

**ALISON WILSON, MD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE FOR CRITICAL CARE AND TRAUMA**

Alison Wilson, MD, has the privilege to lead the Institute for Critical Care and Trauma at WVU. This integrated, multi-disciplinary group consists of critical care physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists, pharmacists, nutritionists, rehabilitation specialists and other healthcare professionals who care for those who suffer from catastrophic life-threatening illnesses such as systemic infections (sepsis), severe drug overdoses, respiratory failure, kidney failure and multi-system organ failure.

She is also the Skewes Family Chair for Trauma Surgery in the WVU School of Medicine and has developed a training curriculum for both trauma and surgical critical care. The Skewes endowment provides a broad range of faculty support for patient care, education, and outreach services for the people of West Virginia and beyond with a particular focus on the areas of trauma care, acute care services, surgical care, and quality surgical care.

Dr. Alison Wilson's work extends far beyond West Virginia; through her travels she has helped to facilitate trauma programs in the Ukraine and China. She is involved at the national level in the American College of Surgeons as she serves as the national chair for the Rural Trauma Team Development Course (RTTDC). This course is specifically designed to help teach rural health care teams how to recognize seriously injured patients and stabilize them to be able to get the patient to definitive care. The course has been shown to decrease mortality in rural transferred trauma patients.

Her hard work and dedication for the field of trauma has not gone unseen. In 2016 she was named the president of the Michael E. DeBakey International Surgical Society, a forum for international scientific exchange and for recognizing superior surgeons. This year she and her devoted team members were tasked with the honor of hosting the Michael E. DeBakey International Surgical Society 22<sup>nd</sup> Congress held August 23-25, 2018 in Dallas, TX.

One of Dr. Wilson's passions is surgical education. She enjoys informal teaching working at the bedside and in the OR with students, residents and fellows. She serves as a program director and adjunct faculty for the Special Warfare Medical Group assisting in the education of US Army Special Forces Medical Sergeants.

Wilson received her medical training and completed a surgical residency and a critical care fellowship at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. She is a member, and holds leadership positions in, several surgical and trauma professional societies.

**DANIEL GRABO, MD, FACS, NAMED DIRECTOR OF WVU INSTITUTE OF CRITICAL CARE AND TRAUMA FRESH TISSUE TRAINING PROGRAM**

Daniel Grabo, MD, FACS was named director of the Fresh Tissue Training Program. This program is made possible with the partnership of the Department of Surgery and Department of Pathology, Anatomy and Lab Medicine and aims to enhance trauma and surgical education at WVU. Medical students and residents, fully trained surgeons and physicians seeking skill refreshment as well as members of the military coming to WVU for training in rural and austere medicine and surgery will benefit from the courses that the program offers.

As director of the Fresh Tissue Training Program, Dr. Grabo brings years of experience in trauma education, both in the civilian and military arenas. He previously served as medical director of the Navy Trauma Training Center at Los Angeles County Medical Center and the University of Southern California. In addition, he served as an active duty Navy surgeon for 10 years with multiple deployments including surgeon on the USS Enterprise from 2009 to 2010 and as director of trauma at the NATO Role 3 Multinational Medical Unit in Kandahar, Afghanistan in 2014.

Currently, the Fresh Tissue Training Program is uniquely being used for surgical residents while on trauma rotations here at Ruby Memorial Hospital. In addition, members of the US Army Special Forces utilize this program for trauma skills refreshment during training rotations here at WVU. In June, the program became a designated American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma (COT) Advanced Surgical Skills for Exposure in Trauma (ASSET) training site. This international course utilizes fresh cadavers to teach trauma exposure to surgical residents and faculty. It is the first of its kind in West Virginia. The continued development of this program will allow WVU to become a center of training excellence in the trauma community at the regional, national, and international level for both military and civilian medical professionals.



#### **NEW FACULTY AND APP'S**

As we continue to strive for excellence, we have expanded our WVU Department of Surgery team to better serve our communities.

- **Dr. James Bardes** – a former resident of the WVU School of Medicine, returns home as Assistant Professor in the WVU Surgery Trauma Division. He recently finished his fellowship at the LA County Medical Center and USC in Surgical Critical Care and Trauma.
- **Dr. Brian Boone** - joins WVU Medicine Surgery Department as Assistant Professor from the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, where he has completed a complex surgical oncology fellowship. Dr. Boone earned his medical degree from the University of South Florida College of Medicine. Dr. Boone is the first surgeon-scientist in the department. He will spend half of his time in the lab researching pancreatic cancer.
- **Dr. Michael Cowher** - joins the Surgical Oncology Division as Associate Professor and specializes in breast surgery. He earned his medical degree from the Northeastern Ohio University College of Medicine before completing general surgery and surgical oncology research residencies at Allegheny General Hospital.
- **Dr. Lauren Dudas** – will serve as Assistant Professor of the WVU Surgery Trauma Division. She obtained her medical degree from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and completed her general surgery residency at Lehigh Valley Health Network.
- **Dr. Paulo Fontes** – joins us as Professor and Director of Research & Innovation for the Department of Surgery. He obtained his medical degree from São Paulo State University School of Medicine in Brazil then went on to complete his surgical residency and three fellowships focusing on transplant.
- **Dr. Emily Groves** - joins the Surgical Oncology Division as Assistant Professor and specializes in colorectal surgery. Dr. Groves earned her medical degree from Marshall University before completing a general surgery residency at Oregon Health & Science University. She recently finished a colorectal fellowship at the University of Texas McGovern Medical School.
- **Dr. Carl Schmidt** – a nationally recognized surgical oncologist specializing in cancer of the liver, pancreas, and stomach, joins the WVU Surgery Department as Professor and Chief of Surgical Oncology. He received his bachelors and medical degrees from the University of Michigan and completed his general surgery residency at Vanderbilt and fellowship in surgical oncology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

The Department would like to welcome our new members to the clinical staff: Linda Metcalfe, Matt Barker, Thaddeus Dell’Orso, Cara Shina, Michelle Sabatini-Gump, Kayla Turconi, Rica Wolfe and Megan Przybrowski.

## **RESIDENT AND STUDENT NEWS**

### **2018-2019 Residents**

The WVU Department of Surgery is proud to announce our newly matched residents for 2018-2019! We are thrilled to welcome such a talented group of future surgeons to our residency program.

#### *PGY-1*

Emma Bacharach, MD General Surgery (preliminary - urology)

Stephen Balise, MD General Surgery

Marguerite Ballou, MD General Surgery

Joshua Henderson, MD Plastic Surgery

Morgan A. Johnson, MD General Surgery

Violet Shackleford, MD General Surgery (preliminary)

Tyler Trump, MD General Surgery (preliminary - urology)

Emily Williamson, MD General Surgery

*PGY-2*

Brendan Jones, MD General Surgery



### **Borgstrom to lead General Surgery Residency Program**

Dr. David Borgstrom, MD, MBA, FACS, assumed leadership of the General Surgery Residency Program in November of 2017. He has many years of experience as a Program Director and saw an opportunity to have a great impact on the future of the program here at WVU. Dr. Borgstrom is committed to improve the educational experience through content development, simulation, and expanded clinical opportunities. The general surgery residency program has a protected Wednesday curriculum time that includes faculty developed simulation/skills training as well as our fresh perfused cadaver lab team training, an experience unique to WVU.

Dr. Borgstrom is committed to program expansion to “right-size” the residency. The initial effort is through a dedicated Rural Track with subspecialty training and an extended rural experience.

Dr. Borgstrom wants this to be a “destination program”, one that appeals to students from diverse geographic backgrounds who will want their destination to be Morgantown. He is confident this will occur by establishing a reputation for quality surgical training that prepares for a future as a well-trained general surgeon.



### **Plastic Surgery Residency Accredited**

The State’s first plastic surgery residency was accredited February 2017 and matriculated its first two residents in July 2017. The program welcomed its third resident via the NRMP Match in March of 2018. The program is an integrated six year experience based in Morgantown with experiences in burns at UPMC Mercy in Pittsburgh and in transplant at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, TX.

### **WVU Department of Surgery – Division of Plastics presents at the 61st Meeting of the Ohio Valley Society of Plastic Surgeons**

Congratulations to our WVU Department of Surgery – Division of Plastics medical students and residents who represented the WVU Department of Surgery admirably.

WVU participated with three podium presentations and four posters at five state and regional conferences that historically boasts the Pittsburgh and Cleveland programs as the heavy hitters in academic endeavors.

Moreover, WVU won First Place Clinical Paper presentation: "Associations Between Orofacial Clefting and Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome" that was presented by Cody Mullens under Dr. Aaron Mason’s mentorship.

High-caliber presentations were given by medical students Kylie Fuller, Cody Mullens, and residents Katherine Carruthers, Jennifer Rokosz and Mihail Climov.

Dr. Cristiane Ueno, assistant professor of plastic surgery at WVU, will assume the presidency of the meeting in four years bringing the annual meeting to West Virginia.





### **Howard University Medical Students Visit WVU Department of Surgery**

In a commitment to foster diversity, MSIII Surgical Clerkship Directors Dr. Alan Thomay and Dr. Cristiane Ueno welcomed medical students from Howard University College of Medicine to the Department of Surgery. Third year medical students and members of the Surgical Interest Society at Howard University spent the day with surgical faculty and residents exploring possibilities of: collaboration between Howard University and WVU SIG, 4th Year Medical Students Away Rotation and General Surgery Residency Program opportunities. Students also had the chance to engage and participate in simulation workshops at WVU David and Jo Ann Shaw Center for Simulation Training and Education for Patient Safety.



### **GIVING TO SURGERY**

The West Virginia University Department of Surgery is dedicated to providing excellent patient care, and educating the healthcare professionals of tomorrow to ensure the vision of outstanding care will continue on for generations. The department is also committed to basic and clinical research to improve patients' outcome. Your generous donation to the Department of Surgery demonstrates your unwavering Mountaineer spirit and commitment to improving the lives of others.

Funds for the Department of Surgery support investments in clinical care, innovations, education and research. You can impact tomorrow by making your donation today.

To support the Department of Surgery, visit <https://give.wvu.edu/Surgery> or contact:

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