



## Surgical Notes

### From the Chair

Colleagues,

On behalf of everyone here at the Department of Surgery, I would like to congratulate the Class of 2017 Surgery Residents and Fellows. We are incredibly proud of your many accomplishments while here at VCU and wish you nothing but success in all of your future endeavors.

In addition, thank you everyone for your compliance with the IHI and ELM module trainings. As of today, everyone in the Department of Surgery has completed their requirements. Thank you!

As always, thank you for your continued service to the Department. Have a wonderful day and enjoyable 4th of July,

Vigneshwar Kasirajan, MD



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It is our pleasure to announce that Dr. [Marlon Levy](#) has accepted the recently established position of Vice-Chair for the Department of Surgery. Prior to joining VCU as the David M Hume Chair of Transplant Surgery, Dr. Levy served as Surgical Director of Transplantation at Baylor All Saints Medical Center and Medical Director at both the Southwest Transplant Alliance Organ Procurement Organization and the Islet Cell Transplant Program. His extensive leadership experience, both here at VCU and his former institutions, will be of great value as we continue to strengthen and advance the Department of Surgery. He will also lead the Revenue Cycle Task Force for the Department of Surgery.

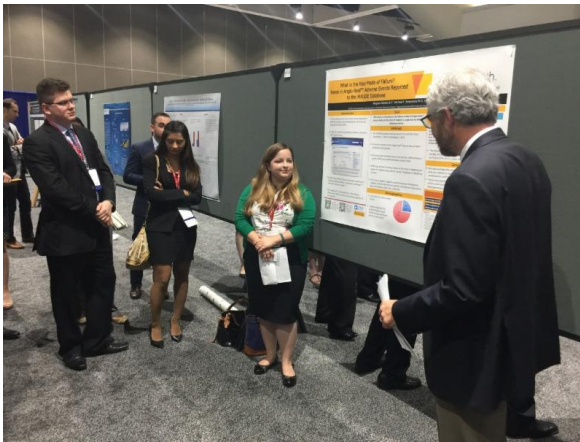


In addition, Drs. [Martin Mangino](#) and [Adam Klausner](#) have agreed to serve as Associate Chair for Basic Research and Associate Chair for Clinical & Translational Research, respectively. Given their broad research portfolios including current DOD and NIH funding, they will be a great asset as we formalize the Surgery Office of Research and strengthen our leadership in basic and clinical and translational research across the department.

Dr. [Robert Larson](#) will continue to expand the departmental activities as the Associate Chair of Quality and Patient Safety. In this role he will interact with the VCU Health system Quality and Safety Programs and Performance Improvement. He will be leading the departmental Throughput and Capacity Task Force.

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## 2017 Vascular Annual Meeting



Surgery Faculty, Dr. Michael Amendola recently returned from the [2017 Vascular Annual Meeting](#) in San Diego. There he, along with VCU Medical Student, Meg Reeves (left) presented their poster, titled "What is the Real Mode of Failure? Trends in Angio-Seal Adverse Events Reported to the MALDE Database." Additionally, Vascular Fellow, Alex Nguyen presented at a moderated poster session.

Seven additional posters were presented by VCU Medical Students as part of the [Vascular Surgery Interest Group](#).

Congratulations Vascular Surgery Faculty, Residents, and Students!

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## VCU Presidential Research Quest Fund Award

Congratulations are due to Dr. [Michel Aboutanos](#), Professor & Division Chair for Acute Care Surgical Services, as he and Dr. Fabrizio Fasula, Assistant Professor with the L. Douglas Wilder School, are among the recipients of this year's Presidential Research Quest Fund (PeRQ).

Their proposal supports research surrounding the Department of Surgery's

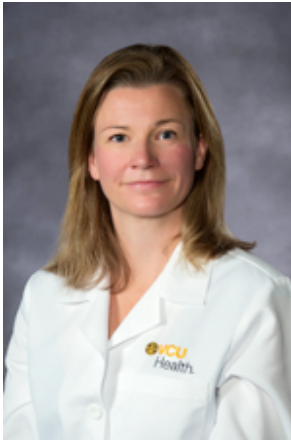
[Injury, Violence, and Prevention Program](#) which aims to reduce and prevent injuries through ongoing education, research, and community outreach throughout the central Virginia region.

In support of VCU's Quest for Distinction mission to increase and diversify university sponsored research, PeRQ awards aim to provide faculty internal funding to support new, emerging, and continuing research. All faculty, regardless of rank or tenure status, are eligible to apply. Applications for next year will be due in April. For more information visit [this link](#).



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## American College of Surgery



Dr. [Emily Rivet](#), Assistant Professor with the Division of Bariatric & Gastrointestinal Surgery, has recently been appointed to the American College of Surgery's Committee on Surgical Palliative Care.

Established in 1913, [The American College of Surgery](#) (ACS) consists of many surgeons with ranging disciplines and specialties, all with the overall goal of improving the quality of care for surgical patients and enhancing surgical education and practice.

To learn more about ACS or the Committee on Surgical Palliative Care, visit [this site](#).

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## Class of 2017

### Fellows

**James Wade, MD**  
Cardiothoracic  
Private Practice  
Chicago, IL

**Mark Blum, MD**  
Critical Care  
Academic Medicine  
Mt. Sinai Hospital - Baltimore, MD

**Asanthi Ratnasekera, MD**  
Critical Care  
Academic Medicine  
Crozer-Keystone Hospital - Chester, PA

**Sameer Alrefai, MBBS**  
Advanced Gastrointestinal &  
Minimally Invasive Surgery  
Private Practice  
Sentara Hospital - South Boston, VA

**Rashmi Seth, MD**  
Surgical Oncology  
Hepatobiliary Fellowship  
United Kingdom





**Yanjun Shi, MD**  
Transplant  
Clinical Instructor  
University of Pittsburgh

**Alexander Nguyen, MD**  
Vascular  
81st Surgical Operations Squadron  
United States Air Force - Biloxi, MI

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## **Residents**

**Jonathan Bennett, MD**  
Shock Trauma Fellowship  
University of Maryland  
Baltimore, MD

**Andrew Maloney, MD**  
Thoracic Surgery Fellowship  
University Health Care  
Salt Lake City, UT

**Daniel Newton, MD**  
Vascular Surgery Fellowship  
Hospital of the University  
of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, PA

**Dan Parrish, MD**  
Pediatric Surgery Fellowship  
University Hospital & Health System  
Jackson, MI

**Rajesh Ramanathan, MD**  
Surgical Oncology Fellowship  
UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside  
Pittsburgh, PA



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## **5,000th Transplant**



Early on May 17th the VCU Health Hume-Lee Transplant Center at Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center performed its 5,000th transplant.

The patient, Washington, D.C. resident and retired U.S. veteran Elmer Lynn Jr. had been on the national organ transplant waiting list for only a few days before being notified of his new liver. He is now home and recovering well.

To celebrate, Hume-Lee hosted a 5,000th Transplant Celebration on Tuesday June 27th in the VCU Medical Center Main Hospital. In addition to Transplant faculty and staff, Lynn and his entire team of care givers were in attendance.

Many thanks to the Division of Transplant Surgery and all of the extraordinary clinicians, nurses, residents, and staff that helped make this remarkable milestone a reality.

For more information on this incredible story, [go here](#).

## ACGME Review Committee

Dr. [Andrea Pozez](#), Professor and Division Chair for the Division of Plastic Surgery, has been appointed to serve on the [Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education's](#) (ACGME) Review Committee for Plastic Surgery.

ACGME is the accreditation body responsible for accrediting the majority of graduate medical education programs to include fellowships and residencies. Accreditation is completed by Review Committees consisting of volunteer faculty from across the US. As a member, Dr. Pozez will join a team of other plastic surgery experts to review residency programs from various institutions.

As Dr. Donna Lamb, Executive Director for the Plastic Surgery RC stated, "There is no better way for you to serve the ACGME, the profession, the residency programs, the residents in those programs and, most importantly, the patients who those residents will treat throughout their careers."

Congratulations, Dr. Pozez!



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## Faculty Contracts



or Nikki Meador (827-1033).

VCU Faculty Contracts have been distributed and are now due back to the School of Medicine. If you have not yet returned your contract, please either email or deliver it to Jessica Carey at West 16 West, Room 104 or [jessica.carey@vcuhealth.org](mailto:jessica.carey@vcuhealth.org).

MCVP Contracts were delivered via email. Electronic signatures are due by July 31st. No exceptions.

Questions? Call Jessica Carey (828-9662)

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## Upcoming Events

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### Lunchtime Learning - Process-Oriented Guided Inquiry Learning (POGIL)

Wednesday July 26

12:00 - 1:30 PM

MMEC 3-101

Sponsored by the VCU School of Medicine Office of Faculty Affairs, these workshops draw on research-based best practices to help faculty consider ways to enhance student learning in and out of the classroom.

Please register at [go.vcu.edu/iteach](http://go.vcu.edu/iteach)

VCU Faculty, Fellows, Housestaff & VAMC Faculty are welcome to attend.

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Have a story to tell? Contact [jessica.carey@vcuhealth.org](mailto:jessica.carey@vcuhealth.org)

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