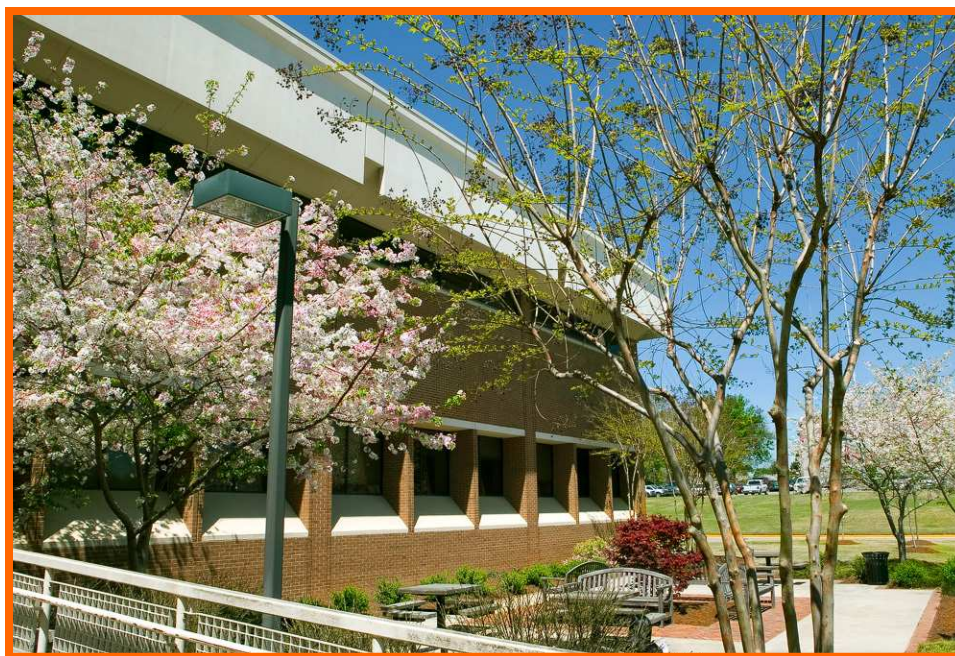




# Department of Surgery



*2008-2009  
ANNUAL  
REPORT*

**Mercer University School of Medicine  
The Medical Center of Central Georgia  
July 2009**

# Department of Surgery

The general surgery residency had its start under its founding Program Director, Milford B. Hatcher, M.D., in 1958. Will C. Sealy, M.D., succeeded him in 1984. Internationally famous for his work in arrhythmia surgery, Dr. Sealy provided structure and rigor to the Department's educational programs.

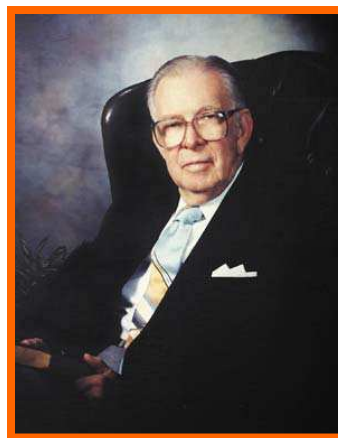
In 1991, Martin Dalton, M.D., followed Dr. Sealy as Professor and Chair. Dr. Dalton, another nationally prominent cardiothoracic surgeon, had participated in the first human lung transplant during his training at the University of Mississippi with James Hardy, M.D. Dr. Dalton continued the academic growth of the Department, adding important clinical programs in trauma and critical care under Dennis Ashley, M.D., and surgical research under Walter Newman, Ph.D., and Zhongbiao Wang, M.D. The residency grew to four from two chief resident positions, and regularly won approval from the Residency Review Committee for Surgery.

With the selection of Dr. Dalton as the Dean of the School of Medicine at Mercer, Don Nakayama, M.D., a pediatric surgeon, was named the Milford B. Hatcher Professor and Chair of the Department of Surgery in 2007.

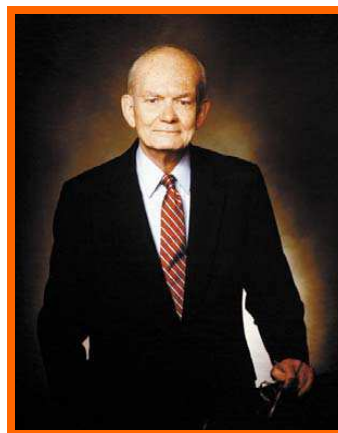
The Residency in Surgery currently has four categorical residents each year. It has been fully accredited by the Residency Review Committee for Surgery of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education. Its last approval was in 2006 for four years, with no citations.

Residents regularly finish with more than 1,000 to 1,200 operations during the five year training program, with extensive experience in all areas of general surgery. Residents enter fellowships in all major surgical specialties after training.

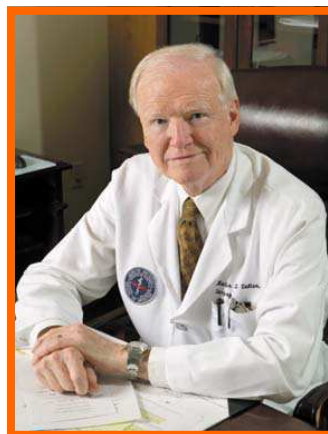
The Surgery Department has six eight-week third year clerkships providing rotations in trauma, vascular, general and pediatric surgery. Full time and clinical faculty are actively engaged in teaching with didactic sessions, bedside rounds and operating room experience. The clerkship has a full time director responsible for the administration and evaluation of the clerkship. Fourth year clerkships are available in all surgical specialties.



Milford B. Hatcher, M.D.



Will C. Sealy, M.D.



Martin L. Dalton, M.D.

# Message from the Chair

“May you live in interesting times.” It’s called the Chinese Curse, and it certainly describes what we have been facing as a nation during the past several months. (The corollary may be, “May you have an interesting case,” but that’s a subject for another issue.) Unemployment rates are high. Several of our most storied companies have declared bankruptcy. States struggle with billion-dollar deficits. The Federal treasury is trillions of dollars underwater.

Medical education will be affected by this troubling economic milieu. The new Obama administration will be implementing sweeping changes in health care. There will be fundamental changes in how hospitals and physicians are paid. There will be more government involvement in health care, including how medical students are educated and residents are trained.

The Mercer University School of Medicine has seen a seven percent decrease in state funds, their major source of revenue. The Medical Center of Central Georgia has undergone a five percent adjustment in operating expenses over the past year. Both institutions have made fundamental decisions that have resulted in layoffs and changes in how things are done.

One thing has been preserved, however: Medical education. Both institutions have recognized that the training of tomorrow’s practicing health care providers is a core mission. The Department of Surgery has participated in budget adjustments of expenses and layoffs of personnel. With the support of the medical school and the hospital we have preserved all educational programs, both undergraduate and graduate, in essentially unchanged form. Residents’ salaries, benefits, and educational funds have been preserved. We watch what we spend much more closely, and we want to continue to be responsible stewards of the budgets we manage.

As it turns out, no one has found the source of the Chinese Curse, or whether it’s necessarily Chinese in the first place. One possibility is a well known Chinese saying (courtesy of Wikipedia, a favorite source), "时势造英雄"(pinyin: shí shì zào yīng xióng), which means, “The times produce their heroes.” This quote is certainly one in which I can believe.

Don K. Nakayama, M.D., M.B.A.  
Milford B. Hatcher Professor and Chair  
Department of Surgery  
Mercer University School of Medicine  
Program Director, Residency in Surgery





# Mercer University

Mercer University, founded in 1833, today is a dynamic and comprehensive center of 7,300 undergraduate, graduate and professional students in business, education, engineering, liberal arts, music and nursing, as well as professional programs in medicine, law, pharmacy, health sciences and theology. Its 11 schools and colleges are on two major campuses in Macon and Atlanta and four regional academic centers across the state.

Central to the Mercer experience is an education that uniquely prepares students to lead virtuous, meaningful and responsible lives and encourages a thoughtful examination of ethical and moral choices. This emphasis has led the Princeton Review to recognize Mercer as a “College with a Conscience.” The leading college guides have consistently ranked Mercer as one of the best private universities in the South and one of the best educational values in the country.



## City of Macon

Macon, population 95,000, is the center of a metropolitan area of nearly 250,000 located near the geographic center of the state, about 80 miles south of Atlanta. Located on the border between the hilly uplands and the coastal plain, it has hot, humid summers, mild winters, and long, temperate springs and autumns. Legend has it that the town was spared much of the destruction of Sherman’s March to the Sea, so local architecture exhibits many examples of fine antebellum houses, churches, and civic buildings. The city is a combination of small town atmosphere with attractions, shopping and dining typical of larger cities.



Macon has a rich cultural heritage dating back to Native American burial mounds and numerous beautiful examples of antebellum architecture. Its musical history is particularly notable. The Georgia Music Hall of Fame, located in the city’s museum district, commemorates the many Georgians who have added to the country’s musical heritage. Otis Redding, “Little Richard” Pennimon, and the Allman Brothers all got their start here. Each year the city celebrates the blossoming of its 300,000 Yoshino cherry trees with a ten day International Cherry Blossom Festival, named one of the 100 top events in North America. Other museums and attractions include the Harriet Tubman African American Museum and the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame.

# Mercer University School of Medicine

The School of Medicine was organized in 1982, part of a thirteen-year effort by city and community groups, the Bibb County Medical Society, and the Georgia State Legislature to educate physicians and other health professionals to meet the primary and ancillary healthcare needs of rural and medically underserved areas of Georgia. The charter class graduated in 1986. The Georgia State Legislature continues to support the School with annual appropriations. Programs have been offered by Mercer University School of Medicine in collaboration with the Medical Center of Central Georgia in Macon since 1984



Bruce J. Innes M.D., Professor of Surgery and Clerkship Director teaching third year students during suture class.

## Medical Center of Central Georgia



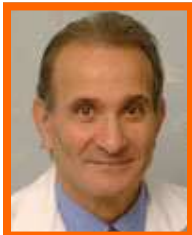
MCCG has a 100-year history of serving the central and south Georgia regions. At 603 beds, it is the second largest hospital in the state, the largest in a large region of a 1.2 million population bounded by Atlanta, Augusta, Jacksonville (Florida), and Birmingham (Alabama). Accredited by the Joint Commission of Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, MCCG has been named one of the top one hundred hospitals in the nation with top programs in cardiac services, orthopaedics, and neurology. The hospital has 28 operating rooms with the full range of advanced surgical technology, including robotics, neuroimaging, and endovascular and minimally invasive surgery. It is certified by the Georgia Division of Public Health and the Office of Trauma as a Level 1 Trauma Center, with more than 1,500 admissions annually.



# Faculty



**Don K. Nakayama, M.D., F.A.C.S.**  
Milford B. Hatcher Professor & Chair, Department of Surgery  
Program Director, Residency in Surgery  
Residency: University of California, San Francisco  
Fellowship: Children's Hospital of Philadelphia



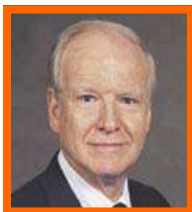
**Macram M. Ayoub, M.D., F.A.C.S.**  
Professor and Vice-Chair, Department of Surgery  
Residency: Medical College of Ohio; Medical Center of Central Georgia



**Dennis W. Ashley, M.D., F.A.C.S.**  
Professor and Chief of Trauma Services, Department of Surgery  
Residency: Mercer University School of Medicine  
Fellowships: Trauma Surgery, Grady Hospital, Atlanta; Surgical Critical Care, University of Pittsburgh



**James M. Cunningham, M.D., F.A.C.S.**  
Associate Professor, Department of Surgery  
Senior Vice-President for Medical Affairs, Medical Center of Central Georgia  
Residency: University of Tennessee Hospital, Knoxville  
Fellowships: Cardiac Surgery, St. Vincent Medical Center, Los Angeles;  
Thoracic Surgery, Los Angeles County-USC; Surgical Critical Care, Univ of Pittsburgh



**Martin L. Dalton, M.D., F.A.C.S.**  
Professor, Department of Surgery and Dean Emeritus, MUSM  
Residency: University of Mississippi Medical Center  
Fellowships: Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery University of Mississippi



**Bruce J. Innes, M.D., F.A.C.S.**  
Professor, Department of Surgery and Clerkship Director  
Residency: Montreal General Hospital (Canada)  
Fellowship: Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, Montreal General Hospital



**Joe Sam Robinson, Jr., M.D., F.A.C.S.**  
Professor, Department of Surgery  
Chief, Division of Neurosurgery  
Residency: General Surgery, Emory University, Neurosurgery, Northwestern University,

**Leon N. Sykes, M.D., F.A.C.S.**  
Associate Professor, Department of Surgery  
Associate Program Director, Fellowship in Surgical Critical Care  
Residency: Mercy Hospital (Pittsburgh)  
Fellowships: Cardiothoracic Surgery, University of Michigan; Surgical Critical Care,  
Washington (D.C.) Hospital Center



**William M. (Kim) Thompson, M.D., F.A.C.S.**  
Associate Professor, Department of Surgery  
Associate Chair, Clinical Education  
Residency: University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center



**Joseph M. Van De Water, M.D., F.A.C.S.**  
Professor, Department of Surgery; Assistant Dean for Research, MUSM  
Residency: General and Thoracic Surgery UCLA  
Fellowships: Critical Care/Surgical Research, Harvard Medical School;  
Cardiac Surgery, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles



**Zhongbiao Wang, M.D., Ph.D.**  
Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery  
Residency: Internal Medicine, Fujian Provincial People's Hospital, China  
Fellowships: Cardiology, Huashan Hospital Shanghai Medical University  
Ph.D.: Shanghai Medical University, Chinese Academy of Sciences



## Clinical Faculty

**Frank Arnold, M.D.** Clin Asst Professor

**Juan Ayerdi, M.D.** Clin Asst Professor

**Arnold Conforti, M.D.** Clin Asst Prof & Chief,  
Surgical Oncology

**Brian Bansidhar, D.O.** Clin Asst Professor

**Douglas Brewer, M.D.** Clin Prof & Chief,  
Colorectal Surgery

**Brown Ekeledo, M.D.** Clin Asst Professor

**Ellis Evans, M.D.** Clinical Professor & Chair,  
Board of Directors, MCG

**Lisa Farmer, M.D.** Clin Asst Professor

**John Floyd, M.D.** Clin Asst Prof & Chief,  
Orthopaedic Trauma

**Waldo Floyd, III, M.D.** Clin Prof & Chief, Hand

**Richard Harvey, M.D.** Clin Asst Prof & Chief,  
Cardiothoracic Surgery

**Matthew Jerles, M.D.** Clin Asst & Chief,  
Otolaryngology

**Keith Martin, M.D.** Clin Asst Professor

**Earl Mullis, M.D.** Clin Asst Professor

**Robert Parel, M.D.** Clin Asst Professor

**Joshua Perkel, M.D.** Clin Asst Prof & Chief,  
Urology

**Howard Perofsky, M.D.** Clin Asst Prof & Chief,  
Plastic Surgery

**Issam Shaker, M.D.,** Clin Professor and Chief,  
Pediatric Surgery

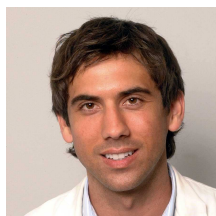
**Maurice Solis, M.D.** Clin Asst Prof & Chief,  
Vascular & Endovascular Surgery

**Tim Stapleton, M.D.** Clin Asst Prof & Chief,  
Orthopaedics

**John Williams, IV, M.D.** Clin Asst Professor

**Thomas Woodyard, M.D.** Clin Asst Professor

# Residents in Surgery

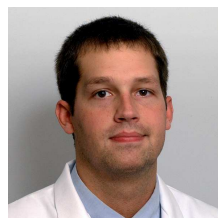
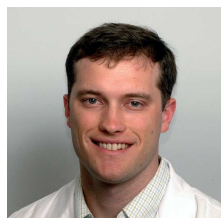
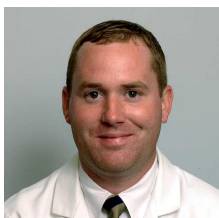
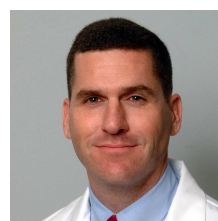
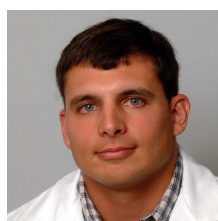


## Post Graduate Year 5

Benjie Christie, M.D., Mercer Univ Sch Med  
 Danny Day, M.D., Univ Tennessee Col Med  
 Jeff Walding, M.D., Univ Alabama, Birmingham

## Post Graduate Year 4

Andrew Foret, M.D., Louisiana State Univ  
 Mark Herndon, M.D., Med Col Georgia  
 Clint Streetman, M.D., Univ Alabama, Birmingham

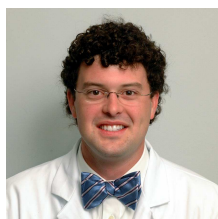
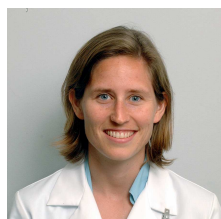
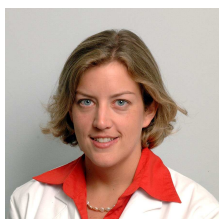
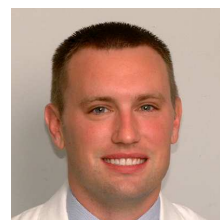


## Post Graduate Year 3

Andy Bozeman, M.D., Mercer  
 Brad Dennis, M.D., Med Col Ga  
 Amy Moore, M.D., Mercer  
 Danny Vaughn, M.D., Mercer

## Post Graduate Year 2

Geary Bush, M.D., Med Col Ga  
 Jason Chapman, M.D., Mercer  
 Eric Long, M.D., Med Col Ga  
 Vince Scoglietti, M.D., Med Col Ga



## Post Graduate Year 1

Kristin Collier, M.D., Med Col Ga  
 Heidi Haun, M.D., Univ South Florida Coll Med  
 Ralph Sams, M.D., Med Col Ga



## Graduation Plans of Chief Residents Varied

The Department has great hopes and good wishes to our graduating chief residents. **Benjie Christie, M.D.**, will be the first fellow in Surgical Critical Care at the MCCG, under the direction of program director Dr Ashley and associate program director Leon Sykes. **Danny Day, M.D.**, will enter private practice in general surgery in Jackson, Tennessee. **Jeff Walding, M.D.**, will be entering a microsurgery fellowship at the University of Mississippi, then plastic surgery training at the Medical University of South Carolina.

## Three Promoted to Chief Positions for 2009-2010

With the new academic year the PGY4 class will be promoted to Chief Residency positions. **Andrew L. Foret, M.D.** is a native of Lake Charles, Louisiana. He has won a hand surgery fellowship at the University of Virginia. **Mark D. Herndon, M.D.**, was a Captain in the U.S. Air Force before entering medicine. He plans to return to Augusta, Georgia to practice general surgery with his father-in-law. **W. Clinton Streetman, M.D.**, was brought up on a farm in a close knit community in rural south Alabama. Dr. Streetman is interested in minimally invasive and laparoscopic surgery and has plans to pursue a fellowship in these areas of surgery.

## New Interns and PGY2 Residents Selected

The Department will welcome six new residents in July, the four member 2009 - 2010 internship class and two new PGY2 residents. We are excited to have these young physicians join our resident community.

**Kala Cartwright**, a Mercer graduate, was born in Dublin and raised in Milan. She graduated summa cum laude in 2005 from the honors program in biomedical engineering at Mercer. **Robin Lee Gillies** is a graduate from the East Tennessee State University College of Medicine in Johnson City. Her goal is to be a missionary doctor, she is fluent in Spanish and has made a number of medical mission trips to Guatemala and Africa. **Jesus Villarreal** graduated from the University of Texas Medical Branch. A south Texas native, he is a second-degree black belt in taekwondo and was a member of the U.S. national taekwondo team. **Caroline Fenley** is also a graduate of Mercer where she worked as a summer research scholar in the laboratory of Tina Thompson, Ph.D. She is a native of Dahlonega, Georgia, and is a champion skeet shooter.

**Jacob Moremen, M.D.**, did an internship in general surgery at the University of Kentucky. Dr Moremen is married. He is active in his church and supports its local Boy Scout troop. **Homer "Trey" Keadle III, M.D.**, familiar face to the Mercer and Medical Center community, spent a year at the University of Tennessee (Knoxville) Erlanger Medical Center residency as an intern in general surgery. He is from Statesboro, GA.

Please join us in making them welcome in Macon.



Left to right: Kala Cartwright, Robin Gillies, Jesus Villarreal, Caroline Fenley, Jacob Moremen, Trey Keadle.

# News

## MCCG Residents Present Work at 2009 Southeastern Surgical Congress

Seven residents made eight poster presentations at the annual Southeastern Surgical Congress meeting in Atlanta in February. The MCCG contingent was among the best represented in the Congress, widely viewed as the best regional surgical organization and conference in the U.S.



Ralph Sams, PGY1, presents his work.

**Benjie Christie, PGY5**, presented his review of all-terrain vehicle injuries. **Geary Bush, PGY2**, gave a case report on the management of pancreatic transaction using an ERCP-placed stent. **Jason Chapman, PGY2**, showed a case of an esophageal fistula from an aberrant right subclavian artery. **Vincent Scoglietti, PGY2**, presented a case of a perineal adenocarcinoma that arose more than 20 years after proctocolectomy for ulcerative colitis. **Bradley Dennis, PGY3**, showed a case of malignant phyllodes tumor, a rare case in the childhood age group. **Andy Bozeman, PGY3**, gave two presentations on his continued work with **Joseph Van De Water, M.D.**, Professor, using impedance cardiography. **Ralph Sams, PGY1**, presented an unusual case of three visceral hernias in a single patient.



# Hopkins, Morehouse Chairs Headline 36th Annual Day of Surgery Symposium

Julie Ann Freischlag, M.D., and Harvey L. Bumpers, M.D. were the featured speakers at the 36th Annual Day of Surgery Symposium held in the Eversole Auditorium in April. Dr Freischlag is the William Stewart Halsted Professor, Chair of the Department of Surgery, and Surgeon-in-Chief at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. She is nationally known for her work on aortic and peripheral vascular disease. Dr Freischlag reviewed the history of surgery for aortic aneurysm. She previewed the latest results from the Veteran's Administration OVER trial (open versus endovascular repair), of which she is principal investigator. The results from OVER will help shape the future practice of vascular surgery.

**Martin Dalton, M.D.**, presented Dr Freischlag with a gavel made from a pecan tree that grew on the grounds of Alfred Blalock's home where he was born in Culloden, Georgia. Blalock was the legendary Hopkins surgeon and Surgeon-in-Chief who pioneered open heart surgery, famously the "blue baby" operations depicted in the recent movie, *Something the Lord Made*, regularly seen on the HBO cable television station.

Harvey Bumpers, M.D., is Professor and Interim Chair of Surgery at the Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta. He is director of surgical oncology and the breast service at Grady Hospital there. A clinical scientist, his laboratory at Morehouse has federal funding to investigate the fundamental mechanisms of breast and colon cancer in animal models. Dr Bumpers spoke on the unique characteristics of breast cancer in premenopausal and very young women. He summarized the current approaches to diagnosis and surgical, chemotherapeutic, and radiation strategies in patients in this age group where breast cancer fatality rates are high.

**Dennis Ashley, M.D.**, was the featured MUSM faculty speaker. Dr Ashley reviewed the experience of the Georgia State Trauma Commission, of which he serves as chair. He outlined how the Commission determined formulas to distribute money to hospitals, physician staff, and emergency medical systems. Resident speakers, all PGY4 level, started the event. **Andrew Foret, M.D.**, presented his review of injuries caused by falls from tree stands, structures that allow observation of game. **Mark Herndon, M.D.**, gave a case report of a giant gastrointestinal stromal tumor and the possibility of neoadjuvant chemotherapy using Gleevec for inoperable GIST. **Clint Streetman, M.D.**, reviewed a recent trauma case that required massive transfusion, and used the outcome to review recent work to improve trauma resuscitation using whole blood component therapy.

The Symposium is the oldest academic tradition at MCCG and MUSM. First organized by **Ellis Evans, M.D.**, Clinical Professor, it features surgical scholarship from nationally-known surgeons, MCCG and MUSM faculty, and surgical residents.

Left to rights: Drs Dalton, Freischlag, Bumpers and Nakayama. Dr Freischlag holds a gavel made from a tree from Alfred Blalock's boyhood home in Culloden, GA.





## Southern Surgical Society President O'Neill Gives Hatcher Lecture



James A. O'Neill, Jr., M.D., delivered the 7th Annual Hatcher Lecture at the Eversole Auditorium in May. Dr O'Neill, one of the most honored and prominent pediatric surgeons in the U.S., is Chair Emeritus of the Department of Surgery at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. He is past president of the Southern Surgical Association, one of the major regional surgical organizations in the U.S.

The title of his talk, *Is complicated surgery in childhood worthwhile?* drew on his extensive experience in separating conjoined twins during his career as Surgeon-in-Chief at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and at Vanderbilt. He later held a teaching conference and patient rounds with residents.

A highlight of the day was the attendance of Marion Hatcher, Dr Hatcher's widow, at the event.

## Osler Historian Fye Featured in Successful History of Medicine Event

W. Bruce Fye, M.D., was the featured speaker at the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual History of Medicine Symposium held in the Eversole Auditorium in February. Dr Fye is Professor of Cardiology and History of Medicine at the Mayor Clinic. An internationally known medical historian, he is this year's president of the American Association for the History of Medicine, the premier organization in the field. His lecture, *William Osler Leaves Johns Hopkins for Oxford: A Case Study of Physician Burnout a Century Ago*, drew from Fye's own extensive research on Osler. From Osler's workload, correspondence and journals, Fye recognized classic symptoms of physician burnout, a modern malady unrecognized in Osler's day.

The Symposium also featured local history from **Douglas Skelton**, Emeritus Dean of the School, and **Charles Burton, M.D.**, Professor of Surgery. Skelton reviewed the challenges and personalities in the early organization of MUSM. Burton reminisced about the first leaders and trainees of the MCCG Residency in General Surgery. **William Jarrett, M.D.**, Clinical Professor, spoke on the Pithotomy Club at Johns Hopkins, an irreverent group of honored medical students which held a revue each year poking fun at Hopkins professors and luminaries. **Thomas Jones, M.D.**, Clinical Professor of Medicine, reviewed the varied career of Charles-Édouard Brown-Séquard, eminent French physician and physiologist. **Don Nakayama, M.D.**, Professor and Chair, gave a talk on Philip von Seybold, a prominent figure in medieval Japanese medicine. **Bradley Dennis, M.D.**, PGY3, **Matthew Barton**, MUSM MS4, and **Tracy Nolan**, MUSM MS3, also made presentations.

More than 100 attendees were present at the Symposium, one of the academic highlights of the year in the Department. First organized by **Martin Dalton, M.D.**, Chair emeritus and Professor, and **Bruce Innes, M.D.**, Professor, it continues to be one of the best attended and certainly most beloved event on our calendar.



# Prominent Surgeons to Visit Macon in Upcoming Year

The Department of Surgery and the Macon Surgical Society will host some of the most prominent chairs and leaders in U.S. surgery during the 2009 - 2010 academic year.

Kevin Behrns, M.D., is Robert H. Hux Professor of Surgery and interim chair of surgery at the University of Florida. A gastrointestinal surgeon, Behrns focuses on hepatobiliary and pancreatic diseases. He heads the Surgical Laboratory of Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic Pathobiology, a National Institutes of Health-funded research lab that is interested in the role of chronic inflammation in the regulation of liver and pancreatic cell growth control. A graduate of the Mayo Medical School in Rochester, MN., in 1988, he continued his general surgery training there. He is known for his commitment to education and has been recognized with numerous teaching awards.



Kevin Behrns, M.D.



Daniel Beauchamp, M.D.

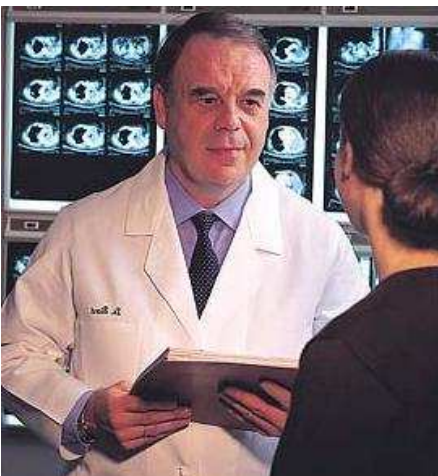
Daniel Beauchamp, M.D., is the John Clinton Foshee Distinguished Professor of Surgery, Chairman of the Section of Surgical Sciences, and Surgeon-in-Chief of Vanderbilt University Hospital since July 2001. Dr. Beauchamp is an active cancer investigator with more than 100 peer-reviewed articles. His laboratory has had continuous funding from the N.I.H. for more than 18 years. His clinical and laboratory interests focus on translational research in cancer therapy, especially gastrointestinal cancers.

Joseph B. Cofer, M.D., is Professor of Surgery at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine Chattanooga. A noted surgical educator, he is immediate past president of the Association of Program Directors in Surgery, the main organization of residency directors in the U.S. He is on the Editorial Board for *The American Surgeon*, official journal of the Southeastern Surgical Congress. Active in humanitarian activities, in 2007 he received the Distinguished Service Award by the Tennessee Medical Association for work with Project Access, a \$16 million state project to bring healthcare services to needy patients.



Joseph Cofer, M.D.

## UAB Chair Bland to Give 2010 Hatcher Lecture



Kirby I. Bland, M.D., will give the Hatcher Lecture March 25, 2010. Dr. Bland is the Fay Fletcher Kerner Chair of Surgery at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine. One of the most prominent surgeons in the U.S., he has held numerous leadership posts in important American surgical organizations, including the presidencies of the Southern Surgical Association and the Southeastern Surgical Congress. He is a member of the American Board of Surgery. Receiving his medical degree from UAB, he also was chair of surgery at Brown University before coming back to Alabama as chair. He has been awarded numerous national and regional contracts and grants and has made important contributions to the surgical literature in the areas of surgical oncology, shock, trauma and metabolism. He is editor of *The Breast*, the definitive text on breast diseases.

# Chair's Report

The Department of Surgery has a tradition of academic and clinical excellence built by Dr Sealy and Dr Dalton that parallels the growth of the Mercer University School of Medicine. Over the past year we wanted to build on this foundation through the following goals:

- To train general surgeons who are technically proficient and have mastered the six core competencies of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME);
- To increase basic science and clinical research production;
- To provide a high level of educational services and opportunities to MCCG and MUSM;
- To provide high quality clinical surgical services to the central Georgia region; and
- To run clinical operations in a financially responsible, transparent manner at a moderate expense.

Our objectives and progress toward achieving these goals follow, point by point.

## **To train general surgeons who are technically proficient and have mastered the six core competencies of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).**

The Residency in General Surgery is the central effort of the Department. Four chief residents graduate each year, doubling the two per year finishing in 2002. Since 1995 there have been 33 chief residents who have graduated from the Residency. The largest proportion are graduates of MUSM (8, 24%) and the University of Mississippi (6, 18%), but have come from as far away as UCLA and the Medical College of Pennsylvania. Most go into practice without a fellowship (8, 24%), but the rest have had subspecialty training in nearly all fields of general surgery (vascular surgery 7, 21%; plastic surgery 6, 18%; cardiothoracic and colorectal surgery, 3 each, 9%; MIS and hand surgery, 2 each, 6%; and surgical critical care, surgical oncology, and breast surgery, 1 each, 3%.) Nearly all are in private practice (28 of 29 not in fellowship, 96%), nearly half in Georgia (14 of 28, 50%) or the southeast U.S. (10 of 26, 36%).

Our objective is to achieve a 90% first taker pass rate for the Qualifying and Certifying Examinations (QE and CE, respectively) of the American Board of Surgery (ABS). Over the past five years (2002-2006) our first taker QE pass rate was 80%, CE, 77%, and combined QE and CE, 60%. These levels clearly do not meet our desired level of 90%.





We continue to tighten our academic coursework for the residency. We established an Education Group that meets monthly to review progress of the residency educational program. **Martin L. Dalton, M.D.**, Professor and Chair Emeritus, and **William K. Thompson, M.D.**, Associate Professor and Associate Chair for Surgical Education organized with the chief residents a comprehensive curriculum covering all topics of basic science and clinical topics in surgery. Weekly didactic lectures, reading assignments, and question and answer sessions form the core educational program. Case management conferences review cases in an oral board examination format. Specific objectives for all of the principal components of general surgery are spelled out for each post graduate year level, making clear the expected knowledge base, clinical skills, and management abilities.



Our objective for clinical surgical skills is to have all residents exceed the numbers of operations in all defined categories of the RRC in Surgery. Two residents in the 2008-2009 class did not reach previous levels of 1,000 to 1,200 operations during their residency even though they exceeded RRC requirements. We feel that there is no substitute for surgical operations in training, so we moved to augment the residents' operative experience by expanding resident team "A" with the addition of **Ellis Evans, M.D.**, Clinical Professor, and **Brown Ekeledo, M.D.**, Clinical Assistant Professor, both active and respected surgeons on staff at MCCG. Written critiques of technical performance will confirm that the resident is making true progress toward proficiency in addition to the raw numbers of cases.

Groundwork for a simulation laboratory to support all aspects of medical education at MCCG was initiated in 2009 with the support of hospital administration and lead by Dr Thompson. The laboratory will include high fidelity simulators for surgical and endoscopic operations and critical care scenarios, as well as basic dummies and practice manikins. The proposed laboratory will also have necessary video support to review performance. Team training for trauma, emergency and critical care will also be a priority of the simulation laboratory.

We enter the second year of an educational portfolio to document progress toward mastery of the six ACGME core competencies: patient care, medical knowledge, practice-based learning and improvement, communication, professionalism and system-based practice. Specific objectives for each core competency and the associated required skills for each have been delineated to allow progress to be documented.



### **To increase basic science and clinical research production.**

**Zhongbiao Wang, M.D.**, is Associate Professor and Director of Surgical Research for the Department. He has been a productive researcher in the field of vascular biology. From 2008-2009 there were 8 publications and 11 abstracts presented in national meetings. There was one intramural but no extramural grants to the Department.

Our objective is to continue to increase the productivity and funding of departmental research. Rotations will increase to three months, still inadequate but allowing more time for bench experience. Departmental laboratory meetings are held every two weeks, where results are reviewed among the chair, **Dennis Ashley, M.D.**, Professor and Associate Chair for Research, Dr Wang, and the resident in the lab.

Monthly Practice Based Learning and Improvement (PBLI) meetings are held where ideas for retrospective reviews and plans for prospective studies are reviewed. Progress reports are made, and presentations are given in preparation for regional and national meetings. **Amy Moore, M.D.**, PGY3, gave a presentation of her basic research at the meeting of the Georgia Chapter of the American College of Surgeons in August, winning second place in the resident research competition. Eight residents made nine poster presentations at the Southeastern Surgical Congress in February, with two publications in the *American Surgeon*.

**Joseph Van De Water, M.D.**, Professor and Assistant Dean for Research, MUSM, has initiated an important collaborative effort to measure cardiac output in neonatal patients. Dr Van De Water, **Andrew Bozeman, M.D.**, PGY3, Barbara Weaver, R.N., and Mitch Rodriguez, M.D., both in the Department of Neonatology at MCCG, have done preliminary research on the application of bioimpedance measurements in newborn infants. Their results have been reported at two major pediatric scientific meetings.

### **To provide a high level of educational services and opportunities to MCCG and MUSM**

Our educational efforts extend into post residency fellowship training, continuing education, and undergraduate medicine.





A fellowship in surgical critical care at MCCG will begin July 2009 under the directorship of Dr Ashley and **Leon Sykes, M.D.**, Associate Professor. Dr Sykes joined the faculty last year and is an important addition to the faculty, with boards in general surgery, thoracic surgery and surgical critical care. The fellowship is an important new program for the Department, and implementation of the training curriculum is an important objective for the coming year. **D. Benjamin Christie, M.D.**, PGY5, will be the program's first fellow upon completion of his chief residency here at MCCG.

The Department was represented in the Georgia Surgical Society meeting in September. **Juan Ayerdi, M.D.**, Clinical Associate Professor, spoke on the endovascular management of thoracic aneurysm. Dr Ashley spoke on the management of pancreatic injury. Dr Nakayama gave the Aubre deL. Maynard Lecture at the Morehouse School of Medicine in April, and was visiting professor at the Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, MA, in May. He is invited to give a lecture at the Society of Fetal Urology at the American Academy of Pediatrics meeting in October. We want to continue to participate in regional and national conferences and visiting professorships to enhance the visibility and reputation of the Department.

Third and fourth year MUSM medical students do their surgical rotations with the Department. Eight of the 40 clinical clerks at the Macon campus chose a residency in surgery, with four choosing residencies in general surgery. The Surgery Club among first and second year students continues to be active under the guidance of Bruce Innes, M.D., Professor. Dr Innes runs the 3rd and 4th year clerkships in surgery. Each 3rd year group spends 8 weeks on the rotation, which includes trauma, vascular, pediatric, surgical oncology and general surgery. Didactic curriculum responsibilities are shared among residents, full time and volunteer faculty. There have been no failures on the standard 'SHELF' examination in general surgery over the past 14 years.

The Department continues to host visiting professors and major teaching conferences each year, including important events such as the Day of Surgery, the History of Medicine Symposium, the Trauma Symposium, and the Milford B Hatcher Lecture. These events and professorships, with the partnership of the Macon Surgical Society, will continue in the upcoming year.





### **To provide a high quality clinical surgical services to the central Georgia region**

The Department is part of the Health Services of Central Georgia (HSCG), the professional services arm of MCCG. We have primary responsibilities in three clinical areas: Trauma and surgical critical care; surgical services to the medically indigent; and pediatric surgery.

MCCG is a Level 1 Trauma Center, and is certified by the Georgia Division of Public Health and the Office of Trauma. Dr Ashley serves as Director. The Trauma Center had more than 1,500 admissions, making it one of the busiest in the state.

Dr Ashley serves as Chair of the Georgia Trauma Care Commission, a group charged with leading trauma care policies for the state. Last year it distributed \$55 million to hospitals, emergency medical systems, and trauma surgeons using formulas based upon Trauma Center level designation, volume, and acuity of trauma patients treated. MCCG received more than \$2.5 million from the state under Commission recommendations. This year the Commission helped to pass the “Super Speeder Bill” whereby increased fines for major speeding violations will be devoted to help fund trauma care.

Service to the medically indigent is an important function of the Department. **Macram Ayoub, M.D.**, Professor and Vice Chair of the Department, is Director of this part of the surgical practice. CarePartners is a novel practice management plan for indigent patients that determine patients’ ability to pay, and identify and enroll patients eligible for such programs as Medicare and Medicaid. Many patients will be eligible for charity care, the extent to be determined by a financial review. Costs will be controlled by a system of medical review that is essentially the same to that conducted by commercial insurance carriers.

CarePartners is in its first year of operation. The major effect is a 26% decrease in total patient encounters for all departments and a 39% decrease in surgical encounters. While this decreases exposure to ‘bad debt’ from non-paying patients, this also has decreased the caseload for the residents. Continued close monitoring of the effects of the program is necessary.

With **Issam Shaker, M.D.**, Professor, **Darla Rich, R.N.**, and **Sally Lester, R.N.**, Dr Nakayama provides pediatric surgical services that are essential to the Children's Hospital at MCG. Volumes of pediatric surgery are on track to increase by 100% over FY2008. The pediatric surgical practice is running two major operational projects for MCG. The first is to improve operating room performance using team-based practice. Now in its sixth month, there have been improvements in quality of care with an average \$600 per case decrease in operational costs. The second is tracking patient movement and hand-offs among different departments in the hospital. There has been a significant decrease in the number of errors in information hand-offs among pediatric patients undergoing surgery in the six months of review.

**To run clinical operations in a financially responsible, transparent manner at moderate expense.**

Our objectives are to achieve 10% growth in revenue with expenses controlled to a 2% increase. Figures for FY2008 ending in October showed 4.3% decrease in charges and 8.3% in net revenue. Total expenses increased by 13.3%, which was within budget by 7.0%. Important clinical operational objectives were decreasing billing lag to less than 7 days, denial rates under 15%, and net collection rates above 90%. In FY2008 billing lag was 22 days (15 in FY2007), denial rates were 7% (7% in FY2007), and net collection rates were 81% (85% in FY2007). Clearly financial performance is not where we want it and improvements in billing practices are major priorities for the coming year.



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## Refereed Articles

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- Koehler M.B. and **Nakayama D.K.** Treatment of cutaneous abscess without postoperative dressing changes. *AORNJ* 2009; in press.
- Nakayama D.K.** and **Bozeman A.P.** Industry support of graduate medical education in surgery. *Am Surg* 2009;75:395-400.
- Moore A.B.** and **Nakayama D.K.** Preformed Silastic silos in the management of necrotizing enterocolitis. *Am Surg* 2009;75:172-4.
- Wang Z.,** Kong L., Kang J., Morgan J.H. III, Shillcutt S.D., **Robinson J.S. Jr,** and **Nakayama D.K.** Thrombin stimulates mitogenesis in pig cerebrovascular smooth muscle cells involving activation of pro-MMP-2. *Neurosci Lett* 2009;451:199-203. Epub 2009 Jan 8.
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- Christie DB 3rd, Day JD, Moore AB, Chapman JR, Nakayama DK, Conforti AM.** Endometrial stromal sarcoma development after hysterectomy and tamoxifen therapy. *Am Surg* 2008; 74: 726-8.
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- Cyr-Taro A.E., Kotwall C.A., Menon R.P., Hamann M.S., **Nakayama D.K.** Employment and satisfaction trends among general surgery residents from a community hospital. *J. Surg. Education* 2008; 65: 43-49.
- Cosper G.H., Menon R., Hamann M.S., **Nakayama D.K.** Residency training in pyloromyotomy: A survey of 331 pediatric surgeons. *J. Pediatr. Surg.*, 2008; 43: 102-8.

## Presentations

- Christie DB, Day JD, Wall CW, Nakayama DK and Ashley DW.** All-terrain vehicle injuries: a 7-year Medical Center of Central Georgia experience. Presented at the 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting, Southeastern Surgical Congress, Atlanta, GA, February 7 2009.
- Bush GD, Sedghi S, Chapman JR, Nakayama DK, Wynne JL.** Case report: Non-operative management of a pancreatic ductal transaction using ERCP and pancreatic stenting. Presented at the 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting, Southeastern Surgical Congress, Atlanta, GA, February 7 2009.
- Chapman JR, Sedghi S, Christie BD, Nakayama DK, Wynne JL.** Aberrant right subclavian artery-esophageal fistula: Case report and review. Presented at the 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting, Southeastern Surgical Congress, Atlanta, GA, February 7 2009.



**Scoglietti V.** Perineal Adenocarcinoma after Total Proctocolectomy for Ulcerative Colitis: A Case Report. Presented at the 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting, Southeastern Surgical Congress, Atlanta, GA, February 7 2009.

**Dennis BM, Walding JL, Nakayama DK, Mullis EN.** Malignant phyllodes tumor in an adolescent: a case report. Presented at the 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting, Southeastern Surgical Congress, Atlanta, GA, February 7 2009.

**Bozeman AP, Van De Water JM,** Vogel RL, Whitten JB, Griffin RC, Parish DC, Vines RS, Cave KB, Street TE, Barton MR, Fortson SB, Land AD, **Nakayama DK.** Impedence cardiography: Can the heart tolerate the operation? Presented at the 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting, Southeastern Surgical Congress, Atlanta, GA, February 7 2009.

**Bozeman AP,** Land AD, Fortson SB, White RT, Ho BNT, Brooks DC, **Van De Water JM, Nakayama DK.** Impedence cardiography: the answer to cardiac output measurement. Presented at the 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting, Southeastern Surgical Congress, Atlanta, GA, February 7 2009.

**Bush GPD,** Sedghi S, **Nakayama DK,** Wynne JL. Endoscopic stenting in the management of traumatic transaction of the main pancreatic duct. Presented at the 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting, Southeastern Surgical Congress, Atlanta, GA, February 8 2009.

**Sams RN, Bozeman AP, Christie DB, Walding JL, Thompson WM.** Abdominal wall and pulmonary herniation secondary to blunt trauma. Presented at the 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting, Southeastern Surgical Congress, Atlanta, GA, February 8 2009.

Weaver B, Rodriguez M, Vogel RL, **Bozeman AP, Van De Water JM.** Cardiac output in neonates, noninvasively. Fed Assoc Soc Exp Biol, New Orleans, LA, April 22 2009.

Rodriguez M, Weaver B, **Bozeman AP,** Ho BNP, Vogel RL, **Van De Water JM.** Electrical cardiometry in the NICU: Is it feasible? Pediatric Academic Societies Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, May 2 2009.

**Bozeman AP, Scoglietti VC, Bush GD,** Kong L, Kang J, **Robinson JS Jr, Nakayama DK, Wang Z.** Thrombin stimulates activity of MMP-2 in microvascular endothelial cells through a mechanism involving PAR1 activation and protein synthesis. To be presented at the Surgical Forum, Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons, Chicago, IL, October 12 2009.

**Scoglietti VC,** Kong L, Kang J, **Robinson JS Jr, Nakayama DK, Wang Z.** Thrombin-stimulated MMP2 activity in vascular endothelial cells involves protein synthesis and ERK activation. To be presented at the Surgical Forum, Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons, Chicago, IL, October 12 2009.

## Invited Lectures

**Nakayama D.K.** Aubre de Lambret. Maynard Lecture. Contributions of pediatric surgery to medicine and biology. Morehouse School of Medicine. Atlanta, GA, April 8 2009.

**Nakayama D.K.** Seishu Hanaoka, anesthesia and surgery in medieval Japan. Annual Meeting, Association for the History of Anesthesia. Augusta, GA, April 17 2009.

**Nakayama D.K.** Contributions of pediatric surgery to medicine and biology. Baystate Medicine Center, Tufts University School of Medicine. Worchester, MA, May 17 2009.

**Nakayama D.K.** Value of collaboration for medical innovation, medical training programs and professional associations. Association of Clinical Researchers and Educators , Boston MA, July 23 2009.

**Nakayama D.K.** Physiology of the surgical newborn. Society for Fetal Urology, Section of Urology, American Academy of Pediatrics, Chicago IL, October 16 2009.

# Honors and Awards 2009

**Martin Dalton, Jr., M.D.**, Professor and Chair Emeritus, was awarded the Lamartine Hardman Cup by the Medical Association of Georgia for excellence in medical education. The award was given at the 2008 MAG House of Delegates meeting. The award honors Lamartine Hardman, M.D., governor of Georgia from 1927 to 1931, a physician and farmer from Jackson County. It is presented to one who, “in the judgment of the Association, has solved any outstanding problem in public health or made any discovery in surgery or medicine, or such contribution to the science of medicine.”

**Andrew Foret, M.D.**, PGY-4, was selected by the full time faculty as 2008-2009 resident of the year. **Allen Stevick, M.D.**, Clinical Associate Professor of Surgery, was voted by the residents as 2008-2009 faculty member of the year. Graduating medical student honorees were **Brad Hobbs**, who won the Joe Sam Robinson Award as best student in surgery, and **Matthew Golden**, who received the Will C. Sealy Award as the best student entering a general surgery residency.

The MUSM Class of 2009 selected **Bruce Innes, M.D.**, Professor, to hood the graduates at the graduation ceremony, one of two faculty members so honored. Dr Innes was also honored as best junior clerkship director. The Class of 2009 honored **Joseph Van De Water, M.D.**, Professor and Vice Dean for Research, for his contributions to their experiences in clinical research. Teaching awards included **Macram Ayoub, M.D.**, Professor and Vice Chair, and **Earl Mullis, M.D.**, Clinical Professor, as outstanding teachers in surgery, and **Jason Chapman, M.D.**, PGY-2, as outstanding resident teacher.

**Vincent Scoglietti, M.D.**, PGY-2, scored the highest percentile grade among MCCG residents for his training level in the American Board of Surgery In-Training Examination (ABSITE), the midyear examination taken by all U.S. surgical trainees. His score was in the 97th percentile. **Danny Vaughn, M.D.**, PGY-3, had the second highest percentile score, 81. Dr Vaughn was the most improved score among our residents. The PGY-2 class of Dr Scoglietti, **Geary Bush, M.D.**, **Jason Chapman, M.D.**, and **Eric Long, M.D.**, had the highest average score among PGY classes, with a 65th percentile average.

**Dr Foret** won the best resident paper award at the 36th Annual Day of Surgery, *Tree stand related injuries: a retrospective review at the Medical Center of Central Georgia (in pursuit of the trophy buck)*. **Mark Herndon, M.D.**, and **Clint Streetman, M.D.**, both PGY-4, also participated in the event.

**Debra Kichens, R.N.**, C.E.N., N.R.E.M.T.-P., Trauma Program Manager, authored a \$600,000 state grant to build a helicopter landing zone at MCCG. She served as President of the Bibb County Emergency Nurses Association, Regional Coordinator and State Vice-Chair of the Society of Trauma Nurses.

**Dennis Ashley, M.D.**, Professor, continued in a second year as Chair of the State Trauma Commission. Dr Ashley led the first successful effort to win more than \$60 million in one-time funding for state trauma activities, including \$2.5 million to MCCG. With the commission and legislative staff, his group devised a means of compensating trauma centers, clinical providers, and Emergency Medical Systems using appropriated funds. The Commission's next goal is to provide an ongoing funding mechanism.

**Drs. Ayoub and Ashley** received MCCG recognition for 30 and 20 years of service, respectively.

**Don Nakayama, M.D.**, Professor and Chair, was elected Secretary of the Georgia Chapter of the American College of Surgeons. The Georgia Chapter held its semiannual meeting of the Board of Directors in Macon in February. **Martin Dalton, M.D.**, is a former President of the Georgia Chapter and a Board member.



(Pictured left to right) Don Nakayama (Professor and Chair), Amy Moore, Danny Vaughn, Jason Chapman, Benjie Christie, Andy Bozeman, Ralph Sams, Jeff Walding, Mark Herndon, Vince Scoglietti, Geary Bush, Danny Day, Eric Long, Brad Dennis, Kim Thompson (Associate Professor), Andrew Foret, Kristin Collier, Clint Streetman, and Heidi Haun.



# Acknowledgements

The Department of Surgery administrative staff is the essential motor that runs the residency and medical education activities. Generations of residents recognize the contributions of **Sheryl Nipper**, Administrative Assistant, who oversees departmental administrative functions. **Irma Miranda**, Department Secretary, provides key support in all areas. **Tammi Ford**, Medical Student Coordinator, gives structure to undergraduate medical student rotations and activities.

The Department of Surgery recognizes our partners in surgical education, the Medical Center of Central Georgia and the Mercer University School of Medicine. The following people and organizations provide financial and organizational support that allows us to achieve our goals of excellence in resident education and patient care. Most importantly we recognize our partners in nursing, whose devotion to our patients both inspire and humble us.

## **Mercer University School of Medicine**

William F. Bina, M.D., Interim Dean

Martin L. Dalton, M.D., Emeritus Dean

## **Medical Center of Central Georgia**

A. Donald Faulk, Jr., FACHE, President and Chief Executive Officer

Joe Lavelle, Executive Vice President

James Cunningham, M.D., Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer

Marcia Hutchinson, M.D., Vice President and Designated Institutional Official

Barbara Stickel, Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer

## **Health Services of Central Georgia**

Louis Imbrogno, Chief Executive Officer

Kelli Mahan, Practice Services Manager

## **MedCen Foundation**

Ethel A. Cullinan, Ph.D., FACHE, FAHP, President and CEO

W. Asbury Stembridge, Jr., Executive Director

# Dedication: Macram M. Ayoub, M.D.



The Mercer University School of Medicine Department of Surgery at the Medical Center of Central Georgia is pleased to dedicate the 2008-2009 Annual Report to **Macram M. Ayoub, M.D., FACS**.

Dr Ayoub was born in Cairo, Egypt and received his early education at the English Mission College. He received his medical degree from Kasr-El-Ani Medical School in Cairo and his Diploma of Surgery from Cairo University in 1965. He pursued a surgery residency and practice in Egypt from 1962-1971. Then he immigrated to the United Kingdom and continued his surgical training at the Coventry Hospital in the Midlands. Next, he pursued additional training in surgery at the Medical College of Ohio in Toledo for 1 ½ years prior to coming to the Medical Center of Central Georgia in 1978. He completed his surgical training at the Medical Center of Central Georgia on June 30, 1980 and accepted a position on the full-time faculty of the Department of Surgery of the Medical Center of Central Georgia.

Following the opening of the Mercer University School of Medicine in 1982, Dr Ayoub was appointed Associate Professor in the Department of Surgery in 1984 and served with distinction. In 1995, he was promoted to Professor of Surgery.

Dr Ayoub has pursued a vigorous academic career both at MUSM and MCCG and was elected the Attending Physician of the Year by the graduating class of MUSM on nine occasions including the first award in 1985. In 2001, he was honored by the graduating class of MUSM to “Hood” the graduates.

Dr Ayoub is a past-president of the Macon Surgical Society and is boarded in General Surgery as well as a certification in Surgical Critical Care. Dr Ayoub has been a fellow of the American College of Surgeons since 1985 and is a member of the American Medical Association, the Georgia Surgical Society, The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and The Royal College of Surgeons of England. Other society memberships include the Society of American Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Surgeons, the Society of Critical Care Medicine, the Southeastern Surgical Congress and a founding member of the Will C. Sealy Surgical Society.

The Department of Surgery is honored by dedicating this annual report to a very deserving member of the surgical faculty and the medical community of Central Georgia, Dr Macram M. Ayoub.