

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

October 2024



Chatter with the Chair

The autumn season brought incredible challenges to our community. As Hurricane Helene roared through Augusta, many of you were impacted personally by the devastation of the storm. While we work through those tragedies, I am equally inspired by the camaraderie and the collaboration of so many in our Department of Surgery. Our residents organized quickly and promptly, and were available for the many trauma activations that occurred during and after the storm. Our faculty flexed and provided support for each other while the health community organized to provide supplies and services for many in need. Once again, I am truly inspired that the Department of Surgery performed so well in a time of crisis. Congratulations to you all.

As we are working to return to normal, we are making preparations for the upcoming holiday season and also our Moretz Society that will be meeting February 28 and March 1.

We have Dr. Julie Freischlag, CEO of Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist, who will be providing the Mansberger lecture. We also plan to focus on MCG Surgery residency graduates of year 2016, who will be offered an opportunity to describe what MCG surgery training meant to them and how it applies to their current practice. We aim to provide a forum where our current surgery students and residents can interact with faculty and alumni and understand the far-reaching implications of surgery education. Meanwhile, prepare your scientific reports and submit abstracts before the deadline of December 2nd. The Program Committee is working diligently to complete the program and provide a fun educational opportunity for all. augusta.edu/mcg/surgery/moretz-conference.php

Lastly, please review these recent accomplishments of our faculty featured in this month's newsletter: Dr. Dan Miller is leading a lung cancer screening program,

Dr. Gautam Agarwal was recently installed as president of the Georgia Vascular Society, Dr. Erika Mabe was selected an "MCG Woman who inspires," and Dr. Renee Hilton was recently named the Wellstar MCG Surgical Quality Officer.

Once again, I am grateful for all that you do!

Sincerely,

William D Jordan, Jr., MD

*Professor and Chair,
Department of Surgery
Medical College of Georgia
Surgeon in Chief*



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OPTELLUM VIRTUAL NODULE CLINIC



Dr. Daniel Miller, is leading the Optellum Virtual Nodule Clinic for his lung screening program. The Optellum artificial intelligence is helping the Georgia Cancer Center and oncologists diagnose

and treat cancer quicker. AI is valuable in quickly diagnosing patients whom many of which are asymptomatic. This software is also helping with unnecessary biopsies.

jagwire.augusta.edu/georgia-cancer-center-using-ai-to-diagnose-treat-lung-cancer/

Congrats!



THE FUTURE OF VASCULAR SURGERY IS BRIGHT!

We had another great turnout representing MCG at Georgia Vascular Society.

Dr. Agarwal and Dr. Soo Hoo are with MCG medical student presenters Vishaal Motla, Deborah Seong, Melanie Jones, Justin Abes, and Ji Young Baik.

Ji Young also won the W. Daniel Jordan, MD Medical Student Award for best presentation on popliteal venous aneurysms.

georgiavascularsociety.org

DR. RENEE HILTON NAMED SURGICAL QUALITY OFFICER



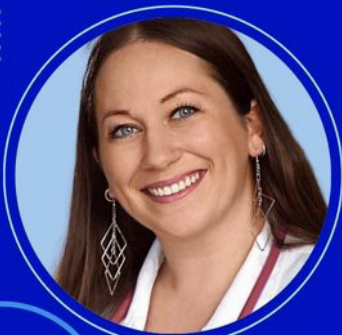
We are pleased to announce the appointment of Lisa Renee Hilton, M.D., as the new Surgical Quality Officer at Wellstar MCG Health. With her strong educational background and dedication to advancing surgical quality and patient outcomes, Dr. Hilton will continue to drive excellence in patient care and safety at Wellstar MCG Health. Please join us in welcoming Dr. Hilton to her new role!



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Congrats All!

Dr. Mabes was selected by the MCG Faculty Office for Success and her peers for "AU/MCG Woman Who Inspires" for the 2024 Women in Medicine Campaign. Congratulations Dr. Mabes.



ERIKA MABES, DO

Assistant Professor
Assistant Program Director,
General Surgery Residency
Department of Surgery



Georgia Vascular Society incoming current president Dr. Agarwal, immediate past president Dr. Woody, and former president Dr. Jordan. Congratulations Dr. Agarwal! Another great GVS Annual Meeting.



■ Congratulations to Nicki Martinez de Andina, our medical weight loss APP! She earned her Certificate of Advanced Education in Obesity Medicine with the Obesity Medicine Association. This certificate requires a large amount of dedication, effort, and time to achieve.



SOCIAL MEDIA



@mcgsurgery

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**MORETZ SURGICAL SOCIETY IS FEB 28 & MARCH 1.
ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS DEC 2, 2024.**