The Annual Dr. Alfred A. Strauss Lecture was held Friday, October 11, 2019 with invited lecturer Dr. Valerie Rusch. The event marked an incredible 70th year of this important event, and also served as a welcome home to Dr. Valerie W. Rusch, Vice Chair of Clinical Research for the Department of Surgery at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC) in New York, where she also holds the Miner Family Chair in Intrathoracic Cancers. Dr. Rusch completed her general and cardiothoracic surgery residencies here at UW and was later was on faculty here for six years. Her lecture was titled “The Thoracic Surgeon in 2030: A Paradigm for Surgical Evolution.”

Dr. Rusch is active with the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, the Society for Thoracic Surgeons, and the American Association for Thoracic Surgery. She is Chair of the Mesothelioma Domain of the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC) International Staging and Prognostic Factors Committee, and is Chair-Elect of the Committee. She served as Chair of the Thoracic Committee for the American Joint Commission on Cancer 6th and 7th editions of the Cancer Staging Handbook, and as Chair of the Thoracic Expert Panel for the 8th edition.

Harkins Surgical Symposium Speakers

Dr. Chris Burke, Assistant Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, "Aortic Arch Surgery in the Modern Era"

Dr. Lara Oyetunji, Assistant Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, "Paradigm Shift in the Management of Symptomatic Severe Aortic Stenosis"

Dr. Kevin Koomalsingh, Assistant Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, "LVADs and Non-Cardiac Surgery"

Dr. Kathleen Berfield, Assistant Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, "Airway Complications in Lung Transplantation"

Dr. Farhood Farjah, Associate Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, "Benign Esophageal Perforation: Stent or Primary Repair?"

Dr. Aaron Cheng, Associate Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, "Management of Sternotomical Infections"

Dr. Sherene Shalhub, Associate Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery, "What Every Surgeon Should Know About Patients with Heritable Aortic Disease"

Dr. Lena Sibulesky, Associate Professor, Division of Transplant Surgery, "Expanding the Donor Pool: Machine Perfusion in Liver Transplantation"

Dr. Giana Davidson, Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery, Comparison of Surgery and Medicine on the Impact of Diverticulitis (COSMID) Trial

Dr. Quyen Stevenson, Preceptor, School of Nursing, "Management of Ostomy Complications"

Dr. Deborah Marquardt, Assistant Professor, VA Puget Sound Health Care System, "Intensive Nutritional Pathway Improves Outcomes for Esophageal Cancer Patients"

Dr. Barclay Stewart, Assistant Professor, Division of Trauma, Burn & Critical Care Surgery, "Growing the Global Footprint of UW Medicine Regional Burn Center"

Dr. Kay Johnson, Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, "Perioperative Evaluation and Management of Patients with Cirrhosis"

Drs. Elina Quiroga, Associate Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery, Kristine Calhoun, Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery, Diversity and Inclusion Update

Drs. Imad Haque/Rebekah Devasahayam, "Surgical Simulation for Individual and Trauma team training-A military medical center model"