# **UMMHC/UMMS Department of Surgery Newsletter**



• Frank Yuan, MD (PGY5 General Surgery Resident) married Kim Le on April 13, 2019 in a beautiful ceremony in Detroit, MI surrounded by friends and loved ones. (above)

- Jorge Lujan-Hernandez, MD (PGY3 Plastic Surgery Resident) married Marie Lujan in a beautiful wedding on January 5, 2019 in Playa del Carmen, Mexico. (above)
- **Stacy Sanders, MD** (PGY3 General Surgery Resident) married Richard Burke on May 26, 2019 in Duxbury, MA. They were blessed by one of the two sunny days in May surrounded by close friends and family.



• **Peiwen Lim, MD,** Division of Minimally Invasive Surgery, and her husband, Zhi Ven Fong, MD, welcomed their first child and son, Nathaniel Wei Jin Fong on March 16, 2019.



 Congratulations to the Prior Authorization Team, Surgical ASG, on being nominated for the 2018 Innovator of the Year Award! (Left to right Amanda Curtin, Michele Sleight, Yahaira Rosado and April McIntyre)

## Congratulations

# **Departmental Updates**



## Department of Surgery Supports PARTNERS for World Health Event - Blue Wrap Runway 2019

Blue Wrap Runway is the only charity event where dazzling fashions help to supply hospitals and medical clinics around the world. At Blue Wrap Runway, leading designers take blue wrap—normally used to wrap sterilized medical supplies—and create one- of-a-kind fashions. www.partnersforworldhealth.org

### Honors

Congratulations to the following General Surgery Residents and Faculty who were awarded the following honors from the University of Massachusetts Medical School

- Ashley Russo, MD Gold Humanism Honor Society
- Michael Hirsh, MD Humanistic Faculty Educator Award
- Max Hazeltine, MD House Officer Holistic Educator Award
- Abraham Jaffe, MD House Officer Humanistic Award
- Brian Jao, MD (PGY3 Plastic Surgery Resident) won an award from the ED faculty for Excellence in Consultation. Great job!



Gregory Volturo, MD, presenting award to Brian Jao, MD



Congratulations to the following Department of Surgery faculty appointments and promotions (left to right)

Feiran Lou, MD (Thoracic Surgery) Assistant Professor
James Lindberg, MD (Surgical Oncology) Assistant Professor
Jessica Simons, MD, MPH (Vascular Surgery) Associate Professor

# **Research Updates**



Ryan Hendrix, MD, MSCI with mentor lennifer LaFemina. MD

### **Research Scholars Program**



Robert McLoughlin, MD, MSCI with mentor Jeremy Aidlen, MD



Viji Daniel, MD, MPH via Skype with mentor Heena Santry, MD

• Congratulations to the 2018-2019 Department of Surgery, Surgical Research Scholar Program, General Surgery Residency Graduates: Ryan Hendrix, MD, MSCI, Robert McLoughlin, MD, MSCI, and Viji Daniel, MD, **MPH**. General Surgery PGY2 residents **Max Hazeltine**, **MD**, **Hannah Buettner**, **MD**, and **Bryce Bludevich**, **MD**, will start their two years of academic development time in July 2019.

### Grants

• Congratulations to Joyce McIntyre, MD, Division of Plastic Surgery, and Louis Messina, MD, Division of Vascular Surgery, who were awarded 2019 Worcester Foundation grants. Dr. McIntyre's grant supports a study entitled "Evaluation of Cephalic Index Norms After the Back to Sleep Campaign: An Epidemiologic Study." Dr. Messina's grant supports a study entitled "Cell Immunotherapy for Colorectal Cancer Using Tet1-Dependent Differentiation of Human Hematopoietic Stem Cells towards NKT and gamma-delta T-cells." Dr. **Messina** also recieved a grant from Forkhead BioTherapeutics for a study: "Foxp3 Inhibits Wound Healing in Type 2 Diabetes."



Joyce McIntyre, MD Louis Messina, MD

• Congratulations to Paulo Martins, MD, PhD, Division of Transplant Surgery, who was recently awarded the 2019 American Society of Transplant Surgeons Rising Star Award. Annually, one award is given one individual who has made significant, profound, or potentially transformative contributions in the field. Andrew Gillooly, MD (entering PGY1 resident) also received the ASTS Travel Research Award at the same meeting for his work under Dr. Martins' mentorship.

https://asts.org/professional-development/award-recipients/awards-recipients#.XAWmTRZOnDs



Paulo Martins, MD, PhD was awarded the 2019 American Society of Transplant Surgeons Rising Star Award.



Andrew Gillooly, MD received the ASTS Travel Research Award.

# **Research Updates**

• The Division of Pediatric Surgery had two recent Quick Shot podium presentations at the recent Academic Surgical Congress in Houston, TX. Current research resident **Robert McLoughlin**, **MD**, traveled with **Jeremy Aidlen**, **MD**, pediatric surgeon, and recent UMMS graduate, **Kerri McKie**, **MD** to present work entitled "Risk Factors for Venous Thromboembolism in Pediatric Patients with Inflammatory Bowel Disease" and "Unintentional Firearm Injuries in Pediatric Patients."



- Additionally, Dr. Rob McLoughlin presented at the APSA meeting and was very well received. Kerri McKie, MD received one of the three Annual Surgical Excellence Awards as well as presented a paper at a national meeting coauthored by Muriel Cleary, MD and Jeremy Aidlen, MD.
- Amy Pratt, DO (Fellow, Hematology-Oncology) presented collaborative work between the Division of Surgical Oncology (**Jennifer LaFemina, MD, Anne Larkin, MD**), Medical Oncology (Kathy Edmiston, MD, Madhavi Toke, MD), and Genetic Counseling (Beverly Hay, MD). This work, "Genetic Risk and Compliance with Risk Reduction in a High-Risk Breast Population," was presented in May at the 2019 Annual Meeting for the Association of Breast Surgeons. We are profoundly fortunate for our ongoing collaborative research within the Breast Group!

Congratulations to **Nicole Cherng**, **MD** (PGY5) and **Rich Perugini**, **MD** (Division of Minimally Invasive Surgery) on their recent presentations with other members of the department at the 2019 SAGES annual meeting.

- Dynamic MRI to Assess Complex Abdominal Wall Hernias. Nicole Cherng, James Carroll, Philip Cohen, Richard Perugini.
- Laparoscopic Plication for Stomal Prolapse. Richard A Perugini, Nicole Cherng, Justin Maykel.

Congratulations to a dear friend of the Department of Surgery, Kavita Babu, MD, (Department of Emergency Medicine) and her recent paper in *NEJM*, entitled"Prevention of Opioid Overdose."

**Ryan Hendrix, MD** presented and was involved in several studies at the 2019 Annual Society of Surgical Oncology Meeting. These included:

Talks

- Intratumoral Injection of Anti-PD-1 Generates Peripheral Memory CD4+/CD8+ Lymphocytes, with **Giles Whalen, MD**
- Primary Tumor Sidedness is Predictive of Survival in Colon Cancer Patients Treated with Cytoreductive Surgery with or without Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy: A Multi-Institutional Collaborative Study, in collaboration with Laura Lambert, MD
- Institutional Variation in Recovery After Cytoreductive Surgery and Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy: An Opportunity for Enhanced Recovery Pathways, in collaboration with Laura Lambert, MD **Posters**
- Upregulation of CD4+/CD8+ Lymphocyte Activity Following Intratumoral Anti-PD-1 Injection, with **Giles Whalen, MD**
- Elevated Maximum Core Body Temperature During HIPEC Increases Postoperative Complications and Higher-average Flow Rates During HIPEC Optimize Peritoneal Hyperthermia, in collaboration with Laura Lambert, MD

# **Research Updates**



• In May 2019, the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery delivered EIGHT podium presentations at the Annual New England Society of Plastic Surgeons Meeting in Newport, RI. **Alannah Phelan's** (PGY2 Plastic Surgery Resident) presentation "Rethinking Farkas: Updating Cephalic Index Norms in a Diverse Urban Patient Population" won the prestigious Joseph Murray Award for best presentation by a resident. A point of surgical history: the first kidney transplant was done by Boston Plastic surgeon Joe Murray, and the award is in his honor.

### **Recent publications:**

- Colorectal
  - Viji Daniel, MD, MPH with Karim Alavi, MD, Jennifer Davids, MD, Paul Sturrock, MD,
     Tina Harnsberger, MD and Justin Maykel, MD: The Utility of the Delphi Method in Defining Anastomotic
     Leak Following Colorectal Surgery.
  - Susanna Hill, MD and Jennifer Davids, MD: Surgical Evaluation and Management of Constipation.
  - Jennifer Davids, MD: Association of Domestic Responsibilities With Career Satisfaction for Physician Mothers in Procedural vs Nonprocedural Fields.
- Surgical Oncology
  - Ryan Hendrix, MD with Jennifer LaFemina, MD and Anne Larkin, MD: Prophylactic Versus Therapeutic Mastectomy: A Contemporary Analysis of the ACS-NSQIP Database.
- Pediatric Surgery
  - Robert McLoughlin, MD with Max Hazeltine, MD (PGY2) and Michael Hirsh, MD, Jeremy Aidlen, MD, and Muriel Cleary, MD: Young Lives Cut Short: The Relationship between Firearms and Pediatric Suicide.
- Cardiac Surgery
  - Ryan Hendrix, MD with Ricardo Bello, MD: Mitral Valve Repair Versus Replacement in Elderly with Degenerative Disease: Analysis of the STS Adult Cardiac Surgery Database.
- Plastic Surgery
  - Jorge Lujan-Hernandez, MD with Janice Lalikos, MD: Generation of Functional Human Adipose Tissue in Mice from Primed Progenitor Cells.
- Vascular Surgery
  - Andres Schanzer, MD:
    - Global Vascular Guidelines on the Management of Chronic Limb-threatening Ischemia.
    - Using the Society for Vascular Surgery Wound, Ischemia, and Foot Infection Classification to Identify Patients Most Likely to Benefit from Revascularization.
  - Jessica Simons, MD and Andres Schanzer, MD: Survival Prediction in Patients with Chronic Limb-Threatening Ischemia who Undergo Infrainguinal Revascularization.

These were taken from a recent PubMed search. If any were missed, please forward for inclusion in the next issue!

# **Other Updates**

- **Surgical Research Database.** Medical students and residents interested in surgery or surgical specialties want to get involved with research. However, many do not know which UMass surgeons conduct research, what the active projects are, and which projects could use assistance. This database provides a single source which features PIs and their active UMass surgical research projects that students could join. Faculty and Residents will have their projects marketed directly to the students most interested in surgery research, allowing for improved student recruitment. To be featured on the database please input your research by filling out the form here: https://umassmed.edu/surgicalresearch/form. For further questions please contact Fiona Dore at fiona.dore@umassmed.edu.
- General Surgery has been so very fortunate this year to have many faculty involved in CASS lectures. Thank you to each and everyone who made this year possible. There are too many highlights to properly name, but please know each lecture was thoroughly appreciated. Recent lectures have included:

On June 7, 2019, Ulises Torres, MD and Rich Perugini, MD organized a talk and small group session around Arbinger Training. From 12:00, clockwise:
 Sanaz Leilabadi (PGY5), Ulises Torres, Christine
 Van Horn (PGY1), Catherine Beauharnais (PGY1),



**Emily Mackey** (PGY1), **Christine Choi** (PGY5), **Nicole Cherng** (PGY5).

 Jennifer Davids, MD coordinated the final session of the year in simulation training in our Surgical Skills lab. This was designed by Dr. Davids a year ago and continues to grow, now (in coordination with our surgeons at Milford Hospital) with the creation and implementation of the Robotic Curriculum.

On June 14, 2019, we kicked off our first interdisciplinary training with the Department of Anesthesia, where we conducted mock high-stakes trainings in the OR.

- **Muriel Cleary, MD** will complete her Quality Scholars Program in June.
- Jeremy Aidlen, MD launched the Division of Pediatric Surgery's program at MetroWest Hospital.

- Jennifer LaFemina, MD was invited to present a talk entitled "Creating Individualized Learning Plans: "Getting Them Where They Need to Be" at the Association of Program Directors in Surgery Annual Meeting in April.
- Janice Lalikos, MD was named the Program Director of the Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Residency. Joyce McIntyre, MD was named Associate Program Director.
- On March 1, 2019, the Division of Thoracic Surgery launched a new perioperative program designed to optimize the patient experience and improve outcomes after major thoracic operations including lung cancer surgery and other types of lung resections. The comprehensive Thoracic Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) Pathway focuses on patient education, preoperative patient optimization, minimally invasive thoracic surgery, video-assisted or robot-assisted thoracic surgery, multimodal pain control, enhanced recovery, early mobilization and ambulation, and clear and concise discharge instructions. Congratulations to division members Karl Uy, MD, Feiran Lou, MD, Mark Maxfield, MD, Poliana Lin, NP, Isabel Emmerick, PhD, and Maggie Powers, NP on this great quality initiative! https://www.umassmemorialhub.org/news/ new-thoracic-surgery-pathway-optimizes-recovery



### Welcome 2019 - 2020 New Residents to the Department of Surgery.

The Department of Surgery had a wonderful match season for its three residency programs! Additionally we welcome a number of new residents for the expanded general surgery program. Please join us in welcoming our incoming residents.

**General Surgery - Categorical** 



Danielle DePalo, MD **Emory University** 



Edward Kim, MD, PhD **Boston University** 



Kaye Lu, MD Tufts University



Stony Brook University



Gazi Rashid, MD Emory University



Giulia Rizzo, MD **Tufts Medical School** 

**General Surgery - Preliminary** 



Qi Wang, MD, D.Pharm. Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson



Andrew Gillooly, MD UMass Medical School (PGY1)



Jose Mercado-Matos, MD, PhD



Raghav Mohan, MBBS Jana Qiao, MD UMass Medical School (PGY1) Kasturba Medical College (PGY1) UMass Medical School (PGY1)



Landon Guntman, MD Piyush Gupta, MBBS Maricopa Integrated Health (PGY2) Yale New Haven Health (PGY2)

Larissa Pamen, MD



## **General Surgery - Categorical Residents for the Program Expansion**



Marah Tillman, MD Mount Sinai PGY4



Ricardo Bello Boccardo, MD Johns Hopkins PGY3



Armando Salim Munoz, MD Yale University PGY3



Daniel Baldor, MD Naval Medical Ctr, San Diego PGY2

### **Plastic Surgery Interns**



Andrea Castaldo, MD Southern Illinois University



Thomas Cervantes, MD Stanford University

### **Vascular Surgery Interns**



Thomas Creeden, DO Des Moines University



Charles Fang, MD Duke University

Welcome to the

University of Massachusetts Medical School Worcester, Massachusetts

## **Congratulations Department of Surgery Graduating Chief Residents**

### **General Surgery**



Christine Choi, MD **Cleveland Clinic Colorectal Surgery Fellowship** 



Nicole Cherng, MD **UMass Medical School** 



Abraham Jaffe, MD **Boston Medical Center** 



Frank Yuan, MD Baylor Univ. Med. Center University of Cincinnati General Surgery Practice Trauma and Critical Care Fellowship Plastic Surgery Fellowship



Harold Hsu, MD Baylor Univ. Med. Center Vascular Surgery Fellowship



Sanaz Leilabadi, MD

## **Plastic Surgery**



Jason Crespo, MD University of Massachusetts Hand Surgery Fellowship



Eleanor Tomczyk, MD Massachusetts General Hospital Breast Surgery Fellowship



Eric Bluemn, MD St Luke's Medical Center Attending Vascular Surgeon

## Vascular Surgery



Satish Mohan, MD **Riverside Hospital** Attending Vascular Surgeon

Best Wishes Graduates

### **DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY GLOBAL SURGERY INITIATIVES**

**Rescue Mission Roatan 2019**: Led by **Ulises Torres, MD**, the Department of Surgery, in collaboration with the Department of Anesthesiology and the Perioperative Team, recently completed another successful surgical mission to Roatan, Honduras. Hospital Roatan, the island's only public hospital, serves a critical role in the community and provides care for those most in need. Despite limited resources, the resilience and graciousness of both patients and staff is unparalleled. Working alongside the local nurses and doctors, our multidisciplinary team performed 25 elective operations, more than half of which were completed laparoscopically. The experience of Rescue Mission Roatan is humbling yet inspiring. Most importantly, through educational efforts and simulation with the local medical residents, a sustainable and lasting effect on the community has been possible.

**Team Members included:** 

Peter Foley, MD (Anesthesiology) **Chandra Joshi**, **MD** (Anesthesiology) Ulises Torres, MD (Surgery) Alfredo Torres, MD (Surgery) Rose Shack, MD (Anesthesia Resident) John F. Kelly, MD (PGY3 General Surgery) Ryan Hendrix, MD (Research Resident, General Surgery) Christopher Foley (Bioengineering student) Joanna Bergin, RN (Critical Care RN)

Marissa Roth, RN (OR nurse) Merlyn Xavier, RN (OR nurse) Joseph Xavier (OR tech) Alyssa Stetson, MS (MS3) **Erek Arsiniega** (Anesthesia Tech and pre-med student) Andrew Torres (Pre-Med student)



Rvan Hendrix, MD

John Kelly, MD

Roatan team members





Ecuador team members



(Left to right) Jing Bai Qin, MD (PGY5), Douglas M. Rothkopf, MD, Jorge Lujan-Hernandez, MD (PGY3)

## **ADDITIONAL GOODBYES**

- **Cristina ("Tina") Harnsberger, MD**, Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery, will be sadly departing to take a position at Sansum Clinic in Santa Barbara, CA. This is a great opportunity as she will be teaching the General Surgery residents and work in the hospital where she was born! We will miss you and your family—you have been such a valuable member of our department.
- The Department of Surgery wishes the following residents and fellows good luck and thank you as they complete their training in our programs:
  - Ann Smith, MD, Minimally Invasive Fellow: General and Bariatric Surgeon, VA West Roxbury
  - C. Tyler Ellis, MD, Colorectal Fellow: Assistant Professor of Surgery, University of Louisville, KY
  - Joshua Cassedy, MD, Preliminary PGY2: Lehigh Valley Hospital, Allentown, PA, General Surgery
  - Jaden Kifer, MD, Preliminary PGY2: East Jefferson Hospital, New Orleans, LA, Family Medicine
  - Syeda Anum, MD, Preliminary PGY1: St. Elizabeth's Medical Center, Radiology
  - Alyssa Cali, MD, Preliminary PGY1: Baystate Internal Medicine
  - Robert Gakwaya, MD, Preliminary PGY1: UMass Pediatric Medicine
  - Meghan Lardy, MD, Preliminary PGY1: University of Buffalo, OB-GYN
  - Christine Van Horn, MD, Preliminary PGY1: UMass Urology
  - Viji Daniel, MD, SRS Research Fellow: UMass Dermatology

# **Upcoming Events**

- 1. Department of Surgery Annual Photograph: Wednesday, June 19, 7 AM, Outside Sherman Center
- 2. General Surgery Resident Change Show: Saturday, June 22 at 10 am in AmpII, S4-102
- 3. General Surgery Residency Graduation: **Saturday, June 22 at 6 pm** at Publick House, 277 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA
- 4. Plastic Surgery Residency Graduation: Friday, June 21 at the Beechwood Hotel
- 5. Start of 2019-2020 Academic Year: July 1, 2019
- The Annual Meeting for the Massachusetts Chapter for the ACS will be held at Westin Copley Place in Boston on Saturday December 7. Abstract deadline is August 12, 2019. http://meeting.mcacs.org/
- 7. The UMass Cancer Center Walk & Run will take place Sunday, September 22. Please consider taking part, joining, or donating to the Surgeons for Cancer team. Details can be found at: https://www.firstgiving.com/event/umasscancerwalk/21st-UMass-Cancer-Walk-Run https://umassmed.edu/cancerwalk
- 8. Now is your chance to give your tax deductible contribution to the General Surgery Resident Education Fund. Please donate online today at: https://w3.umassmed.edu/onlinedonation/ Pick "other" from the category of funds from which to donate, and write in "General Surgery Resident Education Fund" when prompted.

## **Calling for Submissions!**

We would love to highlight your achievements! Please send all submissions including high-resolution photos to Themia Pappas-Fillmore in the Department of Surgery (Surgical ASG)

Themia.Pappas-Fillmore@umassmed.edu