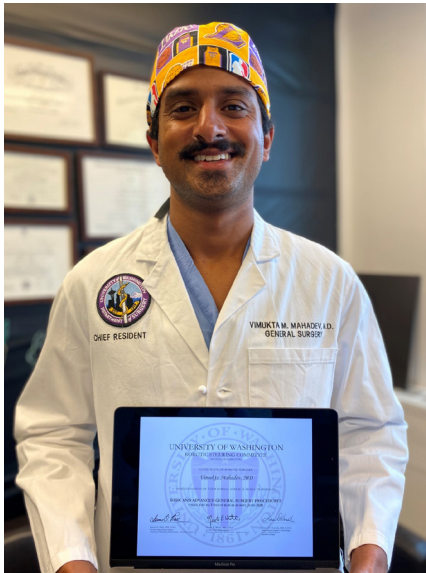


Surgery News

DR. VIMUKTA MAHADEV FIRST TO GRADUATE WITH ROBOTIC PRIVILEGES



On June 19, 2020, Dr. **Vimukta Mahadev**, 2020 chief resident, became the first resident in the Department of Surgery to graduate with full robotic privileges. To successfully achieve this certification a resident must complete a comprehensive training curriculum which includes a minimum of 10 cases as the patient-side assistant and 20 cases as the primary console surgeon. The resident robotic curriculum was gradually introduced between 2014 and 2016 under the direction of Drs. **Karen Horvath**, Professor, Division of General Surgery, Director, Residency Program in General Surgery, Associate Chair for Education, and **James Park**, Professor, Division of General Surgery. Dr. Mahadev was motivated and a quick study, and he started logging cases in 2017 and successfully met the requirements by graduation in June. Dr. Mahadev intends to pursue a career in Trauma Surgery and Critical Care, and saw the value in applying advanced minimally invasive techniques in his future practice. Dr. Mahadev stated, "The UW faculty have numerous robotic mentors at multiple different hospital sites. No matter what specialty you are planning to go into, please consider taking full advantage of this unique opportunity. You never know how useful these advanced minimally invasive techniques will become in your future practice."

DR. ANDRE DICK APPOINTED ASSOCIATE SURGEON-IN-CHIEF AT SEATTLE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL



Dr. **Andre Dick**, Associate Professor of Transplant Surgery in the section of Pediatric Transplantation, has been appointed by Seattle Children's Hospital (SCH) as Associate Surgeon-in-Chief, effective September 2020. Dr. Dick is joining Dr. Sanjar Parikh (Orthopedics and Sports Medicine), Dr. Suzanne Yandow (Otolaryngology), and Dr. **Jeff Avansino** (General Surgery)

as fellow Associate-in-Chiefs. Under the direction of Dr. Jeff Ojemann (Neurosurgery), Dr. Dick's work will cover a broad range of critical initiatives across SCH. Initially, the areas in which Dr. Dick will focus will be on patient safety initiatives, volume recovery following significant OR constraints over the past two years, OR operational efficiencies, and addressing equity concerns in healthcare outcomes. Dr. Dick is taking on this new role in addition to his current leadership roles as the Surgical Director of Renal Transplantation, Medical Director of the Surgical Unit, and Transplant Surgery's Fellowship Program Director. Dr. Dick's appointment to Associate Surgeon-in-Chief is a significant honor for both Dr. Dick and for the Department of Surgery.

DR. ANDRE DICK APPOINTED FIRST CO-ADVISOR TO ASTS DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION COUNCIL

Dr. **Andre Dick**, Associate Professor, Director of Pediatric Kidney Transplant, Division of Transplant Surgery, was appointed as the first American Society of Transplant Surgeons' (ASTS) Co-advisor to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council. These new positions were created as part of ASTS's larger diversity initiative and will have a key role in the implementation and creation of new ASTS diversity and inclusion initiatives.

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SEATTLE MAGAZINE'S & SEATTLE METROPOLITAN MAGAZINE'S 2020 TOP DOCTORS RECOGNIZES UW DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

"Seattle Magazine and Seattle Metropolitan Magazine announced their 2020 Top Doctors and I am pleased to share the extensive recognition of Department of Surgery (DOS) faculty.

DOS had 69 faculty listed in 11 specialties—this is more than 50% of our faculty, and accounted for over 40% of the magazine's listed surgeons in all of the specialties. This represents a remarkable presence in this year's Top Doctor listings. Top Doctors is one form of recognition by the community and shows they hold our surgeons in high esteem.

I shared this with the faculty. The faculty responded with appreciation for being named as a Top Doctor in the Seattle metropolitan area, but they were uniformly quick to point out that what they do is a team effort and they are one member of the team.

I congratulate these faculty and am honored to lead this exceptional Department of Surgery.

Below is a listing of our faculty honored this year by their specialty:

BARIATRIC

Judy Chen, MD, Assistant Professor
Saurabh Khandelwal, MD, Associate Professor

BREAST

Ben Anderson, MD, Professor
Christina Blanchette, PA-C
Kris Calhoun, MD, Associate Professor
Meghan Flanagan, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor
Sara Javid, MD, Associate Professor

CANCER SURGERY

David Byrd, MD, Professor
Teresa Kim, MD, Assistant Professor
Jim Park, MD, Professor
Venu Pillarisetty, MD, Professor
Jonathan Sham, MD, Assistant Professor
Ray Yeung, MD, Professor

CARDIAC SURGERY

Gabriel Aldea, MD, Professor
Chris Burke, MD, Assistant Professor
Ed Verrier, MD, Professor (Emeritus 2020)

COLORECTAL

Sarah Atkinson, MD, Assistant Professor
Mukta Krane, MD, Associate Professor

GENERAL SURGERY

Sam Arbabi, MD, MPH, Professor
Eileen Bulger, MD, Professor
Joe Cuschieri, MD, Professor
Giana Davidson, MD, MPH, Associate Professor
Dan Kim, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor
Lorrie Langdale, MD, Professor
Deb Marquardt, MD, Assistant Professor
Lisa McIntyre, MD, Associate Professor
Brant Oelschlager, MD, Professor
Grant O'Keefe, MD, MPH, Professor
Zoe Parr, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor
Rebecca Petersen, MD, Associate Professor
Mika Sinanan, MD, PhD, Professor
Roger Tatum, MD, Professor
Estell Williams, MD Assistant Professor
Andy Wright, MD, Professor

HAND

Jeff Friedrich, MD, Professor
Dennis Kao, MD, Assistant Professor
Nick Vedder, MD, Professor

PEDIATRIC SURGERY

Jeffrey Avansino, MD, MBA, Associate Professor
Adam Goldin, MD, MPH, Professor
Pat Healey, MD, Professor
Patrick Javid, MD, Associate Professor
Kim Riehle, MD, Associate Professor
Bob Sawin, MD, Professor (Emeritus 2019)
John Waldhausen, MD, Professor

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SEATTLE MAGAZINE'S & SEATTLE METROPOLITAN MAGAZINE'S 2020 TOP DOCTORS RECOGNIZES UW DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY (CONT.)

PLASTIC SURGERY

Craig Birgfeld, MD, Associate Professor
Shannon Colohan, MD, Associate Professor
Jeff Friedrich, MD, Professor
Richard Hopper, MD, Marlys C. Larson Professor of
Craniofacial Surgery
Suzie Inchauste, MD, Assistant Professor
Kari Keys, MD, Associate Professor
Otway Louie, MD, Associate Professor
Peter Neligan, MB, Professor
Hakim Said, MD, Associate Professor
Nick Vedder, Professor
Shirley Taylor, ARNP

THORACIC SURGERY

Kathleen Berfield, MD, Assistant Professor
Aaron Cheng, MD, Associate Professor
Farhood Farjah, MD, MPH, Associate Professor
Mike Mulligan, MD, Professor
Douglas Wood, MD, The Henry N. Harkins Professor and Chair
Christa Franz, PAC
Kristin DeGroot, PAC

VASCULAR SURGERY

Mark Meissner, MD, Professor
Elina Quiroga, MD, MPH, Associate Professor
Sherene Shalhub, MD, MPH, Associate Professor
Niten Singh, MD, Professor
Ben Starnes, MD, Professor
Matt Sweet, MD, MS, Associate Professor
Nam Tram, MD, Associate Professor

We have exceptional surgeons who are a credit to UW Medicine. I am incredibly grateful to work for such a wonderful team."

With pride and gratitude,

Douglas E. Wood, MD, FACS, FRCSEd
The Henry N. Harkins Professor & Chair
Department of Surgery
University of Washington

DR. DAVID BYRD NAMED INTERIM SCCA MEDICAL DIRECTOR



Dr. **David Byrd**, Professor, Division of General Surgery, has been named Interim Medical Director of the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance (SCCA). Dr. Marc Stewart, SCCA Medical Director and Senior Vice President, left SCCA in July 2020 for a position at City of Hope Cancer Center. Dr. Stewart has been an outstanding leader and an instrumental force helping SCCA grow to be one of the

top 10 cancer centers in the United States. We wish him well in his new role at City of Hope and owe him enormous appreciation for all he has done for our cancer programs at UW Medicine and SCCA. While SCCA decides next steps for this position, Dr. Nancy Davidson, SCCA President and Executive Director, requested Dr. Byrd serve as Interim Medical Director starting August 2020.

There could not be a better person to step in and serve in this interim capacity than Dr. Byrd. Dr. Byrd has served his entire academic career here at University of Washington (UW), completing his residency at UW, surgical oncology fellowship at MD Anderson, and joining the faculty in 1992 to serve as the first Chief of Surgical Oncology. Dr. Byrd has served in a number of important and influential roles in oncology. Most recently, completing a six-year term as Chair of the American Joint Committee on Cancer, which is responsible for our cancer staging systems that drive all treatment decisions. At SCCA, Dr. Byrd has been the Chief of Surgical Oncology for 12 years, a member of the Senior Management Team for 10 years, and Chair of the Medical Executive Committee for 6 years. Most importantly, Dr. Byrd complements his enormous institutional knowledge with his calm and thoughtful decision-making, emotional intelligence and deep sense of integrity and fairness that makes him a trusted colleague and leader.

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I am thrilled that Dr. Byrd has agreed to serve in this important leadership role for SCCA, and I feel confident that we are in the best possible hands while identifying a new permanent Medical Director. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Byrd, and in helping to support him as he takes on this important role for our institution.

Douglas E. Wood, MD, FACS, FRCSEd
The Henry N. Harkins Professor and Chair
Department of Surgery
University of Washington

DR. GIANA DAVIDSON ASSISTANT DEAN FOR PROFESSIONALISM



In July, Dr. **Giana Davidson**, Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery and Section Chief of Emergency General Surgery, started her new role as UW School of Medicine (SOM) Assistant Dean of Professionalism. Partnering with Drs. Trish Kritek and Anne Browning in the Office of Faculty Affairs, her focus is addressing the current climate impacting students, trainees, staff and faculty across SOM. Dr. Davidson

will serve as Chair of the Continuous Professionalism Improvement (CPI) Committee for the SOM, which is a role originally led by one of her mentors and former Department of Surgery Chair, Dr. Carlos Pellegrini.

Dr. Davidson stated, "I have been inspired by the commitment that UW has made in working towards a climate that honors the diversity of individuals we educate, care for, work with, and mentor. The development of the UW Medicine Equity Blueprint and wellness initiatives including the UW Medicine Peer to Peer Program are examples that reflect values I am passionate about: 1) looking for ways that our systemic-isms (e.g., racism, sexism, ableism) have led to variable health experiences for our patients and differential educational opportunities for our trainees and advancement of our faculty, and 2) examine how we can better support one another to thrive within this environment to achieve our academic aspirations and improve the

health of the community. I am inspired by the collaboration of the team in the Office of Faculty Affairs and the opportunity to work closely with Dr. Paula Houston in the Office of Healthcare Equity."

DR. NICOLE GIBRAN RECEIVES UW DISTINGUISHED STAFF AWARD



Dr. **Nicole Gibran**, Professor, Division of Trauma, Burn & Critical Care Surgery, is one of 53 Radiological Release Response Team members who received the UW Distinguished Staff Award for their management of the radioactive material leak at the Harborview Medical Center Research and Training (R&T) building.

While the general public was safe, the researchers who worked in and whose research was housed in the building were not. Those who had been in R&T at the time of the leak were evacuated, and those who intended on going to their labs the next day weren't allowed to.

Dr. Gibran helped to find them new workspaces. She had recently been appointed associate dean for research and graduate education and suddenly had 200 labless researchers to worry about—including herself, as her lab was housed in R&T.

"People literally left experiments on their benches and were planning to come back the next day. In weeks after the leak we were still finding tissue samples on counters," she says.

During the first few days, she routinely checked on all the freezers holding research materials to make sure they weren't failing—the HVAC in the building had been turned off to prevent the cesium from spreading, and a strange May heatwave was hitting the Seattle area.

Then she had to work on finding space at other UW Medicine facilities for the displaced researchers and their equipment and create access schedules for those who had to share too-small lab spaces. A big part of her job has also been keeping researchers updated on the cleanup progress and providing reassurance, for both researchers and the radiation teams doing the cleanup.

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Surgery News

DR. JOHN WALDHAUSEN ELECTED APSA PRESIDENT



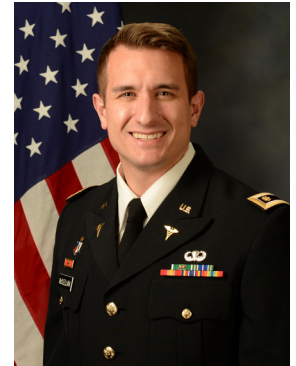
The presidential gavel of the American Pediatric Surgical Association (APSA) was passed to incoming President and 2019–20 President-Elect, Dr. **John Waldhausen**, Chief of Pediatric General and Thoracic Surgery and Director of the Pediatric Fellowship Surgery Training Program, at the APSA annual meeting in May.

Dr. Waldhausen commented, “It was an honor to be elected to the presidency of APSA and represents the pinnacle of one’s academic career. The APSA, like many other associations, faces new challenges this coming year due to COVID–19. We just finished our first virtual meeting which was a large success with worldwide participation and are looking at ways to continue this level of involvement from colleagues around the globe. We are restructuring our governance and committee leadership positions as well as organization and have implemented ideas such as the Rooney Rule to insure we are more inclusive, diverse and equitable. We are reconsidering our finances and management to ensure organizational health and sustainability and set APSA up for continued success long into the future. We have created the Right Child/Right Surgeon initiative to be published soon as a white paper in the Journal of Pediatric Surgery with the goal of ensuring that every child in America has the access to not only the appropriate resources but also to an appropriately trained surgeon to provide their pediatric surgical care. We are working with the American College of Surgeons and other organizations to bring this to fruition. Despite the challenges we face, it will be an exciting year and one which the Board of Governors, the membership and I look forward to.”

THE HARBORVIEW MEDICAL CENTER MILITARY–CIVILIAN PARTNERSHIP FOR TRAUMA TRAINING



Dr. Brian Beldowicz



Dr. John McClellan

For many years, Harborview Medical Center (HMC) has served as a training site for residents from Madigan Army Medical Center in General Surgery and Emergency Medicine. In addition, there have been active collaborations to support the training of special forces medics in the Emergency Department and on the Burn Service. We are excited to announce that this program is now advancing to a formal collaboration in which the US Army has designated Harborview Medical Center as one of its initial Military-Civilian Trauma Team Training programs, which will support the integration of all members of military surgical teams into Harborview for training on a rotating basis. These military surgical teams include Special Operations Teams and Forward Surgical Teams, which must provide damage control surgery and resuscitation in the most austere environments. The teams include surgeons, emergency medicine physicians, nurses, nurse anesthetists, physician assistants, and combat medics. The Army has recognized the value of ensuring they are always ready to deploy by maintaining their skills in a busy Level 1 trauma center.

The Department of Surgery has led this effort under the direction of Dr. **Eileen Bulger**, Chief of Trauma at Harborview, and Dr. **Bryce Robinson**, Associate Medical Director for Critical Care, who will serve as a mentor to the surgeons participating. Our first two participants in this program are Drs. **Brian Beldowicz** and **John McClellan**, who joined the Department of Surgery this past year. Lieutenant Colonel Beldowicz completed his Surgical

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Dr. Eileen Bulger



Dr. Bryce Robinson

Critical Care and Trauma Fellowship at UC Davis and after several deployments was stationed at Madigan Army Medical Center. Major John McClellan completed his surgery residency at Madigan and joined the trauma faculty at HMC for one year prior to starting his Surgical Critical Care and Burn Fellowship at HMC this month. Both Drs. Beldowicz and McClellan serve in leadership roles on Special Operations medical teams and have had multiple deployments.

In describing their initial experiences, Dr. Beldowicz writes, “At Harborview, John and I are privileged to practice with some of the most experienced and insightful medical professionals across a variety of trauma-related specialties, and we experience the volume and complexity of patients necessary to continuously develop our understanding of trauma physiology and patterns of injury. When we’re overseas and we encounter severely injured patients in uniquely challenging circumstances, we don’t have to invent some completely novel solution. Instead, we draw from the experience and perspectives we accumulate every single day to adapt the highest standard of care to less than ideal situations. In a way, it’s the logical progression of providing exceptional care without exception. We’re just extending it to the world’s most unforgiving environments.”

Dr. McClellan writes, “This collaboration has been instrumental to my development as a new General Surgeon. The time spent working closely with the experienced HMC Staff refreshed and expanded my knowledge of managing a wide range of traumatic injuries. Additionally, these skills gained were crucial to my most recent deployment. I am very grateful for this opportunity and looking forward to continuing to build this relationship in the years to come.”

The next step in this emerging partnership will be the integration of members of the Forward Surgical Teams later this year. Per Dr. Bulger, “We have really enjoyed welcoming Brian and John into our division and we have learned a great deal from their experiences in military medicine as well. We look forward to integrating additional team members over the coming months. We are honored to play a role in ensuring the readiness and training of these military medical teams who put themselves in harm’s way to support our troops.” Photos attached: formal Photos of Dr. Beldowicz and Dr. McClellan and Photo of Dr. Beldowicz on deployment.

DR. ESTELL WILLIAMS ELECTED TO WSMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Dr. **Estell Williams**, Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Emergency General Surgery, was elected to the Board of Directors of the Washington State Medical Association (WSMA) Foundation for Health Care Improvement as a physician member-at-large. She will serve in this capacity for a 3-year term. The mission of the Foundation is to create transformational

health care change at all levels—individual, organizational and statewide. The Foundation goals are to strengthen physician wellness and restore the joy of practice, enhance the patient/physician partnership and advance quality care and patient safety. The Foundation has recently added addressing disparities in healthcare as one of its four goals, which Dr. Williams was specifically invited to help spearhead. She is excited to expand her passion for advocating for marginalized patients through this role and extends a debt of gratitude to Dr. Mika Sinanan, Professor, Division of General Surgery, who was instrumental in nominating her for this opportunity. Learn more about the [WSMA Foundation](#).