



Cutting Edge

Newsletter of the Department of Surgery
Mercer University School of Medicine
Medical Center of Central Georgia
January 2012

Message from the Chair

Empress Hughes, D.O., an intern in the residency in pediatrics at MCCG, died Monday morning December 12, of injuries suffered as a passenger in a single-car crash.

“Empress was one of those rare interns who ‘got it’ from the first day,” says Geneva Joiner, R.N., who worked in the children’s hospital with Dr Hughes before joining the pediatric surgery practice in late November. “She knew how to get things done, and talk with parents and nurses. She was going to be a great pediatrician. She was a favorite.”

Dr Hughes received care in the trauma center at the hands of her colleagues in surgery, who, like her, were trainees in the MCCG graduate medical education program. Of the dozens of trauma resuscitations residents have under their belts by mid-year, hers was especially poignant. Dr Hughes was one of us, part of our resident family. Under other circumstances in our wonderful community of medicine she could have cared for our child or grandchild, the very hearts of our lives. Instead fate led her to the residents on the trauma team who worked feverishly but unsuccessfully to save her life.

Her death is a sad reminder that despite our best and most conscientious efforts sometimes there is nothing we can do to reverse the inevitable. Conditions may be so advanced and injuries so grievous that the only task that remains is to relieve suffering: For the patient during the time he or she has left, and for the survivors who grieve. With the privilege to care for Dr Hughes comes the responsibility to do all we can to prepare, and to do our best, for the next patient.

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

Critical care fellowship wins 5 year accreditation, no citations

In November the Residency Review Committee for Surgery (RRC-S) of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) gave the MCCG training program in surgical critical care continued accreditation for five years. Accreditation confirms that the program satisfies the standards and requirements of the ACGME and the RRC-S, which is responsible for setting the standards for surgical training. No citations were noted, meaning there were no deficiencies in any aspect of the program, a singular accolade reserved for the best training programs in the U.S.

The site visit, one of the most important events for the training program, involves review of reams of files and documents and hours of interviews of trainees, attending staff, and the program director. **Dennis Ashley** (right), professor and program director, coordinated the effort to collect the documents for the site visit. **Debra Kitchens**, trauma program coordinator, spent months in preparation and organized the efforts of **Tracy Thompson**, **Ginny Land**, **Inez Jordan** and **Senesta Corbin**. for the visit. Marci Hutchinson, M.D., MCCG Chief Academic Officer, provided overall guidance and gave the necessary final approval for the Department’s submissions.



On the cover: Baby’s scalp, visible beneath the amniotic membrane through an incision in the uterus in preparation for middle Georgia’s first EXIT procedure (ex-utero intra-partum treatment). See **News**, page 4.

News

David Feliciano appointed Professor

David Feliciano, MD FACS (right), accepted an appointment as professor of surgery at MUSM and associate director of surgical critical care at MCCG. 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 the lead editor of the basic text in the field, *Trauma*, now in its 7th edition. 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 major national organizations in surgery, including the American Board of Surgery, and chair, Advisory Council for General Surgery of the American College of Surgeons.



Bozeman, Christie, Dennis, Vaughn, and Pettiford honored

Chief residents **Andy Bozeman, Amy Christie, Brad Dennis, and Danny Vaughn**, and surgical critical care fellow **Courtney Pettiford** were honored at the 2011 graduation by their families and members of the Department of Surgery at the Idle Hour Country Club June 11.

David Feliciano, professor, gave the graduation address. He shared lessons learned during his many years of practice. He reminded them of their coming responsibilities to their families and patients as they enter their busy professional lives. The residents gave heart-felt thanks to parents, spouses, and colleagues.

All entered post-graduate specialty training: Dr Bozeman in pediatric surgery in Little Rock; Dr Christie, surgical critical care at MCCG; Dr Dennis, surgical critical care at Vanderbilt in Nashville; and Dr Vaughn, minimally invasive surgery in Kansas City. Dr Pettiford began practice in Beckley, WV.

Photo: Graduating chiefs receive their chairs. Front row, from left: Bozeman, Christie, Vaughn, and Dennis. Back row, the rising PGY5's: Eric Long, Geary Bush, Jason Chapman, Vincent Scoglietti.



News

Joshua Glenn, Bryan Weidner and multidisciplinary team perform operation on a baby before birth

Joshua Glenn, Assistant Professor, **Bryan Weidner**, Associate Professor and Chief, Pediatric Surgery, and a multidisciplinary team of nearly 20 surgeons, anesthesiologists, nurses, and technicians successfully secured an orotracheal tube airway in a not-yet-born baby with a large cervical teratoma in September. Termed an ex-utero intrapartum treatment (EXIT), the procedure was planned because prenatal imaging (MRI image, upper right) predicted an emergency situation at birth from airway obstruction, made worse because of the size and location of the tumor. EXIT maintains uteroplacental circulation to sustain the baby while the extent of the airway compromise is ascertained. The baby, receiving oxygen and anesthesia from the mother, can thus undergo life-saving maneuvers in a deliberate, unhurried manner.

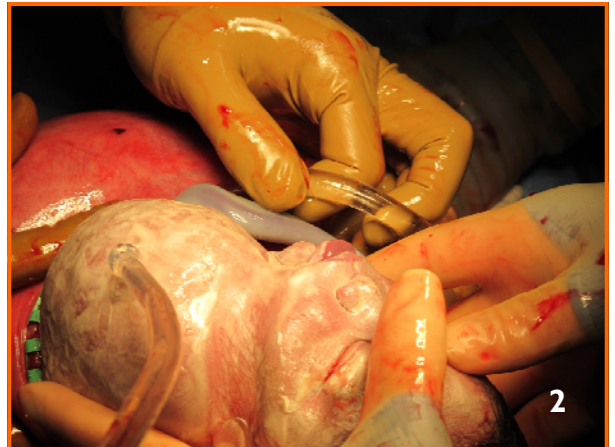
A collaborative team was assembled, including Mark Boddy, MD, Macon maternal and fetal medicine specialist, Misrael Rodriguez, MD, MCGG neonatologist, Timothy Grant, MD, and Amanda Brown, MD, pediatric anesthesiologists, and Warren Dunn, MD, pediatric otorhinolaryngologist. Nursing staffs from the operating room, obstetrics, and neonatal intensive care unit supplied invaluable support. Meetings and rehearsals were held well in advance.

The baby's airway was successfully secured, 22 minutes from partial delivery to cutting the cord. The tumor was removed four days later in a three hour operation. The baby was discharged home one month after birth, and continues to do well in follow-up.

Photos, clockwise from top right: 1. MRI showing a large mass (open arrow) forcing the head backward (brain, closed arrow).

2. Surgeons manipulate the head to allow bronchoscopy. The baby's eye and nose are visible beneath the surgeon's left thumb, lower part of the photo. The red surface of the uterus is visible beneath the assistant's left hand. 3. Bronchoscopy. An assistant holds the tumor out of the way. 4.

Final delivery of the baby after placement of the endotracheal tube. Dr Dunn is holding the baby, the tumor visible beneath his jaw. 5. Baby at age 2 months after removal of the tumor, which was a benign cervical teratoma. The baby is doing well and breathing on his own.



7 for 7 pass written Boards on first try

All graduates from the Residency passed the Qualifying Examination (QE) of the American Board of Surgery (ABS) on their first attempt. Passing were (right, from top) **Andrew Boze-man**, **Amy Christie**, **Brad Dennis**, and **Danny Vaughn** from the graduating class of 2011, **Mustafa Ahmed**, critical care fellow and Morehouse University, 2011, **Andrew Foret** and **Clint Streetman**, 2010. Passing the QE, also known as the “written boards,” makes the candidate eligible to take the Certifying Examination (CE) of the ABS the final exam that gives the surgeon board certification. The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, the organization that governs medical training programs in the U.S., uses graduates’ pass rates to certify residency training programs. The standard is 60 percent of graduates passing both exams on their first attempts. The most recent results gives the Residency a 5-year first taker pass rate for the QE of 93.3% (14 of 15 graduates), reaching our goal of 90% for the first time.



Chief residents earn fellowship positions for 2012

Jason Chapman, **Eric Long**, **Vincent Scoglietti** (left, from top), and **Mustafa Ahmed**



(right, bottom photo) received welcome news recently, earning coveted fellowship training positions beginning July 2012. Dr Chapman will begin work in vascular surgery at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, where he will follow **J William Mix**, assistant professor, who trained there three years ago. Dr Long will begin a research fellowship funded by the National Institutes of Health in pediatric surgery at Vanderbilt University. Dr Scoglietti was appointed to a fellowship position in breast surgery at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. Dr Ahmed will enter a fellowship in minimally invasive surgery at the Northwest Hospital in Baltimore.



24 Hours on call: 41 admissions, consults

Saturday November 26 was the busiest in memory, with 41 admissions and consults, 6 major operations, and the trauma and critical care list growing to 43 patients. **Vincent Scoglietti**, PGY5, led the call team (bottom, from left) of **Candice Chipman**, PGY3, day intern **Tonya Johnson**, and night intern **Jonathan Cudnik**. Included were 3 pediatric patients and a psychiatric patient, added challenges because of the distance that separates the children’s hospital and psych ward from the emergency department and the operating rooms. Brown Ekeledo, clinical assistant professor, was attending surgeon.

“In the era of patient admission ‘caps’ for physicians, we have no such caps,” said **Dennis Ashley**, professor and surgeon responsible the following day. “We just keep on treating until the last patient is seen and admitted. I am proud of these individuals and their efforts.” The team was honored by the hospital board and “Celebrating Excellence” employee recognition program.

48 Hours: 4 cases of gastroschisis, 2 perf’d Meckels

From November 14 to 16 **Craig Wengler** (bottom, far right), PGY3, cared for 4 newborn infants with gastroschisis, one with an intestinal atresia and one with an associated omphalomesenteric fistula. Over the same period the pediatric surgical team cared for two children with perforated



Meckel’s diverticula, unusual manifestations of the anomaly. Attending surgeons joked that one more week of cases and Dr Wengler would be able to sit for his boards in pediatric surgery. For his month on pediatric surgery Dr Wengler logged 76 cases as surgeon.

News



Early pacemakers stabilize patients in spinal shock

The MCCG trauma service reported success in stabilizing patients with cervical cord injuries in spinal shock with early use of cardiac pacemaker. Their report in the *Journal of Trauma*, the premier publication in the field, documented a near-elimination of clinically significant bradycardia and hypotension in susceptible patients in comparison with patients treated using standard drug therapy. **Jacob Moremen** (left, above), PGY4, and **Tracy Nolan** (left, below), PGY2, were co-authors on the communication, which included faculty members **Leon Sykes** and **Dennis Ashley**. Longtime colleague Robert Vogel, professor of public health at Georgia Southern University in Statesboro, provided statistical analysis.



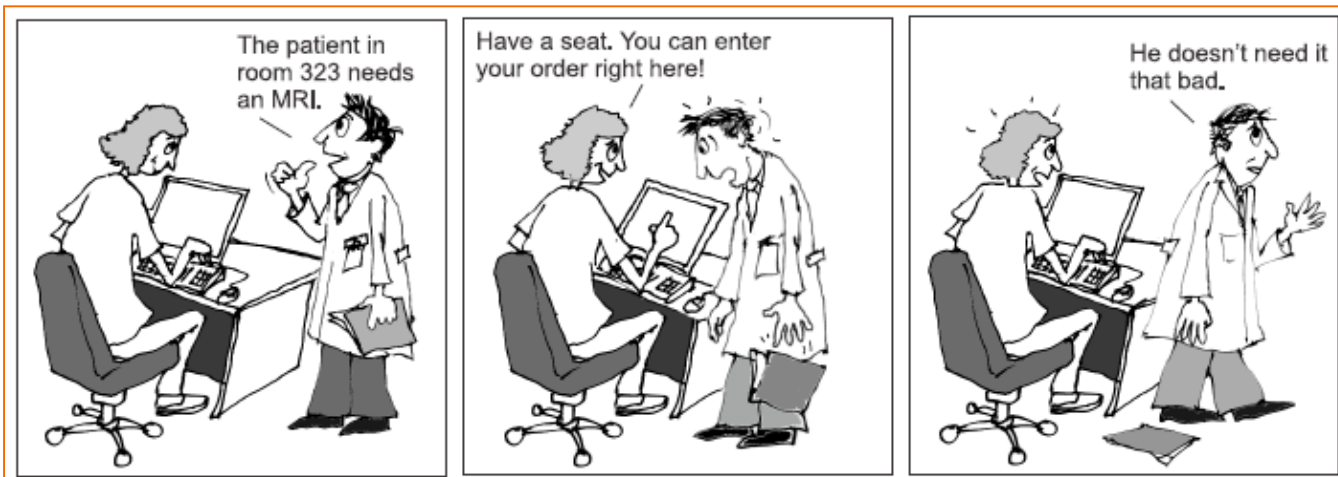
New device removes life-threatening caval thrombus

Clinical assistant professor **Juan Ayerdi** (below, right) and **Jason Chapman**, PGY5, used an AngioVac endovascular clot removal system (Norwell, Mass., Vortex Medical), on an 18-year-old trauma patient with a large clot in the inferior vena cava, one of only 105 patients worldwide with life-threatening venous thromboembolism who have had the procedure. The patient had severe multisystem trauma that prevented anticoagulation prophylaxis.

Residents support EMR rollout

Electronic medical records (EMR) and computerized physician order entry (CPOE), required in federal regulations, began in earnest at MCCG in 2011. Residents' facility with electronics and computer systems was another factor. Surgery residents said that desktop computers on nursing units were often not available, particularly during changes of shift. Michael Williams, M.D., chief medical information officer, and William Avinell, chief information officer for MCCG, arranged to have hospital EMR systems to be available through the hospital intranet.

Josh Glenn, assistant professor, and **Jacob Moremen**, PGY4, led efforts to make electronic medical information available to portable devices (such as iPads, pocket PCs and iPhones) so that labs, radiological images, and other records are available for rounds and orders.



Visiting Professors, Grand Rounds

Lazar Greenfield

Lazar Greenfield, M.D. (right, with residents), was visiting professor in September. Dr Greenfield, emeritus chair of surgery at the Univ. of Michigan, invented the Greenfield filter, a device to prevent pulmonary embolism. Over four decades it has saved hundreds of thousands of lives and remains in wide use. Afterwards residents presented cases to Dr Greenfield, who later met with Mercer students on surgical careers and innovation in medicine.



Donald Fry: Surgical infections, hospital quality, efficiency



Donald E. Fry, M.D. (left, above), one of the foremost experts in surgical infections, visited the Department in July. His Grand Rounds lecture, an update on *Clostridium difficile* infections, was part of the Department's ongoing continuing medical education - quality improvement project to improve surgical practice in the medical center. The evening before he spoke on his current interest: measuring surgical quality and hospital efficiency as a template for quality and payment.

Maurice Solis: State of the art in vascular surgery

The clinical outcomes at MCCG for the surgical treatment of cerebrovascular and aortic vascular disease are better than national norms, according to data presented by **Maurice M. Solis** (left, below), associate professor and chief of vascular surgery, at Grand Rounds in September. Survival rates were higher and rates of major complications were lower: heart attacks, stroke (for cerebrovascular procedures), paraplegia (for major thoracic interventions), and renal failure (for aortic surgery).



Feliciano: Operative surgery for abdominal trauma

Attendees at Grand Rounds in December received a comprehensive review of operative approaches to abdominal trauma by **David V. Feliciano** (right), professor and associate director of surgical critical care. In the discussion that followed **Leon Sykes**, associate professor and associate program director of the MCCG fellowship in surgical critical care, pointed out that trainees could not hear a better presentation of the current treatment of abdominal trauma. Dr Feliciano then heard cases presented by residents.



Trauma and surgical critical care

21st trauma symposium focuses on head injury

The diagnosis and management of head injury was the theme of the 21st annual MCCG Trauma Symposium in November, organized by **Dennis Ashley**, professor and trauma director, and Debra Kitchens, trauma service coordinator. The event featured experts in every phase of care. Richard Rowe, M.D., attending neurosurgeon with the Georgia Neurosurgical Institute reviewed current guidelines for the management of traumatic brain injury. Stephen Macciocchi, Ph.D., Director of Rehabilitation Psychology at the Shepherd Center in Atlanta, presented the neuropsychological assessment and treatment of patients with sports concussion and severe head injury. Rocco Armonda, M.D., director of cerebrovascular surgery and interventional neuroradiology at the Washington (D.C.) Hospital Center, spoke on neurocritical care and role of decompressive craniotomy in the management of head injury.



The trauma symposium, always well attended, had more than 100 participants (left), including physicians, nurses, and emergency personnel.

MCCG receives \$1 million grant from state trauma commission

The Georgia Trauma Commission (GTC), the advisory body to the state on trauma care, announced in August a \$1 million grant to MCCG to support trauma center operations. The total distributed to the state's 18 trauma centers was \$12.5 million. **Dennis Ashley**, professor and director of the trauma services for the hospital, serves as GTC chair. Funds to hospitals are based in part on the amount of uncompensated care provided to injured patients who are without insurance, state or federal support.

Babies!

Assistant professor **Benjie Christie** and wife and critical care fellow **Amy** brought baby girl Amelia home, born December 14, to meet big sister Blair (19 months, below, left) and brother Griffin (5 years). Ann and **Trey Keadle**, PGY4, and 4-year-old Hayes welcomed Sara Grace (center) on October 3. Christopher and **Elizabeth Almon**, PGYI, had their first child, Christopher, Jr., (right), 6 pounds, 2 ounces, on December 16.

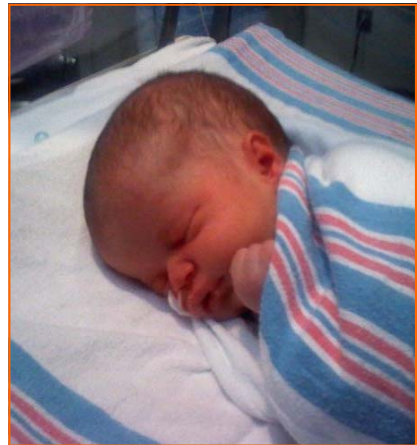


Milestones



More babies!

Just before starting internship Beth Anne and **Jonathan Cudnik** (left, top) and big sister Katherine welcomed Abigail on June 16. On August 3 Betsy and **Craig Wengler**, PGY3, had new daughter Belle (right, top). Anita Watson (left, bottom), nurse practitioner with trauma and surgical critical care, became a grandmother on May 10 when son Kyle and his wife Kayla had a baby boy, Reese. Anita is married to Philip. Ginny and Bobby Land became grandparents December 5 with the birth of Ava (right, bottom), daughter to their son Nathan and his wife Chrissie. Nathan is in the U.S. Army stationed at Ft Benning.



Ashley and two unnamed nurses turn 50!

Dennis Ashley (July, below left) and two nurses who will remain unnamed celebrated their 50th birthdays this summer. Offices held parties for one nurse, well-known in the children's hospital, in August, and another, who leads the trauma service as coordinator, in September.

Celebrations: Left: Dr Ashley, gifts and cake. Front row: Inez Jordan, Ginny Land, Senesta Corbin, Dr Ashley, Debra Kitchens. Back row: Mike Baskin (PGY1), Mustafa Ahmed (critical care fellow), Jacob Moremen (PGY4). Center: Darla Rich, nurse practitioner, pediatric surgery. Right: Debra Kitchens, trauma service coordinator.



Welcome!



Robert Parel joins fulltime faculty

Macon general surgeon **Robert J. Parel, II, MD FACS**, became a fulltime member of the faculty in June. Dr Parel has been in practice in Macon since 2005. With an undergraduate degree in microbiology from the University of Georgia, he graduated from the Medical College of Georgia and trained in general surgery at the Ochsner Clinic in New Orleans. He is a favorite of residents in the program because of his devotion to their technical training and his expertise in minimally invasive surgery.

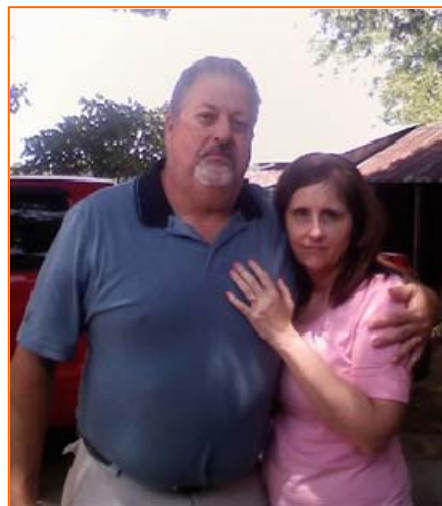
New in the office: Ginny Land, Carletta Grace

Ginny Land (with husband Bobby, right) is the new trauma office coordinator with trauma and surgical critical care Services and surgical critical care



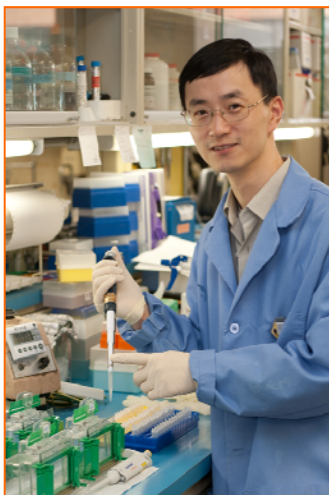
fellowship training program coordinator. A former elementary school teacher in Chattanooga she began work at MCCG as a unit secretary two years ago. She lives in the country with husband Bobby, a Methodist minister. They have three grown children and had first grandchild Ava (9 lb., 10 oz.) on December 5.

Carletta Grace (left, seated with granddaughter Janiya) began work as department secretary in June, but has been with MCCG for 10 years. Her daughter Courtney Cherelle Toliver attends Macon State College as a business major. Son Cory Jamal Robinson attends South Georgia College at Valdosta State University, where his major is also business with a minor in photography. Granddaughter Janiya Alisa Gardner, age 6, is also part of the family. Carletta enjoys cooking and travel.



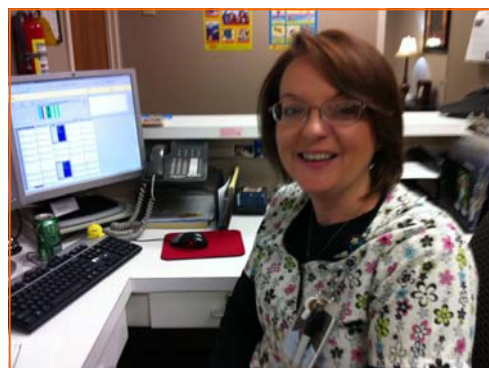
Geneva Joiner, pediatric surgery

Geneva Joiner (right), a Thomaston native, graduated from Gordon School of Nursing. With 17 years of nursing experience, 11 in pediatrics, she joined the Georgia Pediatric Surgical Associates as practice nurse in December. She is on the steering committee for the Georgia Pediatric Nurses Association. Her husband of 19 years, Richard Joiner, is a police officer for the city of Griffin. They have two children, Jason 16 and Heather 15. She is an avid reader and sampler of new recipes.



Lingwei Kong, surgical research

Lingwei Kong, M.S. (left) rejoined the Department of Surgery research laboratory under the direction of **Zhongbiao "J.B." Wang, M.D., Ph.D.**, associate professor. Lingwei, who trained in Shanghai at the Shanghai Institutes for Biological Sciences and the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, is married to Hairong Zhao, an accountant. They have a nine-year-old son Dejun. Lingwei is a 76th generation descendant of Confucius.



2012 Visiting Professors



Milford Hatcher Lecture: Selwyn Vickers

In March the Department of Surgery has the honor of hosting Selwyn M. Vickers, M.D. (left), as the 2012 Milford Hatcher Lecturer in Surgery at the Mercer University School of Medicine. Dr Vickers, one of the young leaders in American surgery, holds the Jay Phillips Chair of Surgery at the University of Minnesota and is an expert in the surgical management of the diseases of the pancreas. He is a member of all the major surgical organizations, and is on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Surgical Research* and the *American Journal of Surgery*.

Dr Vickers will speak to the Macon Surgical Society meeting Wednesday evening 6:30 p.m. in Trice Auditorium March 28 on the history of the Univ of Minnesota training program in surgery. The next morning March 29 he will attend the MCCG Tumor Board at 7 a.m., give the lecture at 8 a.m. at the Eversole Auditorium, "Novel approaches to pancreatic cancer." He then will discuss cases by MCCG residents following his lecture.

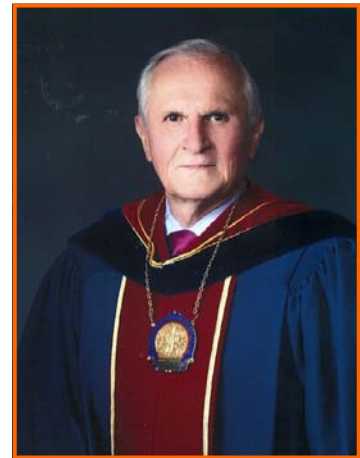
History of Medicine: Lamar McGinnis

Lamar McGinnis, M.D. (right), will give the keynote address at the History of Medicine Symposium on February 9. Fans of medical history in the Macon medical community, residents and medical students also participate.

Dr McGinnis is clinical professor of surgery at Emory University. He is past president of both the American College of Surgeons and the American Cancer Society.

He has also served as vice president of the Southern Surgical Association. He received the College's most important recognition, the Distinguished Service Award.

His address, "Mighty oaks from small acorns grow," will show how leadership, ideals, and persistence make a difference over the long term, traits with added importance in these epochal times.



Wayne Frederick, Howard University

Wayne A.I. Frederick, M.D. (left), professor of surgery and associate dean for clinical strategy and operations at Howard University and one of the rising stars in surgical oncology, will be visiting professor in February.

He will be the third speaker in the Department's and Medical Center's series on racial disparities in health care. His lecture to the Macon Surgical Society, "Unconscious bias in academic surgery," will explore racial disparities in academic surgery, and strategies to correct them. The lecture will be held at the Harriet Tubman Museum in Macon, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday February 15. The next morning Thursday February 16 he will attend the MCCG Tumor Board at 7 a.m.

and give a grand rounds lecture at 8 a.m. in the Eversole Auditorium, "Triple negative breast cancer in African American women." He will discuss resident cases following his lecture.

2012 Events



Venous thromboembolism: Elliott Haut

The Department will host Elliott R. Haut (left) of Johns Hopkins, continuing its year-long program in continuing medical education and quality improvement in the treatment and prevention of venous thromboembolism. Dr Haut, associate professor, is conducting federally funded clinical research in the prevention of VTE in trauma patients. He leads an institution-wide effort to prevent VTE at Johns Hopkins using computerized physician order entry to ensure all patients receive VTE prophylaxis. He will be speaking on these important topics to the Macon Surgical Society meeting Wednesday evening 6:30 p.m. in Trice Auditorium January 18 and at 7:30 a.m. the next morning January 19 at grand rounds. He then will discuss cases by MCCG residents following his lecture.

39th Day of Surgery: Focus on surgical quality

State surgical quality leaders will keynote the 39th Day of Surgery on April 12, the longest running professional medical education program at MCCG and founded by **Ellis Evans**, clinical professor. John S. Kennedy, a state leader in the Rapid Quality Reporting System (RQRS) of the American College of Surgeons (ACS), will provide an update in the use of the system to improve overall care and outcomes from breast and colon cancer. Dr Kennedy is in private practice with DeKalb Surgical Associates of Decatur. John F. Sweeney (right), W. Dean Warren Distinguished Professor at Emory University, is the state leader in the National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (NSQIP) of the ACS. He will report on statewide efforts to use NSQIP to improve surgical care and outcomes.

The Medical Center served as both an alpha and beta test site for RQRS and uses the data in reporting outcomes during its tumor board meetings. MCCG joined NSQIP this year and began active participation in November 2011.



John Mellinger, surgical educator

John D. Mellinger, professor and chair of general surgery at the Southern Illinois University (SIU) in Springfield, will be visiting professor in June. Currently the program director of the residency in surgery there, he is on the board of both the Association of Program Directors in Surgery and the Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Surgeons, the major professional groups of both fields. He has won institutional and national teaching awards, including the Outstanding Teacher award of the Association of Surgical Educators, and the Educator of the Year award of the Christian Medical and Dental Society.

His visit will take place the week of graduation, in part to honor 3 of 4 graduating chiefs from the Medical College of Georgia, where Dr Mellinger was their mentor before his present position at SIU.

Matthew Jerles, guest speaker at graduation dinner

Graduating chief residents asked **Matthew Jerles**, Clinical Professor and Chief of Otorhinolaryngology for the residency, to speak at their graduation dinner Saturday June 16. Dr Jerles teaches and lectures on head and neck surgery, and hosts regular get-togethers at his home.

Honors and awards

Brad Dennis, 2011 graduating chief resident, was named Resident of the Year by the fulltime faculty of the program in recognition of his leadership as administrative chief resident.

Residents were honored in an awards ceremony in June. **Amy Christie**, also a 2011 graduate, was recognized as having the highest score in the six core competencies of the ACGME, the areas that define medical practice. **Vincent Scoglietti**, PGY5, and **Kristin Collier**, PGY4, ranked 2nd and 3rd; **Preston Morehead**, PGY2, was the highest ranking intern. Dr Scoglietti was also recognized for the highest in-training exam score, achieving the 99th percentile among all test takers at his training level in the U.S. He also won the award for the best resident paper at the Day of Surgery symposium held in May. Dr Collier had the most improved in-training score, increasing her percentile level by 11 points. **Eric Long**, PGY4, received an award as trauma resident of the year at the graduation dinner. **Cecil Brown**, **Princess Nelson**, **Tracy Nolan**, and Dr Morehead received certificates for completing their internship.

Dr Long was the state winner in basic science for the Committee on Trauma resident paper competition at the annual meeting of the Georgia Society of the American College of Surgeons' meeting in Atlanta in August. He represented the state at the regional competition held in Kiawah Island, SC, in November, where he took second place.

Dr Collier was nominated for the American College of Surgeons' 2011 Resident Award for Exemplary Teaching, a national award to residents who have demonstrated skill and dedication to the education of fellow residents and medical students.

Craig Wengler, PGY3, received a scholarship, "Look to the Future," from the Society of Thoracic Surgeons to attend their annual meeting January 2012 in Fort Lauderdale. Dr Wengler is the third Mercer resident in consecutive years to receive the award, following **Jason Chapman**, PGY5, and **Jacob Moremen**, PGY4. Dr Wengler also received a scholarship to attend the "Masters of Laparoscopic Surgery" conference at Amelia Island, Fla., in November, sponsored by the Department of Surgery, Duke University School of Medicine.

Thomas "Rett" Reeve, IV, MS4, received the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma (AAST) Medical Student Scholarship for 2011. He attended the annual AAST meeting in September as one of 20 honored medical student awardees from U.S. schools, given to trainees interested in trauma and acute care surgery. Rett and **Heather Short**, MS4, received scholarships from the Department to represent MUSM at the Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons meeting in San Francisco in October.

Katie Wells, '11, published an article titled, "Social media in medical school education," in *Surgery*, one of the leading journals in the field. **Lindsey Karavites**, '12, won a national scholarship to attend the national meeting of the Association of Women Surgeons in San Francisco in October.

Bryan Weidner, associate professor, was recognized by the residents with their Macron Ayoub Resident Teaching Award. The award honors **Macram Ayoub**, professor and vice chair, for quality education and dedication to the clinical training of surgery residents.

Sam Shaker, clinical professor, was inducted into the Halsted Society in September 2011. The Halsted Society is among the most selective of surgical societies, limited to 75 active members. Founded in 1924, the society is dedicated to the exchange of scientific ideas. **Martin Dalton**, professor and dean emeritus, is also a member.

Upcoming Events - 2012

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

Elliott Haut, M.D., visiting professor: associate professor, Johns Hopkins. Macon Surgical Society, Trice Auditorium, Wednesday, January 18, 6:30 p.m.; Grand Rounds, Thursday, January 19, 7:30 a.m.

Juan Ayerdi, M.D., J. William Mix, M.D., and Maurice Solis, M.D. Macon Cardiovascular Institute, Department of Surgery. Venous thromboembolic conditions. Friday January 27, 7:30 a.m. - 12 noon.

13th History of Medicine Symposium. Lamar McGinnis, M.D., keynote speaker, past president, American College of Surgeons. Thursday, February 9, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

Wayne A.I. Frederick, M.D., visiting professor: professor of surgery, Howard University. Macon Surgical Society meeting, Harriet Tubman Museum (note location!), Wednesday, February 15, 6:30 p.m.; Eversole Auditorium, MCCG Tumor Board, 7:00 a.m., Grand Rounds, 8:00 a.m., Thursday, February 16.

2012 Milford Hatcher Lecture. Selwyn M. Vickers, M.D., Jay Phillips Professor and Chair, University of Minnesota. Macon Surgical Society, Trice Auditorium, Wednesday, March 28, 6:30 p.m.; MCCG Tumor Board, 7:00 a.m., Grand Rounds, 8:00 a.m., Thursday, March 29.

39th Day of Surgery. Visiting professors: **John S. Kennedy, M.D.**, DeKalb Surgical Associates, Decatur, Ga.; **John F Sweeney, M.D.**, W. Dean Warren Distinguished Professor, Emory University. Thursday, April 12, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.

4th Annual Chief Residents' Grand Rounds. 7:30 a.m., Thursday June 9.

John D. Mellinger, M.D., visiting professor: professor, chair, and program director, Southern Illinois University. Macon Surgical Society, Trice Auditorium, Wednesday, June 13, 6:30 p.m.; Grand Rounds, Thursday, June 14, 7:30 a.m.

Chief Residents' graduation. Speaker: **Matthew Jerles, M.D.**, clinical associate professor. Saturday June 16, Idle Hour Country Club, by invitation.

New interns and residents welcome reception. Saturday June 23, by invitation.

Articles, resident presentations

Peer-reviewed journal articles.

Nakayama D.K. Asian Americans in leadership positions in academic surgery. *Ann Surg*, in press.

Nakayama D.K., Lester S.S., Rich D.R., Weidner B.C., Glenn J.B., Shaker I.J. Quality improvement and patient care checklists in intra-hospital transfers involving pediatric surgery patients. *J Pediatr Surg*, in press.

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Chapman J.R., Weidner B.C., Nakayama D.K. How medical alumni now see their junior clerkships in surgery. *Am Surg* 2011;77:1161-7.

Books and chapters.

Book chapters; in: JS Robinson and M.S. Walid, editors. Toward healthcare resource stewardship, Hauppauge, N.Y., Nova Science Publishers, 2011, in press.

Bishop G, **Ashley DW.** The economics of regional trauma centers: Case study from Georgia.

Nakayama DK. An economic analysis of the physician workforce shortage.

Videos

Ashley DW (Introduction). Understanding brain injury. The Shepherd Center and KPInteractive, Atlanta, 2011.

Ashley DW (Introduction). Understanding spinal cord injury. The Shepherd Center and KPInteractive, Atlanta, 2011.

Presentations by residents.

Long EL, Scoglietti VC, Bush GP, Rich D, Shaker IJ, Nakayama DK. Proximal jejunostomy with early intestinal anastomoses and preservation of the ileocecal valve for extensive NEC. Southeastern Surgical Congress, February 12 - 15, Chattanooga.

Long E, Kong L, Kang J, Ashley DW, Nakayama DK, Wang Z. Oxidant-induced endothelial barrier dysfunction is caused by activation of p38 mitogen-activated protein kinase and inhibited by cyclic adenosine monophosphate (cAMP). Annual meeting, Georgia Society of the American College of Surgeons, August 27, Atlanta; Region IV COT Resident and Fellow Paper Competition, November 18, 19, Kiawah Island SC.

Scoglietti V.C., Bozeman A.P., Nakayama D.K. Team-based resident handoff improves identification of patient complications. Surgical Forum, Clinical Congress, American College of Surgeons, October 24, San Francisco.

Bush GD, Dalton ML, Nakayama DK. Endoscopic and laparoscopic experience by residents in rural surgery. Accepted, Society of American Gastroendoscopic Surgeons, March 7 - 10, 2012, San Diego.

Long E, Weaver B, Glenn J, Vogel R, Bozeman A, Lerner B, Kleris R, Van De Water J, Nakayama D, Rodriguez M. Non-invasive measurements of cardiac, hemodynamic, and tissue perfusion indices in normal infants. Accepted, American Pediatric Surgical Association, May 20 - 23, 2012, San Antonio.

Presentations, invited lectures

Accepted, Southeastern Surgical Congress, Feb 11 - 14, 2012, Birmingham.

Long EL, Christie DB III, Peterson C, Clark L, Nakayama DK. Emergent foreign body retrieval in acute airway obstruction: A novel use of the meconium aspirator.

Moremen JR, Christie DB III. Thymic carcinoma: Review of a rare neoplasm and treatment strategies.

Moremen JR, Wengler C, Brewer D, Judah J. Endorectal ultrasound-guided drainage of complicated perirectal abscess in Crohn's disease.

Invited lectures.

Presentations at the annual meeting, Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons, October 23 - 27, San Francisco.

Ashley, D.W. Coordinator and presiding officer, video-based education. Trauma.

Feliciano, D.V. Post graduate course, trauma and acute care surgery update. Gastroduodenal ulcers: Still there, still need a surgeon.

Feliciano, D.V. Meet the expert session. Complex abdominal trauma.

Feliciano, D.V. Panelist, surgical emergencies: When to call in the 'grey hair.'

Feliciano, D.V. Presiding officer and introducer, Excelsior Surgical Society Edward D. Churchill Lecture.

Presentations at the annual meeting, Georgia Society of the American College of Surgeons, August 27 and 28, Atlanta.

Ashley, D.W. Trauma communication . Political options, local options, and legal protection strategies in trauma care.

Nakayama, D.K. Surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP) measures and public reporting.

Presentations at the annual meeting, Georgia Surgical Society, September 16 - 18, Greensboro.

Ashley, D.W. Panelist, trauma cases that make me nervous.

Nakayama, D.K. 14th Annual William Whitaker Lecture. The contributions of pediatric surgery to medicine.

Presentations at the South Florida Society for Vascular Surgery, October 21, Islamorada, FL.

Ayerdi J., Chapman, J.R., Mix, J.M. A novel approach to the management of iliofemoral deep vein thrombosis with popliteal access and placement of inferior vena cava filter.

Ayerdi J., Keadle H.H., III, Mix, J.M. Initial experience with catheter directed treatment for pulmonary embolus.

Other lectures and presentations.

Ashley, D.W. Trauma system development in Georgia. Governor's "Every Life Counts" Highway Safety Conference, August 1, Savannah.

Ashley, D.W. To be or not to be a trauma center. Regionalization of trauma care. *Northeast Georgia Medical Center, October 18 - 20, Gainesville, GA.*

Ashley, D.W. Pilot project for Georgia trauma system regionalization. Region 5 Regional Trauma Advisory Committee, August 15, Macon.

Ashley, D.W. The Georgia trauma system: Past, present, and future. American Association of Critical Care Nurses, September 6, Macon.

Glenn, J.B. Ex-utero intra-partum treatment (EXIT) for cervical teratoma. Do U Care for Kids (DUCK) conference, November 3, Macon.

Ashley, D.W. Tales of our cities: Planning for interdisciplinary response to terrorist use of explosives. Meeting, local and regional planning for a statewide response. November 9, Atlanta.

Weidner, B.C., Dennis B.M., Ayoub M.M., Nakayama D.K. A dedicated residents'advocacy committee improves satisfaction responses on the ACGME annual residents' questionnaire. Accepted for presentation, Association of Program Directors in Surgery annual meeting, March 20 - 22 2012, San Diego.

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