“We are committed to improving the care of patients – not only our patients of today but also our patients of tomorrow – through innovation, discovery and courageous approaches to medical illness.”

— Douglas B. Evans, MD
Welcome to the Department of Surgery at the Medical College of Wisconsin – we hope you have fun learning more about our team of all-stars and the programs we have developed. Everyone has worked harder and longer this past year, in some cases related to COVID and in most cases, because health challenges for all patients did not take time off for the pandemic. We have learned a number of valuable life lessons:

• First, we are all very fortunate to work at a great place with great people. Teamwork does make the dream work – no better exemplified than this past year when we all kept the engine going with all possible methods of communication. Patients and operations got scheduled from the kitchen counter of many of our dedicated Administrative Assistants and the surgeons and APPs of all of the disease site programs worked together to navigate illness and various other personal challenges to simply get the job done and care for those in need.

• Academic achievement and surgical education did not stay at home. A testimony to the commitment of our faculty to bring innovation and discovery to the patient bedside. As well, a visible symbol of their commitment to our residents and our residency program.

• We have the best residents in the world – rolled up their sleeves, did more than asked and brought energy and enthusiasm to the care of our patients.

• Our community support has never been stronger – our “We Care Fund” in support of our faculty research programs (and everything the We Care Committee does!) is a prime example – the Bud and Sue Selig Hub for Health Services Research, the Joel and Arlene Lee Chair for Pancreatic Cancer Research, and there are many more…

Please have fun with this year’s Annual Report – Liz Chen, Wendy Behrs and Dr. Tracy Wang had a ton of fun putting this together (thank you Liz, Wendy and Tracy). Last year, Mr. Baseball, Bob Uecker provided the introduction; much better than mine. One of Bob’s many great quotes convey his love of baseball, similar to our love of medicine:

“I hope the fans have enjoyed listening as much as I’ve enjoyed doing the games. I don’t ever go to the park where I don’t have a good day. I don’t like losing. But I don’t think I ever go to the park where I have a bad day. I don’t think once.”

— Bob Uecker
Our Commitment to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice

In 2019, the Medical College of Wisconsin Center for the Advancement of Women in Science and Medicine (AWSM) launched I Will MCW, a community-wide campaign that encouraged dialogue to create shared language, understanding, and positive action towards gender equity. The Department of Surgery created a collective pledge (below) and implemented a department-wide initiative to increase awareness of our own implicit bias, via dissemination and discussion of the results of implicit bias training by faculty, residents, and staff.

MCW DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY’S PLEDGE
We pledge to achieve and maintain equity and diversity among faculty and staff, to reinforce professional workplace standards, and to optimize patient care and health equity.

#IWILLMCW #WEWILLMCW

In the wake of COVID-19 related anti-Asian racism and the deaths of Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and George Floyd in the spring of 2020, renewing a national discussion of systemic racism and social injustices, the Department of Surgery published a statement, highlighting department-wide initiatives is to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Last summer, we introduced the Cultural Complications curriculum to our Morbidity and Morality conference, inviting all members of our department to attend. Each module introduces a core theme of diversity, equity, and inclusion utilizing case-based scenarios to promote the identification and discussion of cultural breakdowns and establish best practices to improve the workplace culture and patient care. We have also created an open working group of departmental faculty, administrative staff, advanced practice professionals, and residents to address our departmental culture and continue our work towards a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive workplace.

The Department of Surgery at the Medical College of Wisconsin is committed to advancing diversity, equity and inclusion in all aspects of our workplace. We believe this is fundamental to creating a positive work environment that continues to foster excellence, improves our ability to provide outstanding clinical care, produce innovative and impactful research, and achieve excellence in education.

PROJECT IMPLICIT
IMPLICIT-ASSOCIATION TEST

Non-profit organization with a goal to educate the public about hidden biases and to provide a “virtual laboratory” for collecting data on the internet.

Implicit-Association Test: measures the strength of associations between concepts and evaluations or stereotypes.

Available Implicit Association Tests
- Weight IAT
- Religion IAT
- Gender-Science IAT
- Native IAT
- Disability IAT
- Race IAT
- Arab-Muslim IAT
- Age IAT
- Presidents IAT
- Gender-Career IAT
- Asian IAT
- Weapons IAT
- Skin-tone IAT
- Sexuality IAT

https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/
MCW Surgery in the Age of COVID-19

#MaskUpMKE

MCW/Kern Institute students and staff helped produce and distribute 3.5 million masks supplied from Revel Converting to the underserved population in Milwaukee.

Dr. Chris Davis has aggressively pursued a means of helping the underserved in the MKE community who have been disproportionally hit hardest by the pandemic. Dr. Davis took initiative to divide materials among students, staff, and community volunteers to make masks. In just 3 weeks, MCW and Kern Institute staff and students made and distributed almost 300,000 masks to community clinics, police, fire, and nearly 100 social service agencies. MCW/Kern is now a founding partner of MaskUpMKE and will continue to lead the initiative by overseeing production and delivery of masks to wherever in Milwaukee they are needed most with a particular focus on the underserved and vulnerable.

www.maskupmke.org

The Word on Medicine COVID-19 episodes

The Word on Medicine aired a series of weekly special broadcasts that provided accurate information from physicians caring for patients every day. We explained how this virus was transmitted from animals to humans in China, how human-to-human transmission occurred, the challenges with testing and treatment, and much more.

The Word on Medicine would like to thank and gratefully acknowledge Drs. Joyce Sanchez, Mary Beth Graham (Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases) and Nate Ledeboer (Department of Pathology) for their many contributions during our eleven-part series devoted to COVID-19.

Scan the barcode above or visit ihr.fm/2LeatGc to check out The Word on Medicine podcast.

#MASKUPMKE!

MaskUpMKE Timeline

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Began volunteer mask production (facilitated by Kern Institute at MCW)</td>
<td>33,800 masks delivered to community health centers and vulnerable populations by MCW students and faculty</td>
<td>Rebel Converting triples initial donation, commits to making 3.5 million face masks</td>
<td>600,000+ masks delivered to over 100 government and social service agencies</td>
<td>2.1 million masks delivered to more than 500 social services agencies throughout SE Wisconsin</td>
<td>3.2+ million masks delivered and counting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our City

The Medical College of Wisconsin is located in the one and only, Milwaukee, WI.

The Medical College of Wisconsin at Milwaukee’s campus at nighttime (Photo by Dr. Tim Fenske).

A sunset view of downtown Milwaukee (Photo by Dr. Motaz Selim).
MCW Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery

Treating patients with congenital and acquired abnormalities of the heart and cardiovascular system

FACULTY
Paul J. Pearson, MD, PhD
Professor and Chief
G. Hossein Almassi, MD
Professor
Nilto De Oliveira, MD
Professor
Lucian A. Durham III, MD, PhD
Associate Professor
Mario G. Gasparri, MD
Professor
George B. Haasler, MD
Professor Emeritus
David W. Johnstone, MD
Professor
Chief, Section of General Thoracic Surgery
David L. Joyce, MD
Associate Professor
Lyle D. Joyce, MD, PhD
Professor
Chief, Section of Adult Cardiac Surgery
Takushi Kohmoto, MD, PhD, MBA
Professor
R. Eric Lilly, MD
Assistant Professor
Paul L. Linsky, MD
Assistant Professor

NURSE PRACTITIONERS
Rachel A. Hansen, RN, MSN, APNP
Lindsay Huffman, RN, MSN, APNP
Melissa Kaske, RN, MSN, APNP
Chelsea Nettesheim, RN, MSN, APNP
Tony Sanders, RN, MSN, APNP
Dawn A. Schmidt, RN, MSN, APNP
Craig Schutta, RN, MSN, APNP
Meg Shannon-Stone, RN, MSN, APNP
Mary L. Theisen, RN, MSN, APNP
Trisha L. Wilcox, RN, MSN, APNP

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS
Sarah Lai, MPAS, PA-C
Rebecca Miller, MPAS, PA-C
Gina A. Muscato, MPAS, PA-C
Allison Stone, MPAS, PA-C
Heather Sutter, MPAS, PA-C
Lisa M. Thomas, MPAS, PA-C
In 2020... Dr. David Joyce and the Froedtert/MCW procurement team performed the first Donation after Circulatory Death Heart Transplant at the Medical College of Wisconsin/Froedtert Hospital.
MCW Division of Colorectal Surgery

Providing high caliber, compassionate care for patients with colorectal disease

FACULTY
Kirk A. Ludwig, MD
Professor and Chief
Vernon O. Underwood Chair in Colon Cancer Research

Jed F. Calata, MD
Assistant Professor

Mary F. Otterson, MD, MS
Professor

Carrie Y. Peterson, MD, MS
Associate Professor
Associate Vice Chair, Quality

Timothy J. Ridolfi, MD
Associate Professor

Toku Takahashi, MD, PhD
Professor Emeritus

NURSE PRACTITIONERS
Nicole L. Kellner, RN, MSN, APNP
Sarah J. Lundeen, RN, MSN, APNP
Kimberly A. Spitz, RN, MSN, APNP

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT
Samantha Wolff, MPAS, PA-C

2020 NEW FACULTY
Jed F. Calata, MD
ANNUAL 5K: GET YOUR REAR IN GEAR

Get Your Rear in Gear virtually! Due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, the annual 5K was held online on October 10, 2020, via Facebook. Participants were urged to use the hashtag #GYRIGMyWay to participate and raise money for Colon Cancer patients at Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin.

#GYRIGMyWay

During the 2020 Virtual Get Your Rear in Gear event participants walked 2,024,430 out of the 1,000,000 step goal. The event raised over $9,000.

Please note that this photo is from a previous Get Your Rear in Gear event.
MCW Division of Community Surgery

Ensuring optimal care is delivered by physicians who are committed to practicing at our outreach sites

FACULTY
T. Clark Gamblin, MD, MS, MBA
Interim Chief
Shahriar Alizadegan, MD
Robert J. Brodish, MD
Dean Edward Klinger, MD
R. Eric Lilly, MD
Kaizad Machhi, MD
Kevin V. Moss, MD
Abby Rothstein, MD
Eric A. Soneson, MD
Mark A. Timm, MD

NURSE PRACTITIONERS
Jenna R. Lease, RN, APNP
Joanne D. Mattingly, RN, MSN, APNP

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS
Jennifer Esser, PA-C
Megan Nelson, PA-C
MCW Division of Congenital Heart Surgery

Advancing surgical treatment of congenital and acquired abnormalities of the heart and cardiovascular system, lungs and chest wall

FACULTY
Viktor Hraska, MD, PhD
Professor and Chief
S. Bert Litwin Chair
Surgical Director, Herma Heart Institute
John E. Baker, PhD
Professor
Michael E. Mitchell, MD
Professor
Aoy Tomita-Mitchell, PhD
Professor
Elyan Ruiz Solano, MD
Instructor
Ronald K. Woods, MD, PhD
Professor

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS
Jennifer L. Ingle, PA-C
Aaron M. Kleinertz, MPAS, PA-C
Michael R. Madrzak, PA-C
L. Eliot May, PA-C
Colton Pugh, MPAS, PA-C
Ryan Smith, MPAS, PA-C

Children’s Wisconsin
Kids deserve the best.
MCW Division of
Minimally Invasive & Gastrointestinal Surgery

Offering the most advanced surgical options available – from laparoscopic surgery, to incisionless endoscopic procedures, to robotic surgery, and whatever comes next.

**FACULTY**

Jon C. Gould, MD  
Professor and Chief  
Alonzo P. Walker Chair in General Surgery  
Vice Chair, Quality  

Matthew I. Goldblatt, MD  
Professor  
Director, Condon Hernia Institute  
Director, Surgical Residency Program  

Rana M. Higgins, MD  
Assistant Professor  

Andrew S. Kastenmeier, MD  
Associate Professor  
Director, Adv. GI MIS Bariatric Fellowship  

Tammy L. Kindel, MD, PhD  
Associate Professor  

Kathleen L. Lak, MD  
Assistant Professor  

Philip N. Redlich, MD, PhD  
Gerald L. Schmitz Professor of Surgery  
Vice Chair, VA Surgical Services  

**NURSE PRACTITIONERS**

Courtney Hanson, RN, MSN, APNP  
Michelle A. Weber, RN, MSN, APNP  

**PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS**

Kristen Braun, MPAS, PA-C  
Anna Hausler, MPAS, PA-C  
Abby B. Schroeder, MPAS, PA-C
MCW Division of Pediatric Surgery

One of the largest pediatric surgical practices in the nation

FACULTY

David M. Gourlay, MD
Professor and Chief

John J. Aiken, MD
Professor

Casey M. Calkins, MD
Professor
Director, Pediatric Surgery Fellowship

Brian Craig, MD
Assistant Professor

John C. Densmore, MD
Professor

Katherine Flynn-O’Brien, MD, MPH
Assistant Professor

Dave Lal, MD, MPH
Professor

Keith T. Oldham, MD
Professor and Vice Chair
Marie Z. Uihlein Chair in Pediatric Surgery
Surgeon-in-Chief, Children’s Wisconsin

Kirkwood A. Pritchard, Jr., PhD
Professor

Thomas T. Sato, MD
Professor

Jack G. Schneider, MD
Assistant Professor
Associate Director, Pediatric Surgery Critical Care Fellowship

Sabina M. Siddiqui, MD
Assistant Professor

Kyle J. Van Arendonk, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor

Amy J. Wagner, MD
Associate Professor

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

Sara Avery, MPAS, PA-C

Susan R. Becker, MPAS, PA-C

Diana M. Choren, MPAS, PA-C

Terry Derks, PA-C

Lori A. Duesing, MPAS, PA-C

Danielle N. Leranth, MPAS, PA-C

Ruth Swedler, MPAS, PA-C

Carly E. Windt, MPAS, PA-C

Kids deserve the best.
2020 NEW FACULTY
Brian Craig, MD

2020 NEW FACULTY
Katherine Flynn-O’Brien, MD, MPH
The COVID-19 pandemic has caused massive disturbances and uncertainties around the globe at all levels, and scientific research labs are no exception to this. This summer, the We Care Committee decided to take the unprecedented step to suspend the annual RFA for new awards and reallocated these funds to create a unique opportunity to assist Surgery faculty and their research teams: The 2020 We Care Research Recovery Grants. The purpose of these grants is to serve as limited needs funding to help restart research activities and recover some of the financial losses suffered as a result of lab hibernation and halting of both basic and clinical research due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The committee is pleased to share that 9 research programs in the Department of Surgery have been awarded funds totaling over $175,000 to facilitate these recovery efforts as the MCW research enterprise phases in reactivation plans. The We Care Fund for Medical Innovation and Research, led by a devoted committee of community members and made possible by generous philanthropic contributions, is committed to improving and enhancing medical care in the Milwaukee-area and has been steadfast in its support of Department of Surgery faculty to create innovative therapies and clinical programs that benefit patients. Lab hibernation and halting of both basic and clinical research during the COVID-19 pandemic caused our faculty to lose valuable time, resources and funds, which threaten to disrupt research programs and significantly delay productivity. The research community was asked to reduce animal colonies, which resulted in the need to either re-purchase animals or breed animals to recuperate pre-COVID-19 numbers. Key reagents and materials expired or perished due to inactivity in the lab for 2 months and had to be thrown away and bought again. Equipment malfunctioned because of lab hibernation, requiring repairs that would not be needed otherwise. In addition, several research personnel, who can only perform their job tasks in the laboratory, continued to receive their salaries from investigators’ funding sources while not allowed on campus. Clinical researchers were unable to enroll patients in studies, while funding continued to pay for research coordinators.
OUR FOCUS

• Enhance extramural funding
• Maximize the quality and quantity of peer-reviewed publications
• Optimize resident research experience: appropriate mentor/mentee resources, responsibilities, accountabilities, and deliverables

• Identify and support constructive collaborations within the department and institution, and outside the institution
• Faculty development
• Advocacy for research infrastructure: development and expansion

AWARDED GRANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PI Name</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terri deRoon-Cassini, PhD</td>
<td>We Care Fund</td>
<td>Maternal Stress and Resilience in Prenatal Diagnosis of Fetal Anomalies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Gourlay, MD</td>
<td>MCW Institute for Health and Equity</td>
<td>REDIRECT: Partnering CHW Trauma Registry with DataShare to Improve ECD in Pediatric Trauma Patients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnny Hong, MD &amp; Raul Urrutia, MD</td>
<td>We Care Fund</td>
<td>Maggie Z. Schultz We Care Award: The Effects of Ischemia and Reperfusion Injury in Liver Transplantation on Epigenetic Profiles: A Pilot Study Using a Porcine Experimental Model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Josh Hunt, PhD</td>
<td>CTSI</td>
<td>Traditional Pilot Award: Feasibility of a Multi-Institutional Validation Study of the Injured Trauma Survivor Screen</td>
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CONTINUED ON PAGE 23
**MCW Surgery Laboratories**

**Improving cancer treatment through research and epigenetic experimentation**

**LOMBERK RESEARCH LABORATORY**

Dr. Gwen Lomberk’s laboratory is focused on epigenomic-based pharmacology to serve as a robust tool to improve the future treatment of cancer. Dr. Lomberk’s research program has explored novel combination strategies to treat pancreatic and other cancers, specifically based on leveraging cell cycle inhibitors in efforts to enhance future use of epigenetic inhibitors. Broader research interests are focused on the epigenetic landscapes that characterize cancer subtypes, as well as refining the utility of epigenetic inhibitors for treatment and re-sensitization to conventional therapies. The lab’s mission is to advance the discovery of fundamental epigenetic mechanisms and apply this knowledge to develop better therapeutic strategies in the prevention and treatment of cancer.

**PRECISION MEDICINE DISCOVERY AND INNOVATION LABORATORY**

Dr. Raul Urrutia’s laboratory combines interests and expertise in the areas of genomics, epigenomics, and individualized medicine, in particular as it relates to pancreatic diseases such as Cancer and Diabetes. In the area of medical genomics and precision medicine, his laboratory discovered pancreatic cancer tumor suppressor genes, which also cause juvenile (MODY VII) and neonatal diabetes, as well as the insulin resistance metabolic syndrome. Dr. Urrutia and his group have made fundamental contributions by identifying members and helping to put together the family of KLF proteins, which are critical regulators of biology, pathobiology and epigenetic reprogramming. In addition, his group has discovered several histone deacetylase (HDAC), histone acetyltransferase (HAT), and histone methyltransferase (HMT) epigenetic pathways that are operational not only in pancreatic cancer, but in numerous other diseases. His work led to the discovery of histone-proteins associated subcodes, which helps to interpret epigenomic codes.
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<tr>
<th>PI Name</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Joyce, MD, MBA</td>
<td>MCW Faculty Affairs</td>
<td>2019 Community of Innovators Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Joyce, MD, MBA</td>
<td>We Care Fund</td>
<td>Percutaneous Distal Embolic Protection (PDEP) for LVAD Thrombolysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tammy Kindel, MD, PhD</td>
<td>MCW Research Affairs Committee</td>
<td>Weight Loss Independent Effects of Bariatric Surgery on Cardiac Function in Rodents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gwen Lomberk, PhD</td>
<td>Greater Milwaukee Foundation</td>
<td>Epigenomic Landscape in Liver Cancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gwen Lomberk, PhD</td>
<td>MCW Cancer Center</td>
<td>Director’s Award: Targeting Epigenomic Regulators at the Replication Fork in PDAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aoy Mitchell, PhD</td>
<td>Little Hearts for Life</td>
<td>Bioengineered Heart Tissue in Congenital Heart Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raul Urrutia, MD &amp; Gwen Lomberk, PhD</td>
<td>NIH National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases</td>
<td>R01: Epigenomic Regulation in Pancreatic Cell Growth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timothy Ridolfi, MD</td>
<td>Association of VA Surgeons</td>
<td>2020-2021 AVAS Foundation Karl Storz Award: MRI Prediction and Evaluation for Complete Response to Neoadjuvant Therapy in Rectal Cancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gwen Lomberk, PhD</td>
<td>NIH National Cancer Institute (NCI)</td>
<td>R01: Targeting Epigenomic Regulators at the Replication Fork in PDAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan Tsai, MD, MHS</td>
<td>Theodore W. Batterman Family Foundation, Inc.</td>
<td>Accelerating Clinical Trials and Health Services Research for Pancreatic Cancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrick Murphy, MD, MsC, MPH</td>
<td>MCW Research Affairs Committee</td>
<td>Delivery of High Quality Care for Acute-Gallstone Related Disease: The Patient Perspective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gwen Lomberk, PhD</td>
<td>Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin (AHW)</td>
<td>A Translational Study of Epigenetic and Neural Mechanisms of Risk Phenotypes for PTSD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tammy Kindel, MD, PhD</td>
<td>American College of Surgeons</td>
<td>2020-2025 George H.A. Clowes Career Development Award: The Role of GLP-1 in Cardiac Recovery After Bariatric Surgery in Obesity-Induced Heart Failure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colleen Trevino, PhD &amp; Thomas Carver, MD</td>
<td>MCW Comprehensive Injury Center</td>
<td>Acute Traumatic Pain Treatment with Ketamine to Decrease Long-Term Pain and Poor Psychological Outcomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Baker, PhD</td>
<td>We Care Fund</td>
<td>2020 Recovery Grant: Irradiation of the Kidney Causes Pathologic Remodeling in the Non-Targeted Heart: A Role for the Immune System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amanda Kong, MD</td>
<td>We Care Fund</td>
<td>2020 Recovery Grant: Mitochondrial Telomerase as Regulator of Mitochondrial Damage and Secondary Messengers in Chemotherapy Induced Microvascular Dysfunction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gwen Lomberk, PhD</td>
<td>We Care Fund</td>
<td>2020 Recovery Grant: Targeting epigenetic complexes for more effective therapies against pancreatic cancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aoy Tomita-Mitchell, PhD</td>
<td>We Care Fund</td>
<td>2020 Recovery Grant: Bioengineered Heart Tissue in Congenital Heart Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Mitchell, MD</td>
<td>We Care Fund</td>
<td>2020 Recovery Grant: Development of a non-invasive method for monitoring heart transplant rejection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirkwood Pritchard, PhD</td>
<td>We Care Fund</td>
<td>2020 Recovery Grant: Mechanism of Inflammation in Sickle Cell Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raul Urrutia, MD</td>
<td>We Care Fund</td>
<td>2020 Recovery Grant: Understanding the Molecular Mechanisms of Kras in Pancreatic Cancer and Cellular Responses to Therapeutic Treatments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amy Wagner, MD</td>
<td>We Care Fund</td>
<td>2020 Recovery Grant: Gastroschisis Genome Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracy Wang, MD, MPH</td>
<td>MCW Cancer Center and Froedtert Hospital Foundation</td>
<td>Molecular Testing to Direct Extent of Initial Thyroid Surgery</td>
</tr>
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</table>
MCW Division of **Surgical Oncology**

Celebrating 10 years of Surgical Oncology at MCW, leading the way in cancer surgery

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**FACULTY**

T. Clark Gamblin, MD, MS, MBA  
Professor and Chief  
Stuart D. Wilson Chair in Surgical Oncology  
Vice Chair, Off-Campus Clinical Operations  
Co-Director, HPB Fellowship  
Director, Complex General Surgical Oncology Fellowship

Mohammed Aldakkak, MD  
Instructor

Kathleen K. Christians, MD  
Professor  
Co-Director, HPB Fellowship

Callisia N. Clarke, MD, MS  
Assistant Professor

Chandler S. Cortina, MD  
Assistant Professor

Sophie Y. Dream, MD  
Assistant Professor  
Associate Director, Endocrine Surgery Fellowship

Douglas B. Evans, MD  
Chair, Department of Surgery  
Ausman Family Foundation Professor

Karen E. Kersting, PhD, LCP  
Assistant Professor

Amanda L. Kong, MD, MS  
Professor  
Chief, Section of Breast Surgery

Caitlin R. Patten, MD  
Assistant Professor

Edward J. Quebbeman, MD, PhD  
Professor Emeritus

Susan Tsai, MD, MHS  
Associate Professor  
Director, LaBahn Pancreatic Cancer Program  
Co-Associate Director, Complex General Surgical Oncology Fellowship

Alonzo P. Walker, MD  
Professor Emeritus

Tracy S. Wang, MD, MPH  
Professor  
Chief, Section of Endocrine Surgery  
Vice Chair, Strategic and Professional Development  
Director, Endocrine Surgery Fellowship

Stuart D. Wilson, MD  
Professor Emeritus

Tina W. F. Yen, MD, MS  
Professor  
Co-Associate Director, Complex General Surgical Oncology Fellowship

---

**NURSE PRACTITIONERS**

Kelsey M. Doll, RN, MSN, APNP

Lisa A. Graber, RN, MSN, APNP

Jessica Fodrocy, RN, MSN, APNP

Natalie Lang, DNP, AGPCNP-BC, APNP

Joanne D. Mattingly, RN, MSN, APNP

Jennifer L. Menako, RN, MSN, APNP

Jennifer R. Merrill, RN, MSN, APNP

Kimberly J. Moriarty, RN, MSN, APNP

Lauren Newell, RN, MSN, APNP

Anna C. Purdy, RN, MSN, APNP

Gabriella Pyptiuk, RN, MSN, APNP

Tanya M. Radke, RN, MSN, APNP

---

**PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS**

Sarah M. Misustin, MPAS, PA-C

Bente E. Smith, MPAS, PA-C
MCW Division of Transplant Surgery

Providing abdominal organ transplantation at Froedtert Hospital and Children’s Wisconsin

FACULTY
Johnny C. Hong, MD
Professor and Chief
Mark B. Adams Chair
Director, Solid Organ Transplantation

Francisco A. Durazo, MD
Professor
Chief, Transplantation Hepatology, Transplantation Medicine

Calvin M. Eriksen, MD
Assistant Professor

Christopher P. Johnson, MD
Professor

Joohyun Kim, MD, PhD
Associate Professor
Associate Director, Transplant Surgery Fellowship

Priyal Patel, MD
Assistant Professor

Terra R. Pearson, MD
Assistant Professor

Jenessa S. Price, PhD
Assistant Professor

Allan M. Roza, MD
Professor

Motaz A. Selim, MD
Assistant Professor

Melissa Wong, MD
Assistant Professor

Stephanie C. Zanowski, PhD
Assistant Professor

Yong-ran Zhu, MD
Associate Professor Emeritus

Michael A. Zimmerman, MD
Professor
Director, Transplant Surgery Fellowship

NURSE PRACTITIONERS
Kelly A. Kristbaum, RN, MSN, APNP
Keighla Mueller, RN, MSN, APNP
Rebecca R. Russ, RN, MSN, APNP

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS
Marina C. Besserud, MPAS, PA-C
Taylor A. Boyle, MPAS, PA-C
Claire K. Choren, MMS, PA-C
Dominique Erly, MMS, PA-C

Ashley M. Gruenhagen, MPAS, PA-C
Ben Ingram, MPAS, PA-C
Emily Kopp, MPAS, PA-C
Jennifer Mahaffey, MPAS, PA-C
Stephanie L. McVeigh, MCMSoc, PA-C

Jenessa Mayer, MPAS, PA-C
Emily Mell, MPAS, PA-C
Gretchen Nelson, MPAS, PA-C
Alyssa A. Nicholas, MPAS, PA-C
Claire Olejnik, MPAS, PA-C
Breanna Olig, MPAS, PA-C
Andrea L. Rakoczy, MPAS, PA-C
Lanie Rudie, MPAS, PA-C
Jennifer Scheffler, MPAS, PA-C
Cynthia L. Schulzetenberg, PA-C
Amanda Steiger, MPAS, PA-C
Whitney E. Stibb, MPAS, PA-C
Jessica A. Stromich, MPAS, PA-C
In 2020 MCW & Froedtert Hospital staff completed 1,000 living donor kidney transplants.

2020 NEW FACULTY
Francisco A. Durazo, MD

2020 NEW FACULTY
Priyal Patel, MD
MCW Division of Trauma & Acute Care Surgery

Responsible for the trauma and surgical critical care at the only Adult Level I Trauma Center in Milwaukee

FACULTY
Marc A. de Moya, MD
Professor and Chief
Milton and Lidy Lunda/Charles Aprahamian Chair

Marshall A. Beckman, MD, MA
Associate Professor

Nathan Carlson, MD
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army Surgeon

Thomas W. Carver, MD
Associate Professor
Program Director, Surgical Critical Care and Acute Care Surgery Fellowships

Christopher S. Davis, MD, MPH
Assistant Professor

Terri A. deRoon-Cassini, MS, PhD
Associate Professor
Program Director, Clinical Psychology Fellowship
Director, Comprehensive Injury Center
Director, Trauma Research

Christopher M. Dodgion, MD, MSPH, MBA
Associate Professor
Director, Global Surgery

Anu Elegbede, MD
Assistant Professor

Christina Megal, RN, DNP, APNP
Assistant Professor
Program Director, Clinical Psychology Fellowship
Director, Comprehensive Injury Center
Director, Trauma Research

Patrick B. Murphy, MD, MSc, MPH
Assistant Professor

Todd A. Neideen, MD
Associate Professor
Chief, General Surgery, Zablocki VA Medical Center

Evan Robinson, DO
Assistant Professor

Lewis B. Somberg, MD
Professor

Andrew T. Schramm, PhD
Assistant Professor

Mary Elizabeth (Libby) Schroeder, MD
Assistant Professor
Associate Director, Global Surgery

Colleen Trevino, RN, NP, PhD
Assistant Professor
Lead APP
Travis P. Webb, MD, MHPE
Professor
Associate Dean for Curriculum

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT
Joseph C. Darin II, MPAS, PA-C

WHAT DOES “LEVEL I” MEAN?
The Trauma Center is classified as “Level I,” which means it provides the highest level of specialty expertise and meets strict national standards. Specialized teams, facilities and equipment are available around the clock, 365 days a year, to treat life-threatening injuries. A trauma center is not the same as a hospital emergency department; emergency services are a critical component of a comprehensive trauma program. A Level I facility must have the capability of providing total care for every aspect of injury, from injury prevention to rehabilitation.
2020 NEW FACULTY
Mary Elizabeth (Libby) Schroeder, MD

2020 NEW FACULTY
Patrick B. Murphy, MD, MSc, MPH

2020 NEW FACULTY
Andrew T. Schramm, PhD
Providing surgical expertise in all aspects of vascular surgery, including an endovascular program providing the full array of endovascular techniques.
MCW Surgery New Faculty in 2021

We are excited to welcome the 2021 new faculty who will be leading the way in our department.

NEW FACULTY AS OF JANUARY/ FEBRUARY 2021

James Mace, MD
Adjunct Assistant Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery

Elyan Ruiz Solano, MD
Instructor, Division of Congenital Heart Surgery

NEW FACULTY AS OF MARCH/APRIL 2021

Nilto De Oliveira, MD
Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery

NEW FACULTY AS OF JULY 2021

Jacob R. Peschman, MD
Assistant Professor, Division of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery

NEW FACULTY AS OF AUGUST/ SEPTEMBER 2021

Anai Kothari, MD, MS
Assistant Professor, Division of Surgical Oncology

Nathan W. Kugler, MD
Assistant Professor, Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery

Ugwuji N. Maduekwe, MD, MMSc
Associate Professor, Division of Surgical Oncology
Deputy Director, Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin

Jose Salazar Osuna, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor, Division of Pediatric Surgery

Jennifer Rabaglia, MD, MSc
Associate Professor, Division of Surgical Oncology;
Chief Medical Officer, Ambulatory Specialty Practice

H. Adam Ubert, MD
Assistant Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery

NEW FACULTY AS OF OCTOBER 2021

Katherine Iverson, MD, MPH
Assistant Professor, Division of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery
### MCW Surgery Secondary Faculty

Our secondary faculty are listed below by specialty:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Specialty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carmen Bergom, MD, PhD, M.Phil</td>
<td>Radiation Oncology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meena Bedi, MD</td>
<td>Radiation Oncology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael B. Dwinell, PhD</td>
<td>Microbiology and Immunology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beth Erickson Wittmann, MD</td>
<td>Radiation Oncology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juan Felix, MD</td>
<td>Pathology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James W. Findling, MD</td>
<td>Medicine, Endocrinology, Metabolism and Clinical Nutrition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Beth Graham, MD</td>
<td>Medicine, Infectious Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Geurts, MS, CGC</td>
<td>Genomic Sciences and Precision Medicine Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jaime S. Green, MD</td>
<td>Medicine, Infectious Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James B. Gosset, MD</td>
<td>Medicine, Cardiovascular Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael O. Griffin, Jr., MD, PhD</td>
<td>Radiology, Diagnostic Radiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William A. Hall, MD</td>
<td>Radiation Oncology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert A. Hieb, MD, RVT</td>
<td>Radiology, Vascular and Interventional Radiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric J. Hohenwalter, MD</td>
<td>Radiology, Vascular and Interventional Radiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryon D. Johnson, PhD</td>
<td>Microbiology and Immunology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandana Kamgar, MD</td>
<td>Medicine, Hematology and Oncology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John A. LoGiudice, MD</td>
<td>Plastic Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veronica Loy, D.O.</td>
<td>Medicine, Gastroenterology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter J. Mason, MD, MPH, RPVI</td>
<td>Medicine, Cardiovascular Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stacy D. O’Connor, MD, MPH, MMSc</td>
<td>Radiology, Diagnostic Radiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jong-In Park, PhD</td>
<td>Biochemistry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parag J. Patel, MD, MS</td>
<td>Radiology, Vascular and Interventional Radiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hershel Raff, PhD</td>
<td>Medicine, Endocrinology, Metabolism and Clinical Nutrition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honey Reddi, PhD</td>
<td>Pathology/GSPMC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William S. Rilling, MD</td>
<td>Radiology, Vascular and Interventional Radiology; Vice Chair, Clinical Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evan Robinson, DO</td>
<td>Emergency Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ehab R. Saad, MD</td>
<td>Medicine, Nephrology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael H. Salinger, MD</td>
<td>Medicine, Cardiovascular Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joyce Sanchez, MD</td>
<td>Medicine, Infectious Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer J. Schiller, PhD, D(ABHI)</td>
<td>Versiti Blood Center of Wisconsin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pippa M. Simpson, PhD</td>
<td>Pediatrics, Quantitative Health Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cynthia Solliday-McRoy, PhD</td>
<td>Transplant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parag P. Tolat, MD</td>
<td>Radiology, Diagnostic Radiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sean M. Tutton, MD</td>
<td>Radiology, Vascular and Interventional Radiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Njeri. Wainaina, MD</td>
<td>Medicine, Infectious Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah B. White, MD, MS</td>
<td>Radiology, Vascular and Interventional Radiology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our five-year residency program is framed by ACGME Core Competencies of patient care, medical knowledge, professionalism, practice-based learning and improvement, interpersonal communication skills, systems-based practice, and the achievement of operative expertise a surgeon needs in order to make a difference in the lives of their patients and families. The Medical College of Wisconsin’s affiliated hospitals provide a breadth of patient diversity and surgical conditions that enriches each resident’s learning and patient management experience within community-based, university-based, and Veterans Administration hospital systems.
THE YEARS OF RESIDENCY

A post-graduate year (PGY) 1 and PGY 2 resident begin training as a members of an interdisciplinary team committed to comprehensive patient care of commonly presenting surgical conditions. Progressing through the PGY 3 and PGY 4 years, the resident assumes a principal role with the team managing patients on the clinical services, before culminating as a PGY 5 competent to lead teams and manage the pre-, post- and intra-operative care of complex patient conditions.

Seven residents are chosen each year for categorical positions in the General Surgery Residency Program. The program is a broad-based program and prepares residents for one of three tracks:

- Community practice as a general surgeon;
- An academic career with a research focus;
- Advanced fellowship training.

During the first two years, the resident will manage patients and gain preliminary operative experience through rotations in general surgery, trauma surgery, transplant surgery, the surgical intensive care unit, cardiothoracic surgery, vascular surgery and pediatric surgery. While on these services, the resident attends the teaching and work conferences of these specialty services.
RESIDENCY CURRICULUM

Each resident participates in the Protected Block Curriculum based on their program year, during which time residents develop camaraderie through peer learning, support and mentoring. The curriculum is competency-based and presented and facilitated by faculty and staff using multiple educational tools including didactic lectures, peer-reviewed articles, skill sessions, hands-on workshops, and case-based discussions. For the PGY 1 and 2 years, residents are relieved of all clinical duties during the curriculum in order to prepare for and fully participate in curriculum activities. Over a five year period, the Protected Block Curriculum represents nearly 1,000 hours of concentrated learning.
CHIEF RESIDENCY AT MCW SURGERY

In the final year, the Chief Resident puts it all together - perfects clinical judgment with expanded responsibility for patient management and as well, has a supervisory and educational role with junior residents and medical students. Operative experience is gained in complicated trauma, gastrointestinal, hepatic, pancreatobiliary, endocrine, laparoscopic surgery, vascular disorders and a variety of malignant conditions.

Successful completion of a year as Chief Resident qualifies the resident for examination by the American Board of Surgery.

Through the Medical College of Wisconsin Affiliated Hospitals (MCWAH), the College and affiliated institutions combine their extensive and varied resources to offer 72 separate accredited residencies and fellowships.
2020-2021 Research Residents

Alexis Bowder, MD  
Mentor: David Gourlay, MD  
“My research in global surgery is focused on access to and outcomes for pediatric surgical care in Brazil and Haiti, increasing research capacity for clinicians in Haiti, and gender equity within the Surgical, Anesthesia and Obstetric specialties worldwide. My local research is focused on exploring trauma recidivism populations in the Milwaukee pediatric population, and intussusception and TEF outcomes for pediatric patients.”

Kent Peterson, MD  
Mentors: Tim Ridolfi, MD, MS; Carrie Peterson, MD, MS  
“I am working with the Veterans Health Administration and the Colorectal Surgery Department at the Medical College of Wisconsin to perform clinical research. Specifically, I am investigating surgical outcomes and prediction models for the response of neoadjuvant chemoradiation therapy in rectal cancer patients.”

Sam Thalji, MD  
Mentor: Susan Tsai, MD, MPH  
“I am working primarily on investigating the utility of various biomarkers for prognosis and clinical decision-making in the treatment of pancreatic cancer. We are also exploring ways that precision medicine (molecular profiling, individual response to treatment) can guide optimal selection of neoadjuvant therapies for pancreatic cancer patients. I am working with other members of the department on surgical outcomes related to sarcoma, breast, and liver cancers.”

Arielle Thomas, MD  
Mentors: Brendan Campbell, MD, MPH; Avery Nathens, MD, PhD; Anne Stey, MD, MSc  
“I am taking time away from clinical years to join the American College of Surgeons as their Firearm and Injury Prevention Clinical Scholar in Residence. My interest in public health focuses on the way in which marginalized groups are most affected by medico-legal discourse, policies, and programs involving health both domestically and globally. My specific focus is a combination of outcome research on firearm injuries as well as the impact of state legislation on at-risk populations.”

Nathan Smith, MD  
Mentor: David Joyce, MD, MBA  
“My research is primarily focused on advanced heart failure, cardiogenic shock, and how best to utilize the vast array of temporary mechanical circulatory support devices available to cardiac surgeons. Our current projects are centered around the use of these devices in high-risk coronary artery bypass grafting, acute respiratory distress syndrome due to COVID-19, and end-stage heart failure patients who are not transplant candidates.”
The Department of Surgery at the Medical College of Wisconsin has long been a leader in excellence in education, academic achievement, and patient care. Alumnae of the General Surgery Residency program have become very successful clinicians, educators, scientists, and administrative leaders. However, some of the attributes that have made our program so successful in the past are now threatened by financial constraints. The goal of the Resident Research Fund is to promote continued academic achievement and professional development for the future generation of surgeons.

The Department of Surgery Resident Research fund provides surgical residents an opportunity to initiate and complete research projects related to their professional interests in basic science, health services research, and clinical and translational research. The experience of translating scientific knowledge from ‘the bench to bedside’ provides the foundation for lifelong inquiry in the pursuit of continued excellence and equity in patient care.

In 2020, a capital campaign was launched, thanks to the generosity of the family of Robert Condon, MD, Chair of the Department of Surgery from 1979-1997. A master surgeon, Dr. Condon was a leading expert on the topic of hernia repair and the namesake for the Robert E. Condon Hernia Institute. In his honor, the Condon family agreed to match all donations to the Resident Research Fund in 2020. Thanks to this gift and under the leadership of Mary Otterson, MD, Chair of the Resident Research fund Committee, $120,933 was raised. We are incredibly grateful to the many donors, who are listed on pages 48-50 of this report.

If you would like to make a gift online using a credit card, please visit our secure site to support the Resident Research Fund, or scan the QR code.

www.mcwsupport.mcw.edu/residentresearchfund

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Mary Otterson, MD - Chair  
Rachel Greenup, MD, MPH  
Henry Pitt, MD  
Marcia Condon/Brian Condon  
Steven Kappes, MD  
Chris Fox, MD, GME  
Dean Klinger, MD  
Stuart Wilson, MD  
Patricia Aprahamian  
Anna Ledgerwood, MD  
Julie Frieschlag, MD
The Edwin Ellison Surgical Society

Connecting MCW Surgery alumni around the world

The Edwin Ellison Surgical Society (EESS) is the Alumni Society of the Medical College of Wisconsin General Surgery Residency. It is named in honor of the internationally-recognized surgeon Edwin H. Ellison, MD. Dr. Ellison united all the surgical residency programs in the Milwaukee area into one program and served as the first Chair of Surgery at MCW.

The Department of Surgery is excited to announce the Edwin Ellison Surgical Society. The idea of creating an alumni association for graduates of the Medical College of Wisconsin general surgery training program began in late 2019, to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Carl W. Eberbach Memorial Lectureship. Subsequently, a seven-member planning committee was formed by Dr. Tracy Wang to develop the society.

Several naming options were discussed, all of whom were amazing MCW surgeons with whom any of us would be proud to be associated. Ultimately, the committee chose the surgeon who could best represent all who have graduated from the program. A surgeon who united all the residency programs in the Milwaukee area into one MCW program and developed the Department of Surgery into the foundation of MCW’s clinical practice, Dr. Edwin H. Ellison. Dr. Ellison was the distinguished Chairman of the Department of Surgery at MCW from 1958 until his untimely death in 1970. We have reached out to Dr. Ellison’s son (E. Christopher Ellison, MD, MCW Medical School Alumni, previous Chair of the Department of Surgery at the Ohio State University, and current CEO of the OSU Faculty Group Practice) and grandson (Jonathan Ellison, MD, current MCW Pediatric Urologist) and they are both excited to launch this society.

Join the EESS

Scan the QR code to fill out a survey and register to join the Edwin Ellison Surgical Society.

www.mcw.edu/departments/surgery/education/edwin-ellison-surgical-society
2020 EESS Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the Society consists of the Current and Past President(s), the President Elect, Secretary, Alumni Representative, Faculty Representative, Resident Representative(s), Program Director, Program Manager, and Department Chair. The 2020 Executive Committee was chosen by the planning committee.

President
Timothy Ridolfi, MD ’05, GME ’12, MS
2020-2022

President-Elect
Rachel Greenup, MD ’04, MPH, GME ’11
2022-2024

Secretary
Betsy Appel, MD ’11, GME ’16
2020-2022

Alumni Rep.
Chris Fox, MD ’98, GME ’04
2020-2022

Faculty Rep.
Tracy S. Wang, MD, MPH
2020-2022

Resident Rep.
Elizabeth Traudt, MD ’16
2020-2022

Resident Rep.
Jacqueline Blank, MD
2020-2022

Program Director
Matthew Goldblatt, MD ’97, GME ’04

Program Manager
Lisa Olson

Surgery Chair
Douglas B. Evans, MD
MCW Surgery Administration

Working behind the privacy curtains to support physicians and advance surgical infrastructure

FACULTY
Douglas B. Evans, MD
Professor and Chair
Dean E. Klinger, MD
Professor
Keith T. Oldham, MD
Professor and Vice Chair
Philip Redlich, MD, PhD
Professor and Chief (VA)

STAFF
Wendy Behrs
Administrative Associate
Jason Dickson
Desktop Support Technician II
Mary Halverson
Financial Analyst
Jeff Hauswirth
Associate Department Administrator
Patty Hoath
Administrative/Credentialing Specialist
Linda Klagstad
Administrative Associate
Karen Larson
Financial Analyst
Ruthie Lewis
Administrative Associate
Jon Mayer
Chief Administrator
Cyndi Nebel
Financial Assistant II
Michael Passow
Financial Analyst IV
Suzanne Piotrowski
Reimbursement Manager
Mary Rueth
Senior Reimbursement Manager
Tom Sisson
Desktop Support Technician III
Lillian Ubovic
Reimbursement Analyst I

ABOUT OUR TEAM
The MCW Surgery administrative team brings a love of academic medicine and a deep, personal commitment to patient care to their goal of making the Department of Surgery the best academic department in the world. This talented group is fully integrated with the physicians, APPs, and residents and provides the infrastructure necessary for everyone to succeed. The financial and personnel management side of medicine can be fun – and we have the team to prove it! From philanthropy to the stewardship of the We Care Fund, grant submission, manuscript preparation, and much more, this team derives their extra energy from the realization that we all are here for the patients of today and the patients of tomorrow – and those patients of tomorrow include us all. Our administrative team makes this all possible!
Department of Surgery Mentoring Committee

Providing a structure for faculty mentoring in order to foster academic success

The value of mentorship in academic medicine is increasingly being recognized as vital to the success of its faculty. Multiple studies demonstrate improvements in a number of parameters including career goal setting, understanding of paths to promotion, faculty retention, achievement of local, regional, or national leadership positions as part of broad professional activities, enhancement of faculty grant productivity, and overall faculty career success. A recent survey of chairs provides a glimpse of mentorship programs in departments of surgery in the US, with an accompanying commentary stressing the importance of career development for surgical faculty. Given the increasingly complex nature of MCW with two new regional campuses, new schools, and multiple promotion tracks, it is more imperative than ever that faculty are provided a mentoring and professional development infrastructure to succeed. Since an institutionally-based mentoring program for all faculty is not yet available, the Department of Surgery has instituted its own Mentoring Committee focused initially on the academic success of faculty.

THE THREE PILLARS OF MENTORSHIP

- Department of Surgery
- Leadership
  - Academic Achievement
  - Professional Development
  - Clinical Excellence
- Personal Fulfillment

Committee Members

Douglas Evans, MD
Kellie Brown, MD
Terri deRoon-Cassini, PhD
David Gourlay, MD
Brian Lewis, MD
Gwen Lomberk, PhD
Mary Otterson, MD, MS
Philip Redlich, MD, PhD
Ryan Spelley, PhD
Tracy Wang, MD, MPH
Travis Webb, MD, MHPE
Michael Zimmerman, MD
In 2017, we created program-specific Vice Chair positions to advance our mission of education, research, and clinical care, and capitalize on the talent and expertise of our growing faculty.

**QUALITY**

Carrie Y. Peterson, MD, MS  
Associate Vice Chair, Quality

Jon C. Gould, MD  
Vice Chair, Quality

**STRATEGIC & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**VA SURGICAL SERVICES**

Philip N. Redlich, MD, PhD  
Vice Chair, VA Surgical Services

**PERIOPERATIVE SERVICES**

Tracy S. Wang, MD, MPH  
Vice Chair, Strategic & Professional Development

Gary Seabrook, MD  
Vice Chair, Perioperative Services

**OFF-CAMPUS CLINICAL OPERATIONS**

T. Clark Gamblin, MD, MS, MBA  
Vice Chair, Off-Campus Clinical Operations

Peter J. Rossi, MD  
Associate Vice Chair, Off-Campus Clinical Operations
Department of Surgery Endowed Chairs

As one of our institution’s permanent and sustaining assets, and Endowed Chair is one of MCW’s most important faculty honors. Endowed Chairs are awarded solely for the purpose of recruitment, retention, and/or recognition of nationally and internationally distinguished faculty at MCW.

Marc de Moya, MD
Milton & Lidy Lunda Aprahamian Chair

Douglas B. Evans, MD
Donald C. Ausman Family Foundation Chair; Department Chair

T. Clark Gamblin, MD, MS, MBA
Stuart D. Wilson Chair

Jon C. Gould, MD
Alonzo P. Walker Chair

Johnny C. Hong, MD
Mark B. Adams Chair

Viktor Hraska, MD, PhD
S. Bert Litwin Chair, Cardiothoracic Surgery, Children’s Wisconsin

Gwen Lomberk, PhD
Joel & Arlene Lee Chair for Pancreatic Cancer Research

Kirk A. Ludwig, MD
Vernon O. Underwood Colon Cancer Research Chair

Keith T. Oldham, MD
Marie Z. Uihlein Chair in Pediatric Surgery, Children’s Wisconsin; Department Vice Chair

Philip N. Redlich, MD, PhD
Gerald L. Schmitz Chair

Susan Tsai, MD, MHS
Douglas B. Evans Chair for Surgical Research

*The We Care Committee established the Douglas B. Evans Chair for Surgical Research.
MCW Surgery *Leading the Way*

| 2020 Faculty Professional Awards & Honors |

Marshall Beckman, MD  
Appointed Historian of Wisconsin Surgical Society

Kellie R. Brown, MD  
Chief of Staff, Froedtert Hospital  
Section Editor, *Rutherford Textbook of Vascular Surgery*  
Section Editor, *Rutherford Textbook of Operative Techniques in Surgery*  
Editorial Board, *Journal of Vascular Surgery: Cases and Innovative Techniques*  
Section Editor, VESAP 5  

Casey Calkins, MD  
Associate Editor – *Pediatric Surgery International*  
Chair, American Pediatric Surgery Association Program Committee

Thomas A. Carver, MD  
Received the 2020 Interdisciplinary Care Partner Award from the Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin

Christopher Dodgion, MD  
Promoted to Associate Professor, Vice Chair, Association of Academic Global Surgery Rules and Regulations Committee  
Institutional Representative, ACS Operation Giving Back Hawassa University Partnership  
College of Surgeons of East Central and Southern Africa (COSECSA) Oral Board Examiner  
Representative, Association for Academic Surgery to the Global Alliance for Surgical, Obstetric, Trauma, and Anaesthesia Care Lead, Association for Academic Global Surgery Rules and Regulations Committee  
Editorial Board, *American Journal of Disaster Medicine*

John C. Densmore, MD  
Promoted to Professor of Surgery  
Received the Excellence in Professionalism Award for MD/DO/PhD from Children’s Specialty Group/Children’s Wisconsin  
Received Outstanding Performance Child and Family Experience Award, Children’s Wisconsin

Francisco Durazo, MD  
OPTN/UNOS National Liver Review Board

Marc A. de Moya, MD  
Chair, Association of Surgical Education Program Committee  
Chair, Western Trauma Association Publication Committee  
Chair, Surgical Critical Care Program Directors Society Education Committee  
Co-director, Cuban Society of Surgery International Symposium  
Chair, Pan-American Trauma Society Disaster Response Committee

Terri A. deRoon-Cassini, PhD, MS  
Received the 2020 President’s Community Engagement Award from the Medical College of Wisconsin  
Received the 2020 President’s Diversity and Inclusions Award from the Medical College of Wisconsin

Mario G. Gasparri, MD  
President, Chest Wall Injury Society  
Chair, Thoracic Surgery Expert of the AO Technical Commission

Matthew I. Goldblatt, MD  
Elected President of the MCW/Marquette Medical Alumni Association  
Chair, SAGES Hernia Committee

Jon C. Gould, MD, MBA  
Elected Recorder and to the Executive Council of the Central Surgical Association  
Nominated and inducted to the Beta Gamma Sigma International Business Honor Society  
Received the Professionalism Award from the MCW graduating Chief Resident class of 2020  
CSA Representative, American College of Surgeons

David Gourlay, MD  
Received the Excellence in Professionalism Award for MD/DO/PhD from Children’s Specialty Group/Children’s Wisconsin

Johnny C. Hong, MD  
Editorial Board, Transplantation Proceedings  
OPTN/UNOS National Liver Review Board

Viktor Hraska, MD, PhD  
Associate Editor – *World Journal for Pediatric & Congenital Heart Surgery*

Andrew S. Kastenmeier, MD  
Inducted to the Medical College of Wisconsin Society of Teaching Scholars

Joohyun Kim, MD, PhD  
Editorial Board, Transplantation Proceedings  
OPTN/UNOS National Liver Review Board

Tammy L. Kindel, MD, PhD  
Promoted to Associate Professor  
Received the Early Career Achievement Award from The Ohio State University College of Medicine  
Named the 2020 Michael H. Keelan Jr., MD Scholar presented by the Medical College of Wisconsin Cardiovascular Center  
Received the American College of Surgeons George Cloves Career Development Award  
Received Research Affairs Committee Research Grant  
Received SAGES Excellence in Medical Leadership Award

Amanda L. Kong, MD, MS  
Promoted to Professor of Surgery  
Vice Chair, Society of Surgical Oncology Training Committee

Dave Lal, MD  
President, Children’s Wisconsin Medical Staff  
Secretary, Midwest Pediatric Surgery Consortium  
Chair, American Pediatric Surgical Association Nominating Committee  
BizTime’s Milwaukee Notable Hero in Healthcare, Children’s Wisconsin  
Program Committee Member, American Academy of Pediatrics

Gwen Lomberk, PhD  
Invited Member, MCW Research Culture Workgroup, Dean and Office of Research  
Invited Member, Council of Collaboration, CTSI  
Merit Reviewer, Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin (AHW) Endowment  
Grant Reviewer, NCI Clinical and Translational R21 and Omnibus R03, NCI/NIH  
Grant Reviewer, ZCA1 SRB-K M1, SEP-3: NCI Program Project III (P01), NCI/NIH  
Grant Reviewer, R13 Conference Grants Review, NCI/NIH  
Grant Reviewer, ZCA1 SRB-K M1, SEP-3: NCI Program Project IV (P01), NCI/NIH  
Grant Reviewer, SEP-7: NCI Clinical and Translational R21 and Omnibus R03 Review, NCI/NIH  
Grant Reviewer, CIUSA Portugal (International)  
Editor-in-Chief, Case Reports in Gastroenterology  
Editorial Board, Epigenomes  
Associate Editor, Clinical Epigenetics
Michael Malinowski, MD
Chair, MCW Curriculum & Evaluation Committee 2020-2021

Neel Mansukhani, MD
Received Junior Faculty Award from the Society of Asian Academic Surgeons

David J. Milla, MD
Received the 2020 President’s Diversity and Inclusions Award from the Medical College of Wisconsin
Appointed, Chair, Trauma Center Association of American Military – Civilian Committee
Appointed State Vice Chair, American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma

Michael E. Mitchell, MD
Invited Reviewer, NIH, NCAT, Rare Disease Clinical Trial Readiness ZTR1 RD-2
Invited Reviewer, NIH, Bioengineering, Technology and Surgical Sciences (BTSS) Study Section Meetings
Invited Reviewer, American Heart Association, Transformational Project Award Clinical Sciences

Rachel L. Morris, MD
Awarded Collaborative for Healthcare Delivery Science Research Fellowship, Michael Zinner Fellow (Surgical Outcomes Club)
Appointed, Outpatient Clinic Service Line Director
Received 2021 EAST Multicenter New Investigator Award

Patrick B. Murphy, MD
Excellence in Research Award, 5th Annual Surgical Critical Care Program Directors Society
American College of Surgeons, Communications Committee liaison
Webmaster, Canadian Collaborative on Urgent Care Surgery (CANUCS)

Keith T. Oldham, MD
Medical Director and Chair, American College of Surgeons Children’s Surgery Verification Program
Board of Directors and Publications Committee Chair, Global Initiative for Children’s Surgery
Executive Committee and Editorial Board – Pediatric Surgery International

Caitlin R. Patten, MD
Received the 2020 Edward J. Lennon Endowed Clinical Teaching Award from the Medical College of Wisconsin

Timothy J. Ridolfi, MD, MS
Received the 2020-2021 Association of Veterans Administration Surgeons Foundation Karl Storz Award
Program Committee Chair for the 2020 Annual Meeting of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons (ASCRS)

Thomas T. Sato, MD
Received the Outstanding Performance Child and Family Experience Award from Children’s Wisconsin

Andrew Schramm, PhD
President, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention’s Wisconsin Chapter

Sabina Siddiqui, MD
Chair, Global Initiative for Children’s Surgery Education Committee

Mary Elizabeth Schroeder, MD
Research Work Group Lead, American College of Surgeons Operation Giving Back Hawassa Training Hub Initiative
Editorial Board, American Journal of Surgery

Aoy Tomita-Mitchell, PhD
Invited Reviewer, Eunice Kennedy Shriver NIH National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
Girl Scouts of Wisconsin Celebrate the Promise 2020 Innovator Honoree

Raul Urrutia, MD
Invited Member, Scientific Advisory Board, Institut Paoli Calmettes, France
Grant Reviewer, DDK-C Study Section, NIDDK/NIH

Amy J. Wagner, MD
Board of Directors, North American Fetal Therapy Network
Appointed as Associate Professor, MCW School of Biomedical Sciences

Tracy S. Wang, MD, MPH
Editorial Board, World Journal of Surgery
President, Society of Asian Academic Surgeons
Chair, Society of University Surgeons Social and Legislative Issues Committee

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<th>Travis P. Webb, MD, MHPE</th>
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<td>Associate Editor, Journal of Surgical Education</td>
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<td>Editorial Board, Geriatric Fast Facts</td>
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<td>Chair, American College of Surgeons General Surgery Review Course</td>
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<td>Co-chair, American College of Surgeons SESAP 18 Planning Committee</td>
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Ronald K. Woods, MD, PhD
Associate Section Editor (Congenital) – Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery

Tina W. F. Yen, MD, MS
Elected Fellow of the American Surgical Association
Editorial Board, American College of Surgeons Case Studies in Surgery
President, Central Surgical Association

Michael A. Zimmerman, MD
Editorial Board, Transplantation Proceedings
OPTN/UNOS National Liver Review Board
MCW Surgery Philanthropy

MEET DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT
ASHLEY THOMPSON

Since fall 2019, I have been a member of the MCW community in the capacity of building out a philanthropy program within our Cardiovascular Programs, and I am thrilled to take on the role of representing the Department of Surgery. It is evident that there is vast philanthropic opportunity within the Department of Surgery, mostly due to the remarkable patient care and abundance of gratitude from the community. I am excited to better understand the priorities across the department and marry them with the generosity of grateful patients and community members.

I have a mixed background of political, nonprofit, and healthcare development. My first career was in political fundraising– having run presidential, senatorial, and congressional major donor fundraising efforts across the state of Texas. Seeking more meaning in my day to day, I transitioned to healthcare and represented my alma mater, the University of Michigan, to secure major gifts for the now Michigan Medicine Rogel Cancer Center. Most recently, I worked for Charles Koch Foundation, Stand Together, building national relationships and securing significant philanthropic support for higher education, non-profits, and policy reform.

As John Kennedy said, “Philanthropy is truly a jewel of an American tradition.” And it is truly a pleasure to work with those benefactors who wish to freely give their hard-earned dollars out of gratitude and hope for medical discoveries. I look forward to building upon the department’s existing philanthropic successes and partnering with our excellent faculty to identify grateful patients who wish to leave their mark through giving.

“The raising of extraordinarily large sums of money, given voluntarily and freely by millions of our fellow Americans, is a unique American tradition... Philanthropy, charity, giving voluntarily and freely... call it what you like, but it is truly a jewel of an American tradition.”

– John F. Kennedy

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We Care Fund for Medical Innovation and Research

Supporting researchers and physicians who create cutting-edge therapies and clinical programs benefitting patients throughout the world

Why We Care

Patients in need deserve the most effective ways to treat injury and disease – knowledge unearthed by dedicated scientists with the passion and tools for innovative research.

Hope and Innovation

Bringing hope and innovative treatment plans to patients and their families depends on translating new medical discoveries from the laboratory for use in the operating room, the bedside, and the clinic. The mission of the We Care Fund is to support researchers and physicians who are creating cutting-edge therapies and clinical programs that benefit patients in Wisconsin and throughout the world.

Our Goal

The We Care Fund supports research in the fields of cancer, cardiovascular disease, gastrointestinal diseases, diseases of the newborn/child, organ transplantation and trauma. Traditional funding mechanisms supporting basic science and clinical care can take months, even years to secure. Some of the most promising and exciting solutions simply cannot wait that long. Our goal is to accelerate the development of those advanced, life-saving solutions by engaging the local community to help bring the best in healthcare research to Milwaukee.

If you would like to make a cash, check, or credit card contribution, please print the Giving Form and make your check payable to the Medical College of Wisconsin; be sure to indicate that you would like your gift directed to the We Care Fund. If you would like your contribution in honor or memory of another, please provide the name and contact address of the appropriate party so we inform them of your generosity. Please send your gift to the address listed below:

Ashley Thompson
Director of Development
Office of Institutional Advancement
8701 Watertown Plank Road
P.O. Box 26509
Milwaukee, WI 53226

100% of gifts to the We Care Fund go to fund research in the Dept. of Surgery. Over $2M has been raised for research for the Dept. of Surgery since 2010.

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Acknowledgements

We extend our deepest gratitude to our generous supporters, who are not limited to the following:

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Thank you for helping us lead the way in medical innovation and research.

A sunset view of Lake Michigan (Photo by Dr. Motaz Selim).
Thank you!

A special thank-you to all who contributed to the 2020 MCW Department of Surgery Annual Report.

Since the publication of our 2019 Annual Report, we have faced a global pandemic that has had profound effects on all of our personal and professional lives, including how we care for our patients. This annual report reflects the commitment and resilience of our entire department and we extend our deepest gratitude to the Department of Surgery faculty, APPs, fellows, residents, administrators, administrative assistants and staff and, most importantly, our patients and their families.

We would like to recognize Jon Mayer and the MCW Surgery Division Administrators who provided data and resources for the Annual Report and a special thank you to Ashley Thompson for providing philanthropy content, Krissa Packard for assisting with information on departmental grant funding, and to Devon Wiesend for coordinating the ‘virtual meeting’ divisional photos.

We hope you will take a moment to view the photos on page 7, of the MCW campus and of a beautiful sunset in downtown Milwaukee. Special thanks to Dr. Tim Fenske (Department of Medicine) and our own Dr. Motaz Selim (Division of Transplant Surgery) for their permission to include their photos. To see more of Dr. Selim’s talents, follow him on Instagram (@mz_in_mke).

Lastly, this report would not be possible without the exceptional talents of Elizabeth B. Chen for her exceptional design, skills, and thoughtful attention to detail have transformed this annual report and our MCW social media presence.

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