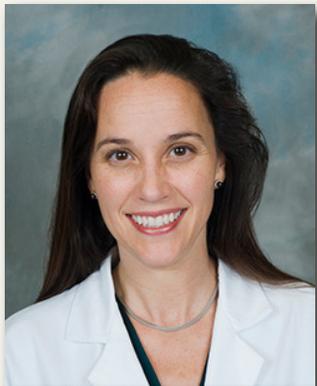


Dr. Kari Keys

Kari Keys, MD, Promoted to Associate Professor, Division of Plastic Surgery

Dr. **Kari Keys** is a plastic surgeon in the Division of Plastic Surgery and practices at Harborview Medical Center (HMC) and the VA Puget Sound Health Care System (VAPSHCS). She provides reconstructive surgery options for conditions ranging from trauma to chronic

wounds. Her focus is in the reconstruction of complex wounds, including lower extremity open fractures, sternal and spinal wounds. Dr. Keys collaborates with surgeons from Urology, Orthopedics, Burn Surgery, Neurosurgery and Trauma Surgery to provide comprehensive care and reconstructive solutions to complex problems. In 2014 she was promoted to Chief of Plastic Surgery at the VAPSHCS as well as Director of Surgical Wound Care at HMC. She serves as Associate Program Director of the Plastic Surgery Residency Program and on national committees for education and for women in plastic surgery. She and her family enjoy camping, music, bicycles, and reading.



Dr. Rebecca Petersen

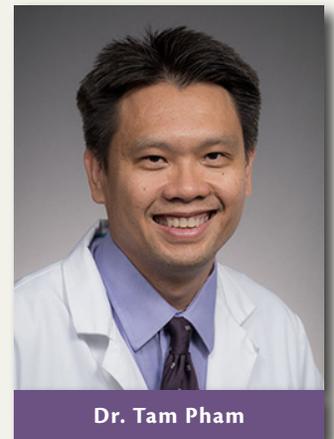
Rebecca Petersen, MD, MSc, Promoted to Clinical Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery

Dr. **Rebecca Petersen** is a board certified general surgeon who specializes in advanced minimally invasive gastrointestinal surgery. She has been practicing at the UW Medicine Hernia Center since its inception in 2012 and serves as an Associate Program Director for the General Surgery Residency Program.

Dr. Petersen attended Oregon & Health Sciences University Medical School and during this time she also received a Master of Science in Epidemiology at the Harvard School of Public Health. She went on to complete her general residency training at Duke University Medical Center. As part of her surgical training she also completed a two year research fellowship in thoracic oncology and participated in clinical research in surgical oncology. Following her general surgery residency, she completed a minimally invasive fellowship at UWMC. Dr. Petersen's clinical interests include: advanced laparoscopy, gastrointestinal disorders, complex abdominal wall hernia repair and reconstruction, in addition to inguinal, femoral, sports and hiatal hernias. Her research efforts have focused on surgical outcomes and quality improvement, gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), paraesophageal hernias, and achalasia.

Tam Pham, MD, Promoted to Professor, Division of Burn, Trauma & Critical Care Surgery

Dr. **Tam Pham** is a general surgeon, educator, and clinical researcher. He attended the University of California at San Diego for his undergraduate and medical degrees. Following his general surgery residency at University of California, Davis, he completed his burn, trauma and critical care fellowships at UW. As a member of the UW surgery faculty since 2007, Dr. Pham became director of the UW Regional Burn Center in 2018.



Dr. Tam Pham

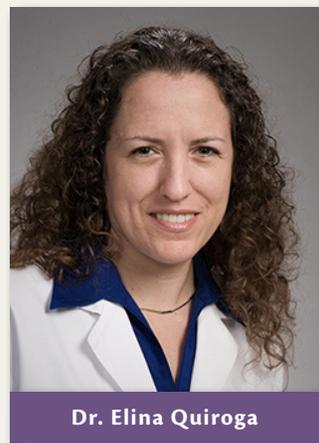
His clinical practice at HMC focuses on the acute care of burn-injured patients. He has developed protocols to optimize and standardize the care of burn patients. He leads telemedicine development for the burn center, with initiatives in pre-hospital, in-hospital and post-discharge care. He also is an intensivist for the Trauma Surgical Intensive Care Unit at HMC. In his educational role, Dr. Pham serves as the Assistant Program Director of the Burn Surgical Critical Care Fellowship, where he oversees the burn and critical care track. His primary research efforts focus on injury in geriatric patients and improving care access via telehealth. He leads research projects to define factors that influence clinical outcomes as part of the HMC geriatric

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2018 FACULTY PROMOTIONS

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injury workgroup. He is also lead investigator in a trial that evaluates in-home rehabilitation post-injury through the Northwest Regional Burn Model System.



Dr. Elina Quiroga

Elina Quiroga, MD, MPH, Promoted to Associate Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery

Dr. **Elina Quiroga** is a vascular surgeon at Harborview Medical Center. She performs a wide range of vascular procedures, and has especial interest in the care of vascular trauma, complex aortic surgery, peripheral vascular disease and dialy-

sis access. She earned her MD from the Universidad de Buenos Aires in Argentina, and completed her training in general surgery in Argentina and at UW. She then completed her Vascular Surgery Fellowship at UW. She is the Associate Program Director for the UW Integrated Vascular Surgery Residency and Fellowship Programs and she received her Master of Public Health this past summer.

Dr. Quiroga plays an active role in promoting diversity, equity and inclusion in the Department of Surgery and the UW School of Medicine. Her research interests include disparities of care in vascular surgery, especially in the Latino population, and also focuses on outcomes of vascular trauma, ruptured aneurysms and improving surgical education and worldwide, especially on methods and conditions relevant to low and middle-income countries.



Dr. Sherene Shalhub

Sherene Shalhub, MD, Promoted to Associate Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery

Dr. **Sherene Shalhub** is a vascular surgeon, clinical researcher, and educator. She completed training in general and vascular surgery at UW. During her general surgery residency, she also completed a two-year T32 post-doctoral research fellowship in trauma and critical care research under

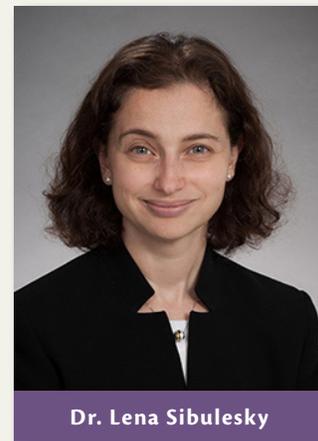
the mentorship of Dr. **Grant O'Keefe**, Professor, Division of Trauma, Burn & Critical Care Surgery.

Since joining the faculty in 2013, Dr. Shalhub has been clinically active in all aspects of vascular surgery, although her primary clinical interests are in aortic surgery and dialysis access. She is the director of the multidisciplinary vascular genetics clinic in collaboration with Dr. Peter Byers. Her clinical practice is at the UW Medical Center.

Dr. Shalhub's research focuses on patients with rare vascular conditions leading to aortic and arterial aneurysms and dissections. Her current work bridges clinical and genetic risk factors and patient centered outcomes. She has received funding support from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) and the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). She recently established the Vascular Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (vEDS) Research Collaborative, an international network of stakeholders to direct the research needs for patients with vEDS. Her other academic pursuits are centered on advancing the careers of the next generation of physicians.

Lena Sibulesky, MD, Promoted to Associate Professor, Division of Transplant Surgery

Dr. **Lena Sibulesky** is a 2001 medical school graduate of Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston, MA. She completed her general surgery residency in 2006 at Brown University Rhode Island Hospital in Rhode Island. She went on to complete fellowships in multi organ transplantation at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston and then at the Mayo Clinic in Florida. Dr. Sibulesky's clinical interests include transplantation of liver, kidneys, and kidney-pancreas. She has academic interests in medical education and she oversees training and education of medical students and residents in her role as Director of Resident and Medical Student Education in the Division of Transplant Surgery. She also plays an active role in training of the transplant surgery fellows. She has served on the national American Society of Transplant Surgeons' Curriculum Committee developing and implementing the National Transplant



Dr. Lena Sibulesky

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2018 FACULTY PROMOTIONS

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Surgery Fellowship Curriculum. Her research interests include clinical outcomes research. In collaboration with her transplant colleagues and the **Clinical and Bio-Analytics Transplant Laboratory (CBATL)**, Dr. Sibulesky has extensively published and presented at national meetings on the utilization of Public Health Service increased risk donor organs and Hepatitis C virus positive donor organs.



**Jason Smith, MD,
Promoted to Associate
Professor, Division of
Cardiothoracic Surgery**

Dr. **Jason Smith** is a cardiothoracic surgeon in the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery and practices at UWMC. Since joining the Division in 2012, Dr. Smith has been involved in resident teaching and has served as a faculty proctor in UW Medi-

cine's **WWAMI Institute for Simulation in Healthcare (WISH)** simulation lab and developed several modules that aim to teach residents how deal with surgical emergencies, maximize and carefully select and match donor organs to recipients, and manage and trouble shoot patients on advanced mechanical heart support. More recently he developed a detailed manual of operative management for heart assist devices and heart transplantation with a detailed companion algorithm of perioperative management. Dr. Smith has additionally made significant research contributions. His areas of interest are diverse and span from programmatically promoting complete revascularization in high-risk interventions (CHIP), to improving utilization of lung transplant recipients in both pediatric and adult donor allografts, to systematic expansion of donor selection criteria.

Dr. Smith serves on numerous UWMC committees as well as several critical national committees and councils including the national Donor Heart Selection & Management Consensus Conference and the Mechanical Circulatory Support Scientific Counsel of the International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation (ISHLT). He is the chair of the Alternate Heart Transplant List Working Group as well as chair of the Donation after Cardiac Death Heart Transplant Research Group.

Dr. Smith completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Texas and after working as a paramedic for 5 years, went on to complete his MD degree at Stritch School of Medicine of Loyola University. He completed his general and cardiothoracic surgery training in Loyola University and went on to an additional fellowship in cardiothoracic transplantation at Stanford University before joining our faculty at the University of Washington in 2012.

**Andrew Wright, MD,
Promoted to Professor,
Division of General Surgery**



Dr. **Andrew Wright** is Director of **Surgical Services & Hernia Center** at Northwest Hospital and also a provider with the Center for Esophageal and Gastric Surgery at UWMC. His clinical interests are in hernia, abdominal wall reconstruction, and management of esophageal and gastric disease. Much of his non-clinical time is spent in WISH, where he works on improving patient safety. He is also director of the UW Advanced Gastrointestinal and Minimally Invasive Surgery Fellowship and 4NE Medical Director at UWMC. Research interests include surgical simulations, protocols for enhanced recovery after surgery, and outcomes following hernia and esophageal surgery. He is nationally recognized as a leader in the use of social media for surgical education, and is actively researching how this impacts both surgeon and patient perceptions of new technology. He can be followed on Twitter at [@andrewswright](#).

Department of Surgery Retirements

Dr. Patch Dellinger

by Dr. Brant Oelschlager, Professor & Chief,
Division of General Surgery



Dr. Patch Dellinger

One of our Department's surgical giants hung up his gloves and scalpel this summer after a 41 year career on the University of Washington (UW) faculty. Dr. **Patch Dellinger** is the longest tenured surgeon in the Department of Surgery. In fact, I can't find documentation of another surgeon in our history with over 41 years of service. During that time he brought many surgical trends to UW, usually before they appeared

elsewhere, including: the discipline of surgical infection, bariatric surgery and surgical checklists to name but a few.

Patch and his wife Lissa, came to Seattle in 1977 at the recommendation of his fellow chief resident, for what the lifelong New Englanders thought would be a short adventure to the Pacific Northwest. A product of the Harvard system (Harvard MD '70, Beth Israel '77) he brought his high end gastrointestinal surgical



Left to Right: Drs. Carlos Pellegrini, Patch Dellinger, Brant Oelschlager and David Byrd at Dr. Dellinger's retirement party

experience to an awakening trauma center – Harborview – as an early recruit of John Schilling. He admittedly knew little about trauma at the time, but figured his unique, infectious disease fellowship was a good fit for this area of surgery. His instincts as always were good, and he began to change the way surgeons here and throughout the world thought about surgical infections.

Once he became comfortable with the chaotic rhythm of trauma, he sought to add an elective GI practice to his repertoire. It is at this time that he visited and forged a friendship with the Godfather of bariatric surgery, Dr. Ed Mason (University of Iowa), and began the Bariatric Surgery program two decades before the minimally invasive movement made it the ubiquitous staple it is today. One could see clearly his compassion for a segment of our society disadvantaged by their weight, and willingness to fight the bias of public opinion on their behalf, a hallmark of Patch's career.

In 1991, he moved to UWMC to become the Chief of General Surgery – a Division of three at the time. Through his leadership, mentorship, and a culture which resulted in almost no attrition, he grew the Division into the multi-subspecialty, 30 surgeon group it is today. It is a Division with top programs in Bariatric, Foregut, HPB, Emergency General Surgery, Breast, Endocrine, Sarcoma, Melanoma, and Colorectal Surgery, but above all, is comprised of excellent surgeons and people.

Through his work with the World Health Organization (WHO), he made sure we were part of a new experiment – surgical checklists – the idea that a surgical team, like pilots before takeoff, could benefit the patient by routinely reviewing a list of critical steps for surgical success. None of us would now think of making an incision without such a checklist, and Patch brought that to UW before its routine existence in any operating room in the world.

Yet, through all the success and innovation Patch brought to the department, it is the calm, humble, approachable human that each of us love and remember, and it is the spirit that left such an indelible mark on so many that he worked with, for, and on over the last 41 years. Thank you Patch for this legacy, and enjoy the next chapter in your journey.

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Dr. Joseph Gruss

by Drs. Bob Sawin, Surgeon-in-Chief, and Jeff Avansino, Associate Surgeon-in-Chief, Division of Pediatric General Surgery

Like those great, iconic athletes who only require one name (e.g., Lebron, Tiger, Kobe), we all know him simply as, “Joe.” Incredibly, he is retiring from clinical surgery.

For those who have had the pleasure to operate with Joe or watch him operate, we can all attest that he really is a world-class craniofacial and plastic surgeon. He is that perfect combination of great creative thinking and planning, outstanding technical skill, exquisite judgment, and fearless demeanor.

Joe arrived here more than 25 years ago, and built our Craniofacial Program into one of the world’s finest, through collaboration with our neurosurgeons, otolaryngologists, anesthesiologists, craniofacial pediatricians, and others.

Joe has been honored all over the world for his contributions to craniofacial surgery. He has inspired many plastic surgery residents and fellows to become craniofacial surgeons. He will be impossible to replace, but he does leave behind a group of colleagues whom he has trained and influenced. Thus, the program will still be great, just missing one of its superstars.

Although Joe loves golf, he will serve as an Emeritus Professor of Surgery, and thus may occasionally come off the golf course to help teach and mentor – we hope often!

Please join me in congratulating Joe for a truly sensational career. Thank you, Joe for all of the lives that you have improved here and around the world. You are the best.

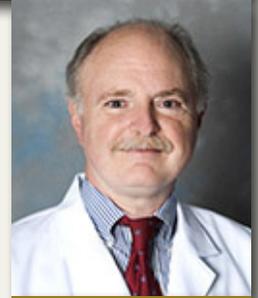


Dr. Joseph Gruss

Dr. Michael Sobel

by Dr. Ted Kohler, Professor Emeritus

Dr. **Michael Sobel**, Professor Emeritus, Division of Vascular Surgery, is retiring from the UW after many years of providing us with his wisdom, wit, intellect, and good humor. A Harvard graduate, Michael got his MD from Albert Einstein, did his residency and research fellowship at Harvard’s Beth Israel Hospital, and completed his vascular fellowship with Dr. Anthony Imparato. He quickly rose through the academic ranks to Professor at the Medical College of Virginia and was recruited as Chief of Surgery at our VA Puget Sound Health Care System (VAPSHCS) in 2001. His unflinching good nature, wisdom, surgical skills, research prowess, and selfless work on behalf of the widely diverse members of the surgical service at the VAPSHCS made him an instant success.



Dr. Michael Sobel



Sobel in his youth

Michael was recruited by Dr. **Carlos Pellegrini**, Professor and Chief Medical Officer, who was “impressed from the beginning by his respect towards everyone, his calm temperament exuding tolerance and patience, his laser focus on his research and on promoting the research of others, and his unflinching warm and welcoming smile. He is a gentleman and a scientist, and leaves a lasting legacy to the VAPSHCS and our

department.” Dr. **Benjamin Starnes**, Professor and Chief, Division of Vascular Surgery, sums him up as “smart, kind, friendly, trustworthy, and honest. He was welcoming when I became Division Chief in 2007 and was indispensable in helping me navigate complex issues. At the morbidity and mortality (M&M) conference, Michael always asked probing questions to get to the heart of the matter and then gently explained what was done wrong, without making the trainee or faculty member feel dejected. He proudly cared for our veterans, and his research greatly advanced our specialty.”

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Sobel in France

Michael's laboratory produced hundreds of publications and several patents with the aid of continuous funding throughout his career from multiple sources, including the VAPSHCS and the National Institutes of Health (NIH). His work contributed substantially to our understanding of the role of thrombosis and inflammation in vascular disease. He mentored many students, residents, fellows, and faculty. "Without his help, I would not be where I am today," says Dr. **Nam Tran**, Associate Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery. Dr.

Tom Hatsukami, Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery, writes: "When I reflect on my 18 years on staff at the VAPSHCS, I consider how fortunate I was to work with Michael, an amazing role model, clinical partner and research colleague. When Alec Clowes grew too frail to travel, Michael met monthly with our research teams at Alec's home. Michael and Dr. **Richard Kenagy**, Research Assistant Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery, ensured that Alec's vision was carried forward."

Michael is at once erudite, artistic, charming, intellectual, and humble. His calm presence reflects his Zen approach to life. His patient interactions modeled the very best bedside manner. Jane Blomberg, RN, Vascular Nurse Coordinator, notes that "his patients thought he was the greatest and always asked how he was doing after retirement." His life from college to retirement is bookended with activism, from membership in Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) at Harvard to his current participation in **Common Purpose**, a political justice organization.

Michael is pursuing his love of photography and now refers to himself as a "Seattle photographer focusing on portraits of people and their environments." He creates images that are visually pleasing and also make us think differently about people and spaces that we take for granted or seldom encounter. Check out his portfolio at www.michaelsobel.photo. His artistry includes binding photographs into gorgeous book collections using craftsmanship honed during an apprenticeship in Arles (conducted entirely in French).



From Sobel's Washington Ferries portfolio

Artist, activist, scholar, intellectual, wise counselor, administrator, physician, master surgeon, linguist, photographer, book binder, meditator, friend: Michael Sobel is all of these and more, and he's humble to boot. He has touched so many of our lives, comforted us, and left us the wiser. There's no telling where he will go or what he will do next, but it's bound to be exciting, innovative, and enriching. We wish him the best.

Dr. Nicole Gibran Named Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education

by, Dr. John Slattery, Vice Dean, Research and Graduate Education, Professor, Pharmacology, Associate Dean, School of Medicine



Dr. Nicole Gibran

"I am very pleased to announce that Dr. **Nicole Gibran**, Professor, Burn Center, Division of Trauma, Burn & Critical Care, has agreed to serve as Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education, Harborview Medical Center. In this capacity, Dr. Gibran will succeed Dr. Sheila Lukehart in that part of Dr. Lukehart's former portfolio that has to do with the research needs of the School of Medicine researchers and research programs at Harborview Medical Center."

Dr. Gibran expresses, "Transitioning from Director of the UW Medicine Regional Burn Center to Associate Dean for Research was never something that I imagined. I welcome the opportunity to engage with faculty and administration to enrich and highlight our exemplary Harborview Medical Center based research programs."

Dr. Gibran completed her MD degree at Boston University School of Medicine and continued through her surgery residency at Boston University. She completed Burn and Intensive Care, NIH Trauma, and Northwest Burn Foundation Research Fellowships at the University

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of Washington. Dr. Gibran's independent professional career has been in the UW Medicine Department of Surgery and the UW Medicine Regional Burn Center at Harborview Medical Center, which she has directed since 2002. Dr. Gibran has announced her decision to step down as the Director of the Regional Burn Center and from patient care activities to focus on research.

Dr. Gibran has run a very successful NIH-funded research program at Harborview throughout her career and is deeply committed to the culture and work of the Harborview community. Please join me in welcoming Dr. Gibran as Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education, Harborview Medical Center.

Dr. James Park Selected as the 2018–19 WISH Clinical Director for Surgical Specialties

Dr. **James Park**, Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery, has been selected as the **WWAMI Institute for Simulation in Healthcare (WISH)** Clinical Director for Surgical Specialties for the 2018–19 academic year.

In this position, Dr. Park will continue to serve as specialty specific champion for Surgical Specialties, to identify and provide leadership in prioritizing the education and training needs within UW Medicine's healthcare simulation programs. This year, WISH is focusing on the development and implementation of champion groups within Dr. Park's respective domains and asked that Dr. Park serve as Chair for the WISH Clinical Education sub-committee. Additionally, Dr. Park will continue to participate as a content expert, participating in quarterly review teams for the WISH Resourcing Application Program.



Dr. James Park

Dr. Kristine Calhoun Accepts Position as Director of Medical Student Surgical Education

by, Karen Horvath, MD, FACS, Professor of Surgery, Director, Residency Programs in General and Preliminary Surgery, Associate Chair for Education, Division of Education



Dr. Kristine Calhoun

It gives me great pleasure to announce that Dr. **Kristine Calhoun** has accepted the position of the Director of Medical Student Surgical Education for the Department of Surgery, assuming oversight for all rotation sites and specialty rotations.

Dr. Calhoun has been working in surgical education since 2007, when she became the Site Director for medical students rotating at UWMC in General Surgery. During her time in that position more and more students have sought out UWMC as a desired site at which to perform their third year surgery clerkships. In 2013 Dr. Calhoun became the Associate Director for Medical Student Surgical Education, and has implemented a number of improvements and changes to the clerkship experience for all students, including development of a curriculum in pain management and a robust process for mid-clerkship feedback.

Dr. Calhoun will be replacing Dr. **Roger Tatum** who has served in the Director role since 2005. Over the last 13 years of Dr. Tatum's tenure, the size of the UW School of Medicine entering class has grown dramatically from approximately 180 students to 270 each year. The Department has responded by increasing the number of clerkship sites at which our students rotate from eight back in 2005 to 20 today, including new sites in all five WWAMI states and in Seattle. The number of appointed clinical faculty involved with medical student teaching has doubled. Dr. Tatum oversaw the creation of a robust career counseling program for UW medical students within the Department. For additional perspective, from six UW students pursuing surgical specialties in 2006 we now have nearly 10% of the class applying in surgery which is double the average percentage of students across the country. Dr. Tatum will now transition into the Associate Director role vacated by Dr. Calhoun and of course will continue to serve as the Chief of Surgery at VA Puget Sound.

Dr. Calhoun comments, "I am excited to assume this role from the capable hands of Dr Tatum and thank him for his service to students these past 13 years. Training our future surgeons starts

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at the clerkship level and we have seen an amazing increase in the number of UWSoM students interested in surgical careers. This is a direct reflection of the breadth of experiences available at the many Surgery clerkship sites and the strength of the faculty and residents involved in their education. I look forward to continuing the relationships we have established, forging new ones, and finessing medical student education at the many WWAMI sites that welcome students.”

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Calhoun as she assumes this important leadership position at an exciting time in our Department with our new Division of Education!

Teresa Kim, MD, Appointed Assistant Professor in the Division of General Surgery

Dr. **Teresa Kim** is a surgical oncologist with expertise in the management of sarcomas, melanomas, and other cancers of the soft tissue, skin, and gastrointestinal tract. Her primary sites of practice are at UWMC, where she operates, and **Seattle Cancer Care Alliance (SCCA)**, where she sees patients in clinic. Dr. Kim earned her bachelor’s degree in biology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and her MD from Harvard Medical School in Boston. She then completed general surgery residency at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, as well as a research postdoctoral fellowship in tumor immunology at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York. She subsequently completed specialty training in Complex General Surgical Oncology at Memorial Sloan Kettering, after which she was recruited to join the faculty at the University of Washington (UW). She is board certified by the American Board of Surgery and is an active member of the American College of Surgeons, Society of Surgical Oncology, and American Society of Clinical Oncology.



Dr. Teresa Kim

Dr. Kim’s clinical interests include sarcoma, gastrointestinal stromal tumor (GIST), melanoma, immunotherapy, and clinical trials. Her research interests include translational tumor immunology and novel approaches to combination therapy. Outside of work, she and her husband enjoy exploring the Pacific Northwest.

Surgical Ethics Conference



Drs. Douglas Wood & Alberto Ferreres

Earlier this month, the Department of Surgery’s Center for Surgical Ethics hosted its 2nd Annual Summer Conference. The event, co-hosted by Drs. **Alberto Ferreres**, Director of the UW Center for Surgical Ethics, Denise Dudzinski, Chair, Department of Bioethics and Humanities, and **Douglas Wood**, *The Henry N. Harkins Professor and Chair*, drew a crowd of nearly 40 conference participants – including surgeons, nurses, clinical psychologists, chaplains, administrators, and academic faculty from 8 U.S. states as well as one participant from Argentina.

The conference’s flash sessions, presented by colleagues from Seattle Children’s, Swedish Hospital, University of Michigan, and University of Washington’s (UW) Department of Surgery were punctuated by this year’s keynote address “What’s Different About Surgical Ethics,” provided by Dr. Peter Angelos, Associate Director of the MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics, University of Chicago. The presentations highlighted a variety of challenges facing healthcare providers in today’s ever-changing healthcare climate, including the patient/family member’s role in shared decision making and informed consent, as well as discussion around the topic of surgical gatekeeping and the surgeon’s responsibilities to their patients.

In the afternoon, conference participants delved deeper into the intricacies of ethical decision making and moral reasoning through small group case studies, led by ethicists from the UW’s Department

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of Bioethics and Humanities. The afternoon's presentations were highlighted by a panel discussion, navigating the ethics of the mentor-mentee relationship in healthcare.

To learn more about the Center for Surgical Ethics and next year's Surgical Ethics Conference, please contact Megan Sherman (shermm@uw.edu).

#ilooklikeasurgeon Artwork by Andrea Gahl Highlighted in JAMA Network



Andrea Gahl

The Department of Surgery highlighted artwork by **Andrea Gahl**, trauma nurse coordinator at Harborview Medical Center, in the Spring 2018 *Surgery Synopsis* issue, in the article “#ilooklikeasurgeon Art,” for her paintings promoting and respecting diversity in the surgical community. Andrea's artwork has now been highlighted in a **JAMA Network** article “**Deck the Halls With Diverse Portraits**” featuring her painting “Millennial Madonna, or Estell, Finally.”



Millennial Madonna, or Estell, Finally by Andrea Gahl, oil on canvas, 30 x 48 in, 2018.

Andrea reflects, “I think of artists as observers and recorders of culture, past, present, and imagined futures. I was honored that Drs. Wellbery and Mishori saw one of my portraits as an example of the diversity of future leaders in medicine. I'm grateful to the many residents who sat for me and shared their stories with me. Their stories and perspectives on racial and gender equity encouraged and inspired me to continue exploration of the topic through my paintings. I'm heartened that more medical institutions are realizing that tangible representation by both race and gender are critical and am hopeful that accompanied with intentional institutional interventions, we can create an inclusive culture that allows for diversity of perspectives and improves the care we provide to our community.”

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY— IN THE MEDIA



Lavallee

Dr. **Danielle Lavallee**, Research Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery
“Episode 2: Put me in doc, the patient as team player”
 UW Care Transformation — The Transformer Podcast



Mandell

Dr. **Sam Mandell**, Assistant Professor, Division of Trauma, Burn & Critical Care Surgery
“When did scald burns become a prank?”
 — UW Medicine Newsroom



Pellegrini



Pillarisetty

Drs. **Carlos Pellegrini**, UW Medicine Chief Medical Officer, **Venu Pillarisetty**, Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery, and Heidi Gray, Associate Professor, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology
“Episode 3: Cookbook Medicine: A Recipe for Success?” UW Care Transformation — The Transformer Podcast



Sibulesky

Dr. **Lena Sibulesky**, Associate Professor, Division of Transplant Surgery, **“You need a new kidney to stay alive. Would you reject one from someone who died of a drug overdose?”** STAT, September, 18, 2018



Smith

Dr. **Jason Smith**, Associate Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery
“Heart-transplant program opens access to Hep C-positive donors” — UW Medicine Newsroom



Verrier

Dr. **Edward Verrier**, Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery
“Woman receives second heart transplant at UW—27 years after first” — Seattle KIRO 7 News



Wood

Dr. **Douglas Wood**, *The Henry N. Harkins Professor and Chair*, University of Washington, Department of Surgery
“Have you been screened? Learn about UW/SCCA's lung cancer screening program” — UW Medicine's The Huddle

Dr. **Douglas Wood**, *The Henry N. Harkins Professor and Chair*, University of Washington, Department of Surgery
“Should lung cancer screening be expanded to those who don't meet criteria?” — CHEST Journal Podcasts Released June 19, 2018 (Requires iTunes)

#GettingToKnowDOS— Dr. Peter Neligan



In this issue, *Surgery Synopsis* staff interviewed Dr. **Peter Neligan**, Professor & Chief, Center for Reconstructive Surgery in the Division of Plastic Surgery, for #GettingToKnowDOS.

SS: What was the last book you read?

PN: The last book I read was a biography on Leonardo da Vinci. It was very interesting—there were so many things I didn't know about him. He was very flamboyant and very handsome. He liked to wear rose-colored jackets and things like that. But of course the big takeaway from the book was that he was way ahead of his time.

SS: Do you mostly read biographies? **PN:** I read everything—biographies, garbage, thrillers. **SS:** What is the most “garbage-y” book you've read recently? **PN:** I don't know if this qualifies, but I recently read “Gone Girl.” It was a really good mystery/thriller. One of the most fun books I have is a coffee table book on the artwork of Ronnie Wood of The Rolling Stones. He's done some amazing art work on The Stones. There's one piece I really like that completely captures Jagger's swagger—it's just perfect. There's another piece that's the study of Charlie Watts' hands. Charlie Watts holds his hands in a particular way and he managed to capture that really well.

SS: Any favorite recent movies?

PN: There are a couple different categories of movies I watch. There are the movies I like to watch at home with a glass of wine, then since I travel a lot there are “airplane movies.” Those are the movies where you can fall asleep then wake up and you didn't really miss anything. One I want to watch that's getting a lot of hype right now is “Crazy Rich Asians.” **SS:** Is that an airplane movie or a sit down with a glass of wine movie? **PN:** Maybe both. Sit down with a glass of wine and watch it during a flight [laughs]. **SS:** Do you have any favorite movie genres? **PN:** No, but I can say I don't like “artsy-fartsy” movies. **SS:** Why is that? **PN:** Because they're fartsy; they're too pretentious.

SS: What music are you currently into?

PN: I love all kinds of music but I particularly like blues. One of my favorite artists is Eric Clapton. I also like to play music, which I don't think many people know. I play electric and acoustic guitar and also piano. I've been playing ever since I was a kid and am bringing up the next generation of musicians with my grandsons. **SS:** Are they liking it or is this something that grandpa is forcing them to do? **PN:** The little guy likes it, the three year old, but the five year old couldn't care less.

SS: Did you ever play in a band? **PN:** I played in a band when I was in medical school, but I can't remember what it was called. It was a pretty crap name, I know that. And more recently I played with a band a couple years ago when I was invited to the Italian Microsurgical Society. In the invitation letter they asked me to give the titles of a couple of lectures I wanted to give, and because they knew I played guitar, a couple of songs I wanted to sing. They rented a nightclub and we had such a good time. **SS:** What did you play? **PN:** I played some blues—Stevie Ray Vaughan and Eric Clapton. Then this past year at the American Society for Reconstructive Microsurgery one of the lectures who is a surgeon from San Francisco has been in a band for 30 years and he played and I also got to jam with him.



Neligan's jam session at the annual American Society for Reconstructive Microsurgery meeting in January 2018

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#GettingToKnowDOS — Dr. Peter Neligan

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SS: Do you collect anything?

PN: Guitars, I have six. **SS:** Do you have a favorite?

PN: They are all favorites! I tend to go to two—one electric and one acoustic—but I do play them all.

SS: Do you have any pet peeves?

PN: Slow drivers. And people who don't move forward in a line-up like waiting for a coffee and such, or in a line of cars. When I see that I just want to pull in right in front of them!

SS: Do you have a favorite travel destination?

PN: My very favorite place in the whole world is the British Virgin Islands. It's totally laid back, it's unpretentious, and it's just a very chill place. You feel relaxed the moment you arrive.

SS: What is a cherished goal or accomplishment from last year?

PN: A professional accomplishment from the last year that I'm most proud of is finishing the 4th Edition of Plastic Surgery. It's a 6 volume set and took about two years. It's been translated to Portuguese, Spanish and they are finishing the Chinese edition. It's amazing to have a book published in a language you don't even speak.



Neligan with the 6-volume Plastic Surgery textbook set

SS: What would you do if you weren't a surgeon?

PN: I'll tell you, the two things I've always wanted to be when I was growing up and that I still find appealing: an airline pilot and the other is an architect. **SS:** Those are very different. What appeals about each occupation? **PN:** For the airline pilot I think it would be the experience and fun of controlling such a big machine as well as the speed and of course the travel. As for architecture, there is something very appealing to me about designing and building something from start to finish. **SS:** Do you design or build anything such as furniture or anything like that? **PN:** No, but I do feel that design is kind of used in plastic surgery. It's designing and building but on a much smaller scale.

SS: What's an interesting fact about yourself that many people don't know?

PN: I like to cook. I grill everything whether it's meat, vegetables, whatever—I grill almost every day.

SS: What's your personal motto?

PN: It would be something along the lines of "Stay calm and get things done."

SS: Do you have a favorite Seattle restaurant?

PN: My favorite Seattle restaurant is Ray's Boathouse, I love that place. It's not particularly amazing food and it's a very ordinary place, but I just love the ambiance, the view and the fact that it's not at all stuffy. I hate stuffy places. It might not fit into the category of "top restaurant" but it is one of my favorite places.

SS: Do you have any guilty pleasures?

PN: I don't have any guilty pleasures, only regular pleasures. I don't feel guilty about any of them [laughs]

SS: What's a phone app you can't live without?

PN: There are lots of them actually. I check my email every few minutes on my phone. I like Facebook—I don't post a lot but I like it to keep in touch with people. There are some financial ones I use a lot. And one of my new favorite apps is Marco Polo, which is a video-messaging app. You can send a video message to those who have the app and my wife and I use it with our grandkids a lot. There's a 3-hour time difference so

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#GettingToKnowDOS—Dr. Peter Neligan

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when I get home they'll already be in bed so I'll send them a message through Marco Polo. Something like "Hi guys! I just got home. I hope you had a great day," then the next day they will send me one back.

SS: Any crazy adventures or stories while traveling?

PN: How about traveling with an outdated passport?

SS: What?!?! **PN:** One time I went to the British Virgin Islands and when we were leaving I realized my passport was out of date. It ran out like two days before we went on the trip. **SS:** They let you in with an expired passport? **PN:** We were flying into St. Thomas which is the U.S. Virgin Islands and you didn't need a passport. Then we got onto the ferry to go to the British Virgin Islands thinking we were going to be turned back but they didn't even notice. **SS:** What about going back into the U.S.? **PN:** Oh, that wasn't a problem.

SS: What attracted you to plastic surgery?

PN: It was pure accident, actually. I was planning to be a family physician. In 1975, my wife and I were in the same class in medical school and we were just about to graduate. The next part of our schooling would have been an internship at the same hospital, but the hospital's Chairman of

the Board called us into his office and told us it had come to the board's attention that we were a couple and that one of us would have to leave to do internship because the board won't tolerate a married couple on its intern staff. My wife and I decided that I would be the one to go and I did my internship at two other hospitals—6 months medicine and then 6 months surgery. When I was doing my six month surgical internship I was at the only hospital in Dublin that had a plastic surgery service so it was the busiest service in the hospital and no one wanted to do it so I got stuck with it. Two weeks in and that was all it took.

this or that

Hot or cold weather? **Hot**

Sweet or savory? **Savory**

Savory—Crackers or chips? **Crackers**

iPhone or Android? **iPhone**

Tablet or Desktop? **Tablet**

Tea or coffee? **Coffee**

Text or call? **Text**

Cats or dogs? **Dogs** (Neither really but if I have to choose one it would be dogs)

Movie or book? **Book**

Mountains or beach? **Beach**

Cardio or Weights? **Cardio**

Big Party or Small Gathering? **Small Gathering**

Facebook or Twitter? **Facebook**

Online Shopping or Shopping in a Store? **Shopping in a Store**

At a movie: Candy or Popcorn? **Popcorn**

Pancakes or Waffles? **Neither one but if I have to choose it would be pancakes**

Movie at Home or Movie at the Theater? **Movie at home**

City or Countryside? **City**



Neligan with his wife in 1971 (above) and in 2018 (below)

HONORS, AWARDS & PUBLICATIONS

Faculty



Dr. Sara Javid

Dr. **Sara Javid**, Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery, was named new associate editor for the **Journal of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (JNCCN)**.

Dr. Javid is a breast surgeon and health services researcher whose research areas of interest include shared decision-making for early-stage breast cancer, the treatment of ductal carcinoma in situ, and disparities in surgical care among underrepresented populations. She has had an active role in the **National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN)**, of which Seattle Cancer Care Alliance has been a member for nine years. In 2010, she was appointed as Principal Investigator of SCCA's NCCN Breast Outcomes Database and remained in that position until the closure of the database in 2015. In addition, Dr. Javid contributes annually to the NCCN Breast Cancer Treatment Guidelines, a panel vice-chaired by Dr. **Benjamin Anderson**, Professor, Division of General Surgery. Dr. Javid has also served as a reviewer for the JNCCN and is looking forward to this new position as an associate editor for JNCCN.



Dr. Carlos Pellegrini

Dr. **Carlos Pellegrini**, Professor and Chief Medical Officer, was honored with the title of Doctor Honoris Causa by the Senate of the University of Athens. This honor recognizes Dr. Pellegrini for his significance and impact of his work in the scientist community. This is the highest honorary title awarded by the University of Athens recognizing outstanding performance in surgery.

Dr. **Elina Quiroga**, Associate Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery, completed her Master of Public Health (MPH) this past summer at the University of Washington's Department of Global Health. As part of this interdisciplinary training on global health issues, she performed her practicum evaluating the efficacy of simulation-based training in vascular surgery for general surgery residents in low- and middle-income countries. Her thesis assessed the current capabilities for evaluation and treatment of cardiovascular disease in Argentina, following the consensus recommendations for essential vascular care, using geographic population assessment. Dr. Quiroga would like to express her gratitude to the Department of Surgery, and especially the Division of Vascular Surgery, for their support to complete this MPH. She also would like to especially recognize her appreciation to Dr. **Alberto Ferreres**, Professor & Chair of Surgery, Department of Surgery, University of Buenos



Professor Deepa Rao, GH, MPH, Associate Program Director, Dr. Elina Quiroga, Associate Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery, and Professor Stephen Gloyd, GH, MPH, Program Director

Aires, Argentina, and the team at the Bocalandro Hospital, as well the surgeons at the Argentinean College of Cardiovascular Surgery, for all their tireless work towards improving surgical care of vascular patients in Argentina.



Dr. Elina Quiroga using low cost simulation to teach vascular surgery for general surgeons in Argentina

Dr. **Benjamin Starnes**, The Alexander W. Clowes Endowed Chair, Professor and Chief of Division of Vascular Surgery, was elected to serve as the Western Vascular Society President Elect for the 2018/2019 academic year and will hold the position of President for the 2019/2020 year. The election was held on September 24th, 2018, at the 33rd annual society meeting at the Eldorado Hotel in Santa Fe, NM. Dr. Starnes



Dr. Benjamin Starnes

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HONORS, AWARDS & PUBLICATIONS

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first became a member of the Western Vascular Society in 2005. He has since held numerous positions within the society including Program Committee Chair and Recorder. Dr. Starnes expresses, “I am extremely humbled and honored to have been installed as President Elect for the Western Vascular Society. This prestigious society spans 14 Western American States and the Canadian provinces of British Columbia and Alberta. Its members meet each year to share new techniques and discoveries to further advance the care of our patients.”

Residents and Fellows



Dr. Kathryn Stadel

Dr. **Kathryn Stadel**, 2017–19 research resident, published “**The autonomy crisis: A call to action for resident advocacy**,” Bulletin of the American College of Surgeons, published August 1, 2018.

Dr. **Barclay Stewart**, 2018 graduate of the General Surgery Residency Program and current Surgical Critical Care fellow at Harborview, received the 2018 Harborview Medical Center Annual Housestaff Award. Dr. Stewart was a co–recipient of this award with Dr. Aysha Appa, Department of Medicine, for “Clinical Ability and Humanitarian Concern.” This prestigious award is received by individuals who have gone on to achieve great success in their respective fields.



Dr. Barclay Stewart

Dr. Stewart expresses, “I’m sure all of us nominated agree, it is an honor to have studied and worked at Harborview. We have had the privilege of serving an incredibly diverse population, learning from lifetimes of expertise in many fields and disciplines, and growing as young clinicians, leaders, scientists, and educators along the way.

I’m fortunate to stay at Harborview as a Burn, Trauma, & Critical Care Fellow; I look forward to becoming more involved with Harborview’s efforts to reduce barriers to care, transform our practice, strengthen outreach initiatives, and improve the quality and safety of the care we provide for our patients.”



Dr. Katherine Flynn-O'Brien

Dr. **Katherine Flynn–O’Brien**, 2018 graduate of the General Surgery Residency Program, was nominated for this award which is a great honor as well. Congratulations to awardees and nominees!



Dr. Rebecca Grace-Lopez

Dr. **Rebecca Grace Lopez**, 2017–2018 fellow in the Center for Videoendoscopic Surgery, placed first in the “Best Resident and Fellows Presentations Competition” category for her presentation “Recurrent Dysphagia After Myotomy: Diagnosis, Workup, and Technique” at the 2018 SAGES meeting held in Seattle, Washington in April 2018. Her video tackled the challenge of symptom recurrence after myotomy and reviewed key points in workup and surgical techniques to perform when addressing it.

UPCOMING EVENTS



2018 PUGET SOUND HEART AND STROKE WALK

We believe all people deserve to live in a world free of cardiovascular diseases and stroke. A world where everyone has the opportunity to build healthier lives for themselves and their families. We are making tremendous progress, but we cannot do it alone. Help us raise heartbeats and funds through our annual Puget Sound Heart and Stroke Walk. Celebrate with us at this non-competitive 5K walk/run that includes a family and dog-friendly health expo too!

Join a team, start a team, or make a donation at www.pugetsoundheartwalk.org

Contact Information: Jordan Perry at jordan.perry@heart.org or 206.336.7203

Date: Saturday, October 13, 2018
Time: 7:30am - Festival Opens
Locations: 8:30am - Opening ceremonies
 Seattle Center 9:00am - 5K & 1-mile walks

Local Life & My Sponsor: CHI Franciscan Health, PREMIERA
 Heart of Your Community Sponsor: TELADOC, SWEDISH, UW Medicine
 Locally Sponsored by: TELADOC, SWEDISH, UW Medicine, etc.



PUGET SOUND HEART AND STROKE WALK
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2018
 SEATTLE CENTER • 7:30 A.M. FESTIVITIES | 9:00 A.M. 5K WALK/RUN & 1 MILE WARRIOR WALK

25

Be a Heart and Stroke Walk Hero. You're a Heart and Stroke Walk Hero. This year, by signing up, walking, and donating, you help us fund life-saving science. Walking also means your heart health. So get started, give the heart and stroke walk and get yourself on the list, and hug your heart all the same time.

Register your team today at pugetsoundheartwalk.org • Contact king.walk@heart.org or 206-336-7203

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UW Medicine

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY



Surgery Synopsis is an in-house newsletter published on a quarterly basis to highlight the academic and research activities of the University of Washington School of Medicine Department of Surgery. This publication is distributed to the Department's faculty, residents, staff, and friends.

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