

CARDIOTHORACIC
 GENERAL
 MINIMAL INVASIVE
 PEDIATRIC HEART
 PEDIATRIC
 PLASTIC & RECONSTRUCTIVE
 SURGICAL ONCOLOGY
 THORACIC
 TRANSPLANT
 TRAUMA & CRITICAL CARE
 VASCULAR



THE STITCH

The Newsletter of the
 Department of Surgery



AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY
 MEDICAL COLLEGE
 OF GEORGIA

February 2025



Chatter with the Chair

It's hard to believe that we're more than halfway through the academic year, but we are honored to celebrate some outstanding teachers in our department. First, I'd like to congratulate our faculty who received the Exemplary Teaching Award for the past academic year. Aaron Bolduc, Ahmad Mirza, Boa-Ling Adam, Alicia Arnold, Robyn Hatley, Adel Abuzeid, and Brittany Ange. These attendings were selected based upon student evaluations that placed them in the top 20% of their colleagues. One of our Chief Residents, Brianna Stadvold, was also honored with the Teaching Award for her outstanding impact that she had on the medical students. Congratulations! The Department is proud of your achievements.

Our faculty, residents, and students also continue their academic achievements with presentations at

the surgical societies and meetings. Our MCG colleagues are presenting at the Academic Surgical Congress in Las Vegas this week and the Southeastern Surgical Congress in New Orleans, Feb 15-18. The following residents, along with Assistant Professor, Erika Mabes, presented at the Academic Surgical Congress: Zackery Aldaher, PGY2, Austin Graf, PGY 2, Mikenzie Sturdevant, PGY 3 and Gabrielle Moore, research resident. Medical students representing MCG at the Southeastern Surgical Congress sesc.org include Maanasa Javangula, Alleigh Wettstein, Danielle Shin, Elizabeth Snyder, George Liu, Ryan Langston, and Elijah Arkanum. Nuverah Mohsin, PGY 2 and Richard Aldan, PGY 2 also represented our residency program at the SESC. The titles of these presentations are listed on the next page.

Finally, don't forget to register for the Moretz Surgical Conference, taking place from February 28 to March 1. The full program is available online at Moretz Surgical Conference. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

William D Jordan, Jr., MD
 Professor and Chair,
 Department of Surgery
 Medical College of Georgia
 Surgeon in Chief



AFFILIATED WITH MEDICAL COLLEGE OF GEORGIA

NEW DIRECTORS

We are expanding leadership in the Department of Surgery. Congratulations to the following:

- Dr. Dan Miller – Director of Clinical Operations
- Dr. Renee Hilton – Director of Quality
- Dr. Steve Colquhoun – Director of Education
- Dr. Danny Yakoub – Director of Research

VASCULAR SURGERY WORKSHOP

■ The vascular division, Dr. Adam, and our surgery residents put on a vascular surgery skills workshop on January 30th. This provided first year medical students an early exposure to both open and endovascular techniques, suturing, and knot tying.



Thanks to
Dr. Soo Hoo
and team!

MEDPAGETODAY®

■ Dr. Rick Lee was featured on MedPage with his invited talk at the Society of Thoracic Surgeons "FDA recalls-will I be sued?" medpagetoday.com/meetingcoverage/sts/113964

■ Dr. Renee Hilton designed and wrote a course for the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery that will be required for all members of the organization prior to attending Capitol Hill sessions or serving in advocacy roles. She has also been selected to help with lead the hill visits in Washington, DC for the ASMBS in June.



Follow Us!
SOCIAL MEDIA



SOUTHEASTERN SURGICAL CONGRESS: NEW ORLEANS

If you are in at the conference, stop by and support our MCG students and residents.

February 15

- *Establishment of Inter-Rater Reliability in Developing a Video Review Tool for the Trauma Bay*, Maanasa Javangula, M2
- *Resection of a Massive Calcified Anterior Mediastinal Mass in a Young Woman*, Nuverah Mohsin, MD, PGY-2

February 16

- *Isolated Contralateral Axillary Sentinel Lymph Node Metastasis: Distant or Regional Metastasis?*, Alleigh Wettstein, M3
- *Low Grade Extraovarian Primary Peritoneal Carcinoma in a Young Female*, Danielle Shin, M3

February 17

- *Malignant Pheochromocytoma with Atypical Presentation of Myelopathy Treated with En Bloc Resection and Adjuvant 177 Lu-Dotatate Chemotherapy: A Case Report and Robotic Revision of Failed Shortened Esophageal Myotomy for Achalasia*, Elizabeth Snyder, M4
- *Bacteremia Secondary to Pilonidal Cyst in a Pregnant Patient*, George Liu, M3

- *Below Elbow Upper Extremity Non-Fatal Firearm Injuries: A Single Trauma Center Retrospective Analysis*, Ryan Langston, M3

February 18

- *Traumatic Appendicitis Leading to Identification and Treatment of an Occult Bowel Injury*, Richard Aldan, MD, PGY-2
- *Nonfatal Firearm Injuries Presenting to Augusta University with Respect to the Impact of Psychiatric Comorbidity on Financial Cost and Morbidity*, Elijah Arkanum, M1

February 19

Dr. Jordan will be Visiting Professor at the Ochsner Clinic. If you are still in town, stop by and see his Grand Rounds. <https://g.co/kgs/RWSTG2p>

This past week Dr. Erika Mabes and the following residents attended the **Academic Surgical Congress in Las Vegas**.

- *Needs Assessment to Develop in Interactive Trauma Simulation Curriculum for the Rural Trauma Team*, Zackery Aldaheer, DO, PGY-2
- *Targeted Single Institution Needs Assessment for Developing a Comprehensive Simulation Curriculum*, Austin Graf, MD, PGY-2
- *Development and Implementation of an Informed Consent Training Curriculum for Surgery Interns*, Mikenzie Sturdevant, DO, PGY-3
- *Targeted Needs Assessment for Development of an MTP Multidisciplinary Simulation-Based Training*, Gabrielle Moore, MD, Research

Congratulations to our residents on their presentations!