



Penn Surgery Society NEWS

Spring 2011

The Penn Surgery Society News is published quarterly for its members, colleagues and friends of the Department of Surgery. For submissions, inquiries or comments, please contact Mary.Hamburg@uphs.upenn.edu.

What's Old...



"Old" Ravdin ORs 1962-1987

... Is Now New

In November 2010 construction began on the 4th floor of the Ravdin Building for a new Operating Room Suite. Scheduled to open June 1st, the new Ravdin suite will feature four state-of-the-art multipurpose rooms capable of open surgical procedures as well as endoscopic cases. One room will be equipped for fluoroscopy procedures such as ERCP.

The new Ravdin ORs are the first addition to the HUP PeriOperative space since the addition of 4 Dulles ORs in 2004 and 8 surgical rooms and 10 endoscopy rooms in 2008. The new Ravdin unit will also house HUP's flexible endoscope processing facility, touch-down spaces for nurses and physicians and increased accommodations for storage, equipment, and supplies.

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New Ravdin Operating Rooms Opening June 2011

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**Clyde F.
Barker,
M.D.**

From the Editor

In this issue of the Newsletter we profile another member of our Society for whom an annual Department Prize is named (Gordon Buzby). The other profiled is Roy Smythe, one of 9 HUP trainees who is now chairman of his own department.

When I was a resident, William Altemeier, surgery chair at the University of Cincinnati, came to HUP as visiting professor. He told us that in evaluating internship applicants he favored those who had excelled either as athletes or musicians believing that they were the ones most likely to become outstanding surgeons. Later when I had the opportunity to test his hypothesis at HUP I became convinced (without statistical confirmation) that Altemeier was right. However, I noted that the early indicators of future success in surgery were not just sports and music but included other fields in which candidates had earlier demonstrated special achievement or unusual effort.

For selecting as interns the two individuals profiled here one could have successfully applied "Altemeier's Rule" in its purest form (excellence in sports). Both Buzby and Smythe were outstanding athletes before entering surgery.

Gordon Buzby was national intercollegiate sailing champion, a sport in which he continued to excel throughout his life.

Roy Smythe, this year's Mackie Distinguished Graduate was an all state high school athlete in track and field and in football. This was in Texas, a state known for its obsession with high school football. Attending college on athletic and academic (National Merit) scholarships, Roy played football in the Cotton Bowl as a member of Baylor's 1980 Southwest Conference Championship Team.

As predicted by "Altemeier's Rule" Roy proved to be a highly successful HUP resident, winning both the William Inouye Teaching Award and the Jonathan Rhoads Research Award. He was also elected President of HUP's Housestaff Association. In addition Penn Medical Students awarded him the 1993 Teaching Award and in 1989 and 1996 Penn Pearls Teaching Awards.

In 1991 the Philadelphia County Medical Society awarded him the Humaneness in Medicine Award.

Distinguished Graduate Award **W. Roy Smythe, M.D.**

Roy Smythe, HUP Chief Resident, 1996 was the 2011 Mackie Distinguished Graduate Awardee. He delivered the Annual Mackie Lecture titled, The First American Textbook of Surgery on May 19. Dr. Smythe, the 10th winner of this award since 1991 is a native Texan. As a National Merit Scholar he obtained his B.S. degree at Baylor University. He attended Medical School at the Texas A&M University Health Science Center College of Medicine where he was AOA, and won the Raleigh White, Jr. award as the top student in surgery. Raleigh White, Jr. was HUP Chief Resident in 1974). Dr. Smythe also received the Salyer Medal as the School's Outstanding Graduating Student for Academic Achievement. While a medical student,



he spent time at the NIH and a year in Philadelphia as a visiting Charles A. Dana Foundation Scholar of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and the Leonard Davis Institute at Wharton. During that year he also became well known in our Department of Surgery, regularly attending transplant laboratory meetings and authoring several research publications with Don Dafoe, Ken Brayman and others.

From 1988-1998 Roy trained at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in general and then in cardiothoracic surgery and was also a postdoctoral investigator in the Harrison Department of Surgical Research and the Wistar Institute. His research in oncology and molecular biology with Larry Kaiser and Steve Albelda and was the first to use adenoviral vectors, in transfer of genes for the treatment of cancer. Dr. Smythe was the lead author on the important paper describing this novel approach in laboratory models of cancer. (Cancer Research, 1994 15:54(8):2055-9.) This work became the basis for a clinical trial at HUP which was one of the world's first human gene therapy trials for cancer and the world's first for mesothelioma.

In 1988, Dr. Smythe joined the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, where he was rapidly promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure, and was awarded the M.D. Anderson Institutional Physician Scientist Award. He also directed the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center Mesothelioma Multidisciplinary Treatment and Research Program. In 2004, he left M.D. Anderson, returning to his Medical School as Chairman of the Department of Surgery at the Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine and the Scott & White Health System. There he is Professor of Surgery, Molecular and Cellular Medicine and the holder of the Glen and Rita K. Roney Chair in Surgery. He is also a member of the Physician Board of Directors for Scott & White, as

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Alumni History

Gordon P. Buzby (1948-2003)

Shortly before Gordon Buzby's untimely death in 2003, he and his wife Karen met with Jim Mullen and established a fund that provides for an annual lecture and award in surgical leadership. This award in Gordon's name is presented to a surgical resident or faculty member chosen for interests and expertise similar to Gordon's including a devotion to exploring vital issues of surgical management and leadership (teaching, patient care and administration). Gordon, in fact, personally chose the first recipient. When asked how we will pick subsequent winners, he smiled and said "I will leave you a note" Using that note, Jim Mullen chairs the annual selection committee for the award. The much prized award is a fitting tribute to Gordon Buzby one of the department's most beloved members as well as one of its most valued leaders.

Gordon was a life long Philadelphian growing up in Abington and graduating from Abington High School. As an undergraduate at the University of Pennsylvania he was Phi Beta Kappa and for three years an all American intercollegiate champion in sailing, a hobby which he continued to pursue throughout his life imparting his skills and expertise to his children. Gordon also went to medical school at Penn graduating in 1974 as an AOA. He then interned and was a general surgery resident at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania finishing as Chief Resident in 1981. He won the 1979 Meade Johnson National

Research Forum Resident's Prize. At that time he and his mentor, Jim Mullen developed a prognostic nutrition index to define the interactions of nutrition and proteins in relation to operative morbidity and mortality and to pre and post operative nutritional support. This and other studies were

productive of 20 important publications while Gordon was still a resident, a most noteworthy productive stint in the resident research labs.

In 1981, Gordon joined the faculty at Penn and clinical staff at HUP and Philadelphia VA Medical Center.

In addition to building an active go-to practice Gordon became an independent investigator in both clinical and basic studies in the nutrition/metabolism field. He was co-director of the nutrition support service at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania from 1981 to 1986 and Director of the Surgical Metabolic Unit at the Philadelphia Veteran's Administration Medical Center from 1985 to 1987. He was particularly active in the American Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition serving on its board of directors and in 1981 as director of its post graduate course. His research was consistently funded through a number of extramural sources. Of particular importance was his role as study chairman/principal investigator of a randomized clinical trial of TPN in surgical patients, a multi-center study conducted at 10 national academic medical centers. The results of this landmark study were published in the New England Journal of Medicine and have been highly influential in determining the appropriate setting for TPN in pre and post operative care of surgical patients. Gordon's work in the nutrition field resulted in many other publications totaling almost 100.

Gordon was well recognized nationally as a versatile and accomplished academic surgeon. This resulted in his election to membership in many national scientific societies including the Society of University Surgeons.



Transplant Alumni Reception - May 1, 2011

Former and current transplant fellows and faculty in town for the American Transplant Congress were given a sneak peak at the new Clyde F. Barker Transplant House. They joined current fellows and faculty as well as HUP general surgery residency graduates who went into the field of transplant surgery to celebrate the completion of this wonderful building. If you want to know more about the Barker Transplant House or would like to make a donation, please contact Mary Hamburg at mary.hamburg@uphs.upenn.edu.



Rachel Kelz - 2011 Lindback Award Winner

On April 25th, 2011 Rachel Kelz, M.D. was awarded the 2011 Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching. A board certified general surgeon and a faculty member of the Endocrine and Oncology Division, Rachel has been the Clerkship Director of the Core Surgery rotation since 2006. "Dr. Kelz has truly been a pioneer in medical education at Penn," reports one of her students. As director of the required Surgery 200 clerkship, she has completely restructured the course, fostering an unparalleled interest in surgery among Penn students and creating, in the words of a colleague, "an enthusiasm for surgery as a discipline which was previously unheard of in the department." She has implemented such key innovations as restrictions in student work hours, student training in catheter placement, and live tele-casting of surgical procedures accompanied by interactive discussions with faculty and residents. Students at all levels attest that "her dedication to student education is unparalleled" and her "relationship to her patients reflects the same inspiring openness and commitment." They especially appreciate her mentorship in helping them to make informed decisions about medical specialties, and work-life balance, even if they do not choose to become surgeons. Numerous students particularly note that her "ability to be an excellent surgeon and still devote time and energy to her family is really an inspiration." As they indicate, "She is a champion for students, and her passion and excitement for education has permeated the spirit and culture of both the undergraduate and graduate education levels. ... Dr. Kelz teaches with everything she has, and as a result is truly irreplaceable."



Established in 1961, the Lindback Award is without question the single highest honor that can be bestowed upon an educator at the University of Pennsylvania. Since 1961, only six members of the Department of Surgery have received the Lindback Award: William T. Fitts (1964), Francis E. Rosato (1968), Leonard D. Miller (1970), Ernest F. Rosato (1977), Alden Harken (1983), and Jon B. Morris (1997).

Endowed Professorship Campaign

Over the past 50 years, Ernie Rosato established himself as one of the most important surgeons in the history of Penn's Department of Surgery. From 1988-2004, he was Chief of the Division of Gastrointestinal Surgery, establishing it as one of the top programs in the United States. In addition to his leadership of the Division, Ernie has been a great teacher and researcher. But above all, he is a master surgeon whose large practice focuses primarily on the treatment of patients with benign and malignant gastrointestinal disease. It is no exaggeration to say that he has saved the lives of thousands of patients.



During his long tenure on the faculty, Ernie has had a tremendous impact on the School. He has trained generations of surgical leaders and through various administrative roles has helped to make the School one of the best in the nation. Because the Department takes great pride in his accomplishments it is most appropriate to establish an endowed professorship in his name. Holders of the Ernest F. Rosato, M.D., Chair would be selected to emulate the best qualities of Ernie's career in academic medicine, ensuring that his legacy is felt for generations to come. This professorship will not only honor Ernie, but for generations will give the Department a powerful tool to attract or retain leading surgeons to build on Ernie's legacy.

We hope you will partner with us in this planned effort to recognize Ernie Rosato. It is wonderful to think that, as his successors perpetuate high standards Ernie has set in care, education, and research, they will do so in his name.

Please contact Mary Hamburg for further information as to how you can lend your support at mary.hamburg@uphs.upenn.edu.

What's Old, Is Now New

(continued from front page)



Design improvements and accommodations to these modern operating rooms at HUP include:

- ◆ High definition, in-room touch panel video image displays and the capability for broadcast of video to remote locations for educational purposes.
- ◆ Endoscopic and anesthesia equipment housed in ceiling mounted booms to allow for clear floor space, elimination of tripping hazards, and improved ergonomics.
- ◆ Supply storage in mobile cabinets to allow for maximum flexibility in room layout throughout the life of the operating room.
- ◆ Multiple computers for physician and nurse documentation as well as radiologic image archive access.
- ◆ Automatic sliding glass doors for increased ease of access to the suite, privacy and open floor plan.
- ◆ Modern interior finishes featuring light wood grain flooring, contrasting pastel shades, art work, and natural light from the restored windows facing 34th street.

Evolving medical technology and the increasing need for bigger more complex rooms (to make smaller incisions!) requires us to stay ahead of the demand curve when planning procedure spaces. In addition, a crystal ball is needed to anticipate the future

trends during the 30 year life span of the average OR. We are currently in the planning stages for construction of 2-3 additional large (900 sq foot) OR's in the 4 Silverstein space which are expected to GOLIVE in late 2012. As the Founders OR approaches its 30th birthday, strategic visions of other large new facilities will be clarified.



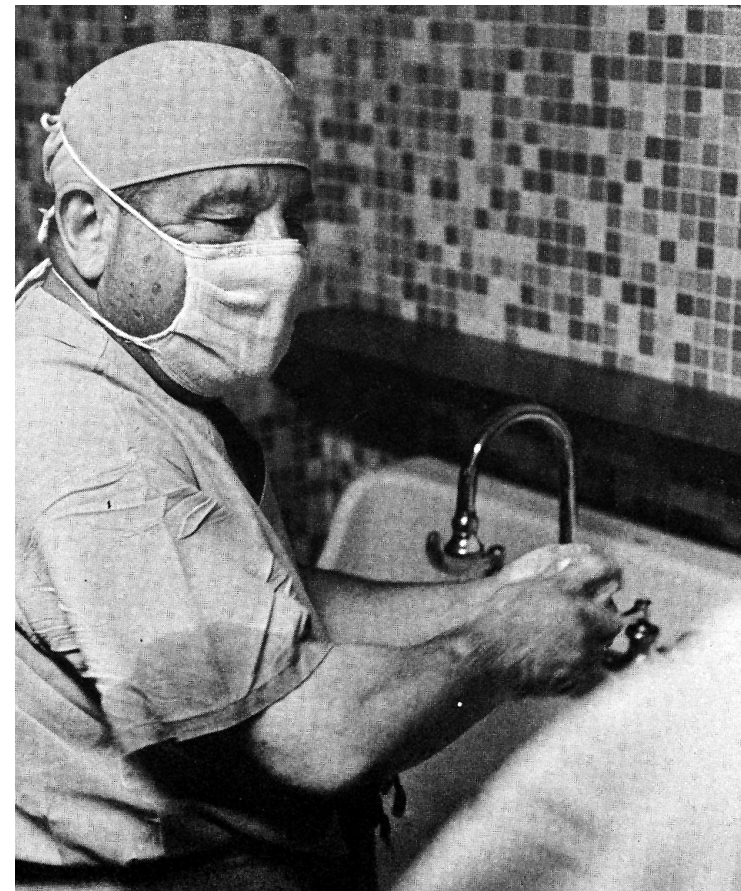
Some older Society members will recall the original Ravdin ORs which opened in 1962. On August 1st, 1962, the day the Ravdin Building opened, IS Ravdin with characteristic flair inaugurated the new operating rooms. To watch him do the first case, Ravdin brought his 52 year old assistant, former University Provost Jonathan Rhoads. More likely Dr. Rhoads assisted or closed for Ravdin. For the next 21 years, Dr. Rhoads had dib's on

one of these 4 large ORs. The other 3 were used by the vascular, cardiac and transplant services. In 1987 they were converted into endoscopy suites and rooms for preparation and recovery of patients undergoing endoscopic or other outpatient procedures.

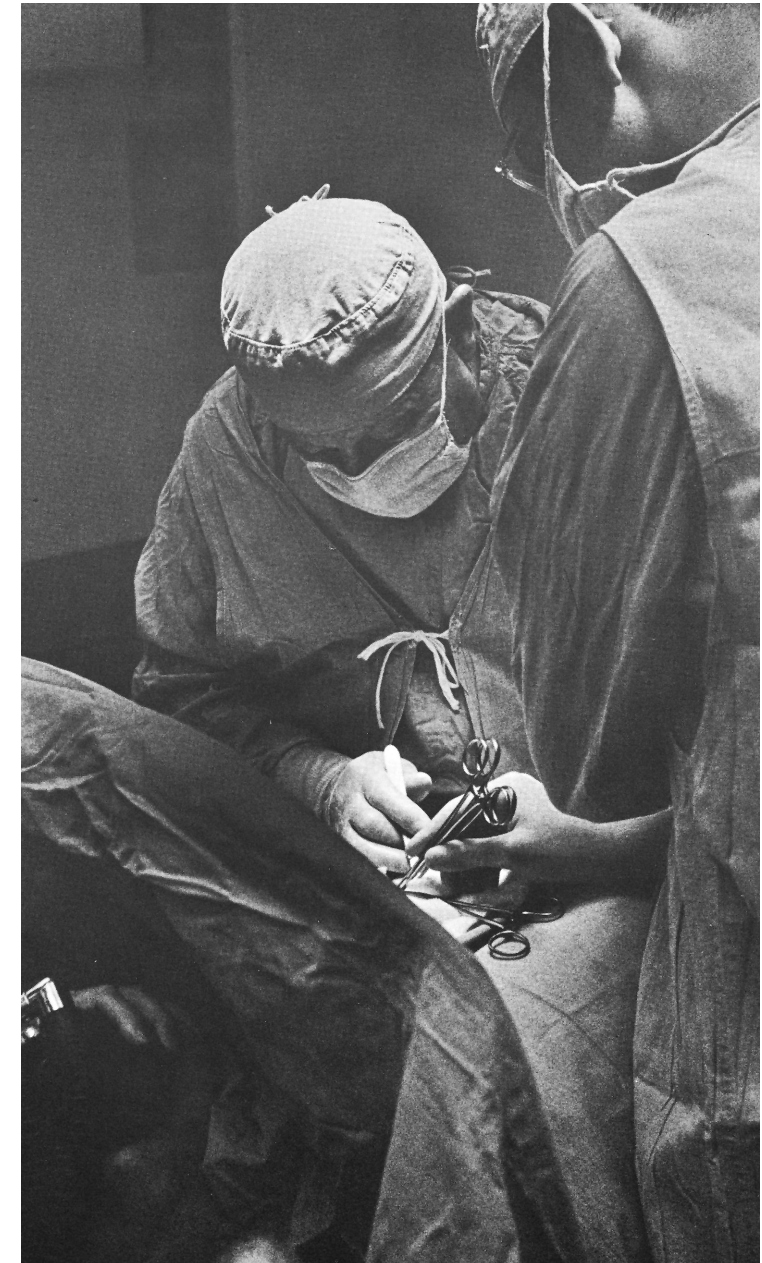
Dr. Rhoads would be very pleased to know that there will once again be bona fide operating rooms in the Ravdin Building. He never agreed with closing the old ones, which he complained meant that the Department of Surgery, which had raised the money for the building, had lost all of its space there to offices and activities of other departments.



Dr. Ravdin and Rhoads await the results of the frozen sections. (It turned out to be benign)



On August 1, 1962, Dr. Ravdin scrubs before performing the first operation in the ravdin ORs.



Dr. Rhoads assists Dr. Ravdin in the first Ravdin OR operation (a breast biopsy, to be followed by a medical mastectomy depending on the results of the frozen section).

Appointment of Daniel T. Dempsey

Daniel T. Dempsey, M.D., will join the Department of Surgery on July 1st as Chief of the Division of Gastrointestinal Surgery. He will also serve as Assistant Director of PeriOp Services and as a member of the HUP senior leadership team.

Dr. Dempsey received his undergraduate education at Princeton and his medical school education at the University of Rochester. He trained in general surgery from 1979 to 1986 at HUP, where he was elected to the University of Pennsylvania chapter of AOA. After residency and one year on the HUP faculty, Dan continued his academic career in GI surgery and research at Temple University, attaining the rank of Professor with tenure in 1995. He was also Temple's program director for the general surgery residency. Returning to the Penn system in 1999, Dr. Dempsey served as Chief of Surgery at Pennsylvania Hospital and Vice-Chair and Professor in the Department of Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania.

In 2000, Dr. Dempsey was appointed the George and Louise Peters Professor and Chairman of the Department of Surgery at Temple - a position he has held for the past ten years. In addition to being a superb clinical surgeon, Dr. Dempsey is a widely recognized leader in academic surgery. He is a member of a number of prestigious surgical societies, including the Society of University Surgeons, the American Surgical Association and the Halsted Society. Adding to his already impressive list of accomplishments, this fall Dr. Dempsey is scheduled to receive his MBA from the Fox School of Management at Temple University.



W. Roy Smythe (continued from page 2)

well as the Health System Board of Trustees and the Vice Chair of the Scott & White Healthcare Foundation. The Scott & White Health System is the fifth largest group practice in the country with more than 1000 providers, ten hospitals and sixty-five regional clinics in Texas.

Dr. Smythe's primary clinical interest is the treatment of mesothelioma and other complex thoracic cancers. His investigative efforts focus on the molecular pathogenesis and potential gene therapy of mesothelioma and other malignancies as well as on vascular permeability related to trauma and shock. A theme common to all his basic and translational research is dysregulated programmed cell death. His research has been consistently supported through RO1 and other National Institutes of Health grants as well as by the Department of Defense and numerous private foundations. He has served on several NIH Study Sections and Special Emphasis Panels. He is co-founder and Vice President for Medical Affairs for Atumida, Inc., a biotechnology startup company developing novel biologic treatments for vascular permeability. He has been a prolific writer on diverse topics, having published more than 250 manu-

scripts, editorials, essays and abstracts related to his clinical and research activity, as well as other essays on surgical history, education, medical human interest and the modern provision of healthcare. Following the Fort Hood shooting incident in November 2010, Dr. Smythe was the national media spokesperson for the Level 1 Trauma Center at Scott&White, where many of the most seriously wounded were successfully treated.

Dr. Smythe is the Editor-in-Chief of Cell Death, Metabolism and Survival and serves on the editorial boards of Gene Therapy and Molecular Biology, the Internet Journal of Cardiothoracic Surgery and Case Reports in Medicine.

Dr. Smythe has been named to the list of "Best Doctors in America" every year since 2003. He currently serves as a Governor of the American College of Surgeons. He is a member of a large number of academic and professional societies, including the Society of Thoracic Surgery, the American Society of Gene Therapy, the Society of University of Surgeons, Society for Clinical Surgery, the Southern Surgical Association, the Surgical Biology Club II and the American Surgical Association.

Previous Distinguished Graduate Awardees

- 1991 James D. Hardy
- 1992 James C. Thompson
- 1994 Edward M. Copeland, III
- 1995 R. Scott Jones
- 1996 Stanley J. Dudrick
- 1997 C. Everett Koop
- 1998 Moritz M. Ziegler
- 2009 Stephen T. Bartlett
- 2010 Danny O. Jacobs

Cardiothoracic Alumni Reception May 10, 2011

PENN Cardiothoracic alumni, in town for the 91st annual meeting of the American Association for Thoracic Surgery, joined the faculty and staff of the Cardiovascular Surgery Division for cocktail reception on May 10th. The reception, hosted by Drs. Acker and Bavaria, was held on the atrium level of the spectacular Ruth and Raymond Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine. Wonderful weather allowed the party to extend out on to the patio.



C. William Schwab

C. William Schwab M.D., Professor of Surgery and Chief of Traumatology, Surgical Critical Care and Emergency Surgery has announced his intention to step down as division chief effective June 30, 2011. Dr. Schwab will not be retiring but rather refocusing his energies on several key initiatives while remaining in the Department as one of its distinguished Professors and clinicians. Bill joined the faculty in 1987. He founded the division, the trauma center and the flight program. His division has grown substantially and currently is home to thirteen faculty and ten fellows who practice at three regional sites. The trauma program at Penn is one of North America's leading academic programs, based on its clinical excellence, scholarly contributions, fellowship graduates and extramural funding. Since coming to Penn, Bill has also established the Surgical Critical Care Service, the Firearm and Injury Center at Penn (FICAP) and created The Penn Trauma Network, an integrated network of trauma centers. Collectively these centers, organized under collaborative clinical, administrative and research structure, care for over ten thousand patients a year making it the largest program of its kind in the country. Since the inception of the Traumatology and Surgical Critical Care Fellowship in 1989, the program has graduated over 80 physicians and surgeons many of whom lead trauma centers, critical care units or emergency surgery programs around the world. In addition to his accomplishments at Penn, Bill has served an important national and international leadership roles as the president, chair or consultant for numerous academic societies, governmental bodies and professional organizations. In 2005 he was President of the American Association for Surgery of Trauma.



Dr. Patrick Reilly, Professor of Surgery and Vice Chief of the Division will assume the position of Division Chief on July 1, 2011.

Gordon P. Buzby (continued from page 3)

Despite his many other accomplishments it was as a teacher and mentor of students and residents that Gordon was at his best. From 2001 until his death he was the director of the Department's general surgical residency. During that time students and residents uniformly praised him. The Penn Medical School class of 1992 selected him for their teaching award.



Despite all his many accolades he was most proud of his ability to keep his life in balance with a clear focus on Karen and the children and many hours on the ocean from his bayside home in Ocean City, New Jersey.

His colleagues were devastated to learn that he had an incur-

Previous Gordon P. Buzby Surgical Leadership Award Winners

- | | |
|------|-------------------|
| 2004 | Andrew S. Resnick |
| 2005 | James L. Mullen |
| 2006 | Pavan Atluri |
| 2007 | Larry R. Kaiser |
| 2008 | Jon B. Morris |
| 2009 | Rachel R. Kelz |
| 2010 | Clyde F. Barker |

able lung cancer. He confronted his last months with great courage and dignity. He was comforted at the end by the loyalty and love of his wife Karen and his children.

The Department continues to think of him often and to remember him with the annual named lecture and award.

Alumni News

Faculty, Residents, Alumni of Penn Surgery
email your news to Mary Hamburg
mary.hamburg@uphs.upenn.edu

- ◆ **Michael Choti, M.D., M.B.A.** chief of Surgical Oncology, Johns Hopkins, has been elected President of the International Society of Gastroenterology Oncology (ISGIO).



- ◆ **Arthur Cooper, M.D.** and **Ken Chavin, M.D.** were elected to membership in the American Surgical Association.

- ◆ **Stanley Dudrick, M.D.** was chosen to speak as the representative of the 50th reunion class of 1961 at the School of Medicine Graduation on Sunday, May 15, 2011. Dr. Dudrick was HUP chief resident in 1967 and a HUP faculty member from 1967 until 1972 when he became Chairman of Surgery at the University of Texas in Houston.



- ◆ **Larry R. Kaiser, M.D.** has been appointed as Senior Executive Vice President for Health Sciences, Dean of the Temple University School of Medicine and Chief Executive Officer of the Temple University Health System.

- ◆ **Ross Milner, M.D.,** Chief of Vascular Surgery, Loyola University of Chicago, was elected to membership in the Society of University Surgeons.

- ◆ **Kim Olthoff, M.D.,** Director of HUP's liver transplant program and co-director of The Transplant Center at CHOP has been named President-Elect of the American Society of Transplant Surgery. Kim has been the Secretary of ASTS for the last 3 years.



- ◆ **John L. Rombeau, MD,** Emeritus Professor of Surgery at Penn, will retire from major operative surgery on June 30, 2011. His retirement follows 28 years in Penn's Department of Surgery and 4 years at Temple University where he is currently Professor of Surgery. Dr. Rombeau has accepted a part time position at the VA Palo Alto Healthcare System in California.



- ◆ 2011 PENN Pearls Teaching Awards were given to **Dr. Ernest Rosato** and **Dr. Demetri Merianos** (PGY5).

Each year 3rd and 4th year PENN medical students honor residents and faculty members who inspire them through their dedication and commitment to teaching, and who they feel have been best able to convey "pearls" of wisdom to guide them through their medical training. Congratulations!

- ◆ **Joseph Serletti, M.D.,** Chief of the Division of Plastic Surgery has been elected President of the Association of Academic Chairmen of Plastic Surgery. Dr. Serletti was also recently named as a Director of the American Board of Surgery.



- ◆ **Alan Wein, M.D.,** Professor and Chief of the division of Urology has been awarded the Ferdinand C. Valentine Award in Urology from the New York Academy of Medicine's Section on Urology. The award recognizes individuals who have "significantly advanced the science and art of Urology".

Deaths

- ◆ **Harold G. Barker, M.D.** died at age 93 on March 9, 2011. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Dr. Barker was HUP chief resident in 1953. After one year on the faculty of HUP he spent the rest of his career as a faculty member and attending surgeon at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in New York. Dr. Barker was Professor of Surgery 1968-82 and Medical Director of Presbyterian Hospital from 1974 to 1982.



- ◆ **John M. Howard, M.D.,** died at age 91 on March 16, 2011. Dr. Howard was HUP chief resident in 1950. After several years on the faculty of Baylor University and a short period as Chairman of Surgery at Emory University he became Chairman of Surgery at Hahnemann University from 1958-1963. From 1974 to 2003 he served as Professor of Surgery at the Medical College of Ohio. During the Korean War, Dr. Howard directed the U.S. Army's Surgical Research Team which pioneered the MASH unit for which he was awarded the Legion of Merit by order of President Dwight D. Eisenhower. He was one of several surgeons said to be the prototype of the movie and television character Hawkeye.



Upcoming Events

Penn Surgery Society members are encouraged to attend these events and the receptions following them.

- ◆ **Penn Vascular Surgery Alumni** are invited to the 2nd Annual Penn Vascular Alumni reception to be held on Thursday, June 16th during the Society for Vascular Surgery meeting in Chicago. Join us in the Michigan Room at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers at 7:00 pm.
- ◆ It's never too early to mark your calendar for the Penn Surgery Society reception to be held during the **American College of Surgeons**. The date is Tuesday, October 25th. Details coming to the PSS website soon!

For further information on all these events,
please go to the Penn Surgery Society website at
<http://surgery.site-ym.com>

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