

Department of Surgery

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2022 - 2023



Letter from the Chair

As 2023 begins, the pandemic has abated but manpower challenges remain, as do supply chain issues. Nonetheless, despite our challenges, numerous contributions have been made to advance surgical science and surgical education by members of our Department as illustrated in this newsletter. It gives me great satisfaction and joy to also see our department grow in other ways as families have expanded with the birth of children and grandchildren! I look forward to 2023. No doubt, challenges remain. Nonetheless, I look forward to continuing our path towards excellence in surgery with the prospect of working less encumbered by the devastation of the pandemic.

Demetrius

UMass Chan Resident-Led 'Day in the Life of a Surgeon' Event Promotes Diversity in Surgery

More than 60 college students from across Massachusetts attended "A Day in the Life of a Surgeon" event held on November 11, organized by two UMass Chan surgery residents, to give students underrepresented in medicine the opportunity to learn about the surgical field, gain exposure to specialties, and seek mentorship and guidance in pursuing this field.

Paulo Martins, MD gave an inspirational keynote address. **Olajumoke (Jummy) Megafu, MD**, General Surgery resident (left) and **Emily Fan, MD** chief resident of vascular surgery (right), belong to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Task Force in the Department of Surgery and are focused on promoting diversity in their field. The task force is working to eliminate discriminatory practices and proactively



implement changes that will promote a diverse, equitable, and inclusive working and learning environment through recruitment, mentorship, outreach, and research. Over the course of the day, students listened to a panel of specialists in orthopedic surgery, urology, obstetrics/gynecology, general surgery, pediatric surgery, neurosurgery and vascular surgery; observed a livestream of an open abdominal aortic aneurysm repair and a robotic inguinal hernia repair; discussed the cases with attending surgeons; toured the Medical School and surgical facilities; and got hands-on experience in the simulation lab.

Dr. Olajumoke (Jummy) Megafu and Dr. Emily Fan and their team imagined, created, and implemented an event for Massachusetts college students to foster DEI in surgery.

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY EVENTS



Francesco Aiello, MD Named Senior Medical Director, Vice President of UMass Memorial Medical Group

Francesco Aiello, MD, MBA, FSVS, FACS has been named Senior Medical Director, Vice President of UMass Memorial Medical Group. Dr. Aiello is a graduate of Boston University School of Medicine and holds an MBA from Brandeis University. He performed his residency at University of Connecticut Health Center and a fellowship at New York Presbyterian Hospital, Cornell and Columbia University. He joined UMass Memorial Health in 2012 and has earned the rank of professor in the Department of Surgery at UMass Chan Medical School.

Dr. Aiello will continue to serve as the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) for revenue management and Associate Chief Quality Officer (CQO) for the health system. He also sits on the boards for the system's Accountable Care Organization and the Medical Group's Finance Committee and is actively involved with the Commonwealth Professional Assurance Company.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Aiello.

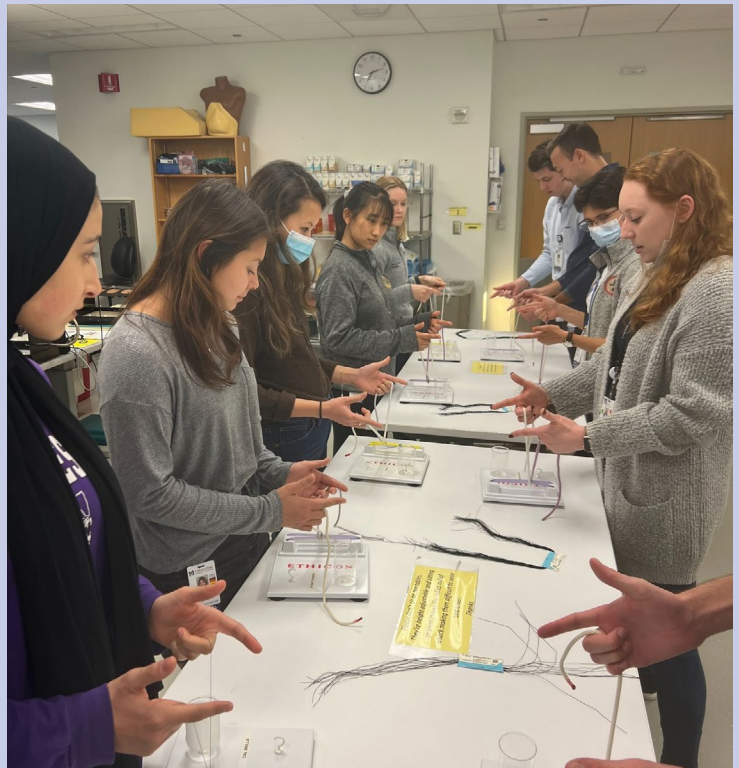
Great Turnout for the UMass Medical Student Laparoscopic Surgery Simulation Session & Career Development Night



Edward Kim, MD, PhD General Surgery (PGY-4, right) General Surgery, developed a medical school educational program aimed to foster early exposure to general surgery. One of the initiatives is a laparoscopic surgery simulation session/career development night.

Dr. Kim worked with second year medical students, general surgery interest group leaders, and organized a simulation session on October 27 at the Surgery Simulation Center. There was incredible enthusiasm from the students, and a hope to expand future programming.

Thank you to **John Kelly, MD, Philip A. Cohen, MD, Nicole B. Cherng, MD, and James Carroll, MD**, who graciously accepted the invitation to be one of the panelists for the event.



Thank you for all of your submissions for the Department of Surgery Newsletter!

Send submissions to:

Themia.Pappas-Fillmore@umassmed.edu

**Congratulations
Department of Surgery
Inductees in UMass Chan
Chapter of Alpha Omega
Alpha**



Alexander Pong, MD Plastic Surgery (PGY-6) , **Shirley Shue, MD** Plastic Surgery (PGY-5), **Niti Shahi, MD** General Surgery (PGY-5), and **Bryce Bludevich, MD** General Surgery Resident were inducted October 4, 2022 into the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Delta Chapter (left to right).



Remembering Bryce Bludevich, MD

Bryce’s contributions rival – and even surpass – those of someone who lived a very long life.

Remarks by Nicole Cherng, MD about AOA inductee, Bryce Bludevich, MD at the Alpha Omega Alpha Ceremony, October 4, 2022.

“Tonight **Dean Flotte** has graciously given me the honor to give some remarks about Dr. Bryce Bludevich. Dr. Bludevich is being inducted post-humously. We are honored to have her parents, Jacki Murphy and Zaf Bludevich, here to accept on her behalf.

Examples of Dr. Bludevich’s humanism began well before her time in Worcester. In medical school, at the University of Vermont, she participated in global health mission trips to Russia and Uganda, implementing quality initiative projects in the departments of surgery at the local medical schools. After medical school, Dr. Bludevich began her categorical General Surgery

Residency in 2017. She excelled in her two clinical years prior to her research years in the Division of Thoracic Surgery. Besides striving for clinical excellence, she became known for constantly recycling the empty cans and bottles laying around the work rooms, bringing in baked goods for her co-residents’ birthdays, and always acting on ways to improve the surgical residency, not just for current residents, but for all future residents.

But unfortunately, it would be in her second year of residency where she would be diagnosed with stage III melanoma that would progress to stage IV within two years of diagnosis. However, her disease along with undergoing multiple rounds of chemotherapy and immunotherapy, radiation, and various surgeries, wouldn’t stop Bryce from writing multiple peer reviewed publications, creating a transition to residency curriculum for UMass medical students, develop a Residents as Educators pathway for surgical residents interested in education, and help implement a virtual general surgery residency interview process when the pandemic hit. Bryce’s contributions rival – and even surpass – those of someone who lived a very long life.

Jennifer LaFemina, MD her program director, commented that “few (perhaps none) have demonstrated the values of AOA more comprehensively than Dr. Bludevich. To be honest, Bryce lived the values”. And I could not agree more. Bryce’s accomplishments clearly warrant tonight’s induction, but it is her kindness that is truly unparalleled. Bryce genuinely believed in the potential of all individuals and reached out a helping hand in whatever way she could.

For those fortunate enough to have crossed paths with Dr. Bludevich and those who have heard of her story – one sentiment remains clear – Bryce was humanistic in its truest form, and her light will never go out.”



The parents of Bryce Bludevich, MD accepted a posthumous award on their daughter’s behalf. (From left) Nicole B. Cherng, MD, Zafir Bludevich, Jacqueline Murphy, and Provost Terence R. Flotte.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS, PROMOTIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND AWARDS



Anne C. Larkin, MD, Associate Professor of Surgery and Vice Provost for Educational Affairs, has been inducted as an Associate Member of the ACS Academy of Master Surgeon Educators. Dr. Larkin was also selected to participate in the 2022 Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in

Academic Medicine program at Drexel University College of Medicine.



Giles F. Whalen, MD, Professor of Surgery and Chief of the Division of Surgical Oncology/Endocrine Surgery, was named President-Elect of New England Surgical Society (NESS) as well as President of Worcester District Medical Association (WDMA).



Nicole Cherng, MD, Division of General Surgery, has been inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.



Jennifer LaFemina, MD was invited to deliver two grand rounds for the American College of Surgeons' Academy of Master Surgeon Educators. The sessions explored the role of virtual technology and innovation in the interview and selection process of residents and other surgical learners. The session focused on some of the hot topics

for the recruitment process like best practices in interviews, bias mitigation, and the innovations in recruitment across the specialties like signaling. Dr. LaFemina represents the Association of Program Directors in Surgery (APDS) and General Surgery for the AAMC-ERAS and the ERAS Supplemental, which implemented these new processes.



Paulo Martins, MD, PhD, FAST, FEBS, FACS received the 2022 Basic Science Award of the International Liver Transplant Society in Istanbul, Turkey.

Thank you for all of your submissions for the Department of Surgery Newsletter!

Send submissions to:

Themia.Pappas-Fillmore@umassmed.edu



TAVR Team Implants First-of-Its-Kind Aortic Valve

The UMass Memorial Medical Center Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR) team became the first program in New England to implant the new generation SAPIEN 3 Ultra RESILIA valve in a patient with aortic stenosis. It was a complex percutaneous axillary implant, and the team reports that the new valve worked very well. This kind of valve has shown to improve valve longevity and potentially reduce the need for another procedure.

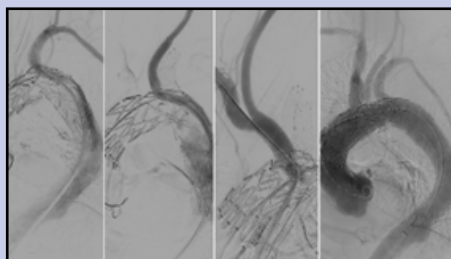
The TAVR team includes **Jennifer Walker, MD**, Cardiac Surgery (left); **Nikolaos Kakouros, MD, PhD**; **Waqas Qureshi, MD**; **Ricardo Bello, MD, PhD**, Cardiac Surgery (right); **Mary Perras, NP**; **Stephanie Wiafe, NP**; **JaeYoon Park, MD**.

Do You Need Research Assistance?

Calling for a list of research projects, including patient safety and quality projects, that need resident assistance to complete.

Please contact: **Feiran Lou, MD**, Associate Director, Department of Surgery Research Core

VASCULAR SURGERY ACHIEVEMENTS



Another Historic First!

The UMass Vascular team, led by **Andres Schanzer, MD**, was the first in THE WORLD to repair a diseased aortic arch using a retrograde three-vessel arch device that was custom-made for the patient's anatomy.

The device was the first of its kind to be used in the world using three branches to the arteries supplying the arms and brain in such a way that all could be accessed from a single groin puncture.

Andres Schanzer, MD Named Endowed Chair

Andres Schanzer, MD, Professor of Surgery and Population & Quantitative Health Sciences and Chief of the Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery, is the inaugural Cutler Chair in Vascular and Endovascular Surgery, which will provide ongoing support to research, teaching, and clinical work.

The Cutler Chair in Vascular and Endovascular Surgery, which was approved in an affirmative vote by the University's Board, was made possible through the commitment of significant funds by **Bruce S. Cutler, MD**, UMass Chan Professor of Surgery Emeritus and former Chief of the Division of Vascular Surgery, and his wife, Leslie. The Cutlers' generous contribution enhanced an already-existing endowed vascular surgery fund.

Tammy Nguyen, MD, PhD is Recipient of a K08 Mentored Training Grant

Congratulations to Dr. Nguyen, Medical Director, Lower Extremity Wound Care Center, Division of Vascular Surgery, who is the recipient of a K08 Mentored Training Grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Dr. Nguyen's research explores how the diabetic immune system contributes to nonhealing foot ulcers. Her research will prevent amputations and save limbs.

She has developed a system to culture human bone marrow cells using samples donated from diabetic and non-diabetic patients after leg amputations. Using this system she aims to identify pathways that affect immune cell development leading to poor wound healing.

Residents and Faculty Success at New England Society for Vascular Surgery (NESVS) 49th Annual Meeting

Andres Schanzer, MD led the meeting as its 49th President, giving an inspirational address titled "Creating a Bold New Future for Vascular Surgery: It's Go Time."

Devon Robichaud, NP organized the Allied Health Program and presented on carotid disease.

Vascular Surgery Program Director, **Jessica Simons, MD**, presented on EVAR explant, served on the Issues Panel, moderated a scientific session, and served as Recorder for the Executive Committee.

Emily Fan, MD (PGY-5) presented on endovascular repair of the aortic arch.

Laura Boitano, MD presented on symptomatic Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD) and its effect on open AAA repair. She also participated on the Pinehurst Panel.

Eric Finnesgard, MD (PGY-3) presented on our initial experience with FORS...AND won the Deterling Award!

Douglas Jones, MD, MS presented on novel surgical quality metrics for aneurysm repair.

Recent graduate **Hazel Marecki, MD** presented on the management of complex endoleaks.

Four UMass Chan medical students did a wonderful job presenting cases during Professor's Rounds!

RESIDENT UPDATES

Resident Excellence Awards

The Resident Excellence Award is awarded quarterly to a surgical resident from the three Department of Surgery residency programs.



Fall 2022

Jenna Maroney, MD
Plastic Surgery Resident, PGY-2

Jenna is a talented, considerate, and hardworking resident who shows maturity beyond her years. On many busy days she keeps the team running smoothly, and she manages calls skillfully. Early in her second

year she has already stepped up into a teaching role for interns and students. Her team members truly appreciate her efforts. Keep up the great work, Jenna!



Summer 2022

Sasank Kalipatnapu, MBBS
General Surgery Resident, PGY-1

Despite his impressive surgical knowledge and efficiency as a resident, Sasank quietly and humbly flies under the radar, never looking to take credit for all that he does for patients and for other residents.

He frequently goes out of his way to try to make life easier for other interns. He is heavily relied upon by chiefs and seniors, and makes the entire team function more smoothly and efficiently. Thank you!



Winter 2022

Edward Kim, MD, PhD
General Surgery Resident, PGY-4

Congratulations to Dr. Kim for being selected in light of his clinical excellence and professionalism.

From peers, Edward is “a very kind, knowledgeable and very polite senior. He creates a pleasant work

environment that you love to join with your team every day.” Not only does Dr. Kim demonstrate daily excellence in his clinical and technical skill, but he also recently led the UMass General Surgery resident team (with partners Drs. Chung and Walter) to their victory in the MA-ACS Top Gun Competition. Congratulations Dr. Kim. Thank you for everything you do, every day.

We encourage all to submit names of residents for this honor at:

<https://forms.gle/6LzJ5juQCpizhhF99>



Remillard Family Community Fund Announces Recipients of Grants to Improve Local Health.

Congratulations to Vascular Surgery resident, **Emily Fan, MD** (PGY-5) for receiving a Remillard Grant to increase diversity in surgery. The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Surgery Initiative proposed by Dr. Fan, in partnership with UMass Chan and the Worcester Public Schools Worcester Pipeline Collaborative, aims to diversify the surgical workforce to reflect the diversity of the population by engaging and exposing local high school and college students, to surgical careers and provide mentorship and guidance.



2022 Deterling Award

Congratulations Eric Finnesgard, MD, Vascular Surgery PGY-3, received the Deterling Award for his paper entitled “Initial Experience Using Fiber Optic Realshape Guidance in Complex Endovascular Aortic Repair” at the 2022 New England Society for Vascular Surgery Annual Meeting.

RESIDENT UPDATES



Thomas Cervantes, MD
PGY-4, Plastic Surgery



Nicole Hays, MD
PGY-2, General Surgery



Hayley Reddington, MD
PGY-2, General Surgery



Tracy Zhang, MD
PGY-2, General Surgery

Congratulations to the Department of Surgery's Inaugural 2022 Residents as Teachers Certificate Program Members



COVID Critical Care Experience Leads UMass Chan Surgery Resident to Study CPR Survival

A new controlled study from UMass Chan Medical School provides evidence for the first time that could inform physicians about which very sick or injured patients would be most likely to benefit from cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

The study by **Daniel J. Baldor, MD, MPH**, General Surgery (PGY-5) and his colleagues found that “full code” status, including aggressive CPR, provided no survival benefit over do-not-resuscitate (DNR) status among individuals with greater than 75 percent predicted mortality as determined by Apache IV score, a severity of illness rating. Among less severely ill patients, full code status was associated with improved survival. The article was published in *Journal of Intensive Care Medicine*.

Division of Plastic Surgery Residents Presentations and Publications



Ovninder (Kevin) Johal, MD (PGY-5) and **Douglas M. Rothkopf, MD**: “Off the Shelf – The Use of Acellular Dermal Matrix for the Treatment of Post Traumatic Radioulnar Heterotopic Ossification: Case Report and Review of the Literature” at New England Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Annual Meeting (NESPRS), New Castle, NH, June 2022 and New England Hand Society Annual Meeting, Sturbridge, MA, December 2022.



Sneha Patel, MD (PGY-3) with **Douglas Rothkopf, MD**: “Back Pain According to Roland-Morris Low Back Pain Scale Following Abdominoplasty with Plication: a Prospective Case Series” at Northeastern Society of Plastic Surgeons Annual Meeting (NESPS), Newport, RI, September 2022 and

American Society of Plastic Surgeons Annual Meeting (ASPS) Boston, October 2022.



Alannah Phelan, MD (PGY-6): “Defining key features in patient perspectives of hand aesthetics” at Northeastern Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Annual Meeting (NESPS), Newport, RI, September 2022.

Alannah Phelan, MD (PGY6) with

Joyce McIntyre, MD: SHARE Update Panel (Surgeons in Humanitarian Alliance for Reconstructive, Research and Education at American Society of Plastic Surgeons; Annual Meeting (ASPS), Boston, October 2022.

Joo A, **Phelan AL**, Xu J, Gu G, Karpuk J, Qin J, Li A, Chiu D, Rothkopf DM. “Defining Key Features in Patient Perspectives of Hand Aesthetics.” *Annals of Plastic Surgery* 2023

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY EVENTS



“Topping Off” of the New UMass Chan’s Education and Research Building

Surgical Administrative Services Group (ASG) was proud to be part of signing the ceremonial steel beam marking the “topping off” of the new education and research building under construction on the university campus. (Left to right) Themia Pappas-Fillmore, Supriya Puranik, and Mahdis Heidari.



Family Fun Day at Polar Park

Thousands of amazing caregivers from UMass Memorial Medical Center and UMass Memorial Medical Group and their families were treated to a super-exciting day filled with great live music, fun games, and activities, food, and cherished friendship and camaraderie! Enjoying the day is **Francesco Aiello, MD, MBA**, Division of Vascular Surgery, and his family.



Best Wishes Mary Cawley on Your Retirement

(Left to right) from the Department of Surgery, Demetrius Litwin, MD, MBA, Chair; Candace Mooney, Program Coordinator; Mary Cawley Residency Program Administrator; Jennifer LaFemina, MD, Program Director, General Surgery Residency Program.



Muddy Princess Mud Run

On August 28, 2022, Surgical Administrative Services Group (ASG) **Melissa Lemanski** and **Crystal Reardon** participated in the Muddy Princess Mud Run held in Charlton, MA. The Muddy Princess Mud Run is an outdoor 5 km obstacle mud run for WOMEN ONLY. There is no focus on fastest times or competitions: it’s all about fun, empowerment, and celebrating all women! There are between 18-20 obstacles with a variety of challenges to complete at your own level. It’s about making memories with friends and family and feeling like a princess even while crawling through the mud. If you would like to join our UMass team, contact Melissa or Crystal.

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY EVENTS



Four Miles, Every Four Hours, for 48 Hours: A Fundraiser for Healing Heart Hospitality House

This past fall, **Jessica Simons, MD, MPH**, Division on Vascular Surgery, successfully completed a 4 x 4 x 48 run (four miles, every four hours, for 48 hours) to help support the Healing Heart Hospitality House. All proceeds from this race went to the Healing Heart Hospitality House, a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting hospitalized patients' families in crisis by providing affordable housing to them while their loved ones are hospitalized in the Worcester area.

Fundraising was an amazing success, and the race raised over \$5000 to help support the House!! Other participants from the Division included, **Douglas Jones, MD, Devon Robichaud, NP, Andres Schanzer, MD, Kris Boelitz, MD (PGY-3) Devon Germak, NP**, and their friends and family.

(Left) Dr. Simons next to one of the encouraging signs created by the Robichaud family.

Many thanks to Our Program Administrators and Coordinators from the Department of Surgery Residencies.
Thank You for your commitment to graduate medical education and the work you do every day!



Mary Cawley, Program Administrator, and **Candace Mooney**, Program Coordinator, for the General Surgery Residency Program. Congratulations to Mary on her recent retirement. Candace now serves as the Program Administrator.



Patricia Gillies, Program Coordinator for the Vascular Surgery Residency Program, surrounded by residents and faculty.



Cynthia LeBlanc, Program Coordinator for the Plastic Surgery Residency Program.

In next edition we will highlight the Department of Surgery fellowship coordinators.

Thank you for all of your submissions for the Department of Surgery Newsletter!

Send submissions to:

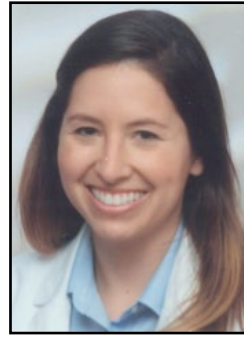
Themia.Pappas-Fillmore@umassmed.edu

WELCOME NEW FACULTY



L. Justin Belin, MD, MPH has joined the Division of Organ Transplantation. Dr. Belin joins our team after completing his transplant surgery fellowship at UCSF. Prior to this, Dr. Belin was an attending general surgeon in the United States Navy for five years with time spent stationed overseas, aboard an aircraft

carrier, and as faculty at the Naval Surgery residency program in San Diego. He completed his general surgery residency at New York Presbyterian Hospital.



The Division of Trauma and Critical Care welcomes **Tovah Moss, MD**. Dr. Moss did her undergraduate studies at Dartmouth and is a graduate of the Tel Aviv University Sackler School of Medicine. She completed her general surgery residency at the University of Vermont Medical Center and her trauma/critical care fellowship at the

University of Wisconsin at Madison. Dr. Moss will function as attending in trauma, critical care and general surgery.



The Division of Trauma and Critical Care is pleased to welcome **Gwen Capron, MD**. Dr. Capron did her undergraduate studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and is a graduate of the Ross University School of Medicine. She completed her general surgery residency at Carle

Foundation Hospital in Champaign Urbana, Illinois and her trauma/critical care fellowship at Stroger Hospital of Cook County. Dr. Capron will function as attending in trauma, critical care, and general surgery.



The Division of Pediatric Surgery is happy to announce that **Jonathan Green, MD MSCI** has returned to UMass. Dr. Green obtained both his undergraduate and medical degrees at the University of Florida. He trained in general surgery at the University of Massachusetts Chan where he also obtained his Master

of Science in Clinical Investigation with a focus on trauma and injury prevention. He returns to Worcester having completed his pediatric surgery fellowship at Oklahoma Children's Hospital. Dr. Green brings with him a passion for education and outstanding clinical care. He will provide a full spectrum of pediatric surgical procedures at UMass.



Dheera Reddy, MD has joined the faculty of the Division of Organ Transplantation. Dr. Reddy returns home to Massachusetts having recently completed her transplant surgery fellowship at Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute in UPMC Pittsburgh. She is also fellowship trained in surgical

critical care. She completed her general surgery residency at UPMC Pinnacle in Harrisburg, PA.



The Division of General/MIS Surgery welcomes **Shatki Nochur, MD** for the upcoming academic year. Dr. Nochur is a graduate of UMass Chan and recently completed her general surgery residency at Lahey. She will cover General Surgery and Acute Care Surgery.

Registration is now open for the multiday Yale-ACGME Regional Hub Course

Improving Faculty Competence in Assessment

This 4-half day weekly course will occur 1pm-5pm on March 2, 9, 16, and 23. All sessions will be virtual except March 16 (12:30pm-5pm), which will be in person at the Yale School of Medicine. This on-site component is focused on skills practice for direct observation and feedback skills utilizing standardized patients and learners. We strongly encourage you to commit to the whole course. CME will be offered.

For more details and registration information and options.

<https://yale.cloud-cme.com/YALEACGME>

The course is designed to help participants build effective assessment programs for their residency or fellowship. This course is ideal for:

- Program directors
- Associate program directors
- Chairs and members of Clinical Competency Committees (CCCs)
- Designated institutional officials
- Faculty members with major responsibility for the assessment of students/residents/fellows

RELENTLESS INNOVATION

Innovation that Makes Everyone Breathe Easier. We've Reduced the Time to get a Biopsy, Diagnosis and Surgery from Weeks to Hours

Mark Maxfield, MD, Assistant Professor, Division of Thoracic Surgery, is a member of the team that has helped pioneer the Robotic One Anesthetic Diagnosis and Treatment (ROADAT) procedure. “The idea was to provide the best patient experience possible for the person with a suspicious lung nodule,” says Dr. Maxfield. “In order to do that we had to do two things. The first innovation was to rethink the entire process from the patient perspective and to stop looking at the biopsy and the surgery as separate events. We had to reinvent our protocols and find ways to achieve accurate, timely and clinically effective results, and a better experience for the patient.”

“Next, we employed the right technology to make the procedure as minimally invasive as possible so that the patient doesn't have to endure unnecessary, large incisions. To accomplish this, we chose specially designed robotic technology that can produce a 3D map of the patient's lung, which helps us be even more precise and accurate, and allows us to do the entire procedure with very small incisions.”

“The second innovation was to have a cytopathologist, the physician who



ROADAT team (left to right) Andrew Fischer, MD, Cytopathology; Rahul Sood, MD, Pulmonology; **Mark Maxwell, MD**, Thoracic Surgery and **Feirin Lou, MD**, Thoracic Surgery

determines whether the biopsy is cancer, in the operating room ready to render a diagnosis in minutes.”

“If the cytopathologist tells us it's cancer,” says Dr. Maxfield, “we call the patient's family, keep the patient asleep, and perform the surgery to remove it then and there. If it's not cancer, we wake them up and give them the good news.”

See video: <https://www.ummhealth.org/lung-cancer-surgery>



Dejah Judelson, MD, Vascular Surgery, Medical Director, AV Access Medical Director, Center for Venous Disease

Fenestrated Endovascular Aortic Repair (FEVAR): We're One of 10 in the Country providing it

FEVAR is a special type of surgical repair that requires our team to design a device that is placed into the aorta, thus allowing the blood to pass through this stent while excluding the aneurysm. In order to meet the special needs of the aorta, this device, called a fenestrated endograft, must be customized to match the exact physiology of each patient. Our team uses special imaging software that allows us to take exact measurements to match the specific anatomy. The endograft is designed just for that patient.

See video: <https://www.ummhealth.org/fevar>

WELCOME DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY BABIES



Jonathan Green, MD, MSCI, Pediatric Surgery, and his wife Jenna, welcomed twins, Jacob and Jillian, born August 19, 2022.



Giulia Rizzo, MD, PGY-4 General Surgery, and her husband Chris Louissaint, welcomed their first child and daughter, Melina Maria Louissaint, on November 16, 2022.



Michael P. Hirsh, MD, FACS, FAAP, Pediatric Surgery, pictured above holding his precious granddaughter, Edith Mary Ostrowski. Edith is the first grandchild of Dr. & Mrs. Michael Hirsh and daughter of UMass Chan Class of 2020 Alumn, Esty Hirsh, MD (psychiatry resident) and Simon Ostrowski, MD (EM resident).



Matthew C. Rade, MD, General Surgery, and his wife, Abby, welcomed their second son, Wesley Wagner Rade to their family on July 1, 2022. He is pictured left with his big brother, Wally.



Charles ("Charlie") Phelan DiBenedetto was born 12/4/22 is the son of **Alannah Phelan, MD, PGY-6 Plastic Surgery,** and father Michael DiBenedetto, MD, a UMass orthopedics residency alum, who will be returning to UMass as a hand surgery attending in July.