



# Penn Surgery Society NEWS

SUMMER 2012

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).



**Jeffrey Drebin**

## Message from the Chairman

This summer newsletter marks the beginning of another academic year for the Department of Surgery. The year just concluded was another highly successful one for the Department, though, as in all years, it had its challenges. We continued our multi-year trend of increasing clinical activity, which is all the more impressive because this occurred despite several faculty departures for other academic opportunities. We also had a strong year in terms of research activity and funding, balancing the expiration of ARRA funding with multiple new awards. The educational activities of the Department have received increasing focus at all levels, and this has helped stimulate the enthusiasm for General Surgery and Surgical Sub-Specialty careers among medical students in the Perelman School of Medicine. We have recruited a group of excellent housestaff who will train at Penn (p.11) and we graduated 8 chief residents in General Surgery (p.12), each of whom is going on to perform additional fellowship training.

This edition of the newsletter acknowledges two of the senior faculty members who continue to play important roles in the Department - Dr. Whitaker in Plastic Surgery (p.4) and Dr. Wein in Urology (p.10). I suspect several other faculty members would not be insulted to be considered "senior faculty", including Dr. Joel Cooper (Thoracic), Dr. Hank Edmunds (Cardiac) and of course our newsletter editor, Dr. Clyde Barker. We are fortunate at Penn to have these surgeons continuing to serve as leaders and role models for our faculty and residents. While we more frequently celebrate our trainees and successful young faculty members, it is important that we acknowledge these individuals who through their lifetimes have contributed so much to our Department and to our profession.

The coming year will no doubt present new challenges. The recent Supreme Court decision suggests that the "affordable care act" will continue to define the provision of and reimbursement for medical care in this country, though many of its major programs are still several years in the future. The NIH budget will with likelihood be flat in real terms over the next few years, providing a particular challenge for research intensive universities such as ours. And our educational programs, for medical students but particularly for surgical trainees, will likely undergo major changes in the next few years as well. The Casey Stengel (or Niels Bohr) statement that "prediction is hard, especially about the future" clearly applies to our current environment, but what is certain is that change is coming. We are fortunate to be facing these changes from a position of strength and accomplishment, and I believe Penn Surgery and our many Alumni throughout the nation will play critical roles in seeing that the future of American Surgery, and the American Healthcare System more broadly, is successful.

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## From the Editor

Clyde F. Barker, M.D.

This issue profiles a broad spectrum of Penn Surgical Society members from our recently graduated residents (page 12) to several of our most senior members. This has been a season for our members to receive special recognition. The long list includes Jeff Drebin's Mark Ravitch Visiting Professorship at Hopkins, Kim Olthoff's election to the presidency of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons, Ron Fairman's award at the Annual Meeting of Vascular Fellows, establishment of the Annual Linton Whitaker Lectureship by the American Society of Craniofacial Surgeons, award of the proceeds of the Philadelphia Antiques Show to HUP's lung transplant program, the Keyes Medal of the American Association of Genitourinary Surgeons to Alan Wein, receipt by Bill Pierce of Penn Medicine's Distinguished Graduate Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Society of University Surgeons to Alden Harken. In the eight year history of the last award, PENN Surgery Society members have won 3.

Since for the most part I learned of these awards only by accident I have probably missed others. I continue to remind members of our Society to keep us informed of important news so that it can be shared.

The outstanding accomplishments of Alan Wein and Linton

Whitaker, two of the department's best known and most highly valued faculty, seem to have been neglected in previous newsletters, probably because my contact with their fields of specialization is more peripheral than it is with general surgery. I apologize for this oversight which was recently called to my attention by the news that Dr. Wein had received the Keyes Medal, the highest award of the American Association of Genitourinary surgeons (see page 10) and that the American Society of Craniofacial Surgery established the Annual Linton Whitaker Lecture (see page 4).

It is also a pleasure to note that Bill Pierce (HUP chief resident 1969) during the School's 2012 Alumni Day, received the University of Pennsylvania Medical School's highest distinction, the Distinguished Graduate Award for his pioneering work on the artificial heart. The Department can be proud that of a total of 30 recipients of this award, 7 have been members of our society (Jonathan Rhoads, C. Everett Koop, James Hardy, myself, James Thompson, Stanley Dudrick and Bill Pierce). This must be the largest number of awardees from any specialty. Bill Pierce also received the Jacobson Innovation Award in 2007. This is the highest research award of the American College of Surgeons. It is quite remarkable that of the 17 Jacobson Awards given so far 5 have gone to our Society members: Bernard Fisher, (a Ravdin resident); Joel Cooper, (current HUP faculty); Judah Folkman (mentored by Chick Koop at CHOP); Stanley Dudrick and Bill Pierce, (both Rhoads' residents).

*Chicago, Illinois*

# Save the Date

**Tuesday, October 2, 2012**

**Penn Surgery Society Reception**  
at the 98th Annual Clinical Congress  
of the American College of Surgeons





# New Chief of the Division of Thoracic Surgery

## John C. Kucharczuk, M.D.

In March of 2012 following a national search, Dr. Drebin announced the appointment of Dr. John Kucharczuk as Chief of the Division of Thoracic Surgery.

A lifelong Pennsylvanian, John Kucharczuk did his undergraduate work in the College of Engineering at Villanova. He received his M.D. (AOA) from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He subsequently trained in General Surgery and Cardiothoracic Surgery at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. As HUP Chief Resident in 1996 he received both the William Y. Inouye Award for Teaching and the Jonathan E. Rhoads Research Award. He lists 35 peer reviewed publications and 30 reviews and chapters. While a research fellow in the Harrison Department, John conducted basic science experiments with Steve Albelda and Larry Kaiser. In non human primates they demonstrated the antitumor impact of recombinant adenovirus carrying herpes simplex thymidine kinase DNA followed by gancyclovir therapy.

Dr. Kucharczuk joined the faculty of the Department of Surgery in 2002. In 2009 he was appointed Associate Professor of Surgery. For the past year he has served as the interim Chief of the Division of Thoracic Surgery.

Dr. Kucharczuk is the busiest thoracic surgeon in the region, and is an exceptional technician, performing complex pulmonary, esophageal and mediastinal procedures. He is also an active clinical investigator, has served on NIH study sections, and is involved in national efforts focusing on surgical quality improvement. In addition to his outstanding work in the Department of Surgery, Dr. Kucharczuk has received recognition for his successful organization and leadership of the multidisciplinary Thoracic Oncology program in the Abramson Cancer Center.

Dr. Kucharczuk recently outlined his division's accomplishments and plans for redefining research, education and patient care. He observed that while multidisciplinary patient care is usually coordinated by organ specific physicians, his vision for the division is to extend this concept by collaborating with a team of specialists focused not just on thoracic organs but on specific diseases. In a model he terms integrated disease planning, pul-



monary medicine, radiation oncology, medical oncology and thoracic surgery will work together closely to provide care designed specifically for patients with thoracic malignancies including those of the lung, esophagus and pleura. At all three Penn Medicine hospitals this new design will integrate the activities of physicians of various disciplines with those of advanced practice nurses in all aspects of patient care, education and research. At a weekly multidisciplinary conference risk levels, quality of life measures and care plans are developed for each patient. Coordinated appointments and studies provide a streamlined experience for patients as well as the most advanced treatment for thoracic malignancies.

The division's commitment to education is evident not only in student and resident teaching but also in a unique continuing education program for physicians who have completed conventional specialty training. At Penn they will rotate through all of the clinical services that are integrated in the treatment of thoracic malignancies including radiation therapy, medical oncology, pathology and radiology. The program's aim is not to teach participants how to perform advanced surgical procedures but rather to provide them with a comprehensive perspective that will enhance their ability to provide optimal patient care. It will also widen awareness of Penn Medicine's clinical and research expertise.

The division's clinical research enterprise is robust. Several exciting studies are exploring novel treatment for thoracic malignancies. For example, Sunil Singhal is developing a method to enhance a surgeon's ability to locate tiny tumors or to rapidly determine the exact extent of larger tumors. During an operation surgeons are sometimes frustrated by the difficulty of finding within the lung a small tumor that showed up on a CT scan. At other times a surgeon may fail to completely resect a tumor whose margins are unclear. This may necessitate a second operation if the pathology report indicates that there was cancer at the margins of resection. To overcome both these problems

## Senior Faculty

# Linton A. Whitaker, M.D.

Linton Whitaker is one of the Department's true international stars. Recently added to his extensive list of honors was the establishment of an annual lectureship in his name by the American Society of Craniofacial Surgery. He was invited to deliver the first lecture on April 20, 2012.

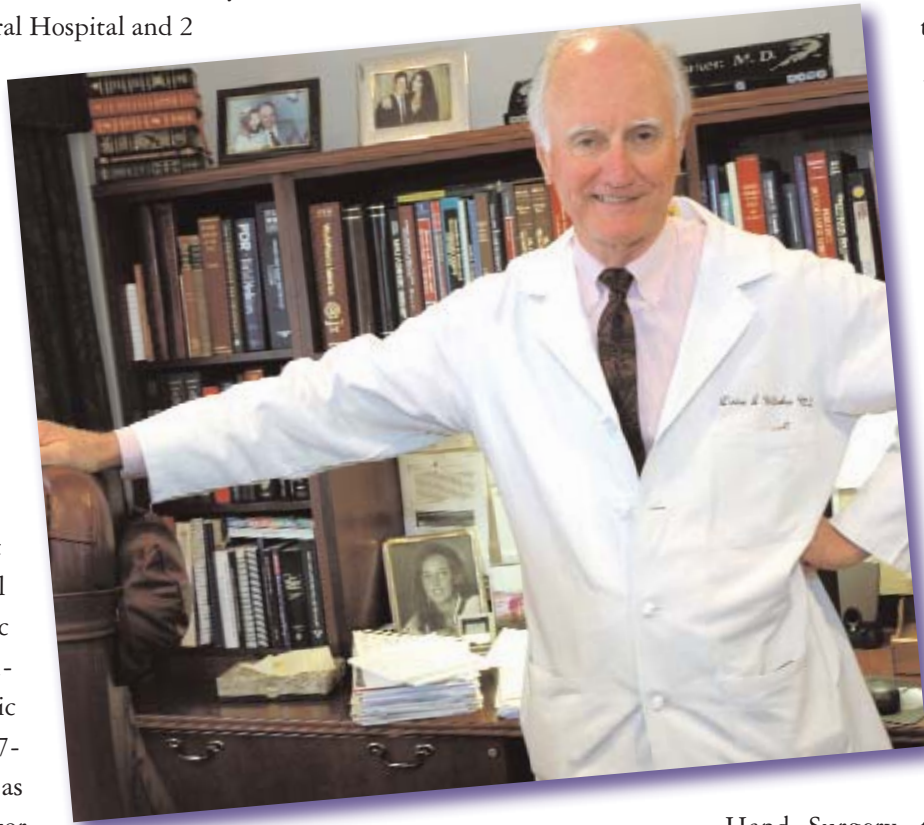
Linton Whitaker earned his B.A. from the University of Texas, Austin and his M.D. from Tulane University in 1962. After internship at Montreal General Hospital and 2

years in the Army he completed a general surgery residency at Dartmouth and a plastic surgery residency at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. In 1971 Dr. Whitaker became a member of the plastic surgery faculty at HUP and the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. He was also Chief of Plastic Surgery at Graduate Hospital until 1978. He was Chief of Plastic Surgery at CHOP from 1981-2001 and Chief of Plastic Surgery at HUP from 1987-2004. During his tenure as Chief he was also the Director of the Facial Reconstruction Center and the Craniofacial Program at CHOP. He was the first holder of the Peter Randall Chair of Plastic Surgery and Friends of Brian Chair in Plastic Surgery.

While Chief at HUP, Dr. Whitaker founded the Center for Human Appearance, a center dedicated to the scientific study of appearance. This unique center provides an interdisciplinary approach to the study and treatment of all aspects of appearance and the quality of life affected by it.

While serving as the Chief of Plastic Surgery Dr. Whitaker trained 45 plastic surgery residents and 30 craniofacial fellows. He has been a visiting professor at 32 universities and has delivered 139 invited lectures in the US and 18 different foreign coun-

tries. He is the author of 215 scientific papers and 6 books focused primarily on plastic surgery, aesthetic surgery of the facial skeleton and the aging face. He is a member of 18 surgical societies including the American Surgical Association. He is Past President of the International Society of Craniofacial Surgery of which he was a founding member.



Dr. Whitaker is one of the world's most accomplished and most widely known and honored surgeons. Beginning with his appointment in 1979 as a prestigious James IV Surgical Traveler he established relationships with Plastic Surgeons all over the world. Evidence of his international impact on the field of Plastic Surgery are his honorary memberships in the Columbian Society of Plastic, Maxillofacial and

Hand Surgery, the Academia Medica Lombarda, Italy, the Sociedad Jaime Planas de Cirugia Plastica, Barcelona, Spain, the Japan Society of Craniofacial Surgery and the Japan Society of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery. He has been awarded an honorary Professorship by Capital Medical University in Beijing, China and an Annual Lectureship in his name in Chao Yang Hospital, Beijing, China.

Reinforcing the importance of his pioneering contributions in Craniofacial Surgery was his recognition in 2009 with the International Society for Craniofacial Surgery's highest honor, the Paul Tessier Medal.

Dr. Whitaker is now Professor Emeritus of Surgery while remaining the Director of the Center for Human Appearance.

# School of Medicine Distinguished Graduate Award

On May 11, 2012 Bill Pierce, HUP surgical chief resident, 1969 received the Distinguished Graduate Award of the School of Medicine, the institution's highest honor. Dr. Pierce was recognized for his remarkable career during which he developed a heart assist pump that has been used to support heart transplant candidates who develop severe ventricular failure before a suitable donor heart is found. Versions and derivatives of this pump are now used at HUP and worldwide both as a bridge to transplant and for temporary support of patients unable to come off bypass after open-heart surgery. Since their first clinical use in 1976 they have been used in more than 3000 patients worldwide saving thousands of lives

While a Penn medical student Bill Pierce built his first model of an artificial heart. During his residency in general surgery and CT fellowship at HUP he continued this research. In 1970, Dr. Pierce was appointed to the faculty of Penn State University and the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center where joining forces with engineering associates he designed and built the most advanced artificial pump in the world. It's most innovative feature was the seam-free surface of the chambers inside the pump. These smooth cavities helped prevent blood clotting that caused strokes in patients treated with earlier heart pumps.

In 1980, Dr. Pierce's device was approved by the FDA and in 1985 it was successfully applied as a bridge for cardiac transplantation. Dr. Pierce also played an important role in developing a fully implantable, wireless, motor-driven left ventricular assist pump named the "LionHeart," first implanted in patients in 2001.

A prolific scientific researcher and writer, Dr. Pierce authored 300 peer reviewed publications; more than 90 reviews and chapters and two books. He has served on many editorial boards and he holds nine patents.



**William S. Pierce**  
HUP Chief  
Resident 1969

Dr. Pierce is a member of the American College of Surgeons, the American Association for Thoracic Surgery, the American Surgical Association, the Society for Vascular Surgery, the Society of Clinical Surgery, the Society of Thoracic Surgeons, the Society of University Surgeons, the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering, the American Society for Artificial Internal Organs, the International Cardiovascular Society, the International Society for Artificial Organs, the International Society for Heart Transplantation, the Societe Internationale de Chirurgie, and the Society for Biomaterials.

Dr. Pierce's numerous honors include the Dr. Barney Clark Exemplary Humanitarian Award, the Wilkes-Barre Distinguished Service Award, the Monroe J. Rathbone Chemical Engineering Alumni Award, the International Historic Mechanical Engineering Landmark, an honorary doctor of science degree from Lehigh University, the Clemson Award for Applied Research, the Faculty Scholars Medal in Life and Health Sciences and the AAMI Becton Dickinson Career Achievement Award.

At Penn State University he was appointed as an Evan Pugh Professor of Surgery, the school's highest academic award, and as the Jane A. Fetter Professor. After performing thousands of heart bypass operations, including one in 1987 on Pennsylvania's governor, Bob Casey, Dr. Pierce retired from full-time clinical duties in 1996.

Notable additional recognition came to Dr. Pierce in 2007 when he received the Jacobson Innovation Award of the American College of Surgeons for "pioneering work in the conception and development of mechanical circulatory support and the total artificial mechanical heart." This highest research award of the ACS has been given to only 17 others.

During Alumni Week, **Dr. Ernest Rosato** received a Special Dean's Award posthumously. Recognized as HUP's premier general surgeon, Dr. Rosato had great passion for medical education, always integrating students and housestaff into the care of his patients. He was recognized by an unprecedented series of teaching awards including a Lindback Award and a Penn Medicine Yearbook dedication. Shown here receiving the Dean's award are Ernie's wife, Gerry, with Jeff Drebin and Jon Morris.





## Distinguished Graduate Award of the Department of Surgery

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

Jim Luketich, HUP Chief Resident, 1993 was the recipient of the Department of Surgery's 2012 Julius Mackie Distinguished Graduate Award. On May 17th, 2012 he delivered the Annual Mackie lecture on "Evolution of Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy". Dr. Luketich, the 11th winner of this award received his undergraduate degree from Old Dominion University, his Masters degree in Biochemistry from Vanderbilt University, and, in 1986, his MD (AOA) from the Medical College of Pennsylvania. From 1986 to 1993 Dr. Luketich was a resident in general surgery at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. As a postdoctoral researcher in the Harrison Department of Surgical Research he studied with Jim Mullen on nutrition and metabolism. He was the 1993 Leonard Perloff Chief Resident Teaching Awardee.

After completing fellowships in thoracic and cardiothoracic surgery at the Cleveland Clinic, New York Hospital-Cornell University Medical Center, and Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer



Center. Dr. Luketich joined the faculty of the Department of Surgery of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Over the past 17 years, his leadership there resulted in the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery growing to be one of the largest groups of academic Cardiothoracic surgeons in North America. He now holds the prestigious Henry T. Bahnson Chair in Cardiothoracic Surgery. Dr. Luketich is also Chief, of Thoracic and Foregut Surgery, Director of Thoracic Surgical Oncology, Co-Director of the Lung Cancer Center; Co-Director of Surgical Affairs, University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute; and Director of the Mark Ravitch/ Leon C. Hirsh Center for Minimally Invasive Surgery. In 2010, Dr. Luketich became the inaugural Chairman of the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery.

Dr. Luketich's research interests include the molecular staging of lung and esophageal cancer. He has been consistently funded through NIH RO1 and other Federal and industrial grants. Currently he is the Principal Investigator on an RO1 NIH/NCI grant to study micrometastases in esophageal cancer and Co-PI on two additional RO1 grants.

Dr. Luketich has become world renowned for minimally invasive surgery for esophageal cancer, a procedure he has performed on more than 1500 patients. He has also organized and completed a multicenter trial to prospectively study clinical outcomes of minimally invasive esophagectomy with 16 participating centers. Using minimally invasive techniques he performs other complex operations for gastroesophageal reflux disease, lung cancer, giant paraesophageal hernias and achalasia.

Dr. Luketich serves on the editorial boards of the Annals of Surgery, the Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery and the Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery. He is an Associate Editor for Diseases of the Esophagus. He has published 250 peer-reviewed papers, 150 invited reviews, chapters and editorials, and 350 abstracts.



**James Luketich, Jeff Drebin with Joanie Mackie at the dinner party she hosted for the Distinguished Graduate and department members.**

(continued on next page)

## James D. Luketich (continued from previous page)

Dr. Luketich Directs the Cardiothoracic Surgical Residency Program at the University of Pittsburgh, one of the largest programs of its kind in the United States. He has trained more than 50 fellows in thoracic surgery and minimally invasive surgical techniques. He has also developed and directed over 100 national and international courses on esophageal disorders, minimally invasive esophagectomy, radio frequency ablation, and video assisted thoroscopic lobectomy.

Dr. Luketich is the recipient of numerous awards including the 2009 Patients' Choice Award, the 2006 Pitt Innovator Award and the 2005 Humanitarian Award from the CHEST foundation. He has been appointed to University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine Academy of Master Educators and has been the recipient of the Cardiothoracic Teaching Award. In addition, he has been named to "Best Doctors in America" annually since 2003 and also has been named as one of the "Top Pittsburgh Doctors" by Pittsburgh magazine. Dr. Luketich is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, and is a member of many prestigious surgical societies including the American Surgical Association and the American Association for Thoracic Surgery.

### Department of Surgery 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
- ◆ 2011 W. Roy Smythe
- ◆ 2012 James D. Luketich

## Steve Bartlett's Team Performs Face Transplant

In 2009 during his Julius Mackie Lecture as the Department's Distinguished Graduate Steve Bartlett described his laboratory work on composite tissue allografts. Those who heard the review of his remarkable 10 years of basic research in rodent and primate models of face and limb transplants will not be surprised to read about the culmination of these studies. On March 19, 2012, Steve's team performed a successful human face transplant at the University of Maryland.

This was the world's most extensive full face transplant. It even included teeth, tongue and both jaws. Department Chair Steve Bartlett's surgical team led by Chief of Plastic Surgery Eduardo Rodriguez utilized innovative computerized techniques to precisely match donor and recipient tissue including the mid-face, maxilla, mandible, teeth and a portion of the tongue. In fact, the allograft included all facial soft tissue from the scalp to the neck, as well as the underlying muscles to enable facial expression, and

sensory and motor nerves to restore feeling and function. So far the recipient who had been injured in a gun accident 15 years ago has had a remarkably uncomplicated recovery.



Steve believes that a key factor in the success of the recent human operation was the transplantation of large amounts of vascularized bone marrow (VBM), contained in the donor's jaw, a method they utilized because they have found that rejection of composite tissue allografts in cynomolgus monkeys is greatly reduced if VBM is a component of the transplant. They believe this will also help to reduce the amount of required immunosuppression.

Dr. Bartlett's research in composite tissue transplantation has been extensively funded by the Department of Defense and Office of Naval Research due to the potential need for such transplants by war veterans who have suffered disfiguring facial or disabling limb injuries.



# Ron Fairman Honored at Annual Vascular Fellows Symposium

On May 1, 2012 Ronald Fairman was recognized as vascular fellowship program director of the year at Enrico Ascher's annual symposium for vascular fellows and program directors. During



**Ron Fairman**

the all day meeting in New York City, 18 vascular fellows from institutions in the Eastern United States and New England presented their research. Erin Murphy, HUP's vascular fellow received a prize for the best paper. The scientific session was followed in the evening by a dinner and presentation highlighting Dr. Fairman's career.

It was noted that Dr. Fairman brought endovascular surgery to

HUP. He performed the first endovascular abdominal and thoracic aneurysm procedures at Penn and the first carotid stent with distal protection.

Dr. Fairman has served as a Penn PI for every FDA approved endovascular aortic repair (EVAR) trial since the first EVT (Ancure) Phase II study in 1995. He has been National or Global

PI for more than 6 Pivotal EVAR Trials. He has also served as National PI for multiple Pivotal TEVAR trials and was PI for the first FDA approved carotid stent platform with distal protection.

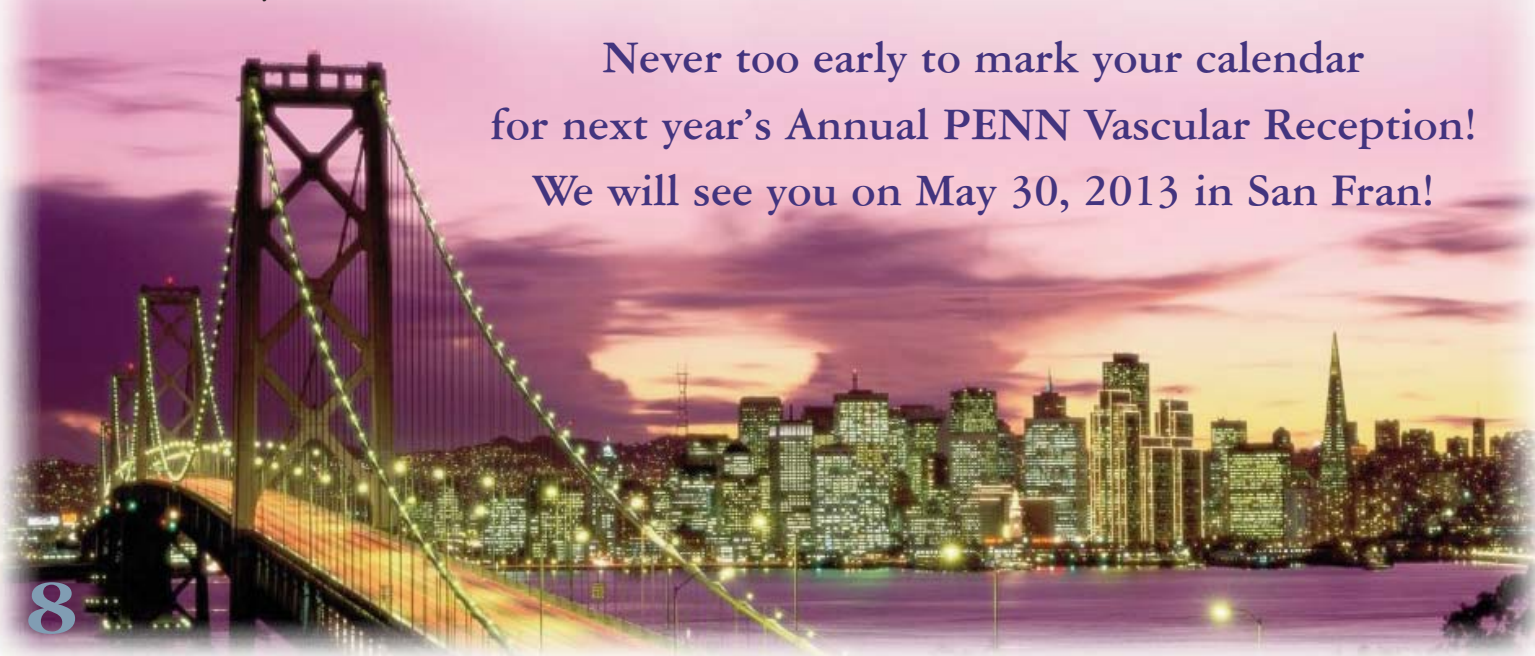


**Erin Murphy**

In 2005 he began a fenestrated aortic stent graft program and last year he successfully implanted the first branched stent graft device at Penn. He has conducted more than 60 clinical trials of endovascular procedures.

His contributions have resulted in the development of the HUP endovascular program into one of the largest and most highly regarded in the nation. In 2010, he was awarded the University of Pennsylvania Health System Luigi Mastroianni Clinical Innovator Award

In Dr. Fairman's acceptance speech for the award he stressed the importance of support by his fellows, colleagues and family. He also described his satisfying experience serving as a volunteer in Landstuhl, Germany caring for soldiers wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan, in some instances with endovascular techniques not previously available at that facility. He is especially proud that during his leadership of HUP's Vascular Division eight of HUP's graduating fellows have become division chiefs and one a department chair.



Never too early to mark your calendar for next year's Annual PENN Vascular Reception! We will see you on May 30, 2013 in San Fran!

# Vascular Surgery Reception June 7

More than 50 of HUP's vascular surgeons and past vascular fellows attended the Penn reception at the meeting of the Society for Vascular Surgery (June 7-9, 2012) in National Harbor, Maryland.

Ron Fairman was once again Program Chair for this national meeting. Ross Milner, James Balshi, Joseph Lombardi, Omaid Velazquez, Ben Herdrich and Paul Foley were authors of podium presentations and Surgery Resident Brant Ullery was on the program as a poster presenter. David Deaton and Ed Woo were session chairs at the meeting.



**James Balshi, Medical Director of Vascular Center, St. Lukes Hospital, his wife Jill and Ron Fairman**



**Brant Ullery CY4 with Ron Fairman**



**Ross Milner, Associate Professor of Surgery, University of Chicago, Ben Jackson, Assistant Professor of Surgery, HUP and Christopher Skelly, Chief, Vascular and Endovascular Surgery, University of Chicago**



**Ed Woo, Associate Professor of Surgery, HUP and Omaid Velazquez, Chief of Division of Vascular Surgery, University of Miami**



**Mark M. Levy, Division Chief, Vascular Surgery, Virginia Commonwealth University and David H. Deaton, Chief, Vascular and Endovascular Surgery, Georgetown University**



## Senior Faculty

# Alan J. Wein, M.D., Ph.D. (Hon)

In April 2012, at the Annual Meeting of the American Genitourinary Surgeons Alan Wein was awarded the Keyes Medal. This Award, created in 1926 is considered the top citation in Urology and is awarded only sparingly. On the roster of previous recipients are the great names in the field, familiar even to non urologists: Hugh H. Young, J. Harwell Harrison, Willard E. Goodwin, Willet F. Whitmore, Victor Marshall, John K. Latimer, John P. Donahue and Patrick C. Walsh.

We sometimes need to be reminded how distinguished our friends are. Since 1981 Alan J. Wein has been Chief of the Division of Urology at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Chief of Urology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and Director of the Residency Program in Urology. He is a graduate of Princeton University and received his MD from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He completed training in Surgery and Urology at the University of Pennsylvania including a fellowship at the Harrison Department of Surgical Research. He was awarded an honorary Ph.D. from the University of Patras, Greece in September 2005.

Dr. Wein's professional memberships include the American Association of Genitourinary Surgeons, the Clinical Society of Genitourinary Surgeons, the Society of University Surgeons, the American Surgical Association, the Society of Surgical Oncology, the Society of Urologic Oncology, the Society of Pelvic Surgeons, the Society for Urodynamics and Female Urology, the Société Internationale d'Urologie, the American Urological Association (AUA) and the Royal Society of Medicine. He is the recipient of the Urodynamics Society Lifetime Achievement Award, the F. Brantley Scott Award of the American Foundation for Urologic Diseases, the Hugh Hampton Young Award of the American Urological Association, the Distinguished Service Award and the Distinguished Contribution Award of the American Urological Association, the Achievement Award of the Interstitial Cystitis Association, the William P. Burpeau Award of the New Jersey Academy of Medicine, the Distinguished Service Award of the Society of Urodynamics and Female

Urology, and the Ferdinand C. Valentine Award of the New York Academy of Medicine. He has been the Ramon Guiteras lecturer at the AUA annual meeting, the AUA lecturer of the Société Internationale d'Urologie and the European Association of Urology and the British Journal of Urology lecturer at the British Association of Urological Surgeons.

He has served on and chaired numerous medical committees and consultations domestically and internationally. He has been Vice President of the American Board of Urology, has served on the Examination Committee of the American Urological Association and has been chair of the Residency Review Committee for Urology. He has held editorial positions on many journals including the Survey Section of the Journal of Urology, Neurourology and Urodynamics, Urology, British Journal of Urology International, International Urogynecology Journal, Current Urology Reports, Current Opinion in Urology, Nature Urology, Investigative Urology, Postgraduate Medicine, Advances in Therapy, Current Bladder Dysfunction

Reports, Journal of Pelvic Surgery and LUTS. He is editor of the textbook considered to be the standard in Urology, Campbell-Walsh Urology.

Dr. Wein has authored more than 880 articles and chapters, edited 28 books, and has multiple multimedia presentations to his credit. He is a prodigious lecturer with over 600 invited academic activities over the course of his career, including the co-chairmanship of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th International Consultations on Incontinence. Throughout his career, he has been recognized by Philadelphia Magazine and Castle Connolly as a "Top Doc", and is listed as one of America's "Best Doctors" by the Best Doctors in America, Inc. His fields of interest are the evaluation and management of urologic cancer, the physiology and pharmacology of the lower urinary tract, the evaluation and management of voiding function and dysfunction including problems related to prostate enlargement, urinary incontinence and neurologic disease.



**Dr. Alan Wien**  
Holding the Keyes Medal

# Welcome

## New Residents

### General Surgery Program



**Carol Chen**  
Washington Univ.



**Reilly Hobbs**  
Wayne State



**Grace Lee**  
Univ. Chicago



**Elizabeth Mollo**  
Univ. Penn



**Douglas Murken**  
Univ. Pittsburgh



**Madalyn Peters**  
Thomas Jefferson Univ.

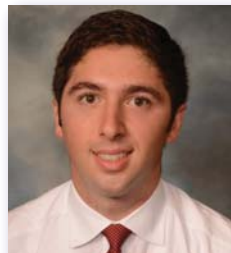


**Elijah Riddle**  
Washington Univ.

### Plastic Surgery Program



**Michael Mirzabeigi**  
Thomas Jefferson Univ.



**Fares Samra**  
New York Univ.



**Constantine Mavoudis**  
Loyola Univ.

### Cardiac Direct Program

### Urology Program



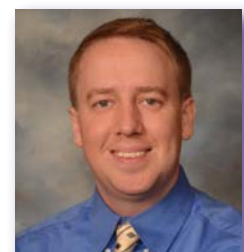
**Jeremy Bonzo**  
Univ. Kentucky



**Amy Pearlman**  
Baylor



**Matthew Sterling**  
UMDNJ



**Benjamin Taylor**  
UMDNJ



# Career Paths of General Surgery Chief Residents



**Dustin Bermudez**  
Minimally Invasive Surgery Fellowship  
East Carolina University



**Clayton Brinster**  
Vascular & Endovascular Surgery Fellowship  
Massachusetts General Hospital



**Peter Jenkins**  
Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar  
University of Michigan



**Robert Lewis**  
Colon and Rectal Surgery Fellowship  
University of Minnesota



**Ronald Parsons**  
Abdominal Organ Transplantation Fellowship  
New York Presbyterian Hospital  
Columbia University



**Matthew Santore**  
Pediatric Surgery Fellowship  
Emory University



**Anupama Sharma Saigal**  
Breast Surgery Fellowship  
Columbia University



**Chadwick Wu**  
Plastic Surgery Fellowship  
McGill University



The Annual Chief Residents' Dinner,  
June 16 at The Arts Ballroom, Philadelphia

## 2012 Award Recipients

**Penn Center of Surgical Excellence Award**  
◆ Robert R. Redfield, MD

**William Y. Inouye Resident Teaching Award**  
◆ Holly L. Graves, MD

**William Y. Inouye Faculty Teaching Award**  
◆ Douglas L. Fraker, MD

**Leonard D. Miller Teaching Award**  
◆ Dustin M. Bermudez, MD

**Ernest F. Rosato Faculty Teaching Award**  
◆ Jon B. Morris, MD

**Leonard J. Perloff Chief Resident Teaching Award**  
◆ Robert T. Lewis, MD

**Jonathan E. Rhoads Research Award**  
◆ Caroline E. Reinke, MD

**Gordon Buzby Surgical Leadership Award**  
◆ Caroline E. Reinke, MD

**Keith Reemtsma Surgical Resident of the Year Award**  
◆ Major Kenneth Lee, IV, MD, PhD

## Division of Thoracic Surgery (continued from page 3)

Dr. Singhal uses fluorescent nanoparticle probes that he has shown to home in on cancer cells. Intraoperatively Dr. Singhal uses a handheld device called a SpectroPen to visualize the nanoparticle tumor markers. This technology clearly identifies cancer cells and distinguishes them from normal surrounding tissue thus allowing accurate and complete resection of tumors. Dr. Singhal's project was recently awarded a five-year, \$7 million "transformative grant" from NIH.

Adding to Penn's list of new therapies for thoracic malignancies is proton therapy. A trial of proton therapy for patients with stage III small cell lung cancer is under way. This trial studies the side effects and optimal dose of proton beam radiation therapy when given together with the chemotherapeutic agents cisplatin and etoposide. Dr. Kuharchuk believes that this trial, led by Ramesh Rengan, MD, PhD, assistant professor of radiation oncology, is the only one of its kind in the U.S.

Also being developed are proton therapy and other novel treatments for pleural tumors such as mesothelioma. These are among the most virulent malignancies, says Joseph Friedberg, MD, Co-Director of the Penn Mesothelioma and Pleural Program. A multidisciplinary team of physicians, specialty nurses, psychiatrists, physical therapists and nutritionists meets weekly to develop an individualized treatment plan for these patients. This unique program attracts patients from across the nation and internationally. Dr. Friedberg's treatment of mesothelioma patients

spares the lung. A radical pleurectomy is combined with intraoperative photodynamic therapy. The highly encouraging results are the basis for two NIH program project grants.

Another of the division's new clinical programs is robotic-assisted lung surgery. In other countries robots have long been employed in the treatment of lung cancer but the United States has lagged behind. Dr. Taine Pechet who directs the division's robotics program is one of only a few thoracic surgeons on the East Coast performing robotic assisted lung surgery. He explains that robotic surgery has special advantages in treatment of lung cancer, thymic tumors, mediastinal cysts and other tumors that are often located deep within the chest, where the angle of approach creates challenges. The robot's extended ranges of motion and enhanced field of vision are particularly beneficial in the treatment of these malignancies. The robot's 3-D high definition imaging and its instrumentation that mimics the flexibility of a wrist, facilitate precise accomplishment of these operations despite the angles and tight spaces. Penn now has eight robotic platforms, including one machine dedicated to the simulation lab for training and education and one dedicated to biomechanical research. Additionally, three of the robots have two consoles so that trainees can watch the operation while it is being done. In the future, Dr. Pechet anticipates that robotic technology will allow for real time microscopy facilitating accurate definition and removal of tumors.



**Dr. Funda Meric-Bernstam, Chair of the Society of University Surgeons Scholarship Committee, presents certificates of achievement to HUP's Sunil Singhal, and Major Kenneth Lee who were honored for their research at the 2012 Academic Surgical Congress.**



# Alumni News

Faculty, Residents, Alumni of Penn Surgery email your news to Mary Hamburg [mary.hamburg@uphs.upenn.edu](mailto:mary.hamburg@uphs.upenn.edu)

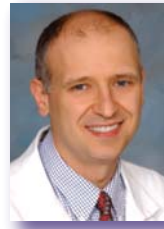
- ◆ At a ceremony on March 15, Department of Surgery faculty members **Noel Williams, M.D.** and **Patrick Reilly, M.D.**, general surgery resident, **Olugbenga Okusanya, M.D.** and Trauma/Critical Care fellow, **David Morris, M.D.** were awarded 2012 PENN Pearl Teaching Awards. Each year 3rd and 4th year PENN medical students select for this honor those residents and faculty members who most inspire them by their dedication and commitment to teaching, thus conveying "pearls" of wisdom which guide the students through their medical education. Congratulations!
- ◆ The Philadelphia Antiques Show annually donates its proceeds to a program at Penn Medicine deemed by the Show's committee to be the most deserving. The 2012 beneficiary is the **Penn Lung Transplant Ex Vivo Perfusion Program**. The proceeds from the show will help establish the clinical program in Lung Perfusion. *Ex Vivo* lung perfusion is based on Ed

Cantu's research with this procedure. It will be used to extend the period of pretransplant viability of donor lungs. This will allow the transplantation of organs usually unsuitable for transplantation throughout the Mid-Atlantic region.

- ◆ **Alden Harken, M.D.** (former HUP Surgery Professor) in February 2013 will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Society of University Surgeons.



- ◆ **Alberto Pochettino, M.D.** Associate Professor of Surgery and Director of Lung Transplantation, has accepted a position as Associate Professor of Surgery in the Division of Cardiovascular Surgery and Director of the Aortic Surgery Program at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota effective July 1.



**JOHN WALDHAUSEN** former HUP surgical resident and faculty member died May 15, 2012 at age 82. He was born in 1929 in New York City where his German father was a businessman. When he was 10 his father was recalled to Germany where John attended high school. He returned to the US in 1947

where he attended the College of Great Falls in Montana and medical school at St. Louis University. He had his surgical and research training at Johns Hopkins, the NIH, the University of Pennsylvania, and Indiana University. He then joined Harry Schumacker's faculty at Indiana as a cardiac surgeon and while there developed the subclavian flap angioplasty that for many years was the standard operation for coarctation of the aorta. He then returned to the University of Pennsylvania where for 3 years on the HUP faculty he partnered with Julian Johnson in the CT Division. He also initiated a superb congenital heart program at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Residents



**Drs. Waldhausen and Rhoads during the 1983 meeting of the Society of Clinical Surgery, while John was its President. They are examining the Society's gavel. It's head is a doorknob from Pasteur's house in Paris, the handle a leg from Lord Lister's dressing table.**

of that era found John refreshingly approachable and supportive.

In 1969 he became the founding Chairman of Surgery at the newly created Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine in Hershey, Pennsylvania, where he led the department for 25 years. From 1972-73 he also served as interim Provost and Dean

of the School of Medicine. He was a member of numerous professional organizations including the American Board of Surgery and American Board of Thoracic Surgery. He served as Vice-President of the American Surgical Association and as President of the American Association for Thoracic Surgery and the Society of Clinical Surgery. He was the editor of the *Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*. As Chairman at Penn State, John Waldhausen was a generous and beloved mentor to his faculty, residents, and students. Many of them went on to become department chairs and leaders in their surgical fields.

# Milestones in Trauma - 25 Years of Care

On May 4, 2012 more than 50 former fellows of the Division of Traumatology, Surgical Critical Care and Emergency Surgery gathered in the School's Dunlop Auditorium to celebrate the accomplishments of the program and Bill Schwab's leadership over 25 years. Presentations were given by HUP trauma surgeons and former fellows on topics including the history of trauma care at HUP, battlefield medicine, the acute care surgeon, the IOM report on trauma systems, changing practice in resuscitation and critical care, treatment and prevention of injury in children, disaster response, advanced nursing practice, the impact of health care reform, and damage control (a paradigm shift attributed to Dr. Schwab). Participating speakers from local, national, and international centers were: *Patrick Reilly, Michael Nance, Christopher Born, Adam Brooks, Tarek Razeq, Charles Branas, Shabid Shafi, Doug Wieb, Carrie Sims, Mary Kate Fitzpatrick, Lori Morgan, Michael Rotondo, Patrick Kim, Steve Allen, Babak Sarani, Edward Dickinson, William DeLong, Tracy Bilski, Rajan Gupta, Mark Gestring, Roger Band, Samir Mehra, Claudia Goettler, Benjamin Kohl, Damian McMabon, Shabid Shafi, Jeffrey Drebin, Carter Nance, C. William Hanson, III, Steve Thom, Forrest Fernandez, Clifford Deutschman, Andrew Peitzman, William Baxt, Brendan Carr, Bryan Cotton, Michael McGonigal, Elliot Haut, William Hoff, Therese Richmond, John Templeton, Jr., and Michael Grossman.*

The Scientific Symposium was followed in the evening by a black tie dinner at the College of Physicians. Dr. Schwab's many contributions were reviewed by: *Patrick Reilly, Rev. Ralph Ciampa, Jeffrey Drebin, Else Ribbe, Andrew Peitzman, William Baxt, Joseph Sakran, Paige Porrett, Jennifer Burg, Patrick Kim, Benjamin Braslow, Peter Quinn, Michael Rotondo, and C. William Hanson, III.*

They spoke of Dr. Schwab's international recognition for contributions to: injury care, trauma system development and education. He established HUP's trauma and flight programs in the early 1990's, and pioneered the "Damage Control" approach to life-threatening injury that is now integral to trauma care worldwide. He also established Penn's trauma and surgical critical care fellowship for national and international trainees that has graduated

over 100 surgeons who now lead trauma programs at other institutions. At HUP he established the Firearm and Injury Center (FICAP) a group of interdisciplinary scholars who are addressing firearm risks. They have generated over 13 million dollars of extramural funding to study gun violence.

Dr. Schwab has been awarded honorary membership in the Royal College of Surgeons of Scotland (Glasgow), the Swedish Surgical Association and the European Society of Trauma and Emergency Surgery. He has served as President of the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma, the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma and the International Association for Trauma Surgery and Intensive Care. For his work addressing gun violence he was awarded the National Safety Council Surgeons Award for Service to Safety by the American College of Surgeons, American Association for the Surgery of Trauma and National Safety Council.



**Dr. Schwab and Family**



**Dr. Schwab with Trauma Fellows attending the symposium.**





# Penn Surgery

Department of Surgery  
Attn: Mary Hamburg  
4 Silverstein/HUP  
3400 Spruce Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

**PENN SURGERY SOCIETY**

**SUMMER 2012**

## Meeting News

- ◆ At the 132nd Annual Meeting of the American Surgical Association in April, several papers were co-authored by Penn Surgery Society alumni. They were **Ken Brayman, M.D., Ph.D.**, **Mark Berry, M.D.**, **Bryan Cotton, M.D.**, and **Omaida Velazquez, M.D.** **Doug Fraker, M.D.** was an author on another paper. **Omaida Velazquez** (HUP chief resident 1998) and **Ken Chavin** (transplant research fellow 1989-90) were elected to membership in the Association.
- ◆ The Division of Plastic Surgery led other academic programs in number of podium presentations at the 91st Annual Meeting of the American Association of Plastic Surgeons in April. Penn also took 1st and 2nd place in the poster competition. Several of our alumni also presented papers – **Steven Buchman, M.D.**, **Joseph Losee, M.D.** and **Jesse Selber, M.D.** Congratulations to all!
- ◆ In April, **Dan Dempsey, M.D.** was the host and moderator of the Scientific Program of the 2012 Surgeon's Travel Club meeting held in Philadelphia. Several of Penn's faculty – Scott Adzick, M.D., Jeff Drebin, M.D., Ron Fairman, M.D., Thomas Guzzo, M.D. and Najjia Mahmoud, M.D. spoke at this annual meeting.

### Editors:

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

Donald Guthrie Professor of Surgery

**Mary Hamburg**

Alumni Coordinator

### Graphic Design:

**Robin Noel**

Web Administrator/Graphic Artist

### Advisory Board:

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