

SURGERY NEWS

Spring 2020

Message from the Chair

As I write this update, our nation and the world are in the midst of one of the worst pandemics in history. The impact that this pandemic has and will have on medicine, society, and world economics has already been staggering, and the long-term effects likely will not be known for several months, if not years. The unique characteristics of this virus with transmissibility before symptoms, high transmissibility and infection rates, severe pulmonary damage, and inflammatory response leading to multisystem organ failure and death in some individuals make it very difficult to control and treat. The effect on the health care field has been significant with massive influxes of patients, severe shortages of medical equipment and supplies, and infections and deaths in medical personnel. These and other related issues have and continue to be of major concern for all of us in health care. The UND Surgery Department is monitoring the situation at our affiliated hospitals closely and has taken all precautions to prevent spread and further damage to our students, residents, staff, and patients. In addition to caring for our patients with their regular surgical needs, we all have an obligation to observe infection control guidelines and recommendations to minimize the spread and impact of this aggressive virus on our communities. We hope that this terrible pandemic will soon subside, but until then we will continue to provide needed services to our communities.



On a more pleasant note, during the first half of the 2019-2020 academic year a new class of general surgery residents and medical students entered the clinical arena with the youth and enthusiasm that we see each year. Our medical student program continues to evolve with the introduction of the new curriculum fully on July 1 of this year. We will feature the new curriculum changes in future editions of this newsletter. Our residency program continues to improve with several peer review publications and a highly qualified applicant pool interviewed last fall. We look forward to a graduation of the largest class of chief residents in program history in June.

Please stay safe and keep the dedication and sacrifice of the those on the forefront of this fight against the coronavirus (COVID-19) in your thoughts and prayers.

Robert P. Sticca, MD, FACS
Professor and Chair
UND Department of Surgery

Faculty/Staff News

New Surgery Faculty

The UND Department of Surgery would like to welcome the following faculty to the Department.

Faculty appointments are available to surgeons from all specialties who wish to teach and participate in departmental activities including research, education and administration. The

department includes faculty from most hospitals in North Dakota as well as from several neighboring states.



Faculty - Specialization - Location:

- Alexander Chong, Clinical Assistant Professor, Sanford Health – Fargo, Lead Research Engineer
- Coridon Huez, Clinical Instructor, Sanford Health – Bismarck, Orthopedic Surgeon
- Adam Jackson, Clinical Assistant Professor, Sanford Health – Fargo, Neurosurgeon
- Brian Johnson, Clinical Instructor, Mid Dakota Clinic – Bismarck, General Surgeon
- Jason Lehr, Clinical Instructor, Sanford Health – Fargo, Anesthesiologist
- Lisa Macfadden, Clinical Assistant Professor, Sanford Health - Sioux Falls, Dir. Sanford Sports Science
- Daaron McField, Clinical Assistant Professor, Sanford Health – Fargo, Bariatric Surgeon
- Andrew Rodenburg, Clinical Instructor, Dakota Eye Institute – Bismarck, Ophthalmologist
- Mark Strand, Clinical Instructor, Altru Health System - Grand Forks, Otolaryngologist
- Andrew Terrell, Clinical Assistant Professor, Sanford Health – Fargo, Otolaryngologist
- Richard Thompson, Clinical Instructor, St. Alexius Hospital – Dickinson, General Surgeon
- Parth Vyas, Clinical Assistant Professor, Sanford Health – Fargo, Orthopedic Surgeon
- Michael White, Clinical Instructor, Sanford Health – Fargo, Orthopedic Surgeon

The UND Surgery Department welcomes all new faculty and looks forward to your participation in department activities.

Kerri Hjelmstad

Kerri Hjelmstad began working with the department on Thursday, August 1, 2019, as the new administrative assistant for Faculty and Conference Coordination (the position was vacated by Angie Flesberg who moved to the Surgery Residency Coordinator position). Kerri has a great deal of administrative and medical experience with approximately 20 years at Altru as a recruiter for nurses, physicians, and other staff. Welcome Kerri!



Dosch earns doctorate!

Congratulations to Paul Dosch, department administrative officer, on the completion of his PhD in political science from the University of South Dakota. His dissertation was entitled: "Issue Oriented Motivated Reasoning: How Selective Exposure Effects Attitude Schemas."



Northern Plains Rural Surgical Society meeting report



The Fourth Annual Northern Plains Rural Surgical Society (NPRSS) meeting was held in Denver, Colo., from Jan. 17-18, 2020. Twenty-one surgeons and surgical residents from Kansas, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and West Virginia presented various rural surgical topics. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Sticca, the current NPRSS president. Despite a snow storm limiting some participants ability to travel, the meeting was very educational and received excellent reviews from the attendees. The meeting continues to grow with over 60 attendees and an increasing following in the rural surgery community. Past president (and graduate of the UND General Surgery Residency Program) Dr. Daniel Margo presented this year's Rutherford Lecture recognition to Dr. Scott Charette (UND faculty from Altru Health System in Grand Forks), who spoke on "Mapping the Carotid: How Did We Get Here?" Dr. Daniel Margo also received an appreciation award for his years of service and dedication as NPRSS past President. The UND Department of Surgery has long been a principle sponsor of the NPRSS and a leader rural surgery initiatives.

Resident News

Resident Scholarship

Several resident members of the UND Department of Surgery published papers and gave presentations since our most recent newsletter, including:



Publications

Dixon, M., & Engum, S. (2019). Pediatric Trauma System Evaluation Before and After Level 2 Verification. *The American Surgeon*, 85(11): 1281-1287.

Benz, C. L., & Dyke, C. (2019). Predicting outcomes in NSCLC: Staging or biology or both? *Journal of Investigative Surgery*, 1-2. doi:10.1080/08941939.2019.1654048

Benedict, K. C., Bilden, T. T., **Lamb, P.**, & McMullin, J. (2019). Intraoperative Frozen Section Analysis for the Excision of Nonmelanoma Skin Cancer: A Single-center Experience. *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Global Open*, 7(8 Suppl), 102-103. doi:10.1097/01.GOX.0000584808.85814.a6

Steininger, R., Bouton, M, Marsh, J. (2019). Masson's tumor of the breast: Rare differential for new or recurrent breast cancer—Case report, pathology, and review of the literature. *The Breast Journal*, 00: 1-3. <https://doi.org/10.1111/tbj.13608>

Benz, C. L., Geffre, M. J., Anderson, E. P., Johnson, K. J., Shady, T. M., & Dyke, C. M. (2017). Serial Changes In Pulmonary Function Testing In A Patient With Tracheobronchial Amyloidosis: Relevance For Early Diagnosis. In B42. *INTERSTITIAL LUNG DISEASE: A POTPOURRI OF CASES* (pp. A3408-A3408). American Thoracic Society.

Presentations and Posters

Matthew Heberer, MD, "Hemorrhoids: A Concise History" – UND Surgery Grand Rounds

Karen Luk, MD, "General Surgery for the Cirrhotic Patient" – UND Surgery Grand Rounds

Lucas Holkup, MD, "Postoperative Opioid Prescribing: Contribution to the Opioid Epidemic" – UND Surgery Grand Rounds

Chani Taggart, DO, "Principles of Surgical Mesh for the Ventral Abdominal Wall Hernia" – UND Surgery Grand Rounds

Chani Taggart, DO (resident), Sheryl Sahr, MD (faculty), "Performance Evaluation: Incidence of Complications Occurring During Treatment of Rib Fractures in Elderly Patients at Sanford Medical Center Fargo" – ND State Trauma Meeting

Lukas Mueller, MD (resident), Steven Briggs, MD (faculty), "A Complex Chest Wall Injury: A Bull Stomp" – ND State Trauma Meeting

Cecilia Benz, MD (resident), Steven Briggs, MD (faculty), "Age or Comorbidities: Which is a Bigger Factor in Predicting Complications after Rib Fixation?" – ND State Trauma Meeting

Matthew Heberer, MD, "Trauma Research: Supporting Clinical Advances" – ND State Trauma Meeting

Michael Dixon, MD, "Organ Procurement" - UND Surgery Grand Rounds

Dustin Evans, MD, "Difficult Abdominal Wall Closures - Techniques & Evidence" – UND Surgery Grand Rounds

Matthew Cziep, MD, "Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy: Treatment Under Pressure" – UND Surgery Grand Rounds

Mallory Yelenich-Huss, MD, "Surgical Breasts Odds & Ends" – UND Surgery Grand Rounds

Cecilia Benz, MD, "Disparities in Thoracic Oncology" – UND Surgery Grand Rounds

Department Scholarly Activity

Faculty Scholarship

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Steininger, R, **Bouton, M**, Marsh, J. (2019).

Masson's tumor of the breast: Rare differential for new or recurrent breast cancer—Case report, pathology, and review of the literature. *The Breast Journal*, 00: 1-3. <https://doi.org/10.1111/tbj.13608>.

Benz, C. L., Geffre, M. J., Anderson, E. P., Johnson, K. J., Shady, T. M., & **Dyke, C. M.** (2017). Serial Changes In Pulmonary Function Testing In A Patient With Tracheobronchial Amyloidosis: Relevance For Early Diagnosis. In B42. *INTERSTITIAL LUNG DISEASE: A POTPOURRI OF CASES* (pp. A3408-A3408). American Thoracic Society.

Kruger, H., Zumwalt, C., Guenther, R., Jansen, R., Warne, D., & **Dyke, C.** (2019). Disparities in Secondary Prevention of Atherosclerotic Heart Disease After Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting in Northern Plains American Indians. *Health equity*, 3(1), 520-526.

Pieracci, F. M., Leasia, K., Bauman, Z., Eriksson, E. A., Lottenberg, L., Majercik, S., Powell, L., Sarani, B., Semon, G., Thomas, B., Zhao, F., **Dyke, C.**, & Doben, A. (2020). A multicenter, prospective, controlled clinical trial of surgical stabilization of rib fractures in patients with severe, nonflail fracture patterns (Chest Wall Injury Society NONFLAIL). *Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery*, 88(2), 249-257.

Presentations

Mary Aaland, MD, "Rural Surgery in the 21st Century" – UND Surgery Grand Rounds

Mark Jensen, MD, "What is it Like to Die and be Revived?" Healthcare through the eyes of a provider: a case report" – UND Surgery Grand Rounds

Chani Taggart, DO (resident), **Sheryl Sahr, MD** (faculty), "Performance Evaluation: Incidence of Complications Occurring During Treatment of Rib Fractures in Elderly Patients at Sanford Medical Center Fargo" – ND State Trauma Meeting

Lukas Mueller, MD (resident), **Steven Briggs, MD** (faculty), "A Complex Chest Wall Injury: A Bull Stomp" – ND State Trauma Meeting

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