Discovery
Innovation
Collaboration

Chicago’s Newest Hospital
To learn more about the University of Chicago Department of Surgery or the Chicago Style of Surgery, visit surgery.uchicago.edu or scan this QR code with your smartphone.

To learn more about the University of Chicago Center for Care and Discovery, visit careanddiscovery.uchospitals.edu or scan this QR code with your smartphone.

Reimagined. Redefined. Realized. These three critical stages shaped the new University of Chicago Center for Care and Discovery.

Set to open in early 2013, this remarkable building will serve as the new core of the hospital campus, and more specifically, of the Department of Surgery. The $700 million, 10-story, 1.2 million-square-foot facility will foster collaboration and interaction among clinicians and staff to actively engage our patients and families in their care. Engineered to link the forefront of medicine to clinical care, research and education at the University of Chicago, the Center for Care and Discovery provides a facility capable of transforming itself as rapidly as medicine changes. The building features 28 surgical suites—each equipped for the da Vinci Surgical System and live surgical webcasting for international collaboration—and a Surgery Command Center that includes a virtual viewing room, a surgical video library and real-time editing. The Center also contains 240 private inpatient and intensive care beds, 12 rooms for gastrointestinal and pulmonary procedures and seven interventional radiology suites that house high-resolution MRI and CT scanners.

This technological and architectural marvel will bridge the University of Chicago Comer Children’s Hospital and the Duchossois Center for Advanced Medicine, our outpatient care facility. The Center is adjacent to two new, cutting-edge research facilities: the Gordon Center for Integrative Science and the Knapp Center for Biomedical Discovery. Looking back over this past year, we’ve once again gained remarkable ground in all dimensions of our tripartite mission of clinical care, research and education. As leaders and innovators who shape the future of the field of surgery, we hold ourselves to a higher standard as we continue to be the leading provider of complex care in Illinois, a unique research-rich environment that performs agenda-setting science, and a magnet for the best students, residents and fellows in medicine and biology.

We have cultivated a unique, multidisciplinary environment of the best minds in research and medicine. With our collaborative-rich culture and the remarkable new tools at hand with the Center for Care and Discovery, this coming year will undoubtedly be one of extraordinary pursuits in medicine, research, education and patient care.

JEFFREY B. MATTHEWS, MD
Surgeon-in-Chief and Chairman, Department of Surgery
Dallas B. Phemister Professor of Surgery
Clinical Care

With high-tech interventional/surgical suites and 240 private inpatient rooms, the Center for Care and Discovery provides physicians with an exceptional environment for patient care.

In the Department of Surgery, collaboration among our diverse experts is essential. The new Center for Care and Discovery is designed and positioned to help foster that interaction of the best minds in medicine, and provides a world-class level of technology that will match our intellectual expertise.

This past April, our pediatric cochlear implant surgical team, led by Dana Suskind, MD, implanted its 100th cochlear implant into 11-month-old Cordero Rice, who was born with profound sensorineural hearing loss in both ears. Cordero’s implant consists of an external device, including a microphone and a speech processor, and a surgically implanted internal device. The microphone picks up sound and sends it to the speech processor—a powerful microcomputer that filters and sends sounds to the implant into 11-month-old Cordero Rice, who was born with profound sensorineural hearing loss in both ears. This team, led by Dana Suskind, MD, implanted its 100th cochlear implant into Cordero, a child with profound sensorineural hearing loss in both ears. Cordero’s implant consists of an external device, including a microphone and a speech processor, and a surgically implanted internal device. The microphone picks up sound and sends it to the speech processor—a powerful microcomputer that filters and sends sounds to the sound and sends it to the speech processor—a powerful microcomputer that filters and sends sounds to the implant. The receiver processes the electrical signals and sends them to electrode contacts, which stimulate remaining auditory nerve fibers in Cordero’s cochlea. Finally, the signals are carried to his brain, where listening and language take place.

About three weeks after this milestone surgery, Cordero’s implant activated. The team considers that day to be Cordero’s “hearing birthday,” because it moved him from a world of silence into a world of sound. Expert knowledge is also what brought 43-year-old Kimberly Abram to the University of Chicago. Abrams developed achalasia, an illness that prevents proper swallowing and makes eating nearly impossible. Her symptoms began with horrible chest pains, but six months later, she was unable to keep most of her food down. After losing a significant amount of weight and losing much of her hair, her local hospital finally pinpointed achalasia, but Abrams started researching her disease on her own. Many people recommended Marco Patti, MD, at the University of Chicago’s Center for Esophageal Diseases, whose 90 percent success rate gave Abrams hope. Dr. Patti performed Abrams’ Heller myotomy in July 2012, and she was able to eat soft foods the very next day. “It was well worth the effort to travel to find a doctor that would understand my problem and treat me well.”

The University of Chicago Medicine is also a leader in transplantation. Since our first human transplant, the center has performed more than 2,500 kidney transplants, 400 pancreas transplants, 1,600 liver transplants and 300 heart transplants. Our medical center is also home to one of the nation’s premier liver transplant teams, with the best survival rates in the city. Headed by John Renz, MD, PhD, the multidisciplinary team performs all types of liver transplantation, including whole organ, split-liver and living donor procedures. We’re also internationally known for multi-organ transplants, having been the first to perform a successful heart-liver-kidney transplant. Our transplant programs are recognized for the highest standards of clinical care and processes.

It’s imperative to have good communication to deliver exceptional care. The University of Chicago’s Bucksbaum Institute for Clinical Excellence is a unique initiative designed to improve doctor-patient communication and clinical decision-making. The goal is to enhance the skills of physicians as advisers, counselors and navigators to help patients make informed decisions when facing complex treatment choices. Vascular surgeon Ross Milner, MD, has been named the first Bucksbaum master clinician, a three-year appointment. The Institute also selected two new junior faculty scholars and three student scholars, and has named 30 associate junior and senior faculty scholars.

The Institute for Clinical Excellence is a unique initiative designed to improve doctor-patient communication and clinical decision-making. The goal is to enhance the skills of physicians as advisers, counselors and navigators to help patients make informed decisions when facing complex treatment choices. Vascular surgeon Ross Milner, MD, has been named the first Bucksbaum master clinician, a three-year appointment. The Institute also selected two new junior faculty scholars and three student scholars, and has named 30 associate junior and senior faculty scholars. Dr. Milner also recently joined the faculty as the co-director of the University of Chicago Center for Aortic Diseases (UCCAD), another distinctive program made to deliver extraordinary clinical care. When a patient presents with a complex aortic problem, time is often of the essence, and expert care needs to be obtained quickly. That’s why UCCAD was established. A world-class team of clinicians and scientists manage complex aortic conditions, including: aneurysms; dissections; valve disease (stenosis, insufficiency and bicuspid aortic valve); native and prosthetic graft infections (including endocarditis) and congenital disease, including Marfan’s syndrome.

Another extraordinary program helps pediatric patients with craniofacial disorders. Pediatricians and family physicians now have a world-class place to refer children with craniofacial disorders: the Craniofacial Anomalies Multidisciplinary Program, or CAMP. Russell Reid, MD, PhD, a Harvard-educated craniofacial surgeon, leads the program, which provides dedicated care to patients with complex skull and facial/bone diseases. The CAMP team includes a geneticist, a neurosurgeon and a neuroradiologist who all have extensive experience treating congenital craniofacial problems, among other team members. “This program is something unique that we have to offer,” Dr. Reid said. “It’s appealing to parents to come to the clinic and get a broad perspective on their child’s situation.”

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Technological advancements abound, offering surgeons immediate access to information and equipment, as well as advanced digital data capture and cataloging of intraoperative images. This connectivity allows for real-time and archived images and information to revolutionize the way surgery is performed, studied and improved.

Every detail was considered when designing the suites, down to removing all equipment from the floor to allow unfettered access for clinicians. The dramatically increased suite size also offers opportunities for enhanced teaching, learning and observation, ensuring the next generation of surgeons will be prepared to tackle tomorrow’s challenges.

The surgical suites deliver unparalleled access to the decades of collective knowledge and experience of the institution, with instant electronic access anywhere in the world. This interchange grants surgeons the ability to share discoveries and consult experts at the point of care, providing collaboration with clinicians on campus and with colleagues all over the globe.
The surgical faculty is engaged in the training of medical students, residents and fellows across all disciplines in order to provide our patients with state-of-the-art, evidence-based care. Trainees participate in innovative surgical procedures, dynamic outpatient care and multidisciplinary educational conferences. Our surgical curriculum has been refined and organized by Nancy Schindler, MD, who is the associate director of surgical education and vice chairman of surgical education at the University of Chicago and NorthShore University HealthSystem. The general surgery residency program has instituted a “Residents as Teachers” program, refined the Open and Minimally Invasive Surgery Skills curricula, and developed a collaborative Quality Improvement Initiative. Our commitment to educational scholarship is realized by our department submitting four abstracts to the American Surgical Education Society meeting, one abstract to the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES) meeting and another to the Association of Program Directors in Surgery during the past academic year. We have contributed two skills lab modules to the Med Ed portal and have supported two MERITS fellows this year (Megan Miller, MD, and Sabha Ganai, MD, PhD).

Many of our outstanding faculty and residents have received accolades by both local and national societies for their educational achievements. Eric Grossman, MD (2012 graduate in general surgery), was awarded the Outstanding Resident Teacher Award in 2012 by the Association for Surgical Education. Baddr Shakhshneer, MD (PGY-3 general surgery resident), was inducted into the Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism Honors Society, and Nancy Schindler, MD, joined several other surgical faculty in the Academy of Distinguished Medical Educators, including Javad Hakmat-Panah, MD (neurosurgery); Kevin Roggin, MD (general surgery); Nora Jaskowiak, MD (general surgery); and Karl Matlin, PhD (surgical research). Scott Eggener, MD, associate professor, urology, was honored by the graduating Pritzker School of Medicine class of 2012 by being a faculty inductee into the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society. Dr. Grossman was the recipient of the Outstanding Trauma Resident Award in the 2011-2012 academic year, and nine of our general surgery residents were awarded academic achievement awards for their outstanding performance in the national ABITE examination. Our outstanding surgical educators were honored at the 2012 Surgical Education Day in a novel, merit-based awards program for their teaching of medical students, residents and fellows within our department.

Our graduate medical education (GME) program is led by Barry Kamin, MS, whose outstanding leadership and vision has an impact on all of the graduate programs in cardiac and thoracic surgery, neurosurgery, ophthalmology and visual science, otolaryngology-head and neck surgery, pediatric surgery, plastic and reconstructive surgery, transplantation, urology and vascular surgery and endovascular therapy. The GME office is overseeing the important transition to the next accreditation system (NAS) by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). The NAS has been implemented as an outcomes-based evaluation system by which the doctors of tomorrow will be measured for their competency in performing the essential tasks necessary to clinical practice in the 21st century. Under this new system, medical residency programs will get credit based on national benchmarks for physician competency within each specialty, including the core competencies and clinical skills necessary for future physicians to respond to rapid developments in healthcare delivery. This program will facilitate innovation within surgical education, reduce the burden of accreditation and provide accountability for outcomes to the public. The Section of Vascular Surgery and Endovascular Therapy, led by Christopher Skelly, MD, has been designated as one of the pilot programs to start this new accreditation process. Dr. Skelly and his team of academic vascular surgeons have initiated a process of developing a competency-based evaluation system with appropriate educational milestones to document observable developmental steps from the beginning of residency to the expected level of proficiency at graduation from the program. Over the next two years, all of our programs will move to the NAS to improve the quality and transparency of our educational processes. Both the urology residency training program and colorectal fellowship were both reaccredited by the ACGME this year.

To provide more efficient, safer medical education and clinical training with the goal of improving safety and quality of health, the Biological Sciences Division, Pritzker and UCM leadership have developed a comprehensive Center for Simulation in Healthcare. Led by director Stephen D. Small, MD, the American College of Surgeons accredited our Simulation Center in June 2012 as a Level-1 comprehensive educational institute. Dr. Small and his team have worked together across the complete UCM enterprise with collaborators at the Computation Institute at Argonne National Laboratory to lower the threshold for faculty-driven projects, nurture interdisciplinary collaboration, achieve significant economies of skill and full utilization of resources to catalyze thoughtful programs that create value. This Center has worked to design a state-of-the-art simulation space, administrative support plan and leadership to provide innovative training for our students, residents and fellows.
“Discovery is our business.”

This pronouncement by Charles Huggins, the 1966 Nobel Prize winner from the Department of Surgery, continues to drive our successful and innovative research efforts. Our research is noted not only for its vibrancy, with more than $10 million of funded research projects, but also by its diversity. While some investigators examine fundamental mechanisms of disease at the cellular and molecular level, others work to develop target therapies for devastating diseases.

The laboratory of Mahesh Gupta, PhD, in the Section of Cardiac and Thoracic Surgery focuses on the molecular understanding of cardiac dysfunction and the development of heart failure. While the last few decades have witnessed increased understanding of the mechanisms of heart failure and the development of advanced treatments, major gaps still remain. Dr. Gupta and his colleagues are studying heart proteins called sirtuins that have been linked to increased lifespans in humans. They hypothesize that activation of these proteins can prevent damage to the heart in a variety of situations, including those associated with diabetes, chemotherapy and even aging. As part of their work, they are screening potential drugs to find candidates that may specifically activate different types of sirtuins and protect the heart from damage. Over the past year, their research has been published in the most prestigious and widely read scientific journals, including Nature Medicine and Science Signaling, which featured their work on its cover.

In the Section of Neurosurgery, investigators are attacking brain cancer with a variety of cutting-edge technologies. Patients with malignant brain cancer have a particularly poor prognosis because of the narrow range of therapeutic options. In response, Maciej Lesniak, MD, is developing multi-pronged approaches to specifically target tumor cells. These methods include the development of genetically engineered viruses that can be introduced into the tumor bed following surgery. These viruses, based upon the common innocuous adenovirus, bind specifically to tumor cells and then infect and kill them. In addition, the viruses reproduce and spread locally, so that tumor cells that were not initially attacked can be located and destroyed.

In addition to virotherapy, the Lesniak lab is collaborating with scientists at Argonne National Laboratory, a University of Chicago affiliate, to utilize nanotechnology to kill brain tumor cells. Together, Department of Surgery and Argonne investigators developed submicroscopic magnetic discs. After being placed in the area of the tumor and targeted specifically to tumor cells, the discs can be induced to oscillate in response to a weak magnetic field. This causes damage to 90 percent of the tumor cells, causing them to undergo programmed cell death. While this experimental therapy has not yet been applied to human brain cancer, it shows tremendous promise.
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**Cardiac + Thoracic Surgery**

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The Center for Care and Discovery is at the heart of the University of Chicago Medicine’s campus in Hyde Park, but the care our surgeons provide expands into the community, from supporting local causes to performing surgeries in the far corners of the world.

On the local front, the Section of Cardiac and Thoracic Surgery stepped up (literally) to raise funds for the American Heart Association (AHA). More than 250 representatives from the University of Chicago Medicine (UCM) walked in the annual Heart Walk in Grant Park. The teams raised $50,000 for the AHA.

More than $1,000 of that money was raised a month before the Heart Walk, when brave UCM volunteers offered to take their place in a charity dunk tank set up in the Wyler Courtyard. Among the “dunkees” was Valluvan Jeevanandam, MD, chief of the Section of Cardiac and Thoracic Surgery. With Dr. Jeevanandam as the target, several colleagues lined up to buy tickets. It was all good-natured fun, and raised funds for a cause that is close to the heart.

Also in the community, the Department of Surgery was represented by Ginard Henry, MD, and others, who participated in the annual celebration of “Real Men Cook” that was held on Father’s Day at the new Joan and Ray Kroc Community Center on Chicago’s South Side. This event, part of UCM’s Urban Health Initiative, along with the South Side Healthcare Collaborative, is geared toward inspiring men to cook healthy food for their families. The benefit is two-fold: promoting healthy eating and providing positive male role models for youth. Dr. Henry was joined by other physicians, researchers and senior leaders representing UCM. “Real Men Cook” raises money from ticket sales and donations to help local nonprofit partners and organizations that serve families in the community.

The UCM’s impact is felt globally, too, when Sandi Lam, MD, an assistant professor of surgery and neurosurgeon on staff, volunteers every year at Kijabe Hospital outside of Nairobi in Kenya. While there, she helps train local neurosurgery residents to perform surgeries on children, leaving a legacy of medical sustainability. “Volunteering reminds me how lucky we are to be in this profession; you have a set of skills that allows you the privilege of helping people,” Dr. Lam said. She performs six to eight surgeries a day there, treating “everything conceivable to a neurosurgeon,” but particularly remembers one patient’s story.

An 11-year-old boy who was having continuous seizures was carried to Kijabe, and when the surgeons operated, they discovered “an 11-centimeter tuberculosis granuloma,” Lam recalled. “After we took it out, the seizures stopped. He was happily walking around, giving us high-fives. We gave him treatment for the TB and he was able to go home.” Dr. Lam appreciates her time in Kenya, and believes that the experience of working in impoverished nations has made her a better doctor. “We can use our skills to go beyond our communities and affect more change in the world.”

Faculty and residents from the Section of Plastic Surgery traveled to the other side of the world, to the Dominican Republic, with Medical Aid for Children of Latin America to treat chronic ear conditions, congenital deformities and tumors. The team travels there twice a year, for a total of three weeks of volunteer service.

In a different vein, a volunteer team combined providing surgeries with offering educational opportunities. Scott Eggener, MD, was one of eight volunteer urologic surgeons (along with Sandip Prasad, MD, a University of Chicago urology fellow) who traveled to the West Bank to conduct a hands-on workshop and conference focusing on urologic oncology, reconstruction and pediatric urology. Many of the West Bank urologists studied in Russia or Europe, and the demand is great for training in new techniques. The volunteer team worked at three different public hospitals, working side-by-side with the local urologists to perform surgeries and procedures on more than 60 patients.

On the last day, the team held a conference with a full slate of educational lectures. The conference gathered 40 local urologists to cover specific topics. “They are talented surgeons, and we benefit from them as much as they benefit from us,” said Dr. Eggener. “We come home with new ideas, and they learn different, up-to-date techniques from us. It really puts things in a new perspective.”
Development

Donors to the Department of Surgery represent the future of our clinical, research and educational programs. We are deeply grateful for their partnership and commitment to advancing the field of surgery.

The Center for Care and Discovery provides a critical and exciting new opportunity for philanthropic involvement and impact for those passionate about supporting the future of surgery. We are fortunate to have visionary donors dedicated not only to this initiative but also to other important endeavors, both new and enduring, across the Department.

Our partners participate in thought-provoking, private lectures and valuable educational programs focusing on surgical topics, as well as social events and celebrations. There are many opportunities for involvement throughout the Department. For more information about ways you can join us or to make a gift, please contact:

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MAJOR DONORS TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012 INCLUDE: American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology American Cancer Society Illinois Division, Inc. American Heart Association Alvin H. Baum Family Fund Blum-Kovler Foundation Brinson Foundation CSL Behring Mr. and Mrs. Gary Cullen Electrokinetic Signal Research, Inc. Mr. and Mrs. James Faulkner Foley Family Foundation Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Goldman Sachs & Co. Ms. Jo L. Haley Hearing Loss Association of America, Illinois Intuitive Surgical, Inc. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Jordan JP Morgan Mr. Mark A. Kaufman Courtney A. Kleman Trust Mr. James P. McHugh Ms. Rita Meltzer National Kidney Foundation of Illinois Orthopaedic Research and Education Foundation Mr. and Mrs. John Paleczny Petersen Aluminum Corporation Plastic Surgery Educational Foundation Mr. and Mrs. Theodore H. Roberts Roche Organ Transplantation Research Foundation Mr. Ken Rogat Michael Rolfe Pancreatic Cancer Foundation Searle Funds at the Chicago Community Trust Society of Urology Chairpersons Mr. and Mrs. John B. Snyder Mr. Michael Tang Mr. and Mrs. Richard Timberg Dr. and Mrs. James Williams Zaccone Family Foundation
The Section of Cardiac and Thoracic Surgery draws upon a tradition of innovative clinical practice and scientific research to provide the highest level of patient care. The clinical faculty provides treatment to the most complex patients, with particular specialization in heart and lung transplants, ventricular assist device implants, transcatheter aortic valve replacements, complex aortic conditions, minimally invasive valvular and arrhythmia surgeries, malignancies, esophageal diseases and high-risk pulmonary resection. The Section embodies the “Chicago Style Surgery” basics by ensuring our patients are educated each step of the way, from the initial conversation to follow-up care. In addition, the physician-scientists within the Section pursue a wide range of projects, including bench, translational and outcomes research focused on cardiac and thoracic disease.

Section Highlights + Accomplishments

- Mark Russo, MD, received the President’s Award from the Society of Thoracic Surgeons for his abstract, “Local Allocation of Donor Lungs Results in Transplanting Lower Priority Lung Transplant Candidates.” The recipient of this award is selected by the STS president for an outstanding scientific abstract submitted by a young investigator at the annual STS meeting.
- Principal investigator, Shahab A. Akhter, MD, began participating in the Thoratec® Driveline Silicone Skin Interface (SSI) Registry. Data collected through this registry will help define best surgical and post-operative practices for reducing the incidence of driveline infections in the LVAD patient population.
- In collaboration with interventional cardiology, vascular surgery, anesthesia, cardiac imaging and radiology, the University of Chicago Medicine became the first hospital in the Chicago area to perform a transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) outside of a clinical trial.
- Vassyl Lonchyna, MD, officially joined the Section in January 2012. He directs the post-operative management of our patients and serves as the Section’s quality officer.
- Under the direction of Mark K. Ferguson, MD, the Section enrolled its second ACGME-accredited thoracic residency trainee Trevor Williams, MD.
- Recognizing the need for additional research in the area of mesothelioma, Wickii Vigneswaran, MD, developed and implemented the protocol "Quality of Life of Patients Following Pleurectomy and Decortication in the Management of Malignant Pleural Mesothelioma."
- Mahesh Gupta, PhD, will be funded for two additional ROI grants, "Blocking Cardiac Toxicity of Anti-Cancer Drugs" and "Activation of Sirtuins to Prevent Adverse Ventricular Remodeling."
- Together with the pediatric cardiology team, Gerhard Ziemer, MD, performed the University of Chicago Medicine’s first pediatric hybrid procedure on a six-week-old baby with pulmonary atresia and MAPCAs (Major Aortopulmonary Collateral Arteries).
- Valluvan Jeevanandam, MD, has been approved to enroll patients in the Thoratec® Roadmap trial, which will compare whether non-transplant eligible patients with heart failure less advanced than that of current LVAD recipients do better with implant devices than with current medical therapy.
- The University of Chicago Medicine’s lung transplant team led by Wickii Vigneswaran, MD, performed its 80th lung transplant.
The Section of General Surgery has maintained its prominence as a national and international leader in the surgical management of patients with complex diseases by building on its rich heritage while continually evolving to define today’s and tomorrow’s standards of care. We are exploring new surgical approaches to a variety of difficult clinical problems while leading the way in ensuring a unique environment that emphasizes patient education and safety. The Section’s training program, committed to educating the next generation of academic surgical leaders, was in the top five percent of surgical residency programs nationally. Education is the backbone of the Section’s academic mission. Educational efforts intertwine training in advanced surgical techniques with the only surgical ethics fellowship in the United States. We are exploring new surgical approaches to a variety of difficult clinical problems while leading the way in ensuring a unique environment that emphasizes patient education and safety. The Section’s training program, committed to educating the next generation of academic surgical leaders, was in the top five percent of surgical residency programs nationally.

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Basic science, translational and clinical research are the underpinnings of the Section’s commitment to delivering advanced, groundbreaking improvements to patients. Dedicated investigation in cancer and metastases, epithelial pathobiology, immunology/inflammation and tissue biology, bioengineering and surgical infection/sepsis provide the platform to transfer innovations from the laboratory to the patient’s bedside. The Section maintains a national presence in seminal clinical trials that aim to improve treatment for patients with pancreatic, esophageal, gastric, colorectal and breast cancer as well as inflammatory bowel disease.

The laboratory of John Alverdy, MD, made a major breakthrough on the scientific basis of why intestinal anastomoses break down after surgery and developed novel biological agents to prevent this rare but potentially fatal complication (see PloS One Olivas A. et al. 2012).

Gary An, MD, presented his research “The Road to Translation: Paved with Knowledge not Data” at the 11th International Conference on Complexity in Acute Illness, Ottawa, Ontario, September 8, 2012.

Roger Hurst, MD, was promoted to professor of surgery.

Marco Patti, MD, received the Carlo Urbani Award, Medico d’Italia in October 2011. He was also named president of the International Society of Digestive Surgery.

Kevin Roggin, MD, was named vice chairman of the Society of Surgical Oncology Training Committee. He also became program director of the general surgery residency training program. Dr. Roggin was named a member of the Society of University Surgeons (2011) and as a Top Tier MD 2011 in Northshore magazine.

Konstantin Umansky, MD, was appointed associate program director of the general surgery residency and training program and program director of the colon and rectal surgery residency. He was also awarded the Excellence in Teaching Award for the year 2010-2011.

Swati Kulkarni, MD, was selected as a University of Chicago Paul Calabresi Oncology K12 Scholar.

Edwin Kaplan, MD, received the Excellence in Teaching Award, University of Chicago in 2011, and was named governor of the American College of Surgeons for the term of 2009 through 2012. Dr. Kaplan was also named ambassador of the Pemhemier Surgical Society at the University of Chicago.

Peter Angelos, MD, PhD, received the Linda Kohler Anderson Professor of Surgery and Surgical Ethics Chair, the first endowed chair in surgical ethics in the country, and was appointed chair of the new Committee on Ethics and Conflict of Interest of the Society of University Surgeons. Dr. Angelos also was elected to the Executive Committee of the American College of Surgeons’ International Relations Committee.

Jeffrey Matthews, MD, was named president of the Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract. He was also named associate editor of Shackelford’s Surgery of the Alimentary Tract, 7th Edition.

Raymon Grogan, MD, was named an associate faculty fellow at the Bucksmoan Institute for Clinical Excellence at the University of Chicago.

Mukta Kranle, MD, was an invited speaker at the Mexican Society of Colon and Rectal Surgery.

Mitchell Posner, MD, was appointed medical director, Clinical Cancer Programs at the University of Chicago.
Neurosurgery

The Section of Neurosurgery at the University of Chicago is the primary development site for the next generation of neurosurgical training for the world—virtual reality simulation of neurosurgical procedures. Ours was the first program to integrate virtual reality (VR) simulation into resident education.

The program involves a system that enables high definition visualization in 3D and haptic (touch and movement) feedback, with tracking of the head and the tools. The user can adjust the parameters for optimal realism, get immediate feedback and train in a safe environment. Our residents have weekly sessions of VR training for complex and high-risk procedures, using a library of progressively more difficult cases. We have also received recent NIH funding to develop additional training modules, like VR clipping of aneurysms.

This program puts us at the forefront of surgical education in the world. Our system includes capabilities to train in procedures that extend well beyond neurosurgery—ophthalmological operations, lumbar puncture and central line insertion procedures have all been successfully modeled. Over the next few years, we expect to simulate aneurysm clipping, spinal cord tumor resection and skull base dissection, while also building a system of objective evaluation of the manual dexterity of neurosurgical applicants.

Also in the past year, the Section of Neurosurgery has continued with an ongoing educational series sponsored by the Kluver Memorial Lectureship Fund. This year, we focused on the topics of spine surgery, neurovascular neurosurgery, pediatric neurosurgery and neurofibromatosis.

Our residency program was given full accreditation and will be moving into the next accreditation system, working with the ACGME to improve resident medical education.

Finally, our faculty continue with their offsite clinics, seeing both adult and pediatric patients in Elmhurst, Evanston and Matteson.

Section Highlights + Accomplishments

> Issam A. Awad, MD, secured another R01 grant this summer, with a remarkable perfect 10 impact/priority score (1st percentile), aiming to test the hypothesis of ROCK inhibition as therapy for cerebral cavernous malformation (CCM). Dr. Awad has also secured new pilot grants from the France Chicago Center and the Institute of Translational Medicine to validate new magnetic resonance techniques in man as biomarkers of biologic activity and potential therapeutic intervention in human CCM. The breadth of contributions from transgenic animal models to human biomarker studies are charting a roadmap for developing and testing CCM therapy.

> Bakhtiar Yamini, MD, received two new grants this year:
  R41: Development of Ultrafine Particles for Intranasal Delivery of Antipsychotics. NIH/Mental Health Research Grant. Development of Intranasal Delivery of Nano Particles Cancer Center Program Pilot Project: Targeting MALAT1 in the Management of Malignant Glioma. Examining the Role of the IncRNA, MALAT1, in the Treatment of Malignant Glioma

> Atique Ahmed, PhD, received a K99 grant for the following: Glioblastoma Multiforme (GBM) remains one of the deadliest classes of human cancers with a median survival rate of approximately 12 to 15 months. Neural stem cells have the unique inherent property to migrate throughout the brain and target invasive solid tumors, including gliomas. This provides a novel platform for targeted delivery of anti-cancer agents to disseminated tumors, selectively. The studies outlined in this proposal are geared towards understanding the molecular mechanisms of the tumor homing properties of neural stem cells and utilizing this information to enhance the targeting efficiency of novel neural stem cell-based therapeutic strategies for this disease. We believe that this proposed research plan has the potential to make an impact beyond neuro-oncology and will accelerate the translation of the stem cell-based therapy in the clinic.
The Section of Ophthalmology and Visual Science provides comprehensive medical and surgical treatment of eye diseases. Offered services include cataract surgery with lens implantation, corneal transplantation, laser and surgical treatment for glaucoma, advanced vitreoretinal procedures, laser and injection treatment for diabetic retinopathy and age-related macular degeneration, eyelid and orbital oculoplastic surgery, eye muscle surgery for strabismus in children and adults and neuro-ophthalmologic diagnostic services.

This past year, our ophthalmologists continued to be clinically productive, with output exceeding 1,200 surgeries and 16,000 outpatient visits. The Section graduated three residents and one retina subspecialty fellow. All residents matched with competitive retina fellowships throughout the country, and our graduating fellow has joined a private practice in the Chicago market. In addition, the Section now provides state-of-the-art cataract and glaucoma surgery in the Duchossois Center for Advanced Medicine, services that were previously offered only at an offsite location.

Section Highlights + Accomplishments

- Chris Albanis, MD, served as president of the Illinois Association of Ophthalmology and chaired the editorial committee of Medicine on the Midway, in addition to participating in numerous other professional and community service projects.
- Mark J. Greenwald, MD, received a Senior Honor Award at the 2011 annual meeting of the American Academy of Ophthalmology.
- Seenu M. Hariprasad, MD, was inducted into the Macula Society, an organization of elite retina specialists from around the world.
- Susan M. Kisazek, MD, recently promoted to associate professor, was an invited speaker at the 2012 World Ophthalmology Congress in Abu Dhabi, and authored two chapters in a newly published textbook on ophthalmology consultation.
- Rima McLeod, MD, received funding from the NIH for multiple grants, including two in the R01 category. The goals of her research are to better understand toxoplasmosis and its pathogenesis, and to develop better treatment regimens and vaccines.
- Louise Sclafani, OD, was recognized by the contact lens industry for her contributions to the field at the 2012 annual meeting of the American Optometric Association.
- Ophthalmology Review Manual, second edition, was published in 2012 with co-editorship by Michael A. Saidel, MD, a newly written section on pediatric ophthalmology and strabismus by Dr. Greenwald, and a retina section updated by Dr. Hariprasad.
- The 2012 meeting of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology included presentations by Dr. Greenwald, Dr. Hariprasad, Rama D. Jager, MD, and several residents.

FACULTY
Professors of Surgery
Mark Greenwald, MD
Rima McLeod, MD

Associate Professors of Surgery
Seenu Hariprasad, MD
Susan Kisazek, MD
Louise Sclafani, OD

Assistant Professor of Surgery
Michael Saidel, MD

Clinical Associates
Chris Albanis, MD
Anupama Anchala, MD
Michael Blair, MD
James Green, MD
Rama Jager, MD
Valerie Kartouf, OD
Jeffrey Nichols, MD
A. Gwendolyn Noble, MD, PhD
Thomas Potianakis, DO
Laura Sanders, MD

University of Chicago Department of Surgery
Annual Report 2012
Section Highlights + Accomplishments

> Jovito Angeles, MD, is a fellow of the American Academy for Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine. He is also a member of the International Society for Brachial Plexus and Peripheral Nerve Injury.

> Robert Bielski, MD, continues as an examiner for the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery. Dr. Bielski was appointed as a reviewer for the Journal of Pediatric Orthopaedics along with his ongoing role as a reviewer for the Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery. He is also a reviewer for the Journal of the American Medical Association.

> Roderick Birnie, MD, continues his busy clinical practice in hand and upper extremity at the University of Chicago. Dr. Birnie was the recipient of the Gerald R. Laros Teaching Award this past year, awarded by the orthopaedic residents for his outstanding teaching skills.

> Henry Finn, MD, continues in his role as medical director of the University of Chicago Bone & Joint Replacement Center at Weiss. He is also professor of surgery at the University of Chicago Medicine’s Section of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation Medicine, as well as chief, Section of Orthopaedic Surgery at Louis A. Weiss Memorial Hospital.

> Rex Haydon, MD, PhD, is a monthly lecturer at Loyola University Chicago for the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery on orthopaedic oncology. Dr. Haydon also continues as co-instructor for the annual Musculoskeletal Surgery on orthopaedic oncology. Dr. Haydon also continues as co-instructor for the annual Musculoskeletal Surgery on orthopaedic oncology. Dr. Haydon was named program director of the orthopaedic oncology fellowship at the University of Chicago this past year.

> Tong-Chuan Hu, MD, PhD, continues his research on cancer, particularly focusing on biomechanical models in his molecular oncology lab. He continues with collaborative efforts with other faculty in the areas of tendon and ligament repair research, articular cartilage regeneration research, implant wear-induced osteolysis and spine research. Dr. Hu is a member of the Committee on Molecular Medicine, the Committee on Cancer Biology, the Committee on Genetics and the Committee on Cell Physiology at the University of Chicago. He is also adjunct professor, School of Biomechaning, Chongming University, China. Dr. Hu is also a member of the International Chinese Hard Tissue Society.

> Sherwin Ho, MD, continues in his role as program director for the sports medicine fellowship at the University of Chicago. This was the 19th year of Dr. Ho’s successful University of Chicago annual Primary Care Orthopedics Conference.

> J. Martin Leland, MD, has been selected as a recipient of the Arthroscopy Association of North America (AANA)’s 2012 Traveling Fellowship. Dr. Leland serves as a faculty member for numerous “hands-on” teaching courses and has recently been named the “2012 Associate Master Instructor of the Year” by the AANA. Dr. Leland has been elected to the Education Committee for the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine.

> As an invited physician, Hue Luu, MD, traveled to China this past year to two cities to perform surgeries and give lectures. He continues to review grants for the American Cancer Society, OREF, and the Liddy Shriver Foundation. Dr. Luu continues to have a busy practice in both adult reconstruction and oncology. His research, which has been focused on the role of IGF Binding Protein 5 in osteosarcoma development and metastasis, continues to progress.

> John Martell, MD, was an invited guest lecturer at the Rush Orthopaedic Alumni Association annual meeting. He also presented "A New Approach to 3D Wear Measurements Using the EOS Digital Radiographic System" at the academic lecture at the AOA-ABC Traveling Fellows hosted by the University of Chicago this past year. Dr. Martell was the invited moderator at the Orthopaedic Research Society’s annual meeting in San Francisco for “New Polyethylene Implant Wear.”

> Daniel Mass, MD, continues on the University of Chicago Alumni Board of Governors, a position he has held since 2008. In the community he is Temple Board president of his synagogue. Dr. Mass has also been noted to be a “Top Doctor” by Chicago magazine. Dr. Mass is also the chair for “Doctors Demystify Shoulders” for OTs and PTs.

> Bruce Reider, MD, continues to serve as the editor-in-chief of the American Journal of Sports Medicine. AJSM again ranked #2 in two-year impact factor and #1 in five-year impact factor among all orthopaedic journals. Dr. Reider serves on the Medical Publishing Board of Trustees and the Board of Directors for the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine. Dr. Reider is also the leader of the University of Chicago Orthopaedic Journal Club.

> Michael Simon, MD, is currently the interim chief for the Section of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation Medicine in addition to his role as associate dean of graduate medical education. Dr. Simon provides historical perspective and mentors both faculty and residents in the Section of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation Medicine. Dr. Simon was the invited visiting professor at Indiana University as the Garceau-Wray Lectureship in Chicago. Dr. Simon was also a selected moderator for "Doctors Demystify Shoulders" for OTs and PTs.

> Christopher Sullivan, MD, continues his busy pediatric practice at the University of Chicago and many off-site clinics. Dr. Sullivan is a reviewer for Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research.

> Brian Toolan, MD, is an American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery examiner for the Part II (Oral Boards) and Maintenance of Certification, Dr. Toolan continues in his role as program director for the orthopaedic surgery residency program. He was also a selected moderator for the instructional course lecture at the 27th annual meeting of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons in February, 2012.

Orthopaedic Surgery + Rehabilitation Medicine

The Section of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation Medicine continues to distinguish itself in patient care, research and compassionate care in a range of subspecialties, including: foot and ankle, hand and upper extremity, joint reconstruction, orthopaedic oncology, pediatric orthopaedic surgery, spine, sports medicine and rehabilitation medicine. Complementing the clinical practice are the expanded resident and fellowship programs as well as active clinical and basic science efforts. The Section is committed to growing the body of medical knowledge and creating a lasting contribution in the field of orthopaedic surgery.
The Section of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery (OHNS) performs complete diagnostic evaluations to determine the cause and extent of the full range of Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) disorders.

The Section treats patients using the most advanced surgical and non-surgical techniques and offers comprehensive services in all areas of ENT, with subspecialties in chronic nasal and sinus disorders, image guided surgery, otolaryngology, head and neck cancer, robotic surgery, minimally invasive surgery, allergies and hearing aid dispensing, as well as speech language and voice disorders.

This past year, OHNS surgeons performed over 2,200 cases and conducted over 19,000 outpatient visits. In addition, our pediatric cochlear implant program continued to grow, and celebrated its 100th implant earlier in the year. Fuad Baroody, MD, in partnership with Hari Bandla, MD, has developed a sleep disorder clinic for children with complex sleep disorders and failed tonsillectomies. Jayant Pinto, MD, and Alexander Langerman, MD, are developing a combined, multidisciplinary adult sleep disorder clinic in collaboration with Babak Mokhlesi, MD, and Jay Balachandran, MD, in sleep medicine. The goals of the clinic are to provide advanced diagnosis of sleep disorders using such techniques as sleep endoscopy. They will also deliver the latest surgical therapies that address all sites of airway obstruction, from the nose to the hypopharynx, using the latest technologies, including endoscopic and robotic approaches.

The annual alumni lecture featured Timothy Smith, MD, PhD, with numerous program alumni attending. In May 2012, the Section held its annual Fernandez-Lindsay Lecture with Charley Della Santina, MD, PhD, as the lecturer. The past year also proved to be busy in the realm of publications, with a total of 25.

Section Highlights + Accomplishments

- Robert Naciero, MD, received funding to study the effects of seasonal allergen exposure on the sinus microbiome. He also received funding to study the effects of aerosolized intranasal steroids on perennial allergic rhinitis.
- Alexander Langerman, MD, was named one of two inaugural faculty scholars of the Buxbaum Institute for Clinical Excellence. He also was awarded an American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery Health Services research grant to study the perioperative use of antibiotics in head and neck cancer surgery. Dr. Langerman traveled to the Dominican Republic with Medical Aid for Children of Latin America to treat chronic ear conditions, congenital deformities and tumors.
- Dana Suskind, MD, continues research into child speech and hearing development through the “Thirty Million Words” project and Project ASPIRE. She received the University of Chicago Distinguished Leader in Program Innovation Award, was the Illinois CHOICES for Parents Honoree, and was promoted to professor of surgery.
- Fuad Baroody, MD, received the Distinguished Service Award from the Academy during this year’s annual meeting in recognition of his contribution and service. He also wrote the pediatric portion of the recent European Position Paper on Rhinosinusitis and Nasal Polyps 2012 (EPOS 2012).
- Jayant Pinto, MD, received a K23 grant titled Understanding Susceptibility to Olfactory Decline in Aging. He was also promoted to associate professor of surgery.

Otolaryngology—Head + Neck Surgery

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- Dana Suskind, MD, continues research into child speech and hearing development through the “Thirty Million Words” project and Project ASPIRE. She received the University of Chicago Distinguished Leader in Program Innovation Award, was the Illinois CHOICES for Parents Honoree, and was promoted to professor of surgery.
- Fuad Baroody, MD, received the Distinguished Service Award from the Academy during this year’s annual meeting in recognition of his contribution and service. He also wrote the pediatric portion of the recent European Position Paper on Rhinosinusitis and Nasal Polyps 2012 (EPOS 2012).
- Jayant Pinto, MD, received a K23 grant titled Understanding Susceptibility to Olfactory Decline in Aging. He was also promoted to associate professor of surgery.
In Memoriam

"That he died the way he lived, while saving children, is somehow consistent and heart-wrenching at the same time."

—JEFFREY MATTHEWS, MD
CHAIRMAN, DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

THE DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY DEDICATES THIS ANNUAL REPORT TO DONALD LIU, MD, PHD: DEDICATED HEALER, DEVOTED COLLEAGUE AND FRIEND, BELOVED FAMILY MAN.
Section chief of pediatric surgery and surgeon-in-chief at the University of Chicago Medicine Comer Children’s Hospital, Dr. Liu committed his life to helping children—even when doing so put him in danger. In August 2012, Dr. Liu, 50, drowned after rescuing two children caught in a violent current in Lake Michigan, near the town of Lakeside, MI.

Compassionate, competent and caring, Dr. Liu touched many lives as a master clinician and researcher who always put his patients and their families first. “He was passionate about his work as a pediatric trauma surgeon, both in treating and preventing childhood injury,” said Kenneth S. Polonsky, MD, dean of the Biological Sciences Division and the Pritzker School of Medicine and executive vice president of medical affairs at the University of Chicago.

The Mary Campau Ryerson Professor in the Departments of Surgery and Pediatrics, Dr. Liu was internationally recognized for his expertise in adapting the techniques of minimally invasive surgery to children. He developed innovative approaches to treat chronic abdominal pain syndromes in children. His skill and experience attracted patients from all over the country.

Dr. Liu was born in New York on June 12, 1962, but grew up in Taiwan. In 2001, he joined the University of Chicago Department of Surgery as a pediatric surgeon. He was named section chief of pediatric surgery and surgeon-in-chief at Comer Children’s Hospital in 2007.

Dr. Liu is survived by his wife, Dana Suskind, MD, professor of surgery and pediatrics at the University of Chicago Medicine, and director of the Pediatric Cochlear Implantation Program at Comer Children’s Hospital. They have three children: Genevieve, 13; Asher, 10; and Amelie, 7. Dr. Liu also is survived by his parents, Donald Ho Yu Liu, MD; and Emilie A. Chua, MD; and a sister, Diana Liu.

“He was all about the children, and his enthusiasm inspired colleagues and the whole staff at Comer Children’s Hospital,” said Jeffrey Matthews, MD, professor and chairman of surgery at the University of Chicago. “That he died the way he lived, while saving children, is somehow consistent and heart-wrenching at the same time.”
The Section of Pediatric Surgery at the University of Chicago Comer Children’s Hospital continues to provide comprehensive care for diverse surgical problems in infants and children. These include congenital, neoplastic, infections and other acquired conditions of the gastrointestinal system, the blood and the vascular system, the diaphragm and the thorax (exclusive of the heart), the endocrine glands, the genitourinary system, and the head and neck.

Our faculty members specialize in minimally invasive procedures, which reduce surgical pain and minimize recovery time. The Nuss program, which utilizes minimally invasive procedures to correct pectus excavatum, is nationally renowned. Our median arcuate ligament program utilizes minimally invasive techniques to release the nerves and tendons surrounding the celiac artery to improve blood flow and reduce discomfort associated with eating.

Our team continues to extend its reach into the western and northern suburban areas surrounding Chicago, and provides pediatric surgical services to Edward Hospital in Naperville, NorthShore University HealthSystem, Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, and Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital in Downers Grove.

Section Highlights + Accomplishments

Our section lost a leader and mentor when Donald Liu, MD, PhD, went into the water and saved two drowning children in Michigan. In his personal life as in his professional life, Dr. Liu could not see children in danger without intervening. He worked tirelessly with the rest of our faculty to enhance and improve the pediatric surgical care of patients across the nation through his innovative cancer surgery techniques and the MALS program.

> Dr. Liu’s interest in improving the care of the smallest NICU patients earned him an NIH grant this year, titled, “Interplay of Diet and the Metabolome in Establishment of the Juvenile Gut Microbiota.” This grant funded his research into the microbiome of the intestines of NICU babies and enables his lab to analyze the differences created by antibiotic exposure, as well as any changes made by breastfeeding versus formula feeding. This research has continued under the direction of Valeriy Poryko, PhD, and Grace Mak, MD.

> Donald Liu, MD, PhD, was named a “Top Doc” in the January edition of Chicago magazine.

> Andrea Lo, MD, joined the pediatric surgery faculty in January 2012 from McGill University, in Montreal. She specializes in minimally invasive procedures, malignancy resection and congenital malformations.

“At the end of the day, the biggest impact you can make in anything is through kids.”

— DR. DONALD LIU

Donald Liu, MD, PhD (deceased)
Section Chief
Mary Campau Ryerson Professor
Surgeon-In-Chief, University of Chicago Comer Children’s Hospital
Vice Chairman, Department of Surgery,
University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine

Andrea Lo, MD, MD (new faculty)
Assistant Professors of Surgery
Deborah Loaff, MD
Grace Mak, MD

* denotes new faculty
The Section of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery celebrates another year of considerable growth in our clinical, educational and investigational efforts. Among the Section’s achievements are the accreditation of our recently formed integrated residency program, the highly successful recruitment of our recent residents and the Zaccone Family Microsurgery Fellow, and the success of our teaching and discovery.

Also, our faculty members continued to grow our craniofacial/cleft, breast reconstruction and cold hand clinical programs, and these continued successes, coupled with the growth of our clinical volumes, have placed the Section among the top tier programs in the country for training residents. The faculty’s efforts have clearly placed the Section among the top programs in the Midwest for complex reconstructive surgery. This recognition gives further credence to our mission of providing the best and most compassionate care for our patients, while training the future leaders of our specialty.
The Section of Transplantation has surgeons with vast expertise in the areas of kidney, liver and pancreas transplantation, as well as complex surgical procedures involving multi-organ transplants, hepatobiliary and vascular access surgery.

FY 12 ended with the following transplant volumes:

- 68 kidney transplants
- 13 kidney-pancreas transplants
- 27 liver transplants
- 8 lung transplants
- 21 heart transplants
- 2 islet cell transplants

We underwent our first UNOS Living Kidney Donor Survey from the United Network for Organ Sharing, and the surveyors were highly impressed with the structure and effectiveness of our Living Donor Advocate Team. This four-member team is charged with representing the donor’s rights and ensuring a safe organ donation experience.

Transplantation

Section Highlights + Accomplishments

- Anita Chong, PhD, was awarded a five-year Program Project Grant from the NIH entitled “Infections and the Stability of Transplantation Tolerance.”
- Piotr Witkowski, MD, PhD, made progress with islet cell transplantation by implanting two islet grafts.
- The Section completed a national benchmarking study among transplant centers.
- Staff and physicians presented several posters, including:
  - “Utilization of an Advanced Practice Nurse in a Dialysis Access Clinic,” for the annual Vascular Access Society of America (VASA) in Orlando, Florida authored by Diane Fodor, MSN, RN, ACNP-BC, and Yolanda T. Becker, MD
  - “Quality of Life of Live Liver Donors, A Twenty-Year, Single Institution Perspective,” presented at the 24th International Congress of The Transplantation Society in Berlin, Germany: authors Christine Trotter, MSN, CCRN, ACNP-BC; J. Michael Millis, MD; and Reynold Lopez-Soler, MD
  - J. Michael Millis, MD, collaborated with Mark Siegler, MD, and Peter Angelos, MD, both of the Maclean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics, and the University of Chicago Center in Beijing to produce a successful conference, “Ethical Issues in Medicine and Surgery: a Cross-Cultural Exploration” in May 2012.
  - Jianjun Chen, PhD, won the best poster presentation for post-doctoral fellows from the Great Lakes Transplant Immunology Forum 2012, as well as the best oral presentation at the post-doctoral level at the surgery department’s 19th annual Charles B. Huggins Research Symposium.
The Section of Urology at the University of Chicago has a prosperous history of offering a combination of innovative clinical care, education and scientific research empowering patients to make the best educated decisions about their care.

A complete portfolio is offered to each patient in the Chicago Style Surgery packet, which includes reference materials about their condition, as well as information about the medical center and upcoming appointments. It is our goal to put all patients at ease and prepare them for surgery in the most seamless manner. Our surgeons use a multidisciplinary approach that includes: medical and radiation oncology, radiology, pathology, stoma therapy, sexual function rehabilitation and psychology. Additionally, clinical trials play a fundamental role in the management of our patients with high-risk and advanced urologic cancers.

We offer one of the most experienced minimally invasive robotic and laparoscopic cancer surgery programs in the country. Our surgeons continue to treat more patients with urologic cancer (prostate, bladder and kidney cancer) than any other institution in Illinois. We are ranked ninth in the United States based on academic productivity per faculty member. Each year, our team of urologic cancer surgeons performs approximately 550 robotic prostatectomies, 130 radical cystectomies for bladder cancer and 120 kidney cancer surgeries. Our urologic cancer team at the University of Chicago includes: Scott Eggener, MD; Arieh Shalhav, MD; Norm Smith, MD; Gary Steinberg, MD; and Gregory Zagaja, MD. We have four programs of distinction, including: urologic cancer, adult robotic and laparoscopic surgery, pediatric robotic surgery (Mohan S. Gundeti, MD), and reconstructive and female urology (Gregory Bales, MD, and Doreen Chung, MD).

Section Highlights + Accomplishments

- **Gregory Bales, MD**, Chicago magazine: selected as one of the Top Doctors for Women in Urology. Specializing in incontinence, neurogenic bladder, pelvic organ prolapse repair, reconstructive urology surgery and urethral strictures.
- **Scott Eggener, MD**, course director—The University of Chicago “Course on Robotic Kidney Surgery.” Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) member, University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, elected by members of 2012 class.
- **Gregory Zagaja, MD**, directed and organized a national annual course for Board review in urology.
- **Mohan Gundeti, MD**, honorable mention take home messages: World Congress of Endourology, Kyoto, Japan, Robotic Assisted Appendicovesicostomy Anterior or Posterior Wall. Course director—The University of Chicago “Pediatric Robotic Urology-Update and Live Case Demonstration.” Course director—Hands-on training “Robotic Pediatric Urology” Intuitive Surgical, Sunnyvale, CA. Course director—American Urological Association Annual Conference (AUA)—Fundamentals & Advances in Pediatric Robotic Urology, Atlanta, GA.
- **Carrie Rinker-Schaeffer, MD**, president, Metastasis Research Society, 2011-12. Keynote speaker—memorial lecture honoring the life of Jyotsana Menon, PhD. She also received an award from the HERA Foundation for her innovative studies on “Harnessing the power of materials science for studies of metastasis biology: development of tunable models of ovarian cancer omental colonization.”
- **Arieh Shalhav, MD**, presented multiple times this past year as keynote speaker on state-of-the-art treatment of kidney and prostate cancer, in Miami, FL; Tel Aviv, Israel; Kyoto, Japan; and San Paolo, Brazil. He was also the host of The University of Chicago “Course on Robotic Kidney Surgery,” and The University of Chicago “Pediatric Robotic Urology-Update and Live Case Demonstration.”
- **Gary Steinberg, MD**, heads the uro-oncology clinical research fellowship program. He is one of the world’s leaders in the treatment of bladder cancer. He is the chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Bladder Cancer Research Network and Think Tank. He is also the principal investigator for the National Cancer Institute Cancer Genome Atlas Project for bladder cancer at the University of Chicago. The University is one of six sites in the United States participating in this high-priority study. Dr. Steinberg is the principal investigator of the Tengion Inc. Phase 1 open label single center exploratory study of an autologous stem cell derived neo-urinary conduit in subjects requiring incontinent urinary diversion following radical cystectomy. This is the first human trial of its kind and he performed the first two human cases.
- **Donald Vander Grond, PhD**, scientist reviewer member of EHD—Endocrinology-Immunology of the Study Section Prostate Cancer Research Program (PCRP) for the Department of Defense (DOD) Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP). He also received an award from the American Cancer Society, Illinois Division, on the project titled, “Function of Meis Homeobox Regulators in Prostate Cancer.”

Urology

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Vascular Surgery + Endovascular Therapy

The Section of Vascular Surgery and Endovascular Therapy has recently completed an aggressive recruiting season with the on-boarding of three faculty members. This has allowed us to better pursue quality, growth and the development of a center of excellence in aortic disease.

For quality, the Section has joined a regional and national quality association that is built on the foundation of data sharing in order to arrive at best practices. We look forward to reporting in FY 14. For growth, the Section has expanded its practice to Matteson, IL, where three of our surgeons consistently see patients in tandem with a growing, full service vascular lab. To better serve that area, we also periodically offer free screenings for abdominal aortic aneurysms. Finally, the Section has created the University of Chicago Center for Aortic Disease (UCCAD) in collaboration with the Section of Cardiac and Thoracic Surgery. With this center, we are able to approach aortic diseases like never before, through a massive collaboration across the entire institution—from specialized clinics to combined care plans.

Section Highlights + Accomplishments

- Christopher Skelly, MD, was named one of Chicago magazine’s Top Doctors.
- Ross Milner, MD, was named National Primary Investigator for a clinical research trial through GDRE.
- The Section received its top match two years in a row for our fellowship.
- The Section hosted the Laufman Lecture.
- Samantha Mine, MD, Vascular Surgery and Endovascular Therapy Fellow, has been involved with the Global Health Initiative (GHI) in a number of its health screenings.
- Eric Alvarez, Section Administrator, Board Member for the National Forum for Latino Healthcare Executives (NFLHE), speaks regularly at local high schools on the career of healthcare administration.
- The Section of Vascular Surgery and Endovascular Therapy participated in the American Heart Association Heart Walk on September 28, 2012.
- Our surgeons periodically offer free abdominal aortic aneurysm screenings in Matteson, IL.
### Current Residents + Fellows

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resident/Fellow Name</th>
<th>PGY Year</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cardiac + Thoracic Surgery</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Resident Kartik Singh</td>
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<td>Resident Krishna Mathur</td>
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<td>Resident Solomon Fadare</td>
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<td>Resident Anand Amin</td>
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<td>Resident Anshul Mathur</td>
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<td>Resident Deepraj K. Das</td>
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<td>Resident Shrinath Amin</td>
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<td>Fellow Sampath Athachena</td>
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<td><strong>General Surgery</strong></td>
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<td>Resident Kevin Kuo</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
2012 Graduates

Fellow Name PGY Year Position After Leaving UC Program
Fellow Karen Davis MD Assistant Professor of Surgery at University of Texas, Houston, TX

G E N E R A L S U R G E R Y
Resident Name PGY Year Position Position After Leaving UC Program
Resident David Lin MD Private Practice in Wilmington, CT

O R A L & M I C K E L S C O N O L T O M Y
Resident Name PGY Year Position Position After Leaving UC Program

S U R G I C A L O N C O L O G Y
Resident Name PGY Year Position Position After Leaving UC Program
Resident Jason Vega MD Private Practice, San Francisco, CA

T R A N S P L A N T A T I O N
Resident Name PGY Year Position Position After Leaving UC Program
Resident Travis Sprague MD Medical Director, Center for Heart, Lung & Kidney Transplantation at the University of Chicago Medicine

V A S C U L A R S U R G E R Y
Resident Name PGY Year Position Position After Leaving UC Program
Resident Michael Davis MD Private Practice, Swedish Covenant Hospital, Chicago, IL

C O R O N A R Y & T H R A C I C S U R G E R Y
Stefan H. Aktug MD Attending SA, The Heart Institute, Miramar, FL 2011-2012
Fellow Name PGY Year Position Position After Leaving UC Program
Fellow Michael Shao MD Private Practice in Bayamón, Puerto Rico
Fellow Juan Camilo Barreto-Andrade MD Private Practice, Midwestern Regional Medical Center, Zion, IL
Fellow Justine Lee MD Private Practice, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 2011-2012
Fellow John Silva MD Private Practice, Swedish Covenant Hospital, Chicago, IL 2011-2012

O R T H O P A D I C S U R G E R Y
Resident Name PGY Year Position Position After Leaving UC Program
Resident Joshua Fernandez MD Private Practice, University of California, San Francisco, CA 2011-2012
Resident Ankit Atrecha MD Private Practice, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 2011-2012
Resident John Davis MD Transplant Surgery Fellowship, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 2011-2012

B E N H A M O N S T H E R A P Y:
Fellow Name PGY Year Position Position After Leaving UC Program
Fellow Karen Devon MD Assistant Professor of Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA 2012
Fellow Michael Shao MD Private Practice in Bayamón, Puerto Rico

Fellowships:
Fellow Name PGY Year Position Position After Leaving UC Program
Fellow Sandip Prasad MD Faculty, Medical College of South Carolina, Charleston, SC 2011-2012
Fellow Juner Colina-Biscotto MD Vitreoretinal Surgery Fellowship at New England Retinal Associates 2011-2012
Fellow Noah Shaftel MD Hand Fellowship, NYU Hospital for Joint Diseases, New York, NY 2011-2012
Fellow Mark Bergin MD Sports Medicine and Shoulder Surgery Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh 2011-2012
Fellow Eric Grossman MD Pediatric Surgery Fellowship, Lurie Children’s Hospital, Chicago, IL 2011-2012
Fellow Marcelo Orvieto MD Faculty, Clinica Alemana Hospital, Santiago, Chile 2011-2012
Fellow Aaron Pelletier MD Medical Director, Cancer Treatment Centers of America at the Midwestern Regional Medical Center, Zion, IL 2011-2012

P E D I A T R I C S U R G E R Y
Resident Name PGY Year Position Position After Leaving UC Program
Resident Marcelo Orvieto MD Private Practice, Clinica Alemana Hospital, Santiago, Chile 2011-2012
Resident Mark Bergin MD Sports Medicine and Shoulder Surgery Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh 2011-2012
Resident Eric Grossman MD Pediatric Surgery Fellowship, Lurie Children’s Hospital, Chicago, IL 2011-2012

T R A N S S C H I P T I O N:
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Fellowships:
Wickii T. Vigneswaran, M.
the ambulatory end-stage heart failure patient. A
J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg
mitral valve surgery in the United States.
Easterwood R, Jeevanandam V, Russo MJ . Quantifying
Iribarne A, Burgener JD, Hong K, Raman J, Akhter S,
continuous flow left ventricular assist devices.
Bialkowski A., W.Baden, A.R.Franz, C.F.Poets,
Fink D, Soares R, Matthews JB, Alverdy JC. History,
viii. Review.
Sippel R, Chen H, eds. Interdisciplinary Reviews: Computational Statistics
Biomedical Ontologies: A Roadmap.
Wiley
PKP.

Risk Associated with Major Lung Resection.
critically ill.

Angelo M, Park H, D’Costa CS, O’Donnell D, Williams RT, Angelos P . Postoperative bleeding In:
Evidence-Based Reviews in Surgery Group. Treatment
Surg Endosc
Evidence-Based Reviews in Surgery Group. Treatment
Surg Endosc
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