



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](mailto:Mary.Hamburg@uphs.upenn.edu).

## Jim Mullen to Receive the 2013 Dripps Award

*(Contributed by Jon Morris, M.D.)*

The Robert Dunning Dripps Memorial Award for Excellence in Graduate Medical Education is awarded to an individual who has achieved excellence as an educator of residents and fellows in clinical care, research, teaching, or administration. The 2013 recipient is Jim Mullen, who has achieved distinction in all of these categories. Following graduation from Harvard College, Jim matriculated to the University Of Pennsylvania School Of Medicine in 1963. He completed his general surgery residency at HUP in 1973, and has remained at Penn for his entire career except for two years in the US Air Force during the Viet Nam era. During his thirty plus years at Penn, Jim has devoted the majority of his time to overseeing the Department's educational programs. Jim has worn many hats including Professor of Surgery since 1975, founder of the Clinical Nutrition Support Service in 1977, Director of Penn Home Infusion Therapy from 1992 to 1996, Director of Perioperative Services since 1996, Vice Chairman for Education and Interim Chair of the Department of Surgery from 2008 to 2009. The enduring common thread for Jim has been graduate medical education and this remains the source of his greatest pride and satisfaction.



Jim has made his most significant contributions to the Department of Surgery. He was in effect the Program Director for General Surgery from 1978-1998; during which his mentorship, clarity of focus, and loyalty to the department were second to none. Jim's philosophy of surgical education was clearly articulated in the Surgical Clinics of North America in 2004 where he wrote: "It remains the province of academic departments of surgery to educate the future leaders of surgery...it is from the academic programs that the intellectual leaders of the next generation must emerge...Our job as academic surgeons is to equip these leaders with the tools necessary to be successful." During the two decades that Jim managed the department's training program, more than twenty university surgical chairs and division chiefs emerged.

Throughout his career Jim has been a forward thinking ren-

naissance man placing the Department in the lead on a number of fronts such as integration of information technology into the Department's educational programs, interdisciplinary collaborations with the Wharton School, and development of a number of essential educational facilities. Jim created the Fitts Surgical Education Center on Maloney 4, the Surgical Theater on Ground White, and chaired the Steering Committee for the UPHS 22,000 square foot Clinical Simulation Center at the former Graduate Hospital.

Mentorship has been a hallmark of Jim's career. The Health System is populated with key administrators in several clinical departments and graduate medical education offices who learned the ropes from him. Throughout my role in undergraduate and ultimately graduate surgical education at Penn over the past twenty years, Jim has always been there to provide unlimited guidance, feedback, direction and support. One of his most endearing traits is his loyalty to the department and willingness to step forward at any time when called upon. This was perhaps best illustrated during the unfortunate illness of Gordon Buzby. At the time Gordon was the Program Director for General Surgery. Jim, although committed to a number of major administrative responsibilities for the Health System, gladly stepped up to the plate to manage this program, which by almost any standard was a full-time job. Jim continues, out of a sense of tremendous pride and loyalty to the training program, to participate in an active way in our weekly meeting of the Division of Surgery Education. I am confident that he enjoys this but we are clearly the beneficiaries of his remarkable institutional memory and administrative prowess and perspective.

A number of loyal Mullen disciples were more than willing to support his nomination for the Dripps award. Their contributions exemplify the impact Jim has had on HUP trainees:

*"As a visiting professor, I have spent considerable time in most high-powered surgical training programs around the United States and I can say with confidence and accuracy, Jim has overshadowed every educator I have known.*

(continued on page 6)



**From the Editor**  
**Clyde F. Barker, M.D.**

Surgical Society Members can be proud of the participation of HUP residents and faculty at the February 2013 meeting of the Academic Surgical Congress (see photos on page 5). Also at this meeting, former HUP surgeon Alden Harken received the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Society of University Surgeons (see page 9). It is of note that of the nine such awards given so far, 3 have gone to Penn Surgery Society members.

In April, our society members also had a strong presence in all aspects of the annual meeting of the American Surgical Association. Founded in 1879 by Philadelphia surgeon Samuel D. Gross the American Surgical Association is the nation’s oldest and most prestigious surgical society, in fact it is sometimes claimed to be the world’s oldest - although the Philadelphia Academy of Surgery was founded a year earlier also by S. W. Gross. At the Association’s recent meeting 4 of the 32 papers on the scientific program were authored by HUP residency alumni: Ron DeMatteo, Mike Choti, David Bartlett and Mike Rotundo. In addition, Scott Jones, a Past President of the American Surgical Association, was one of 3 speakers on a panel discussing the changes anticipated with the implementation of Obamacare.

Introduced as new members during the meeting were Omaid Velasquez and Joe Serletti. At the Business Meeting elected to coveted membership in this senior society were Penn surgeons Jeff Carpenter, Marc Mitchell, Pat Reilly and CHOP’s Howard Snyder. They will be inducted during next year’s meeting. On a sad note the necrology included the names of two of our most illustrious alumni, John Waldhousen (founding Chairman of Surgery at Penn State, Hershey) and C. Everett Koop (founding Chief of Surgery at CHOP).

The memoir of Dr. Koop on page 4 of this newsletter, like his obituary in the New York Times, the New Yorker, Wikipedia and a score of other places is focused mainly on his record as U.S. Surgeon General. Only briefly mentioned are some of his accomplishments during 35 years as Chief of Surgery at CHOP. But other interesting aspects of his career are passed over. Before Chick Koop became the country’s best known pediatric surgeon and its most famous Surgeon General he had a unique experience as a HUP general surgery resident. Disappointed by rejection by Columbia, he settled for medical school at Cornell. After his

internship at Pennsylvania Hospital, I. S. Ravdin (not yet Penn Chairman) accepted him for residency on his independent service. The acceptance was on the condition that Koop first serve 2 years on research. Before this could begin Ravdin went off to India for his World War II assignment. The research experience was skipped because of HUP’s need for clinical manpower during the wartime doctor shortage. Koop’s entire residency was on the Ravdin service but in Rav’s absence it was directed by 34 year old Jonathan Rhoads who Ravdin had left in charge. Koop, the only resident on the service, and Rhoads, the only attending, later claimed that their war was the “Battle of Spruce Street”, where the two of them managed a service of as many as 100 patients. In his autobiography, Koop recalls that even in his first year of training Rhoads often left him alone to perform gastrectomies and other big operations.

On his return from the war, Ravdin was appointed department chairman. One of his first actions was to send Koop to Boston for a few months of training with pediatric surgery’s pioneers, William Ladd and Robert Gross. This was his only training in the field. Ravdin then named 30 year old Koop Chief of Surgery at CHOP. There he encountered stiff opposition from the pediatricians and nurses who were accustomed to managing the patients and the general surgeons to whom they sent all their patients for operations. Koop prevailed and before long he became the dominant figure in the U. S. for the new specialty of pediatric surgery.

Chick Koop remained a favorite graduate of his HUP mentors, Ravdin and Rhoads. Generations of HUP residents during their rotations at CHOP were at first frightened by the reputation of this gruff chief. But if they paid attention they learned from him a lot about medicine and also about human values while Dr. Koop was teaching them to do left inguinal herniorrhaphies (Chick always did the right side first). I recall being called to his office as I was about to finish my rotation. I was uneasy, anticipating among other things that I might be on my way to a prayer meeting such as the evangelistic Koop sometimes held for the residents. Instead Dr. Koop surprised me with a signed copy of his book and a gift of a sizable check to supplement my meager HUP salary. No other attending ever gave out such awards.

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# Young Leader

## Rachel R. Kelz, M.D.

Rachel Kelz, this issue's young star, is a cum laude graduate of Yale University School of Medicine. Her internship and general surgery residency at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania were supplemented by a two year research fellowship with the Surgical Outcomes Group of the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and by two years of a National Cancer Institutional Clinical Epidemiology Training Fellowship leading to a MSCE degree from the University of Pennsylvania. Since 2004 she has been Assistant Professor of Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania and Attending Surgeon at HUP in the Division of Endocrinology and Oncologic Surgery. Her active clinical practice is focused on endocrine surgery, especially that of thyroid and parathyroid disease.

Rachel's administrative activities have been unusually extensive. They include chairing HUP's Nutrition Support Committee and co-chairing the Mortality Committee CEQI. She is also a member of the leadership team responsible for direction and outcome of Quality Improvement Initiatives (ACSNSQIP). She co-directs the School's Doris Duke Clinical Research Program and is the faculty advisor of two medical student societies: the D Hayes Agnew Society and the Elizabeth Blackwell Society.

Her list of awards includes the Student Research Award of the Association of Academic Surgery and the Janet Glasgow Achievement citation as the outstanding woman in the Medical School class of 1997. In 2009 she won the Department's Gordon P. Buzby Award for Administrative Leadership and Management. In every year since she joined the faculty, she has won Patient Advocacy, Patient Safety and Healthcare Hero awards.

Rachel is one of the Department's most accomplished and popular teachers. She directs the Surgery Clerkship and for the Medical School she directs all aspects of Surgery Education. She moderates one of the School's most popular courses in which students in small groups watch videos of live operations while in

direct communication for questions and discussion with the operating surgeon. In 2011 Rachel won the coveted Lindbach Award for distinguished teaching.

At National meetings she has moderated and directed sessions for outcomes and surgery education for the Association of Program Directors, the ACS Division of Optimal Patient Care, ACS NSQIP meetings and the Academic Surgical Congress.

Both locally and nationally she is a frequently invited expert lecturer on outcomes research and educational issues varying from simulation to work hour limitations as well as on endocrine and oncologic surgery. Her bibliography of 50 peer reviewed papers in top surgical journals can be viewed on the Department's website.

She is a member of the American College of Surgeons, the Association for Academic Surgery, the Surgical Outcomes Club, the Endocrine Society, the American Thyroid Association and the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons.

The mission of Rachel's Center for Surgery and Health Economics is explained below.



## The Center for Surgery and Health Economics

The Center for Surgery and Health Economics is affiliated with the Leonard Institute at Wharton. Its mission is to work with collaborators within the department and across multiple disciplines to improve the quality of surgical care delivered across the country through the use of novel techniques in education, clinical investigation, and health services research. The Center maintains the infrastructure required to facilitate the academic

mission of the department in the clinical sciences. Since its inception in 2010, faculty of the Center have contributed to over 30 peer reviewed publications related to the Center's mission, presented at multiple national and international surgical, health services research and educational meetings and obtained grant support from public sources and private foundations.

[http://www.uphs.upenn.edu/surgery/Research/economics/home\\_page.html](http://www.uphs.upenn.edu/surgery/Research/economics/home_page.html)

# In Memory of

## C. Everett Koop, M.D.

C. Everett Koop died on February 25, 2013 at age 96. He was undoubtedly the most famous alumnus of the HUP residency. Long before he became the country's best known Surgeon General his contributions to the care of children made him widely known and respected in medical circles. The field of pediatric surgery was new when Koop became CHOP's Surgical Chief in 1946. Over the next 35 years as he directed the CHOP program he invented or perfected many of the procedures now in standard use for congenital defects and other serious childhood maladies. These included tracheoesophageal fistula, intestinal atresia, muconeum ileus, esophageal atresia and many others. He was particularly well known for separation of conjoined twins. During his career he performed seventeen thousand inguinal herniorrhaphies and seven thousand orchidopexies for undescended testicles. He is credited with starting the first pediatric intensive care unit. The fellowship program he started trained 35 residents and 14 foreign fellows, many of whom became professors and directors of their own pediatric surgery programs. He was the founder and first editor of the *Journal of Pediatric Surgery*. For these and other contributions he received many honors and awards including the William Ladd Gold Medal of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Medal of the Legion of Honor of France, honorary fellowships of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, and the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. He also received the U. S. Presidential Medal of Freedom, honorary degrees from University of Pennsylvania and 17 other universities and membership in the American Philosophical Society.

Dr. Koop's second career began in 1981 when he retired as Chief of Surgery at CHOP and was nominated by Ronald Reagan as U. S. Surgeon General. Many liberal politicians and women's groups bitterly opposed his nomination because of his conservative views. Shortly before, the deeply religious evangelistic Christian Dr. Koop had toured the country preaching against abortion. Koop was eventually confirmed because he promised and somehow convinced the Senate that he would not allow his personal ideology (which never changed) to dictate his actions as Surgeon General. He was as good as his word.

It could not have been anticipated that in his 8 years as Surgeon General Dr. Koop would transform the previously largely honorary position of Surgeon General into an incredibly influ-



ential bully pulpit for medicine. Along the way he alienated his supporters on the religious and political right. To counter the growing epidemic of AIDS he sent an educational pamphlet to 100 million U.S. households recommending compulsory sex education in schools so that children would be taught about sexually transmitted diseases and the use of condoms. His campaign against tobacco's addictive nature and the effect of second hand smoke infuriated senators from tobacco growing states but has been credited with decreasing U.S. smoking rates from 38% to 27%. On abortion, which he personally abhorred, he refused to yield to pressure from the President to issue a report that its psychological impact was worse than the alternative. He shocked the administration by stating that since his study of the issue failed to confirm this view with scientific certainty he would issue no such report. By the time he left office his enemies had become his friends and his friends his enemies. From the public he had won respect worthy of his claim that he was "America's Family Doctor".

As Surgeon General Dr. Koop focused not on emotional and political issues but on the medical and scientific facts and data. As his eulogy in the *New Yorker* put it: "Surprisingly, even ideologues can love the truth". This would not have surprised Chick Koop's many friends and admirers at Penn.

# Academic Surgical Congress February 6

PENN faculty, housestaff, and medical students were joined by several alumni members of the Penn Surgery Society for dinner at the Academic Surgical Congress on February 6th. Dinner was held

at the Restaurant August in New Orleans. Great food and a good time (and a few strings of beads) was had by everyone!



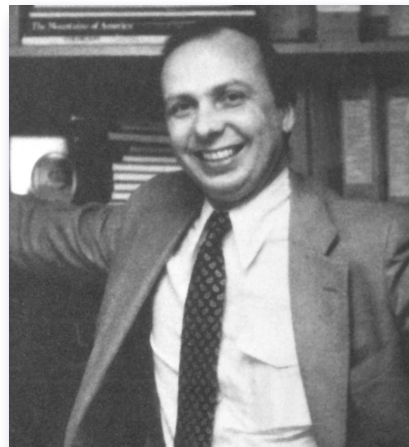
## Jim Mullen to Receive Dripps Award (continued from front page)

*His intellect, insight, commitment and organizational skills are unparalleled. His ability to successfully serve at Penn under six different chairmen of surgery speaks to his recognition as someone who is unanimously and consistently viewed as indispensable."*

### **Ronald M. Fairman, M.D.**

The Clyde F. Barker-William Maul Measey Professor of Surgery Chief, Division of Vascular Surgery and Endovascular Therapy

*"As I reflect on the twelve years since I finished training at Penn, I see objectively in my current academic practice much of what Dr. Mullen instilled in his numerous mentees: a commitment to the provision of the finest clinical care, commitment to research and to better understand the surgical diseases we treat and the commitment to educating future generations of surgeons with these skills and ideals."*



### **Harold "Bo" N. Lovvorn, III, M.D.**

Assistant Professor of Pediatric Surgery  
Vanderbilt University Children's Hospital

*"To say the least, Dr. Mullen greatly influenced me and I attribute much of my success today to his tutelage and mentorship. I can remember distinctly Dr. Mullen taking me aside on multiple occasions to positively comment on my work but most importantly to provide constructive criticism to help me improve or progress appropriately as a surgical resident. I have most definitely personalized those moments into similar techniques in mentoring skills in training residents here... Dr. Mullen is a "larger than life" human being. He is truly a leader in every sense of the word."*

### **Donald C. Liu, M.D., Ph.D.**

Mary Campau Ryerson Professor of Surgery  
Surgeon in Chief, Univ. of Chicago Comer Children's Hospital  
University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine

*"I first met Dr. Mullen as a UPENN medical student at my surgical clerkship. He was and remains a larger than life figure with an inimitable style of education... he represented one of the most dominant figures in my training as a surgeon and exceptional role model and good friend."*

### **James F. Markmann, M.D., Ph.D.**

Chief, Division of Transplantation, Massachusetts General Hospital, Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School

*"Wisdom is the knowledge of what is right coupled with the judgment of how best to employ that knowledge. One without the other is of limited value. Rarely a day would go by that Jim Mullen didn't impact his wisdom to us. That wisdom is carried on by use and imparted to the next gen-*

*eration of surgical trainees."*

### **Michael L. Nance, M.D.**

Josephine J. and John M. Templeton Jr. Endowed Chair in Pediatric Trauma, Professor of Pediatric Surgery

*"Some of the qualities that set Dr. Mullen apart, his unusual honesty, his absolute convictions in his beliefs, his willingness to engage in open discourse and his unflinching loyalty to the Department of Surgery make him a powerful advocate. Surgical residents have been the greatest beneficiaries of his advocacy and often unknowingly... Because he most often chose to work behind the scenes he rarely receives credit for his many contributions. This never seems to bother him. Indeed, his willingness to be unpopular in the pursuit of what he believes is right is one of his most remarkable traits."*

### **Robert E. Roses, M.D.**

Assistant Professor of Surgery, University of Pennsylvania

*"In retrospect it was the environment that Jim created for us at HUP that was the true manifestation of his genius as an educator of surgeons. People entered the program with a wide range of aptitude, industriousness and clinical confidence; when they graduated they were a uniform group of confident surgeons with finely honed technical and leadership skills that has allowed nearly all of them to reach prominence in American surgery... I am not sure there has ever been anybody in American surgery like Jim Mullen; I know for sure there is no one like him now."*

### **Robert C. Gorman, M.D.**

Professor of Surgery, Glenolden Research Laboratory

*"Dr. Mullen has an unwavering dedication to Penn surgery. He is arguably one of the Departments greatest assets due to his uncanny ability to harness his knowledge of the past as a window into the future. Repeatedly he has shown himself to be visionary and a pioneer."*

### **Nina Bowens, M.D.**

Chair, Resident Executive Committee

*"Jim Mullen's dedication and commitment to my career was influential in his "pushing me" to achieve and perform beyond my own expectations throughout my residency and research years at Penn... Hind sight provides greater clarity in realizing the significant contributions Jim Mullen has made as a role model, leader, administrator, educator and physician that have been instrumental in my ultimately becoming a department chairman."*

### **James D. Luketich, M.D.**

Henry T. Bahnson Professor of Cardiothoracic Surgery  
Chair, Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery  
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

*"...I am personally grateful for what Dr. Mullen did for my own education. It was somewhere between the deserts of Iraq and Afghanistan that I realized that Penn made me a surgeon who could handle virtually any clinical, political, organizational, or personal situation in a productive*

*way. I give a large part of the credit for this to Jim Mullen, my friend and mentor without whom I would not have become the surgeon and leader I am today."*

### **T. Sloan Guy, M.D., MBA**

Chief, Cardiothoracic Surgery, Temple Univ. School of Medicine

*"... Dr. Mullen was simply a phenomenal human being. He doesn't always do what is popular but rather what is right. He is driven by the pursuit of excellence. While many strive for excellence in their lives, for Dr. Mullen it is those around him and the institution he serves that he wants to be excellent. It is a rare kind of selfless ambition that he possesses and there have been almost forty years of residents that have benefitted from this. Dr. Mullen has made an impact on this hospital that will long outlive its time here, and that is truly remarkable."*

### **Benjamin J. Herdrich, M.D.**

Vascular Fellow, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

*"Over the past thirty years, Dr. Mullen has certainly been an integral component and invaluable leader of the educational program in the Department of Surgery at Penn. As a result the program has produced several major academic leaders across the country. He set an educational standard that has imbued his trainees with the commitment to educate the next generation. This is perhaps the ultimate goal of education and thus he is highly deserving of this award."*

### **Ronald P. DeMatteo, M.D.**

Leslie H. Bloomgard Chair in Surgery  
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

*"Dr. Mullen was the strongest example to need to be "every man." You would never know that he was a Harvard graduate or Penn trainee. In fact, it didn't matter if you were a patient, a front line nurse or in my case an intern from Texas. He spoke to people in their language. He was one of those individuals, in any walk of life could identify with. I guess that you can't be a true organizational genius unless you are comfortable and facile with all at every level of the organization. This has been an incredibly invaluable lesson for me as an administrator and again, one that many never seem to learn. Jim used to say that "surgery is a contact sport, and so is life." One bumps up against a number of dissimilar sensitivities and backgrounds in large organizations but that can be embraced and managed."*

### **W. Roy Smythe, M.D.**

Chairman, Department of Surgery, Glen and Rita K. Roney  
Chair in Surgery, Texas A & M College of Medicine

*"Jim's efforts led to all of us having the ability and desire to think more clearly, to ask better questions as regards patient care and research, to work*



*more efficiently to take care of our team members whether they were medical students, junior residents or other learners... Dr. Mullen (with all due respect to the chairs of surgery and other important faculty members at Penn who have done extraordinary things) quietly, effectively, efficiently and without fanfare has been the single most important figure in graduate medical education in HUP's Department of Surgery for over thirty years. He has been the glue that has held the educational programs together while promoting innovation and modernization."*

### **Danny O. Jacobs, M.D., MPH**

David C. Sabiston, Jr. Professor, Chair, Department of Surgery  
Duke University Medical Center

*"Dr. Mullen's ability to organize the surgery resident education system is now legend... Jim Mullen radically changed the surgery education mission for the better... He is a great non-linear thinker who didn't just come to work every day with ten "things" to check off his daily "to-do" list. He understood deeply the multiple vertical and horizontal relationships within the entire "education" aspect of the department's mission. He knew exactly what would happen to "one end" if the "other end" needed perturbation... he is the organizational mastermind of what now is a great residency program."*

### **Joseph E. Bavaria, M.D.**

The Brooke Roberts - William Maul Measey Professor of Surgery  
*"Jim Mullen has dedicated a large part of his career to surgery education... For thirty-five years as a surgical attending at HUP, Dr. Mullen has had the courage necessary to have a lasting positive impact on the educational programs in the Penn Department of Surgery. When dealing with faculty colleagues, Jim has always told it like it is, while consistently striving to improve the education of surgical residents and students... He is the person most responsible of the fact that over the past thirty years the Penn Surgical residency has been recognized as one of the best training programs in the country."*

### **Daniel T. Dempsey, M.D.**

Chief, Gastrointestinal Surgery

As so articulately stated by these Penn surgeons, Jim Mullen's entire career has been synonymous with surgical education at Penn. He is an icon in the Department of Surgery with no equal. In a career that has spanned six chairs of surgery, he has supported the department's educational mission proudly and with remarkable passion and enthusiasm. He has been a strikingly innovative man who has clearly demonstrated multidimensional administrative and operational successes. In a number of areas of expertise, including change management, team building, educational accreditation, information technology and institutional collaboration, Jim has demonstrated time and time again how critically important he is to the educational mission of this department.

Congratulations to Jim Mullen on receiving the 2013 Robert Dunning Dripps Memorial Prize!

Welcome

# FY14 First Year Residents

## General Surgery Program



**Jennifer Chung**  
Michigan



**Brett Ecker**  
Mount Sinai



**Ian Folkert**  
Penn



**Avery Miller**  
Columbia



**Andrew Newton**  
Maryland



**Catherine Sharoky**  
Maryland



**Andrew Sinnamon**  
Penn

## Plastic Surgery Program



**David Coleni**  
Virginia



**Valery Schubinets**  
Harvard

## Cardiac Surgery Direct Program



**Carlo Bartoli**  
Louisville

## Vascular Surgery Direct Program



**Julia Glaser**  
Dartmouth

## Urology Program



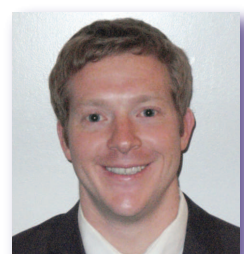
**Siobhan Hartigan**  
George Washington



**David Kurz**  
Temple



**Eliza Lamin**  
UMDNJ



**Christopher Miller**  
Temple

# Alden Harken Receives Lifetime Achievement Award From SUS

The 2012 Lifetime Achievement Award winner of the Society of University Surgeons is Alden H. Harken, MD, Professor and Chair of the University of California-San Francisco East Bay Department of Surgery.

Following college at Harvard University, he graduated from Case Western Reserve Medical School in 1967 and completed surgical and pediatric cardiovascular surgical residencies at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital and Boston Children's Medical Center. After three years as an investigator at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research Dr. Harken joined the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania. He says he found it a stimulating environment, having his office "next to people who were fascinated by asking questions." During his eight years at Penn he published more than 100 scientific papers, was awarded two NIH grants, and advanced to the rank of Professor of Surgery.

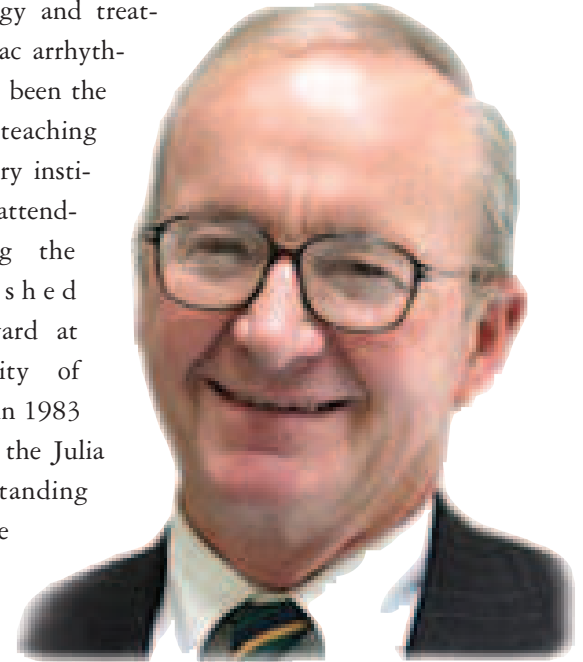
In 1983, he became Chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of Colorado's Health Sciences Center. After two successful decades in Denver, he accepted his current position as Professor and Chairman of the University of California San Francisco – East Bay Department of Surgery.

Dr. Harken's interest in and contributions to the field of cardiac electrophysiology began early in his career when, as an Assistant Professor of Surgery at Penn he, along with Drs. Mark Josephson and Leonard Horowitz, performed seminal work in mapping and surgical ablation for ventricular tachyarrhythmias. The fruits of this ground-breaking labor formed the cornerstone of our current understanding of the pathophysiology of ventricular tachycardia and have provided the basis for today's methods of ablative treatment of ischemic ventricular tachycardia. He was one of the early investigators in developing implantable tachyarrhythmia devices and became one of the foremost experts in the surgical treatment of supraventricular tachyarrhythmias. For this, he received the award from the Heart Rhythm Society as a Pioneer In Cardiac Pacing And Electrophysiology.

Dr. Harken has authored more than 500 scientific publications and has been awarded 10 NIH grants. He has served as a Director of the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, as a Regent of the American College of Surgeons, and as President of the Society of University Surgeons and the Association of Academic Surgery.

In addition to his clinical and research accomplishments, Dr. Harken is the consummate teacher, educating generations of students, surgical residents, and electrophysiology fellows in the

pathophysiology and treatment of cardiac arrhythmias. He has been the recipient of teaching awards in every institution he has attended, including the distinguished Lindback Award at the University of Pennsylvania in 1983 and at UCSF the Julia Burke Outstanding Teacher of the Year in both 2005 and 2006.



Dr. Harken says "The fun part for me is helping aspiring academic surgeons get involved in these activities. I find it so gratifying to watch them develop from college students to medical students to surgical residents to junior faculty members. We have a research conference every Tuesday morning at 6:00 a.m. and it's a very dynamic and active group. Everyone presents what they did last week and what they plan to do next week, and we critique them. If they get through that, speaking at a national meeting is a piece of cake. The conference is a wonderful stimulus, and I think the discipline of asking very focused questions makes you a vastly better clinical surgeon, even if you never do any more investigation. It permits you to sort through complex medical problems in much more logical fashion, to the huge benefit of the patient."

In 2000, he was awarded one of the University of Colorado's highest honors, the Thomas Jefferson Award, for his excellence and commitment to academic ideals and for his participation in humanitarian activities.

Dr. Harken's energy, insight, enthusiasm and innovative work have created a legacy that will influence the treatment of cardiac arrhythmias for many years to come. He has clearly been a pioneer in the field, and has been a true role model for his colleagues in the SUS and AAS.

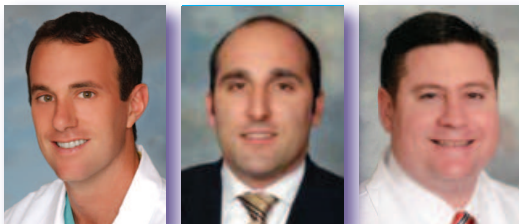
*(excerpted from the SUS Lifetime Achievement Award Presentation)*



# Alumni News

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

- ◆ 2012 PENN Pearl Teaching Awards were given to **Benjamin Braslow, M.D., Robert Redfield, III, M.D., and Kyle Remick, M.D.** Each year 3rd and 4th year PENN medical students honor those residents and faculty members who most 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!



- ◆ **Jon B. Morris, M.D.**, Professor and Vice Chair of Education, Department of Surgery and Associate Dean for Student Affairs, Perelman School of Medicine, has been named president-elect of the Association of Program Directors in Surgery. Founded in 1977, the Association of Program Directors in Surgery is an organization that provides a forum for discussion on post-graduate surgical education, promotes high standards of surgical residency training, supports program directors in the areas of educational research and accreditation and represents the interest of program directors to other organizations, governmental agencies and regulatory bodies.



- ◆ **Ken Murayama, M.D.**, Professor of Surgery and Chief of Surgery at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center has been appointed Chairman of Surgery at Abington Memorial Hospital. Ken came to Penn from the University of Hawaii in 2008. He has particular expertise in minimally invasive surgery and bariatric surgery. We wish him well in his new position.



- ◆ **Wilson Szeto, M.D.** has assumed a newly-created position of Associate Clinical Director, Cardiovascular Surgery at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center. In this role, Dr. Szeto will assist Dr. Clark Hargrove with the administrative responsibilities and daily operations for CV Surgery at PPMC.



endovascular and aortic surgery fellowship. Following his fellowship, Dr. Szeto was appointed Assistant Professor Surgery and Surgical Director, Transcatheter Cardio-Aortic Therapies. In 2011, Dr. Szeto was promoted to Associate Professor of Surgery and to Associate Director, Thoracic Aortic Surgery at Penn.

In addition to his work at HUP, Dr. Szeto became part of the cardiovascular surgery team at PPMC in 2006. Along with Dr. Rob Li and under the leadership of Drs. Joseph Bavaria and Howard Herrmann, Dr. Szeto has developed the transcatheter aortic valve replacement program at PPMC. Dr. Szeto is to be congratulated on his new position.

- ◆ **Alan J. Wein, M.D.**, chief of Urology, was elected vice president of the Clinical Society of Genitourinary Surgeons for FY13 and will serve as the organization's president in 2013-2014.



- ◆ **Charles J. Johnson, M.D.**, died January 22, 2012 at the age of 77. Chuck was a graduate of the medical school of the University of Wisconsin. After his residency in general surgery, 1961-1966 and plastic surgery 1966-1968, (both at HUP) he returned to the University of Wisconsin as Assistant Professor of Surgery. He subsequently served on the faculty at St. Louis University and Washington University in St. Louis. He is survived by his wife Karen, who was a HUP nurse.

- ◆ Rafael Viñoly Architects announced that the **Clyde F. Barker Transplant House** received special mention from the 2013 Architizer Awards, which "celebrates the world's best structures."



In 2006 Dr. Szeto completed his general surgery internship and residency at the University of Pennsylvania as well as an

- ◆ **Kim Olthoff, M.D.** has been appointed as Chief of the Division of Transplant Surgery. Dr. Olthoff received her undergraduate degree from Calvin College and her M.D. from the Pritzker School of Medicine of the University of Chicago. She did her General Surgery residency and Transplant fellowship at U.C.L.A. Dr. Olthoff, a member of the Penn faculty since 1995, is currently the Donald Guthrie Professor of Surgery and the Department's Vice-Chair for Faculty Affairs. An internationally known leader in the field of liver transplantation, Dr. Olthoff has received multiple NIH grants in support of her research and has held a number of leadership roles in national organizations. Currently she serves as President of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons.



Dr. Olthoff succeeds Dr. Avi Shaked, the Eliason Professor of Surgery, who has served as Transplant Surgery Division Chief since 2001. Dr. Shaked will continue to serve as Director of the Penn Transplant Institute and as a member of the Department of Surgery Executive Committee. He will also continue to be an active member of the liver transplant faculty and to devote time to his laboratory.

- ◆ **Ali Najj, M.D., Ph.D.**, J. William White Professor of Surgery delivered the Annual Paul Russell Lecture at Harvard Medical School on April 10, 2013. In addition he has been invited to give the Annual Paul Lacey Memorial Lecture at the Congress of the International Pancreas and Islet Association on September 27.



- ◆ On April 11, 2013, the 53rd **Annual D. Hayes Agnew Lecture** was given by Diana L. Farmer, Chair of Surgery at the University of California, Davis, on 'Global Surgery - A New Pathway for Academic Success'. This distinguished

lecture may date to an earlier time but we have no record of it before 1960. Since then the names of the lecturers chart the progress of modern surgery: William A. Altemeier, M.D. (1960), Francis D. Moore, M.D. (1962), John H. Gibbon, Jr., M.D. (1963), Charles G. Child, III, M.D. (1964), Owen H. Wangensteen, M.D. (1965), Charles G. Rob, M.D. (1966), Denton A. Cooley, M.D. (1967), J. Englebort Dunphy, M.D. (1968), Norman E. Shumway, M.D. (1969), William A. Altemeier, M.D. (1970), David C. Sabiston, Jr., M.D. (1971), Francis D. Moore, M.D. (1972), Curtis P. Artz, M.D. (1974), G. Tom Shires, M.D. (1975), H. William Scott, Jr., M.D. (1976), Marshall J. Orloff, M.D. (1977), James C. Thompson, M.D. (1978), Alexander J. Walt, M.D. (1979), Ward O. Griffen, Jr., M.D. (1980), W. Dean Warren, M.D. (1981), M. Judah Folkman, M.D. (1982), Peter J. Jannetta, M.D. (1983), Samuel A. Wells, M.D. (1984), Keith Reemstma, M.D. (1985), Seymour I. Schwartz, M.D. (1986), David B. Skinner, M.D. (1987), John L. Cameron, M.D. (1988), William P. Longmire, M.D. (1989), Richard L. Simmons, M.D. (1990), John A. Mannick, M.D. (1991), Jonathan E. Rhoads, M.D. (1992), Sir Peter J. Morris, Ph.D., F.R.C.S., F.R.S. (1993), Edward M. Copeland, III, M.D. (1994), R. Scott Jones, M.D. (1995), Stanley J. Dudrick, M.D. (1996), Thomas E. Starzl, M.D., Ph.D. (1997), James C. Thompson, M.D. (1998), Andrew L. Warshaw, M.D. (1999), John M. Daly, M.D. (2000), Danny O. Jacobs, M.D. (2001), W. Randolph Chitwood, Jr., M.D. (2002), Michael J. Zinner, M.D. (2003), Barbara L. Bass, M.D. (2004), Ronald W. Busuttil, M.D., Ph.D. (2005), Hiram C. Polk, Jr. M.D. (2006), Richard K. Reznick, M.D. (2007), Josef E. Fischer, M.D. (2008), Professor the Lord Darzi of Denham, KBE, (2009), Steven A. Rosenberg, M.D., Ph.D. (2010), Robin S. McLeod, M.D., F.R.C.S.(C) (2011), Haile T. Debas, M.D. (2012).

On March, 7, 2013 the University of Chicago presented the first annual memorial scientific symposium in honor of **Don Liu**, HUP Chief Resident in 1995. Don was the University of Chicago's Chief of Pediatric Surgery at the time of his tragic death on August 6th, 2012. **Chris Skelly**, HUP vascular fellow in 2001, now Chief of Vascular Surgery at Chicago, was among the speakers. At a memorial service preceding the symposium, **Ron DeMatteo**, HUP Chief Resident in 1997, contributed to the program, with Don's friends, colleagues, patients and family. **Jon Morris** and **Larry Kaiser** represented our Society at the service. Signifying the impact Don had on the university community, a block of East 58th Street in Hyde Park near the University of Chicago Medicine Comer Children's Hospital has been renamed Dr. Donald Chua Liu Way.





# Penn Surgery

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