

CARDIOTHORACIC  
 GENERAL  
 MINIMAL INVASIVE  
 PEDIATRIC HEART  
 PEDIATRIC  
 PLASTIC & RECONSTRUCTIVE  
 SURGICAL ONCOLOGY  
 THORACIC  
 TRANSPLANT  
 TRAUMA & CRITICAL CARE  
 VASCULAR



# THE STITCH

The Newsletter of the  
 Department of Surgery



AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY  
 MEDICAL COLLEGE  
 OF GEORGIA

December 2024



## Chatter with the Chair

The holidays are among us and we can now pause, and reflect, on the year 2024. Our department has witnessed exciting growth with new faculty, residents and staff. Our clinical care mission has persisted during trials of hurricanes and new electronic medical records. Our academic mission has flourished as we have increased our visibility in regional and national conferences while adding to the medical world of discovery. Witness our current edition that highlights the MCG presence in the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association and the expanded clinical research from our Surgical Oncology Division. Our transplant program continues to grow with the support of the histocompatibility lab headed by Dr. Bravo Egana!

Reminder: As president of the Moretz Surgical Society, Dr. Hilton has coordinated a great program for us all to gain more medical knowledge. Friday, February 29 will include a student and resident competition for "Best Presentation" to include an award of a travel stipend for a future meeting. Saturday will include presentations from alumni, faculty, and visiting professors before we conclude the evening with a banquet and celebration of a new red jacket recipient...announced on March 1st!

These recent accomplishments give me pride in our department and institution. I am exceedingly grateful for the community that we have and the warm sense of belonging that permeates our culture. Thank you all for the welcoming spirit you show every day and thank you for what you have contributed to make this department a success. You are the best!



Warm holiday greetings and safety to you all as you enjoy the season.

Sincerely,

**William D Jordan, Jr., MD**  
 Professor and Chair,  
 Department of Surgery  
 Medical College of Georgia  
 Surgeon in Chief



AFFILIATED WITH MEDICAL COLLEGE OF GEORGIA



# STSA

SOUTHERN THORACIC SURGICAL ASSOCIATION



Dr. Jim St. Louis was elected Director-at-Large for the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association.



Dr. Dan Miller is the immediate past President.

**Congratulations** to both of them and thank you for representing MCG.

■ Our Heated Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy program reached a milestone of 10 cases with great outcomes, 0% mortality and very low morbidity. Only the 3rd program in the state of Georgia, the only in 150 miles radius.

■ Wellstar approved start of Hepatic Artery Infusion Catheter program, which will help treat patients with extensive colorectal liver metastases. Only the 3rd in the state of Georgia and the only program in a 150 miles radius.

■ The Surgical Oncology Clinical Outcomes Group (SOCORG) had 27 accepted abstracts by MCG students, all by students as first authors since July 2024. The accepted abstracts consisted of Society of Surgical Oncology, American Society of Clinical Oncology, American Society of Hematology, Academic Surgical Congress, American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress, Congress of Neurological Surgeons, Georgia Society of American College of Surgeons, Association of Surgical Education, and MCG Research Day.

Dr. Valia Bravo Egana was appointed as the Senior editor of ASHI University. ASHI is the American Society of Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics. ASHI University is the educational platform of the professional Society and provides educational information through content modules with the most updated topics related to Histocompatibility, transplant immunology and Immunogenetics. This is also the platform that the professionals in our lab specialty across the world use to obtain Continuing Education Credits. Very well deserved, Dr. Bravo!



*Congrats All!*



## MORETZ SURGICAL SOCIETY

**FEB 28 & MARCH 1**



We had over 50 abstracts submitted for the Moretz Surgical Society with representation from every campus!

### SOCIAL MEDIA



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