

DULY NOTED | MAY 2023

News from the Department of Surgery

NEWS



Emory and Morehouse Host 2023 Claude Organ Visiting Lectureship

The Society of Black Academic Surgeons and the Southern Surgical Association, in partnership with Emory and Morehouse, was honored to host the 2023 Claude Organ Visiting Lectureship on May 5, 2023 at Emory's Steiner Auditorium. The keynote speaker was Dr. Andrea Hayes Dixon, a pediatric surgeon and dean of the Howard University School of Medicine - the first African American woman to serve in the role. Dr. Hayes Dixon also presented the keynote address at the William C. Wood Research Symposium on May 4.

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Emory Ranked at the Top of 2023 Best Hospitals List

We are proud to share that Emory hospitals have been named as four of the top five hospitals in the state, according to Newsweek's Best Hospitals 2023 list:

- Emory University Hospital - #1 Hospital in Georgia
- Emory Saint Joseph's Hospital - #2 Hospital in Georgia
- Emory Johns Creek Hospital - #3 Hospital in Georgia
- Emory University Hospital Midtown - #5 Hospital in Georgia

Emory University Hospital is also the only Georgia hospital named in the publication's Top 250 World's Best Hospitals 2023.



Joseph Magliocca Appointed Director of Vanderbilt Transplant Center

Congratulations to Joseph F. Magliocca, MD, who recently accepted a position as the Director of the Vanderbilt Transplant Center in Nashville, TN! He has also been named the surgical director of pediatric liver transplantation at the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt University and will have an appointment of professor of surgery in the Vanderbilt School of Medicine.

Effective May 31, 2023, Dr. Magliocca will be stepping down as the surgical director of liver transplant at Emory and the Children's Hospital of Atlanta after nine years. During his time at Emory, he made many advancements to liver transplant programs among adults and children in the region. He restarted the Adult Living Donor Liver Transplant program, performing the first adult-to-adult living donor liver transplant after a 16-year hiatus. We are immensely thankful for all he has done and wish him all the best on this new journey!



Emory Leads Study Examining Quality of Care for Veterans With Serious Artery Disease

Emory Healthcare, in partnership with the Veteran's Health Administration, published new research that shows the need for better medical interventions and more aggressive treatment for veterans with peripheral artery disease (PAD). The study's lead author was Dr. Olamide Alabi, a vascular surgeon at Emory Healthcare, and can be found online at JAMA Surgery.

Dr. Alabi believes that this research is the starting point and hopes to further explore the differences between care in the private sector and care in an integrated health care system for patients with PAD.

APPOINTMENTS



Virginia Shaffer Appointed Vice Chair of Faculty Affairs for the Department of Surgery

Effective May 1, 2023, Virginia Shaffer, MD, has been appointed Vice Chair of Faculty Affairs for the Department of Surgery.

Dr. Shaffer will serve as a senior advisor to the department chair and the chair leadership team, provide guidance and oversight in complex faculty affairs, advance the overall professional development of our faculty, contribute to the coaching mentorship and recognition programs across the department, and create a community of engaged faculty.

Currently, Dr. Shaffer serves on the Emory School of Medicine Faculty Development Advisory Committee, the General Surgery Residency Clinical Competency Committee, and as program director for the Colorectal Surgery Fellowship. She is a Woodruff Leadership Academy graduate and previously served on the Emory University Senate and Faculty Council.



Cindi Tillery Joining Surgical Services as Interim Administrator for the Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

The Department of Surgery is pleased to announce that Cindi Tillery, BSN, RN, MBA, is joining our Surgical Services Team this month as Interim Administrator for the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. Cindi will work directly with Dr. Grant Carlson and with the faculty and clinical and operational teams on research, educational, and clinical operations priorities for the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.

Cindi brings with her a wealth of clinical, leadership, and programmatic experience. She has served in various clinical and operations leadership roles within Emory for the past nine years, most recently as a senior nursing leader with Emory Orthopaedics & Spine. She values team collaboration, quality patient care, safety, patient experience and employee engagement.



Michael Schmitt to Serve as Interim Administrator for the Divisions of Oncology and Colorectal Surgery

The Department of Surgery is pleased to announce that Michael Schmitt, PT, DPT, MS has been appointed Interim Administrator for the Divisions of Surgical Oncology and Colorectal Surgery. In this role, Michael will work directly with Dr. Charles Staley and Dr. Glen Balch and with the faculty and clinical and operational teams on research, educational, and clinical operations priorities for the Divisions of Surgical Oncology and Colorectal Surgery.

For the past two years, Michael has been serving as the Interim Administrator for the Division of Plastic Surgery.

Michael will retain his leadership responsibilities as the Administrator for Palliative Medicine and the Palliative Care Center, Michael has worked at Emory for seven years as the Administrator for Palliative Medicine, guiding growth with faculty and staff to support significant expansion of its tripartite mission.



Emily Town Assuming Role of Interim Senior Manager, Clinical Services and Operations, General Surgery

The Department of Surgery is pleased to announce that Emily Town, BSN, RN, MHA, is assuming the role of Interim Senior Manager, Clinical Services & Operations, General Surgery. In this role, Emily will oversee the clinical, quality and safety initiatives within the clinics, as well as providing supervision to the clinical teams at our Clifton, Saint Joseph's and Midtown sites. She will work closely with Dr. Edward Lin, division leadership, providers, and the clinical teams and operations teams.

This role will be in addition to her permanent role of Senior Manager, Clinical Services & Operations, Wound, Ostomy and Continence (WOC) Program where she manages the Emory Clinic WOC clinics and coordinates the administrative and business functions for inpatient and outpatient WOC programs.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

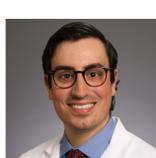


2023 William C. Wood Research Symposium Winners

The Department of Surgery's 21st Annual William C. Wood Research Symposium was held on Thursday, May 4, 2023 in the Emory University Steiner Auditorium, with the keynote address delivered by Dr. Andrea Hayes Dixon, dean of Howard University College of Medicine. The symposium showcased the department's basic and clinical science research performed by students, residents, and clinical and post-doctoral fellows. First place cash awards were given for best oral presentations and quick shots in both clinical science and basic science categories. Congratulations and a job well-done to our winners!

- **Best Clinical Oral Presentation:** Danny Mou, MD, postdoctoral fellow, "Does the ViSiGi 3D® reduce staple loads and operative time? A randomized controlled trial (RCT) comparing endoscopic vs. suction calibration device in laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy."
- **Best Basic/Translational Oral Presentation:** Stephanie Tom, MD, surgery resident, "A Transcatheter Beating Heart Neoleaflet Device to Treat Mitral Valve Prolapse."
- **Best Clinical Quick Shot:** Lara Schwieger, medical student, "Patterns of Completion Axillary Dissection For Patients With ct1-2N0 Breast Cancer Undergoing Total Mastectomy With Positive Sentinel Lymph Nodes."
- **Best Basic/Translational Quick Shot:** Katie Alexander, medical student, "CD154:CD11b Blockade Increases MPEC Differentiation of Virus-specific CD8+ T Cells."

[Read the full Symposium Report](#)



Resident Anthony Meena Wins Karmody ePoster Competition

We are proud to announce that Vascular Surgery Integrated Resident Dr. Anthony Meena, won the Karmody ePosted Competition at the 50th Annual Symposium for the Society for Clinical Vascular Surgery (SCVS) on March 29th in Miami Beach.

The competition included the categories AorticThoraco, Aortic Abdominal, Cerebrovascular, PAD, Dialysis/Venous/Visceral Renal, and Education/Imaging/Miscellaneous. Dr. Meena won the Dialysis/Venous/Visceral Renal category competition and was also selected as the overall winner for all six categories!



Courtney Meyer Awarded 2nd Place in ACS Advocacy Abstract Competition

General Surgery Resident Courtney Meyer, MD, has been awarded second place in the inaugural ACS Advocacy Abstract Competition at the American College of Surgeons Advocacy and Leadership Summit for her project titled, "Improving equitable access to Stop the Bleed training courses through multi-lingual outreach initiatives." Dr. Meyer worked with collaborators at Morehouse, Georgia State, the community of Clarkston, as well as investigators from Surgery and Emergency Medicine. Her work is funded by a NIH T32 grant, in addition to two grants from the Atlanta Global Research and Education Collaborative that supported this work.

Dr. Meyer is mentored by Dr. Randi Smith and Dr. Craig Coopersmith, and her research focuses on trauma, public health, and violence prevention.



Wendy Greene Recognized as Recipient of Women of Emory Circle of Impact Grant

Wendy Greene, MD, has been recognized as a recipient of a Women of Emory Circle of Impact Grant for her work in the Emory School of Medicine African American Women's Collaborative. Their work is dedicated to creating a community that aligns with Emory's mission to create a sense of belonging and engagement where diverse ideas and perspectives are valued. The Women of Emory Impact Circle (WE) advances the causes of women and girls through collective philanthropic giving.

Dr. Greene is a professor of surgery in Emory's School of Medicine as well as the director of the Acute and Critical Care Surgery Service of Emory University Hospital and an attending in the hospital's Surgical Intensive Care Unit.



Surgery Faculty Nominated for National Doctors' Day

In recognition of Doctors' Day, the Emory School of Medicine Recognition Committee sent out a call for nominations for doctors across the School of Medicine who go above and beyond.

The following Department of Surgery faculty were featured for their exemplary service, care, and research:

- Cletus A. Arciero, MD, FACS
- James Middleton Chang, MD
- Angela Cheng, MD, FACS
- David Elwood, MD
- Guillermo Escobar, MD
- Robert Fang, MD
- Wendy Greene, MD
- Elizabeth Hechenbleikner, MD
- Laura Johnson, MD, FACS, FCCP, FCCM
- David Kooby, MD, FACS
- Tiffany Liang, MD
- Albert Losken, MD, FACS
- Christopher Ramos, MD, RPVI
- Andre Scott, MD
- Joshua Winer, MD