Urologic Passages
UPDATES FROM MCG UROLOGY AT AU, THE #UROMASTERS

The New Normal
As we continue to battle the COVID-19 pandemic, our MCG Urology team has worked to keep ourselves & our patients safe with extra precautions, telemedicine visits, & taking shifts on the COVID-19 screening phone lines. We are preparing for a virtual resident Match.

The New Residents
The 2019 Match was our first year matching 3 new residents into the intern class. We also recruited an additional resident at the PGY2 level. See inside for an introduction to these as well as a final salute to our graduating chief residents.

The New Faculty
We welcome two new faculty members in 2020. One we recruited from just down the highway and the other from the other side of the country! Find out more about these fantastic additions to our team inside this issue.

VIRTUAL RINKER-WITHERINGTON SYMPOSIUM
Friday September 11, 2020 - Saturday September 12, 2020
Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Annual Rinker Symposium will be held on-line this year. See inside for details.

Our distinguished speaker is J. Stuart Wolf, Jr., MD, FACS, Associate Chair for Clinical Integration and Operations, Chief, Division of Surgical Specialties, Department of Surgery and Perioperative Care, Dell Medical School of the University of Texas at Austin.
2020 Rinker-Witherington Society Meeting

The 2020 Rinker Witherington Society Annual Meeting will be held beginning the afternoon of Friday, September 11, 2020 and on Saturday, September 12, 2020.  

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting will be held on-line rather than in person*

If you wish to attend our Virtual Rinker-Witherington Program please contact Kim Maddox (kimaddox@augusta.edu) from your business email address or call 706-721-9977. We will email you the link prior to the meeting.

We will be recording the meeting as well and will post on our YouTube channel. Search YouTube.com for MCG Urology to see all of the video tours, advice, and education we have already posted for medical students applying in urology who are not able to participate in visiting rotations or in-person interviews due to pandemic restrictions.

The Rinker Lectureship

In 1988, an endowment was established in the Medical College of Georgia Foundation to fund an annual John Robert Rinker Lectureship. 1989 marked the beginning of this activity, which is open to all faculty, residents and students within the School of Medicine. Our guest speaker this year is Dr. J. Stuart Wolf, Jr., Associate Chair for Clinical Integration and Operations Chief, Division of Surgical Specialties at Dell Medical School of the University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. Wolf currently sits on the Board of Directors of the Texas Urological Society. He chaired the American Urological Association (AUA) Practice Guidelines Committee, and was the inaugural chair of the AUA Science & Quality Council. At the University of Michigan, Dr. Wolf received the Silver Cystoscope Award for Urology Residency Teaching Excellence 3 times (1999, 2002 and 2005). He was appointed the inaugural David A. Bloom Professor of Urology in 2006. The Department of Urology awarded him the Faculty Service Award in 2011 and the Outstanding Achievement Award in 2012. He was inducted into the League of Educational Excellence of the University of Michigan Medical School in 2015, and that year he also received the inaugural Program Director’s Award from the Endourological Society. In 2010, Dr. Wolf was elected to the American Association of Genitourinary Surgeons. In 2018, he started a 6-year term as a Trustee of the American Board of Urology. In 2019, Dr. Wolf received a Distinguished Service Award from the AUA.

Accreditation

The Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Designation

The Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University designates this live activity for a maximum of 10 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. Zoom Link: Will be provided to the business or given email, this will be a virtual event.
New Residents

Michael Oberle, DO

Originally from Vermillion, South Dakota, Dr. Oberle attended Black Hills State University, graduating in 2013 with a BS in Environmental and Cellular Biology (Summa Cum Laude) and obtaining his Masters in May of 2015 in Integrative Genomics. He then moved on to pursue his medical education at Edward via College of Osteopathic Medicine – Auburn. After graduating in 2019, he completed a General Surgery internship at Vanderbilt University Medical Center before joining us as a PGY2 resident in 2020. He is a fantastic addition to our strong PGY2 team.

Catherine Wallace, MD

Dr. Wallace calls Decatur, Georgia: her home although she has lived many places. She attended the Georgia Institute of Technology where she obtained a BS in May of 2016 in Biomedical Engineering. She then went on to pursue her medical education at the Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University, graduating M.D in May of 2020. We are delighted she is staying here for residency.

Merry Ma, MD, PhD

Dr. Ma is an Augusta native, who pursued her Undergraduate Education at the University of Georgia, studying Biology, Psychology, and Statistics. She graduated in 2012 with a BS. She returned to Augusta to begin her medical education at the Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University, where she graduated with her MD and PhD degree in May of 2020. The future is bright for this surgeon scientist!

Kyle Cline, MD

Dr. Cline is from Daytona Beach, Florida. He graduated with a BS from Harding University in Scarcy, Arizona followed by a Masters degree in Biomolecular Science from Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tennessee. He attended medical school at the University of Arkansas as well as completing a research fellowship at the University of Tennessee. He has already impressed us early in his residency.
Fond Farewell

Daniel Belew, MD

Dr. Belew, has joined a large private practice group, Georgia Urology, in Atlanta, Georgia.

Dr. Greg Simpson, DO

Dr. Simpson has joined a private practice group, Augusta Urology Associates, here in Augusta. He will also be working our residents by offering them a 1 month elective.

Congratulations!

Welcome

Pablo J. Santamaria, MD

Dr. Santamaria attended the University of California School of Medicine, in San Diego, California. He went on to complete his Urology Residency at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia and remained in Georgia to provide urology care in many of our neighboring communities. He joins our faculty to provide expertise in the treatment kidney stones as well as lead our outreach to Georgia communities lacking in urologic care.

Matthew N. Simmons, MD, PhD

Dr. Simmons received his PhD from the University of Florida. He then attended the Stanford University School of Medicine, in Stanford California where he actually worked as a medical student on the urology service with Dr. Terris when she was junior faculty there. He graduated in 2003 and completed his Urology Residency training at the Cleveland Clinic, in Cleveland Ohio. He has built on his training with experience in robotic reconstruction and general urology while practicing in Bend, Oregon. Our team is fortunate that he wants to return to academic urology with us!

Follow Us on Social Media!

Twitter: @mcg_urology  Facebook: @MCGUrology  Instagram: @mcg_urology_au  YouTube: MCG Urology at Augusta University
Accomplishments

Martha K. Terris, MD
Dr. Terris, Witherington Distinguished Professor and Chair, Chief of MCG Urology at Augusta University, currently serves as a Trustee of the American Board of Urology. She was selected as a member of the American Association of Genitourinary Surgeons.

Zachary Klaassen, MD, MSc
Assistant Professor of Urology, Ronald W. Lewis, MD Endowed Chair for Urology Education, and Director of Clinical Urological Research was appointed the Residency Program Director in May 2020. As an alumnus of this program, he brings to the program many new insights and passion.

Lynn Almond, NP
Lynn Allmond has been appointed to the American Urological Association Advanced Practice Providers Speaker’s Bureau which provides AUA Sections and specialty groups with a list of vetted APPs who may be able to speak on specific topics at their meetings.

Bradley Morganstern, MD
Assistant Professor of Urology, Director of Pediatric Urology and oversees all urology medical student rotations has assumed the role of academic/career advising for medical students in the MCG Office of Academic Affairs.

The most famous image of 2020, the CDC’s depiction of the COVID-19 virus, was created by Alissa Eckert, who obtained her master’s in medical illustration from MCG.
Support our Residents!!

This year our applicant pool was one of the largest we have ever experienced. More and more medical students are hearing about the MCG Urology training program and demand is high to be a part of it. As our program grows, so does our need to support our residents. Please join your fellow trainees and make a donation to support our residents for things such as research projects, travel to conferences, surgical equipment, and study materials.

Please make checks payable to: MCG Foundation with a notation that funding is for the MCG Urology Residents Fund. Mail checks to: Kim Maddox Augusta University Division of Urology 1120 15th St., Room BA-8415 Augusta, GA 30912-4050. Alternatively, you may wish to support our other funding opportunities listed below.

Or you can give on-line at: https://mcgfoundation.org/give-now/. Enter the amount in the Gift Amount window. In the Select Fund box, select Enter Designation Below, type in the Message window which one of the funds below you would like to support, then proceed with your credit card information. For more information on how you can make a difference, call Ralph Alee, from the Office of Philanthropy and Alumni Engagement, at 706-755-3713 or email: ralee@augusta.edu. On behalf of our current and future residents, thank you for your support.

Funds Available for Contributions

- Urology Residency Fund # 8245: Supports educational, research, and clinical activities for residents in urology.
- Roy Witherington MD Chair Fund #8192: Supports a chair in urology
- Quentin T. Lawson MD Urology Research and Education Fund #8049: Provides funding to residents in the urology residency for the purpose of travel related expenses including transportation, accommodation, registration, and incidentals when presenting at national or regional meetings.
- Rinker-Witherington Urologic Society Fund #8179: Supports the Rinker-Witherington Symposium and Lectureship.
- Ronald W. Lewis MD Chair Fund #8248: Supports the urology residency program director and resident expenses for travel, research, and projects.
- Rudolph Bell Urological Fellowship Fund #8153: Provides financial support to urology interns and residents committed to the practice of urology.
Selected Recent Publications


Faculty and Clinic Contact Information

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