



Cutting Edge

Newsletter of the Department of Surgery
Mercer University School of Medicine
Medical Center of Central Georgia
January 2013

Message from the Chair

Michael Phelps, champion swimmer, had a striking comment after this summer's Olympic competition that held the attention of so many this summer. His accomplishments had been stellar, six medals, four gold and two silver. But he had an uncharacteristically slow start – a fourth place in his first individual race. Many suggested that he was no longer the swimmer he once was, his career coming to a disappointing end.

So the interview at the end of the swimming competition was of interest. He was asked pointedly about finishing in second place in one race and out of the awards ceremony completely in another.

He said it was difficult to find the motivation to do the training necessary to stay in top shape. He found himself sneaking out the back door when it came time to lift weights, and he was going through the motions during workouts. Then he started to finish behind those who had made the sacrifices and did the hard work, notably his longtime rival, Ryan Lochte. Finally six months before the Olympics, he began to train seriously.

He said of his performance, "The things that happen...shows the preparation that I had going into it. I prepared myself to do exactly what I did here. If I would have trained for two more years, then, sure, maybe I could have swum faster in this event, or that event, or I could have won this event. But I didn't want to. That was my decision was to prepare myself how I did. And I got the results that I deserved."

And of course, that is how it goes in anything that is important enough to undergo rigorous training, especially surgery. We don't receive medals and our pictures do not appear on cereal boxes. But the results speak for themselves in how our patients do. It's up to us to do the work necessary to stay in shape.

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, Medical Center of Central Georgia

Ashley named 2012 Lamartine Hardman Cup recipient



Dennis Ashley, Professor, was awarded the Medical Association of Georgia's highest honor, the Lamartine Hardman Cup, for 2012. It is presented to a physician 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." Eddie Young, M.D., president, and **Sam Shaker, M.D.**, Clinical Professor and past president of the Bibb County Medical Society, nominated Dr Ashley for the award.

He was recognized for his contributions to the development of a statewide trauma system as chair of the state trauma commission board.

Dr Ashley is MCCG's and MUSM's third recipient of the honor, following Harold Katner, M.D., Department of Medicine (1989), and **Martin Dalton**, Professor (2008).

Photo: Dr Ashley receives his award from Sandra B. Reed, M.D., MAG President at its meeting in October 2012.

On the cover: **Bryan Weidner** (right, back to camera), Associate Professor, performs a robotic procedure on a special patient while concerned onlookers observe. See **News**, page 4.

News

April festschrift planned to honor Mac Ayoub

The Department of Surgery will hold a festschrift in honor of its indispensable Professor and Vice-Chair **Macram Ayoub**. A formal dinner is planned for Wednesday evening April 17 at the Idle Hour Country Club. A half-day-long symposium featuring this year's graduating chief residents and talks by MCCG alumni, faculty and friends will be held the following Thursday morning April 18 at the Eversole Auditorium.

Alumni T. Clark Gamblin, associate professor and chief of surgical oncology at the University of Wisconsin, Paul S. Dale, and professor and chief of surgical oncology at the University of Missouri at Columbia, will be featured speakers at the event. This year's chief residents will also speak, completing the scientific session.

Dr Ayoub has been with MCCG since his residency. Now in practice more than 30 years, he has trained generations of surgeons. He is a respected member of the MCCG medical community and is a member of the Medical Executive Committee for the medical center, the group charged with setting medical standards and policy.

A full-sized portrait of Dr Ayoub will be unveiled at the evening event, and will hang in the recently expanded Will C Sealy Conference Room alongside portraits of Dr Sealy and Martin Dalton, professor and emeritus dean and chair of the Department. Admission for the dinner is \$100 per person, payable to the Surgical Education and Research Fund. Residents and students are free, and admission for their spouses and guests is \$35. The symposium will be free and open to the public.



Bush, Chapman, Long, Scoglietti, Christie and Ahmed honored

Chief residents **Geary Bush**, **Jason Chapman**, **Eric Long**, and **Vincent Scoglietti**, and surgical critical care fellows **Amy Christie** and **Mohammed Ahmed** were honored at the 2012 graduation by their families and members of the Department of Surgery at the Idle Hour Country Club June 16. **Matt Jerles**, Clinical Professor, gave the graduation address. The residents gave heart-felt thanks to parents, spouses, and

colleagues. Dr Bush will enter practice in his hometown of Donalsonville; Dr Chapman, a vascular surgery fellowship in Knoxville at the Univ Tennessee; Dr Long, a research fellowship in pediatric surgery at Vanderbilt Univ; Dr Scoglietti, a breast surgery fellowship at Univ Texas Southwestern, Dr Christie, a position with Surgical Associates at MCCG; and Dr Ahmed, a minimally invasive surgery fellowship.

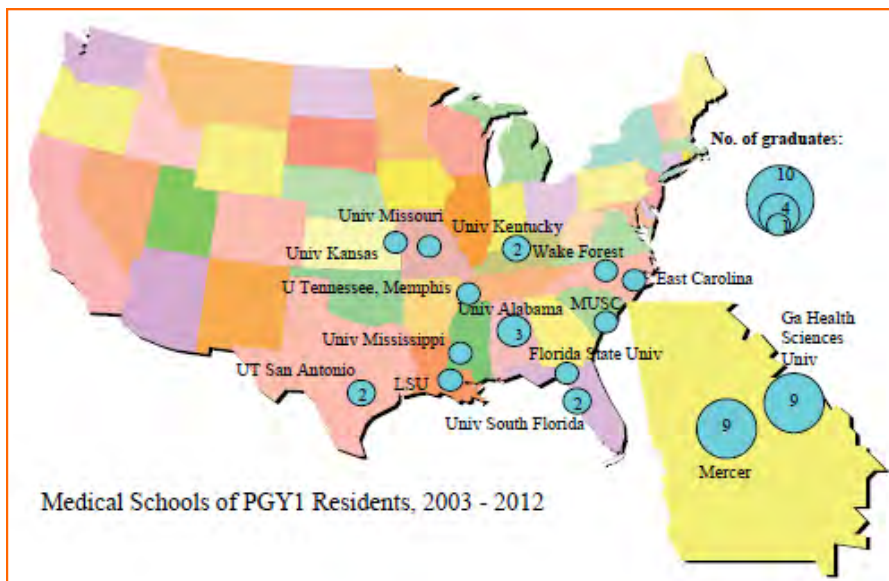


Photo: Graduating residents receive their chairs. Front row, from left: Chapman, Bush, Long, and Scoglietti. Back row, the rising PGY5's: Heidi Haun, Trey Keadle, and Kristin Collier.

News

Intern applicant interview season in full swing

This year more than 300 U.S. medical school seniors applied for four internship positions in the Residency in Surgery at MCGG and MUSM. Nearly 50 were invited for interviews over six dates from October to December. PGY4 residents **Jesus Villarreal**, **Drea Long**, and **Craig Wengler** hosted invitees the night before to meet residents and families before interviews the following Thursday morning. Match Day, the highlight of senior year, is March 15. Medical schools for the past ten years of entering intern classes is at right.



MCGG becomes national leader in pediatric robotic surgery

Josh Glenn, Assistant Professor, began performing robotic operations in children at MCGG in June, introducing this new and important technology to the pediatric surgery field for the first time in the middle Georgia region. The da Vinci robotic surgery system gives the surgeon technical precision in small spaces, important in infant surgery. Only 12 other centers in the U.S. offer robotic pediatric surgery. In November two surgeons from Dallas and one from Miami visited MCGG to observe Dr Glenn and **Bryan Weidner**, Associate Professor, perform pediatric surgical operations using the system.

Photos, below. Left: Dr Glenn sets up and later calibrates robotic arms before the procedure. **Center:** The surgeon sits at a console away from the table, using precise hand controls and foot pedals to control the movement of instruments. Images within the console are viewed in three dimensions. **Right:** High-definition monitors, pictured, display the procedure to assistants. In contrast to standard laparoscopy instruments, which have no angled movement, robotic instruments translate movement of both fingers and wrists.





Vaughn begins weight management program

Danny M. Vaughn, Assistant Professor (photo at left), is organizing a weight management program at MCCG. The center will feature a comprehensive approach to obesity, an epidemic in the U.S., especially in the southeast where as many as 30 percent of adults are overweight. The center will involve specialists in dietetics, exercise physiology, psychology, endocrinology, and obesity surgery. Clinical plans to lose weight will be formed for each individual, and include diet, exercise, and management of co-morbid conditions as diabetes, hypertension, joint disease, and increased risk profiles for cancer. Plans include both a multispecialty outpatient clinic and special inpatient facilities.

Dr Vaughn completed a fellowship in minimally invasive and obesity surgery at St Luke's Hospital in Kansas City, Mo., where he completed more than 150 operations for obesity and complications from obesity surgery.

Rural surgery experience in Cordele, Ga., begins third year

The rural surgery experience in Cordele, Ga., for PGY2 residents will begin its third year in July. It has developed into one of the most popular new rotations in the residency. Residents work with **William Pannel**, Clinical Associate Professor, and his associates **Vincent Culpepper** and **Michael Thompson**, Clinical Assistant Professors. Two have also done one-month rotations as PGY4 residents. Geary Bush, 2011 graduate, reviewed the early experience of the MCCG rural rotations at the SAGES meeting in 2011. PGY2 residents averaged 39 cases and 5 endoscopies over one month, while the PGY4 averaged 71 cases and 34 endoscopies.

Photo, right: Tracy Nolan, PGY3, assists William Pannel in his practice.



New interns Fitzgerald, Howard, Jarrard, and Nolan begin work

New interns **Mike Fitzgerald**, **Brett Howard**, **Joey Jarrard**, and **Heather Nolan** began their residencies with two weeks of orientation on June 18. In addition to finding scrubs and lockers the orientation included



training in the electronic medical record, Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Advanced Trauma Life Support, Pediatric Advanced Life Support, team training, and check-outs. A welcome party was held at the home of Bryan and Tiffany Weidner on June 30 where spouses, children and staff met the new interns.

Photo, left: Chief residents welcome new interns at the hospital welcome reception in July. From left: **Trey Keadle**, PGY5, **Heather Nolan**, PGY1, **Mike Fitzgerald**, PGY1, **Kristin Collier**, PGY5, **Joey Jarrard**, **Brett Howard**, both PGY1, and **Jacob Moremen**, PGY5.

News



Brad Dennis awarded honorary scholarship

Brad Dennis, 2011 alumnus, was named the inaugural recipient of the Gavin Family Scholarship, awarded to the top fellow in the surgical critical care program at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Dr Dennis (photo at left, back row center) presented Vanderbilt's experience with 3,000 percutaneous tracheotomies at the Southern Surgical Society in December, one of the largest reported experiences in the literature.

Williams and Parel introduce single site robotic cholecystectomy

John Williams, Clinical Assistant Professor, and **Robert Parel**, Assistant Professor, performed the first single-site robotic cholecystectomies on the hospital da Vinci Robotic Surgery system in November. MCCG plans an outpatient robotic system later this year to accommodate the large demand for the procedure.

Cardiac surgery infection rates down 85%, \$460,000 saved

Cardiac surgery services at MCCG reported a six-fold decrease in surgical site infections, with rates in the year ending April 2012 decreasing to 0.8% from 5.3% the year before. The estimated cost saving was \$463,320, and hospital days lost to the treatment of such infections falling to 48 from 336. The improvement was coordinated by **Fadi Wanna** and **Rick Harvey**, Clinical Assistant Professors, with the OR staff, anesthesia service, cardiovascular intensive care unit, and floor unit nurses.

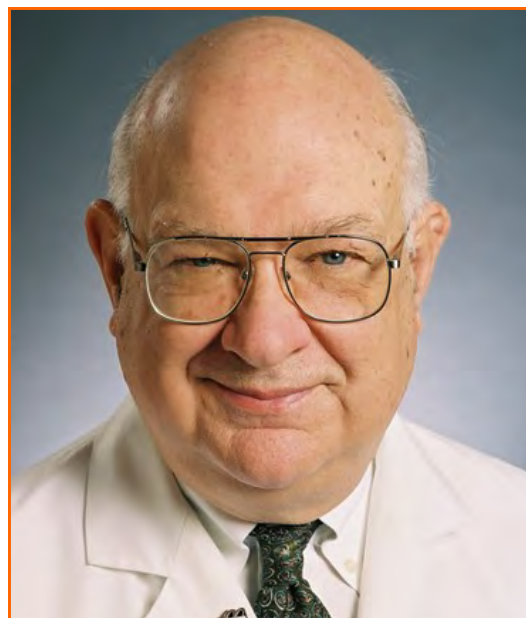


John Whelchel announces retirement

John D. Whelchel (photo, right), Clinical Professor and chief of transplant surgery, celebrated the announcement of his retirement from clinical practice at Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta in December. Generations of MCCG surgery residents received experiences in transplant surgery and major hepatobiliary operations with Dr Whelchel and his staff. He will continue as emeritus Clinical Professor with the department.

Dr Whelchel attended the Medical College of Georgia and was a resident in surgery at Wilford Hall in San Antonio. He did his transplant and immunology training at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. He plans to spend more time with his wife Anna and pursue his other life passions, fishing, hunting, and woodworking.

Mark W. Johnson, Clinical Professor, will succeed Dr Whelchel as chief of transplant surgery for the Department.



2012 Visiting Professors

John Mellinger, Southern Illinois surgical educator

John D. Mellinger (right, in dark coat with residents), Chair of the Department of General Surgery at Southern Illinois University, spoke on important lessons learned during his 20-plus years as a surgeon and educator at grand rounds in June during graduation week. Dr Mellinger, recipient of national teaching awards, said, "Asking for help is not a sign of weakness," he said during the lecture. "It's a sign of wisdom."

"It was the best lecture I've heard in medical school," said one third-year student. Dr Mellinger was the inaugural speaker in a series that will feature noted surgical educators, invited by graduating chief residents, during the week of graduation.

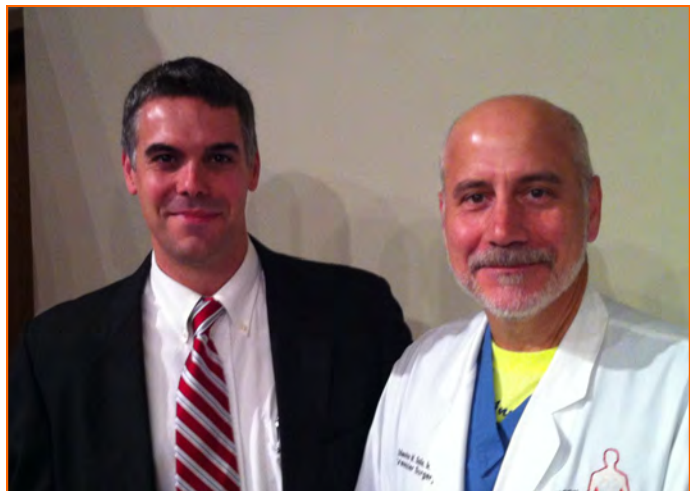


Mary Hawn, UAB GI surgery chief: QI/CME project in biomaterials

Mary Hawn, M.D., Professor of Surgery and Chief of Gastrointestinal Surgery at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (left), reviewed her work to improve the outcome in the treatment of ventral hernia at surgery grand rounds in August. Her visit introduced a new year-long quality improvement - continuing medical education (QI-CME) project in the use of biomaterials for the upcoming 2012 - 2013 academic year. She is principal investigator in a multicenter national VA hospital study on the treatment of incisional hernias, one of the major surgical problems in the U.S. today and major cause of surgical morbidity. A national leader in surgical quality, she reviewed her work on Surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP) measures and their impact on surgical outcomes.

MUSM alum Matthew Corriere

Matthew Corriere, assistant professor of surgery at Wake Forest University, reviewed differences in peripheral vascular disease among women at Grand Rounds in July. He was a guest of the Department and the Macon Cardiovascular Institute. Dr Corriere is among the authors of a federal consensus statement on the differences in diagnosis, treatment, and outcome among women vascular surgical conditions. An MUSM alumnus, he became interested in vascular surgery as a junior clerk working with **Maurice Solis**, Professor and chief of vascular surgery here in Macon. Drs Corriere (in dark coat) and Solis are in photo at right.

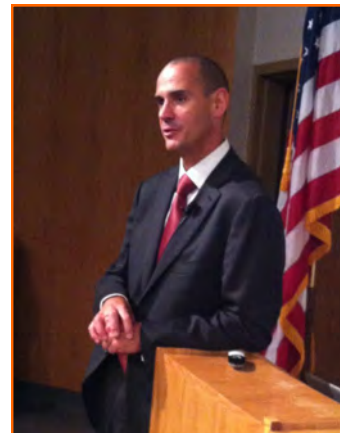


QI/CME Visiting Professors

Daniel Vargo, Univ Utah: Complicated ventral hernia

Daniel Vargo, M.D. (photo at right), Associate Professor of Surgery and Program Director at the University of Utah, outlined his approach in the treatment of complex ventral hernia at surgery grand rounds in October. He is recognized as a national expert in the field of abdominal wall reconstruction.

Wednesday night at a dinner meeting of the Macon Surgical Society he reviewed his approach. Improving patient-dependent variables, such as optimizing nutritional status, control of diabetes, and smoking cessation, are essential first steps. He and his associates then plan a surgical approach to the internal and abdominal wall anatomy and reconstructing the abdominal wall prosthetic mesh and biological prostheses. Thursday morning at departmental grand rounds he reviewed the emerging science that is clarifying the biology of abdominal wall prostheses in vivo.



Brent Matthews, Washington University

Brent Matthews (left, photo at left) is Professor of Surgery at Washington University, where he is head of the division of general surgery and chief of minimally invasive surgery. One of the leaders in the field, he is known for advanced MIS and endoscopic approaches to Barrett's esophagus. He also has a research interest in the use of prosthetic mesh in hernia repair. He is scheduled to visit on January 23 and 24, also with the Macon Surgical Society.

The department quality improvement - continuing medical education program (QI - CME) program is currently in its third year. Based on practice gaps identified in clinical topic reviews and morbidity and mortality conferences, a specific problem is reviewed each year. The

practice gap then is addressed by visiting professors, literature review, and reviews of operative caseload by surgeon and by the institution. Previous years have covered surgical site infections and thromboembolism.

Kelvin Edwards, Crystal Causey join HSCG

Kelvin Edwards (photo right, center with Danny Vaughn, left, and Crystal Causey) became practice manager for Surgical Associates in June. He has worked at MCCG for 9 years. A Dublin, Ga., native, he and his 5-year-old son Delvin now live in Macon.

Crystal Causey works with Surgical Associates as a billing and coding specialist since October, having been with MCCG for 1 year. She was born and raised in Ohio. Now living in Macon with husband Fredrick, they have three children Chynna (16 years), Sanaya (9), and Fredrick, Jr. (2).

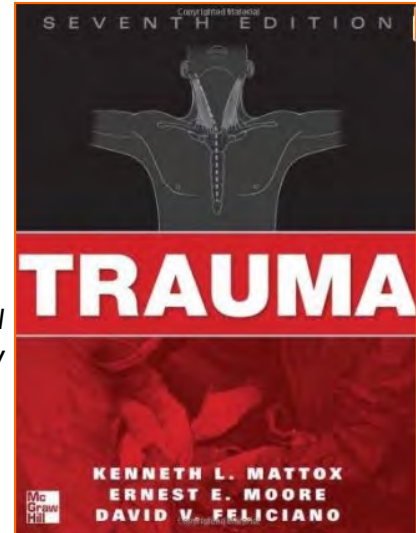


Trauma and surgical critical care

Feliciano text released, in 7th edition

The definitive text in the field, *Trauma*, was released in November. Mercer professor **David Feliciano**, is one of the three principal co-editors of the book, now in its seventh edition.

Dr Feliciano is one of the foremost leaders in general surgery and trauma care in the U.S. He was surgeon-in-chief at the Grady Memorial Hospital, and professor of surgery at the Emory University. He is also on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Trauma*, *The American Surgeon* and the *American Journal of Surgery*. He has been president of the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma, the Southeastern Surgical Congress, the Western Trauma Association, and the Georgia Surgical Society. He has held leadership positions with national organizations in surgery, including the American Board of Surgery, and chair, Advisory Council for General Surgery of the American College of Surgeons.



22nd trauma symposium: Chest, abdominal and vascular trauma

Mainstays of trauma care, the management of thoracic and abdominal injuries, were the themes of the annual MCCG Trauma Symposium, held in November for its 22st year. **Dennis Ashley**, Professor and Trauma Director at MCCG who organized the event, convened a panel of internationally known trauma care experts.



David Feliciano, Professor, headlined the event, speaking on abdominal vascular injuries, and pancreatic and duodenal trauma. Ernest Block of the Holmes Regional Medical Center in Florida and past president of the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma presented the approach to enteric fistulas that arise after abdominal trauma and his experience in Florida with trauma care regionalization.

The outstanding quality of faculty and presentations attracted an overflow audience from the central and south Georgia regions, with more than 100 participants, including physicians, nurses, and emergency personnel.

MCCG receives \$900,000 grant from state trauma commission

The Georgia Trauma Commission (GTC), the advisory body to the state on trauma care, announced in August a \$900,000 grant to the MCCG trauma center to partially cover uncompensated care, costs of maintaining the registry, and “readiness costs” in 24-7 availability for emergency care. The amount is determined by the level of the trauma center, the numbers of operations, and share of overall costs. **Dennis Ashley**, Professor, is chair of the commission. **Joe Sam Robinson**, Professor, is also a member.

College of Surgeons to visit MCG for Level 1 designation in 2013

Dennis Ashley, Professor, and Debra Kitchens, trauma services manager, announced in July that MCG will seek designation as a level one trauma center by the American College of Surgeons (ACS), the highest level given by the ACS. Documents and a survey of facilities and records on-site by experts in the field confirm the hospital’s readiness and commitment to the highest level of clinical outcome in the treatment of injured patients. The site visit is scheduled February 6 and 7.

Milestones



New arrivals

On October 27 Betsy and **Craig Wengler**, PGY4, had a new son Guy (top left), a husky boy weighing 8 pounds, 14 ounces at birth. August 14 Amy and **Jacob Moremen** welcomed Evelyn in their family, 8 pounds, 11 ounces at birth (top right). Graduating chief resident **Geary Bush** and Melissa welcomed Mary Laura on June 19, 3 days after graduation (bottom right).



Young Bennett Howard (center left with parents Emily and **Brett Howard**) arrived to Macon with Mom and Dad when the interns started their new jobs.



The chair turns 60!

Don Nakayama, Professor and Chair, celebrated his *kanreki* with the help of the Georgia Pediatric Surgical Associates staff in November. The traditional Japanese calendar has twelve signs, one for each year (called the *junishi* or *eto* calendar; check out the paper placemats at a Chinese restaurant — it's the same zodiac), with a second cycle (*jikkan*) having ten. The two cycles coincide at 60, which makes that birthday an auspicious one in a Japanese man's life where he enters his second childhood (no comments, please). The celebrant wears a red cap and vest, child's clothes, in recognition of his new status.

Photo left: *Kanreki* celebration at GPSA: Left to right: Darla Rich, Geneva Joiner, Jennifer Wood, Andrea Ricks, Jessica Williams.

2013 Visiting Professors

Milford Hatcher Lecture: Fabrizio Michelazzi

Fabrizio Michelassi, M.D. (right), one of the world's experts in the surgical treatment of inflammatory bowel disease and gastrointestinal and pancreatic cancer, will give the 2013 Milford B. Hatcher Lecture May 9. He will speak to the Macon Surgical Society the evening before. He is the Surgeon-in-Chief of the NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center in Manhattan, a position he has held since 2004.

Dr. Michelassi has earned numerous awards for his research and clinical abilities. Dr. Michelassi is known as a surgical innovator, especially in the treatment of Crohn's disease. His book on the surgery of inflammatory bowel disease is the definitive work in the field. A leader in American Surgery, he has been President of the Society of Surgical Oncology, Secretary of the Society of the Alimentary Tract, and Director of the American Board of Surgery.

Born in Pisa, he has been honored by the Republic of Italy with the rank of Commendatore, an Official of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Italy. He received the prestigious 2010 Golden Lion Award from the Order of the Sons of Italy in America and the "Campano d'Oro" medal from the University of Pisa, its highest alumnus honor.



History of Medicine: Robert Nesbit



Robert Nesbit, M.D. (left), will give the keynote address at the 14th History of Medicine Symposium on February 14. Fans of medical history in the Macon medical community, residents and students also participate.

Dr Nesbit is emeritus professor of surgery at the Georgia Health Sciences University in Augusta. Retired from active practice, Dr Nesbit continues to be active in medical education, particularly in GHSU's virtual patient projects. He is Secretary-Treasurer of the Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science.

The History of Medicine, a well-attended and much-loved event, was initiated by **Martin Dalton** and **Bruce Innes**. It features talks from staff, community physicians, residents and medical students. It is a non-CME event.

Tubman Lecture: Derrick Beech

Derrick J. Beech (right), will give the 4th Harriet Tubman Lecture in February. Now Senior Associate Dean at the Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, he was formerly chair of the department of surgery at Meharry Medical College in Nashville. A highly regarded surgical oncologist, he has published on risk factors and cancer screening for cancer among African Americans. He will speak on racial disparities in surgery at the Harriet Tubman Museum on Wednesday evening February 27, and give grand rounds the next morning February 28.

The Tubman lecture is jointly sponsored by MCCG, MUSM, the Macon Surgical Society, and the Harriet Tubman Museum in Macon.



2013 Events

40th Day of Surgery: John Clarke, OR safety expert



John R. Clarke, Professor of Surgery at Drexel University in Philadelphia and nationally known expert in operating room safety, will be keynote speaker at the 40th Day of Surgery event May 30. He serves as Clinical Director, Patient Safety and Quality for the ECRI Institute, a non-profit research and consultancy organization focusing on patient care efficiency and safety. He was a member of the Institute of Medicine Committee on Patient Safety Data Standards that issued the report *Patient Safety: Achieving a New Standard for Care*, which was the basis of the national Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005.

This year's theme for the Day of Surgery is operating room safety, a topic selected by this year's PGY4 residents as their problem-based learning and improvement project. The Day of Surgery, the centerpiece continuing education conference conducted by the Department, was first organized by **Ellis Evans**, Clinical Professor, during his residency at MCCG.

John Christein, UAB pancreas and biliary specialist

John D. Christein, Associate Professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, will visit the Macon Surgical Society and the Department this summer. Dr Christein, a pancreas and biliary tract specialist at UAB, will address a major practice gap at MCCG, the management of operative injuries to the bile duct. He will also speak on the management of malignancies of the bile ducts, another area of his expertise.

Dr Christein is recognized as a rising figure in the field of advanced GI surgery. Educated and trained at Rush Medical College in Chicago, he received advanced GI surgery training at the Mayo Clinic. He is director of the human auto islet transplant program at UAB. He is a member of the Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract, the Southern Surgical Association, and the American Hepato-Biliary Association.



Grace Rozycki, trauma surgeon, surgical educator

Grace S. Rozycki, Professor at Emory University and recently director of trauma and surgical critical care services at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta, will be our graduation week visiting professor, chosen by the graduating chief residents. She will speak to the Macon Surgical Society Wednesday June 12 and give grand rounds Thursday June 13. The tradition is to host a surgeon known for his or her expertise as a clinical educator in celebration of MCCG's long tradition of undergraduate and graduate medical education.



Dr Rozycki is known internationally for introducing and establishing the use of ultrasound examination in the early assessment of injured patients, now familiarly known as the FAST exam (focused assessment for sonography of trauma). At Grady and Emory she is recognized as a consummate educator and humane professional. In 1998 she established a student mentor program where she mentors students from high school through postgraduate training through participation in clinical, educational, and research activities. She is past president of the Southeastern Surgical Congress and is secretary-treasurer of the American Association of the Surgery of Trauma, the leading organization of trauma specialists in the country.

Heidi Haun and Drea Long participate in medical society art show

Heidi Haun, PGY5, and **Drea Long**, PGY4, exhibited their photography at the annual Bibb County Medical Society art and photo exhibition this summer. William Haun, Heidi's husband and accomplished photographer, was guest speaker at the event. Here is some of Heidi's (below, left and right) and Drea's work (above right).



Upcoming Events - 2013

Note: All events at the Eversole Auditorium, MCCG, unless otherwise noted.

Brent Matthews, M.D., visiting professor. Washington University. Macon Surgical Society meeting, Wednesday January 23, 6:30 p.m. Grand Rounds, Thursday January 24, 7:30 a.m. Case presentations, Will C Sealy conference room, following Grand Rounds, 8:30 a.m.

14th History of Medicine Symposium. Robert Nesbit, M.D., keynote speaker, Georgia Health Sciences University. Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon, February 14.

5th Harriet Tubman Visiting Professor. Derrick Beech, M.D., Atlanta Medical Center. Macon Surgical Society meeting, Harriet Tubman Museum (*note location!*), Wednesday, February 27, 6:30 p.m. Grand Rounds, Eversole Auditorium, Thursday, February 28, 7:30 a.m. Case presentations, Will C Sealy conference room, following Grand Rounds, 8:30 a.m.

Festschrift in Honor of Macram Ayoub: Dinner, Idle Hour Country Club, Wednesday April 17, 6:30 p.m., \$100 per person (payable to Surgical Education and Research Fund; residents and students free, resident and student spouses \$35). Festschrift Thursday April 18, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Featured speakers: T. Clark Gamblin, Univ Wisconsin; Paul S. Dale, Univ Missouri; Christopher Stout, Eastern Virginia Medical School.

2013 Milford Hatcher Lecture. Fabrizio Michelassi, M.D., Lewis Atterbury Stimson Professor and Chair, Weill Cornell Medical College, New York. Macon Surgical Society, Trice Auditorium, Wednesday, May 8, 6:30 p.m.; Milford Hatcher Lecture, 7:30 a.m., Thursday, May 9. Case presentations, Will C Sealy conference room, following Grand Rounds, 8:30 a.m.

40th Day of Surgery. Visiting professor: **John R. Clarke, M.D.**, Drexel University, Philadelphia. Macon Surgical Society, Trice Auditorium, Wednesday May 29 6:30 p.m. Day of Surgery, Thu May 30 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

Graduation Grand Rounds. Grace S. Rozycki, M.D., visiting professor: professor, Emory University and director of trauma surgery, Grady Memorial Hospital, Atlanta. Macon Surgical Society, Trice Auditorium, Wednesday, June 12, 6:30 p.m.; Grand Rounds, Thursday, June 13, 7:30 a.m. Case presentations, Will C Sealy conference room, following Grand Rounds, 8:30 a.m.

Chief Residents' graduation. Saturday June 15, Idle Hour Country Club, by invitation.

New interns and residents welcome reception. Saturday June 22, by invitation.

Honors and awards



Vincent Scoglietti, 2012 graduating chief resident (left), was named Resident of the Year by the fulltime faculty of the program in recognition of his clinical and academic achievements.

Princess Nelson, PGY3, was awarded best clinical paper at the residents' competition of the Committee on Trauma of the Georgia Society of the American College of Surgeons' annual meeting in Atlanta in August. She was the state representative at the regional competition in Memphis in November.

Cecil Brown, PGY2, was honored by the graduating class of 2013 with the Arnold Gold Foundation Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award, in recognition of his being an outstanding resident role model for medical students.

Residents were honored at the June graduation dinner. **Kristin Collier**, PGY5, was recognized for outstanding in the areas of patient care and system-based practice; **Jacob Moremen**, PGY5, medical knowledge; **Eric Long**, another 2012 graduate, practice-based learning and improvement, **Tracy Nolan**, PGY3, communication; and **Craig Wengler**, PGY4, professionalism. **Mike Baskin**, PGY2, was chosen top intern for 2011-2012. Dr Scoglietti had the highest in-training exam score, achieving the 98th percentile among all test takers at his training level in the U.S. Dr Moremen had the most improved in-training score. He also won the award for the best paper authored by a resident during the 2011-2012 academic year. Dr Collier received an award as trauma resident of the year at the graduation dinner. **Elizabeth Almon**, Dr Baskin, **Jonathan Cudnik**, and **Tonya Johnson** received certificates recognizing their completion of their intern years.

Dr Collier was nominated for two national awards, the Hilary Sanfey outstanding resident award by the Association of Women Surgeons, and the American College of Surgeons' 2012 Resident Award for Exemplary Teaching for the second consecutive year. Dr Wengler was named a resident reviewer for the *Archives of Surgery*, one of the major journals in the field. The journal has a section of articles written and reviewed by residents.

Dr Nelson received a scholarship, "Looking to the Future," from the Society of Thoracic Surgeons to attend their annual meeting January 2013 in Los Angeles.

Amy Christie, **Andrew Bozeman**, and **Brad Dennis**, all 2011 graduates, passed the Certifying Examination (CE) of the American Board of Surgery (ABS). More familiarly known as the oral boards, the CE, when passed, gives the candidate full board certification by the ABS in the practice of surgery, the goal of residency training.

Geary Bush, **Jason Chapman**, **Eric Long**, and **Vincent Scoglietti**, 2012 graduates, all passed the Qualifying Examination (QE) of the American Board of Surgery (ABS) on their first attempts. Passing the QE, a written examination, allows the candidate to sit for the CE. Dr Christie also passed her ABS examination in surgical critical care in October.

Ashley Griffin, MS4, received a scholarship from the Department to represent MUSM at the Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons meeting.

Juan Ayerdi, Associate Professor (above right), was named 2011-2012 faculty member of the year by the residents.

Benjie Christie, assistant professor, won first place in the trauma video session at the Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons meeting in October. Linton Mitchell of the hospital learning center was videographer.

Darla Rich, nurse practitioner with Georgia Pediatric Surgery Associates (photo at right, holding certificate; left to right: Don Faulk, Judy Paull, Dr Nakayama, Joe Lavelle), was named MCGG employee of the quarter for summer 2012.



Publications, presentations, lectures

Publications.

1. **Moremen JR, Christie DB III.** Thymic carcinoma: Incidence, classification and treatment strategies of a rare tumor. *Am Surg* 2012;78:E335-7.
2. **Nakayama DK,** Tsuji H. Serving others in need: Kurosawa's medical dramas. *Japan Medical Journal* 2012;4616-7:90-4.
3. Weber MA, Black HR, Fonseca R, Garber J, Gonzalez-Campoy JM, Kimmelstiel C, Markowitz AB, **Nakayama D,** Stell LK, Stossel TP. Association of clinical researchers and educators. A statement on relationships between physicians and industry. *Endocr Pract* 2012 Sep 14:1-25.
4. **Nolan HR,** Davenport DL, Ramaiah C. BMI is an independent pre-operative predictor of intra-operative transfusion and post-operative chest-tube output. *Int J Angiol*, in press.
5. Wilson KL, Schenarts PJ, Bacchetta MD, Rai PR, **Nakayama DK.** Pediatric trauma experience in a combat support hospital in eastern Afghanistan over ten months, 2010 - 2011. *Am Surg*, in press.
6. **Griffin LA, Scoglietti VC, Nolan TC, Long EL, Nakayama DK, Sykes LN.** Traumatic abdominal wall hernia from a handlebar injury. *Am Surg* (in press).
7. **Nakayama DK.** Medical scenes in Flaubert's *Madame Bovary*. *The Pharos* (in press).
8. **Nakayama DK.** The first pediatric operation performed under anesthesia. *Am Surg* (in press).
9. **Collier KT, Nakayama DK.** Volar flap closure of a broad-based supernumerary finger. *Am Surg* (in press).

Presentations.

Weidner, B.C., Dennis B.M., Ayoub M.M., Nakayama D.K. A dedicated residents' advocacy committee improves satisfaction on the ACGME residents' questionnaire. Assoc Program Directors in Surgery, March 20 - 22 2012, San Diego.

Georgia Society of the American College of Surgeons, Aug 24 - 26, 2012, Atlanta..

Thomas P, Ashley D, Johnson JA, Lyme A, Dhaliwala J, **Christie DB III,** Kitchens D, Seale JP. Integrating the screening and brief intervention and referral to treatment (SBIRT) program as part of the standard trauma patient care plan. Committee on Trauma (Region 4), American College of Surgeons, resident's competition, Memphis, November 16-17 2012.

Nolan TL, Christie DB III, Vogel RL, **Ashley DW.** CroFab: An analysis of its use in venomous snake bite management.

Accepted, Southeastern Surgical Congress, Feb 9 - 12, 2013, Jacksonville..

Collier KT, Nakayama DK. Postaxial polydactyly: Surgical excision with creation of a volar flap.

Wengler C, Collier K, Ayoub M. Incarcerated inguinal hernia containing intracolonic metastasis of a lung carcinoma.

Long A, Christie A, Ayoub M. Peritoneal sclerosis: A rare complication in patients on peritoneal dialysis.

Nolan TL, Ashley DW, Vogel RL, Christie DB III. Venomous snakebites and cost effective management: A retrospective review of a level I trauma center.

Cudnik J, Christie DB III, Chapman JR, Griffin A. Endovascular repair of extremity vascular trauma: a paradigm shift.

Nakayama DK, Taylor SM. SESC Practice Committee survey: Surgical practice in the duty hour restriction era.

Invited lectures.

Ashley DA. The Georgia story – Bringing Level One's & Level Two's designated trauma centers on board with TQIP. Trauma Quality Improvement Program meeting, Philadelphia, October 30 2012.

Presentations at the Clinical Congress, American College of Surgeons, Chicago, September 30 - October 4, 2013.

Christie DB III, Christie AB, Ashley DW, Brown CE Jr, Hudson JA. Surgeon performed ultrasound in the ICU: an extension of the physical exam.

Ashley DW. Coordinator and presiding officer, video-based education session, trauma.

Feliciano DV. Panelist. Modern surgical education and increasing fail rates for the boards. Town hall meeting; Complex abdominal trauma. Meet the expert luncheon: Massive bleeding from gastric and duodenal ulcers. Postgraduate course: Challenging surgical emergencies: carotid artery and jugular vein injuries. Postgraduate course: Trauma techniques; Management of complex pancreatic-duodenal injuries. Moderator, panel session: Nobel Prize-winning surgeons 1909 - 1990.

Ashley DA. The Georgia story – Bringing Level One's & Level Two's designated trauma centers on board with TQIP. Trauma Quality Improvement Program meeting, Philadelphia, October 30 2012.

Acknowledgements

This year we thank A. Donald Faulk, Jr., FACHE (photo at right; at left with Dr Nakayama), who retired November 30 after long-time leadership of MCCG at all levels, including as CEO. He was an essential partner to any success we enjoyed. We look forward to continuing the tradition of excellence in patient care and teaching at MCCG with Ninfa Saunders, Ph.D., who assumed the position as CEO.

And always, we salute our partners in nursing, whose devotion to our patients both inspire and humble us.

Mercer University School of Medicine: William F. Bina, M.D., Dean, Christa D. Ward, M.B.A., Director of Finance.

Medical Center of Central Georgia: Ninfa Saunders, Ph.D., President and Chief Executive Officer; Joe Lavelle, Executive Vice President; **James Cunningham, M.D.**, Senior V.P. and Chief Medical Officer; Marcia Hutchinson, M.D., V.P. and Chief Academic Officer; Judy Paull, R.N., Senior V.P. and Chief Nursing Officer.

Health Services of Central Georgia: Vince Manoogian, acting CEO, Edward Hay, Practice Services Administrator.

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



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David V. Feliciano, Prof and Assoc Chief

James Cunningham, Assoc Prof and Senior VP Med Affairs

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Amy B. Christie, Asst Prof

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Robert J. Parel, II, Asst Prof

Danny M. Vaughn, Asst Prof

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Bryan C. Weidner, Assoc Prof and Chief

Joshua Glenn, Asst Prof and Assoc Chief

Issam J. Shaker, Clin Prof

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Maurice M. Solis, Clin Prof and Chief

Juan Ayerdi, Clin Assoc Prof and Asst Chief

J. Allen Stevic, Clin Assoc Prof

William (Billy) Mix, Clin Asst Prof

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