From the Chairman

The new academic year began on July 1 and brought about several changes in the UND Surgical Residency program. We welcomed a new group of surgical interns whose photographs and bios are listed below. The end of the academic year activities for both medical students and surgical residents were filled with joy and promise for our recent graduating students and residents. Further information about both of these activities are also included in this edition of Surgery News. It certainly was gratifying to see the progress of these young students and residents as they proceed in their surgical careers after their training at UND. The interest in surgical specialties remains high among the medical students at UND, and we continue to graduate well-qualified, competent surgeons from the residency program who in many cases stay or eventually return to North Dakota to practice.

The most exciting news is the recent approval by the State Legislature to increase the number of residency positions at the medical school, which will be implemented on July 1, 2012. In a competitive process, the Department of Surgery successfully competed to increase the number of categorical general surgery residents next year. The last step in this process is to gain approval from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), which we are currently in the process of pursuing. We are hopeful we will be approved by the ACGME to increase to four categorical residents per year beginning July 1, 2012. This will allow our surgical residents to fully avail themselves of all the educational opportunities in our program and also for us to continue to develop a specialized training program for surgeons who wish to practice in rural environments. While the administrative aspects of this process can be arduous, we have completed the first two steps, and the final step of approval with the ACGME is currently pending. It is my belief that with four categorical residents per year, in addition to our three preliminary residents, we will be able to fully realize the potential and educational benefits of our residency program.

As always, I remain appreciative of the efforts of our faculty and staff, and their participation and enthusiasm for our training program. The growth and improvements in the program over the past few years have been especially gratifying and would not be possible without the dedication and commitment of the many surgical faculty and staff.

Robert P. Sticca, MD, FACS
Chairman and Program Director

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Medical School Graduation—May 15, 2011: The medical school awards luncheon and graduation were held on Sunday May 15, 2011, at the Chester Fritz Auditorium on the UND Campus in Grand Forks. Fifty-five new physicians received their MD degrees, with 15 (27 percent) of them entering General Surgery or surgical subspecialties. The faculty of the Department of Surgery is commended for their continued support and inspiration of the medical students. Our students have entered a wide range of very competitive surgical specialties (General Surgery – 4, Anesthesiology – 3, Ophthalmology – 2, Urology – 1 and Orthopedic Surgery – 5) at some very prestigious institutions including the University of Michigan and the Mayo Clinic. Department of Surgery awards were given to the following graduating medical students:

Department of Surgery Outstanding Student Award: This award goes to the senior student who demonstrates excellence in the specialty of surgery, and is based on a scoring system from both their third- and fourth-year rotations. Kyle Marthaller, MSIV of Bismarck, N.D., and Jessica Smith of West Fargo, N.D., were the recipients for the 2011 academic year (see photo). Marthaller matched in General Surgery at Exempla St. Joseph Hospital Program in Denver, Colo., and Smith matched in Transitional at the University of South Dakota School of Medicine Program in Sioux Falls, S.D., and also matched in Radiology-Diagnostic at Indiana University School of Medicine Program in Indianapolis.

Honors Award for third-year medical students: In order for a student to achieve Honors, they must score above the 90th percentile on the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) shelf exam, score 8 or higher on the oral exam and be recommended for honors by the majority of their preceptors. Honors awarded for the 2010-'11 year: Southwest Campus in Bismarck - Jenna Cusic (Dickinson, N.D.), Mark Detwiller (Bismarck, N.D.), Angela Eakin (Billings, Mont.), Brett Oestreich (Fargo, N.D.), Meredith Reisenauer (Fargo, N.D.), Luke Roller (Bismarck, N.D.), John Wagener (Plymouth, Minn.), and Katie Wetsch (Mandan, N.D.). From the Southeast Campus in Fargo - Amanda Dhuyvetter (Minot, N.D.), Gwen Feist (Glen Ullin, N.D.), Charles Lenz (Duluth, Minn.), Laura Matzke (Bismarck, N.D.), Justin Mauch (Fargo, N.D.) and Ray Rivas (Fargo, N.D.). From the Northeast Campus in Grand Forks – Susan Derry

Residency Program News

The 8th Annual Edwin C. James Lectureship was established in honor of Edwin C. James, MD, who was professor and chairman of the Department of Surgery from 1980-'89 and was the founder of the Surgical Residency Program. Each year, we invite a nationally recognized speaker to honor this lectureship. This year’s event was held June 24, 2011.

This year’s lecturer was Thomas Russell, MD, former executive director of the American College of Surgeons and Adjunct Professor of Surgery at the Northwest University Medical Center in San Francisco, Calif. His talk was on “What Surgeons Need to Know About Health Care Reform.”

The 10th Annual Surgical Resident Research Colloquium is the annual Department of Surgery conference where the PGY 2-5 Categorical Surgery Residents present their annual research projects. This is held on the same day as the Edwin C. James lecture and Chief Resident Graduation Banquet. These presentations are judged by a panel of invited physicians, including the Edwin James lecturer. This year’s judges were Dr. David Montes, clinical instructor of surgery; Dr. Timothy Monson, clinical associate professor of surgery and former surgical resident; and Dr. David Bradley, chair/associate professor of Microbiology and Immunology at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

The top two presenters are honored at the Chief Resident Graduation Banquet that follows that evening. This year, we had a number of excellent presentations, many of which will be subsequently submitted for publication or presentation at regional or national meetings.

2011 resident winners:

- First place: Jay M. Macgregor, MD PGY-5, “Surgical Management of Colorectal Cancer in the ERA of Laparoscopic Colectomy” (continued on next page)
Residency Program News (continued)

- Honorable Mention: Irminne G. Van Dyken, MD PGY-4, “Simulated Surgical Dexterity After an Evening of Moderate Alcohol Intake”

Visit www.med.und.edu/surgery/lectureship-colloquium.cfm to see the Edwin C. James Lectureship and the Surgical Resident Research Colloquium brochure. Photos from the event are below.

The 27th Surgical Chief Resident Graduation Banquet was held on Friday, June 24, 2011, at the Ramada Plaza & Suites in Fargo (See photos below and on page 4). The graduating residents were:

- Corey J. Kroetsch, MD, who has entered general surgery practice at the VA Medical Center and Sanford Health in Fargo, N.D.

- Jay M. MacGregor, MD, who began a fellowship in colorectal surgery at Orlando Health after graduation. He is also planning a December 2011 wedding.

A Welcome Picnic for interns was held July 9, 2011, at Newman Field for a RedHawks game and picnic. We had a great turnout with faculty, staff and residents.

Congratulations to Andy McCoy, MD, PGY III, and his wife Jane who had a baby girl (Emma Auna) October 28, 2010.
Residency Program News (continued)

Resident Accomplishments

Local presentations
Sidd Agarwal, MD (resident) – “The Chest”, January 7, 2011
EMT/Paramedic

Stefan Johnson, MD (resident) – “Damage Control Surgery & Other Experiences From the Conflicts in Iraq & Afghanistan”, Surgery Grand Rounds, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery – January 7, 2011


Sangeetha Prabhakaran, MD (resident) – “Pancreatic Cancer”, Surgery Grand Rounds, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery – February 4, 2011

Corey Kroetsch, MD (resident) – “Antireflux Surgery”, Surgery Grand Rounds, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery – March 11, 2011

Andrew McCoy, MD (resident) – “When Animals Attack”, Surgery Grand Rounds, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery – March 18, 2011

Bree Dewing, MD (resident) – “A McDonald’s Nation: Obesity’s Effect on the General Surgeons Practice”, Surgery Grand Rounds, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery – April 15, 2011

Jay MacGregor, MD (resident) and Irminne Van Dyken, MD (resident) – “Interactive Session “How to Give Constructive (Negative?) Feedback”. Teaching the Teacher Conference, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery, Grand Forks, ND - May 6, 2011

Jay MacGregor, MD (resident) – “Expectations in Residency” panel for the graduating medical students at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine & Health Sciences – May 13, 2011

Zachary Bastian, MD (resident) – “Head Trauma” Surgery Grand Rounds, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery – May 20, 2011

Bree Dewing, MD (resident) – “Pediatric Surgery for the General Surgeons”, Surgery Grand Rounds, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery – June 3, 2011

Sidd Agarwal, MD (resident) – “The Effect of Anticoagulation on Falls in the Elderly”, Surgical Resident Research Colloquium, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery – June 24, 2011

Kyle Barker, MD (resident) – “Snowmobile Trauma and Associated Risk Factors in ND”, Surgical Resident Research Colloquium, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery – June 24, 2011

Zach Bastian, MD (resident) – “The Unholy Trinity: Relative Risks of Snow Machines, ATVs, and Motorcycles”, Surgical Resident Research Colloquium, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery – June 24, 2011

Kayla Burchill, MD (resident) – “Farm Injuries in North Dakota”, Surgical Resident Research Colloquium, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery – June 24, 2011

(continued on next page)
Resident Accomplishments (continued)

Bree Dewing, MD (resident) – “Morbidity and Mortality of Trauma Time to Transfer”, Surgical Resident Research Colloquium, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery – June 24, 2011

Stefan Johnson, MD (resident) – “Is Nasogastric Tube Insertion Associated with Pneumonia in Trauma Patients?”, Surgical Resident Research Colloquium, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery – June 24, 2011

Corey Kroetsch, MD (resident) – “Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy vs. Percutaneous Radiologic Gastrostomy: Comparison of Complications and Outcomes”, Surgical Resident Research Colloquium, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery – June 24, 2011

Jay MacGregor, MD (resident) – “Surgical Management of Colorectal Cancer in the Era of Laparoscopic Colectomy”, Surgical Resident Research Colloquium, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery – June 24, 2011

Andy McCoy, MD (resident) – “Multicenter Assessment and Comparison of the Epidemiology of All Terrain Vehicle Crashes”, Surgical Resident Research Colloquium, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery – June 24, 2011

Brady Mullin, MD (resident) – “Analysis of Surgical Subspecialty Procedures Performed by Rural Surgeons”, Surgical Resident Research Colloquium, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery – June 24, 2011

Sangeetha Prabhakaran, MD (resident) – “Diagnosis of Perforated Appendicitis in a Rural State Is Distance a Risk?”, Surgical Resident Research Colloquium, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery – June 24, 2011

Irminne Van Dyken, MD (resident)-“Simulated Surgical Dexterity After An Evening of Moderate Alcohol Intake”, Surgical Resident Research Colloquium, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery – June 24, 2011

Corey Kroetsch, MD (resident): “Post Thyroidectomy Hypocalcemia: A Single Surgeon Experience ND/SD ACS Annual Meeting, Fargo, ND – April 8, 2011

Kyle Barker, MD (resident): “Mortality, Morbidity and Cost of Motorcycle Trauma in a Rural Setting” ND/SD ACS Annual Meeting, Fargo, ND – April 8, 2011

Andrew McCoy, MD (resident): “Serum Mullerian Inhibiting Substance and Risk of Breast Cancer”. ND/SD ACS Annual Meeting, Fargo, ND- April 8, 2011

Jay MacGregor, MD (resident): “How to Get the Most Bang for Your Buck From SCORE: Perspectives From Residents and Program Directors” workshop. APDS Meeting-Boston, MA - March 25, 2011

Awards

Kyle Barker, MD, PGY III, received the Outstanding Resident of the Year Award from the Fargo Medical Students (pictured below with Dr. Sticca).

Noelle Thomas, MD, Prelim PGY I, received the Sanford Guardian Angel Award. The Guardian Angel Program allows grateful patients and family members the opportunity to support Sanford Health while paying tribute to their special caregiver – the individual or group of individuals who made the difference in their visit or stay at Sanford Health.

Regional/national presentations


Zach Bastian, MD (resident): “Do PPIs Increase the Risk of Restenosis in Patients Taking Clopidogrel and Aspirin Following Coronary Stenting?” ND/SD ACS Annual Meeting, Fargo, ND- April 8, 2011

American Board of Surgery results

Recent graduates of the UND Surgical Residency Program have continued to do well on the American Board of Surgery (ABS) Examination. The recently published data from the ABS shows that our five-year, first-time pass rate on the Qualifying Exam (written exam) is 100 percent (9/9), and the Certifying Exam (oral exam) is 86 percent (6/7 passing). The overall first-time pass rate for our program is 89 percent (15/16). Our congratulations to our recent graduates who have successfully obtained board certification.
New Incoming Residents: July 1, 2011


Kai L. Sharbono, MD: PG I Categorical. Born in Bismarck, N.D. Undergraduate degree in Biological Sciences at the University of Montana. Medical School: University of Washington School of Medicine in Seattle.

Zachary J. Ernst, MD: PG I Preliminary. Born in Minneapolis, Minn. Undergraduate degree in biochemistry and biology from St. Mary’s College of Maryland in St. Mary’s City, Md. Medical school: University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences in Fargo, N.D.


Sheri K. Jamal, MD: PG II Categorical. Born in Houston, Texas. Bachelor of Science degree in Economics and Master of Science in Health Economics at Baylor University in Waco, Texas. Medical School: University of Texas Health Sciences Center in San Antonio, Texas, and the University of Texas School at Houston in Houston.

Noelle A. Thomas, MD: PG II Preliminary. Born in San Diego, Calif. Undergraduate degree in pre-medical from the University of Washington School of Medicine in Washington DC. Medical school: University of Washington School of Medicine in Seattle, Wash.

BreAnn E. Neiger, MD: PG I Categorical. Born in Ames, Iowa. Undergraduate degree in Microbiology with minors in Chemistry and Biology at South Dakota State University in Sioux Falls, S.D. Medical school: University of South Dakota, Sioux Falls, S.D.

Upcoming Events

Interviews dates with resident candidates

Saturday, Dec. 3, 2011
The annual Christmas Party at the home of Dr. Robert Sticca, chairman of the Department of Surgery

Saturday, Jan. 28, 2012
ABSITE Exam. Surgery Department faculty may participate for review of current practice or preparation for American Board of Surgery Recertification.

Friday, June 22, 2012
The Edwin C. James lectureship, Surgical Resident Research Colloquium and Graduation Banquet will be held at the Ramada Plaza Suites and Conference Center in Fargo. More detailed information will follow.

Alumni News

Robin T. Hape, MD ’07, received the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence Distinction - 2010.

Medical Student Alumni News

Former UND medical students who are in surgical specialties, please e-mail geralyn.lunski@med.und.edu with news.
Welcome new faculty and staff
Mary O. Aaland, MD, clinical assistant professor of surgery, is a general surgeon located on the Southeast Campus in Fargo, N.D. She trained at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria Department of Surgery.

Steven M. Bagan, MD, clinical instructor of surgery, is an ophthalmologist located on the Fargo campus. Dr. Bagan trained at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine in Rochester, Minn.

Davis L. Bronson, MD, clinical professor of surgery, is a plastic surgeon on the Southwest Campus in Bismarck, N.D. He trained at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles and completed a fellowship at St. Joseph Hospital in Houston, Texas.

Jeremy J. Gardner, MD, clinical instructor of surgery, is an orthopaedic surgeon on Northeast Campus in Grand Forks, N.D. He trained at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis.

David J. Hanson, MD, clinical instructor of surgery, is an anesthesiologist located on the Southeast Campus in Fargo. He trained the University of South Florida in Tampa.

Andrew R. Hetland, MD, clinical instructor of surgery, is an otolaryngologist on the Southwest Campus in Bismarck. He trained at the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

Kevin J. Mork, MD, clinical instructor of surgery, is an anesthesiologist located on the Northeast Campus in Grand Forks. He trained at Walter-Reed Army Medical Center in Washington DC.

Troy S. Russon, MD, clinical instructor of surgery, is an anesthesiologist located on the Southwest Campus in Bismarck. He trained at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

James F. Split, MD, clinical assistant professor of surgery, is an anesthesiologist located on the Southeast Campus in Fargo. He trained at the University of Michigan Hospitals in Ann Arbor, Mich.

Dr. Mark Jensen featured in Summer 2011 North Dakota Medicine
So here it is—a human cadaver, the first any of these high school students has ever seen, much less actually touched.

“I think it’s a marvelous experience, great for me, because I can discover whether this is the field I really want to get into,” said Hope, a senior who heads to college soon to major in biomedical engineering.

Hope is one of a dozen or so students from Michael Preston’s West Fargo High School Anatomy and Physiology class who were in Dr. Mark Jensen’s cadaver lab at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences Southeast Campus in Fargo. Read more at www.ndmedicine.org/article.cfm?articleid=603
Faculty Accomplishments

Publications (book chapters)


Publications (peer reviewed)
McCoy AC (Resident), Kliethermes B, Zang K, Sticca RP (Faculty), Bouton M (Faculty), Sauter ER (Faculty). Serum Mullerian Inhibiting Substance Levels are Lower in Women with Breast Precancer and Cancer. BMC Research Notes. 26;4:152. May 2011

Presentations (regional/national)


Jeffrey Haasbeek, MD (faculty): “Nerve Entrapments of the Upper Extremity (Including carpal tunnel syndrome). Ralston Lecture Series, Altru Hospital, Grand Forks, North Dakota – March 9, 2011.

Derek Kane, MD (faculty): “The Bold and the Brave: Rectal Foreign Body Retrieval”. ND/SD ACS Annual Meeting, Fargo, ND – April 8, 2011

Randolph Szlabick (faculty): “Ventilator Associated Pneumonia in a SICU.” ND/SD ACS Annual Meeting, Fargo, ND – April 8, 2011

Luis Garcia, MD, FACS, MBA (faculty): “Surgical Outcomes and Value Based Purchasing: You Haven’t seen Much Yet!” ND/SD ACS Annual Meeting, Fargo, ND – April 8, 2011


Randolph Szlabick, MD (faculty) – “Residents as Teachers: Where Should WE Be?”, Teaching the Teacher Conference, University of North Dakota Department of Surgery, Grand Forks, ND – May 6, 2011

Awards
The following faculty members have been selected to receive the Dean’s Special Recognition Award for Outstanding Volunteer Faculty at the 2011 Awards Luncheon prior to Commencement.

• Brent P. Bruderer, MD – clinical associate professor of surgery, Bismarck, N.D.
• Marcus M. Fiechtner, MD – clinical professor of surgery and alumnus (BSMed ‘63) Bismarck, N.D.

Dr. Sean Russell, clinical associate professor of surgery, was presented with the Wayne M. Swenson Award in the Department of Surgery (pictured with Dean Wynne and Dr. Sticca). Dr. Russell is a thoracic surgeon and practices at Medcenter One in Bismarck, N.D.