

# University Surgeons™

The newsletter of University of Florida College of Medicine – Jacksonville, Department of Surgery

Volume 1, Issue 2 Spring 2010



## Message from the Chairman

As we enter a new decade, I reflect over the past ten years and realize the large number of advances that have occurred in surgery. Minimally invasive techniques have become commonplace. Natural orifice and single incision laparoscopic surgery are being explored for many operations. Robotics is widespread. As the faculty and staff of University of Florida College of Medicine – Jacksonville, Department of Surgery embrace these advances, the outcome is better patient care.

We are proud of the new and expanded services now offered by the Department of Surgery. We have one of the only natural orifice skull-based surgical programs in the area. Our bariatric program is unique as it offers all methods of minimally invasive weight loss operations including roux-en-Y gastric bypass, gastric band, and gastric sleeve. Our head and neck cancer program handles a large volume of patients and includes full reconstructive services. Our multi-disciplinary approach to breast care and thoracic oncology provides patients with a “one stop” option with excellent care. Vascular surgery has expanded its interventional and endovascular services. Urology’s research programs continue to grow. Our trauma/acute care surgery program continues to be an important resource for seriously injured and critically ill surgical patients. We continue to attract highly accomplished and motivated individuals to our residency training programs.

Included in this edition of *University Surgeons* are more details about our programs, news about our faculty, information about our new ethics curriculum, and clinical information about the art of surgery. I hope you enjoy it. Feel free to contact me at 904-244-5502 or by email: [michael.nussbaum@jax.ufl.edu](mailto:michael.nussbaum@jax.ufl.edu).

Sincerely,

Michael S. Nussbaum, M.D., F.A.C.S.

*Professor and Chair  
Department of Surgery  
Surgeon-in-Chief  
Shands Jacksonville*



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To subscribe to *University Surgeons*, contact Leah Nelms at 904-244-4001 or [leah.nelms@jax.ufl.edu](mailto:leah.nelms@jax.ufl.edu).

Our academic website:  
<http://hscj.ufl.edu/sur>

Our patient services website:  
<http://jax.shands.org/hs/surgery>

# Medical Aid to HAITI

By Kandra C. Albury

After learning about the devastation following the January 12th earthquake in Haiti, faculty and staff throughout UF&Shands Jacksonville moved into action. A medical care trip was organized immediately and those who couldn't make the journey aided the relief effort with donations of cash and supplies. A total of three truckloads of supplies were donated.

“ When I was asked to join the team to Haiti, it never occurred to me to say ‘no.’—Dr. David Cheshire ”

Several UF Department of Surgery faculty members and a Shands Jacksonville nurse were on the ground in Haiti January 20th through 26th, offering direct medical support to the injured. Those providing medical assistance included trauma surgeon, Dr. Joan Huffman; trauma psychologist, Dr. David Cheshire; trauma physicians' assistant, Laura Ford; and Dawn Pinder, R.N. The team treated nearly 1,000 patients in the dire conditions.

Dr. Cheshire said he was honored to serve the people of Haiti during his weeklong stay. While there, he served as the mental health counselor for the team and the injured. “When I was asked to join the team to Haiti, it never occurred to me to say ‘no.’ Witnessing such humanity in a time of grim despair was perhaps the most remarkable thing I had ever seen. I consider myself a better person because of the experience.”



Dr. Joan Huffman treating patients



Dr. David Cheshire with patients in make-shift clinic

## University Surgeons™

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Shands Jacksonville Media Center

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Many thanks to Shands Jacksonville Marketing & Communications Department and the Parviz Kamangar Foundation

Please submit your copy and high-resolution photos to: Leah Nelms, Department of Surgery, leah.nelms@jax.ufl.edu

## A Tribute to Dr. Thaddeus Moseley

*Excerpted with permission from his eulogy, written and delivered by Dr. Joseph Tepas, III, August 1, 2002*

“Ladies and gentlemen, it is my great privilege and honor to stand as a member of the Jacksonville medical community to share some thoughts about the life and legacy of Dr. Thad Moseley. As we all know, Dr. Moseley was one of the first fully trained, board certified surgeons to practice in Jacksonville. Upon completion of his training at Vanderbilt, the Medical College of Virginia and Johns Hopkins, Thad was recruited to our city by Dr. Ash Williams and Dr. Edward Jelks. He quickly established himself as an outstanding surgeon and community leader.

“Today, over 20 young surgeons proudly display in their offices **the name of Thaddeus Moseley** as their mentor and role model.”

His reputation for excellence resulted in his election to many prestigious medical and surgical societies. He served as president of the Duval County Medical Society and the Florida Medical Association. In this regard, Dr. Moseley's career as a surgeon reflects all of the characteristics of the dedication and commitment we expect of medical leaders.

Thad Moseley's abiding passion, however, extended beyond just the clinical practice of medicine. From the moment he arrived in Jacksonville until his death, Thad remained wholly and fully committed to the education and training of young surgeons. In the early days of his practice, he dedicated countless hours to bedside teaching and operative care to the surgical training program at what was then the Duval County Medical Center...

When I was recruited in 1983 by the University of Florida to transition the surgical residency program at University Hospital to part of the College of Medicine's surgical residency, Dr. Moseley was my first mentor and major resource. So impressed were we by his absolute

dedication to surgical training that we immediately established an annual award in his name to recognize the most outstanding resident research. Today, over 20 young surgeons proudly display in their offices the name of Thaddeus Moseley as their mentor and role model who constantly stimulated them to find better ways to care for our patients.



*Dr. Thaddeus Moseley*

In 1994, Thad's beautiful wife, Linda, established the surgical education endowment that bears his name. It provides recognition to the member of the clinical teaching faculty who, in the minds of the residents, best typifies the ideals of bedside teaching: compassionate care, and an abiding intellectual curiosity that was the hallmark of Dr. Thad Moseley...

I will miss Thad as a mentor and friend. I am consoled, however, knowing his legacy lives on; not just in the plaque that is given annually in his name, but in the intense devotion to teaching, clinical excellence, compassionate care, and selfless molding of young surgeons that was and will remain the product of Thad Moseley's stewardship on Earth. Last night Linda shared with me one of their favorite scripture passages that reminds us that much will be expected from those to whom much is given. Thad truly gave far in excess of what was, by all measures, extraordinary talent.

I will end by reiterating what one of my young residents said to me a few months ago when my own father died, 'We have all lost a great human being, however heaven has gained an even greater soul.'

Thad, may God grant you full share of the happiness you helped bring to our lives here on Earth."

# New Skull-Based Procedure “Nose” No Bounds

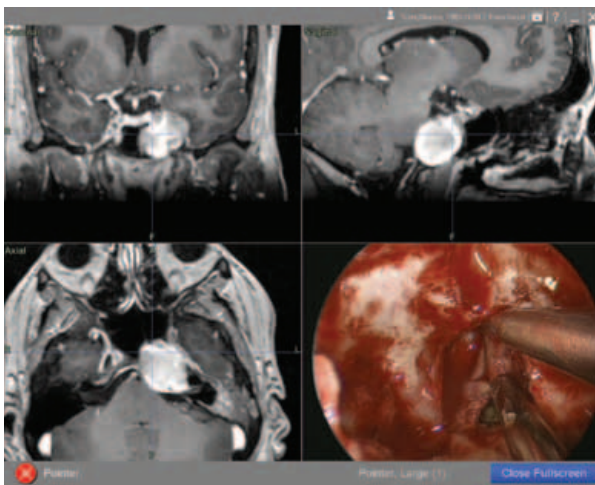
By Robert Kaye

An entry scribbled into a UF College of Medicine neurology patient’s personal calendar reads:

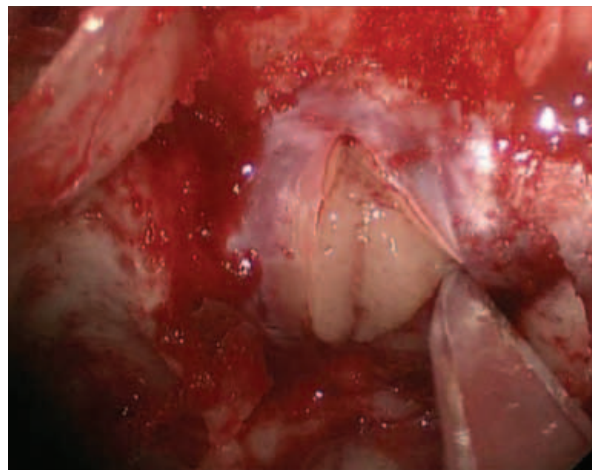
*BRAIN SURGERY SCHEDULED  
FOR MONDAY AT 8 A.M.  
THURSDAY NIGHT DINNER/MOVIES  
WITH HUSBAND AND KIDS.*

Sound impossible? Not anymore.

UF College of Medicine-Jacksonville, Department of Surgery otolaryngologist Dr. Iman Naseri says that the developing surgical technique which utilizes natural, anatomical “entry ports,”—in this case, the nose—allows him and a team of multi-disciplinary specialists to access a variety of benign and malignant tumors situated primarily in the anterior base of the skull. “This can now be done without any incisions on the face or head,” he points out. “Whereas years ago, to access some of these tumors, open and more invasive procedures were the only option. Today, using the endoscopic endonasal technique, we can achieve similar, if not even more complete, tumor removal as compared to open or even some microscopic techniques.”



*Skull-Based Surgery Procedure*



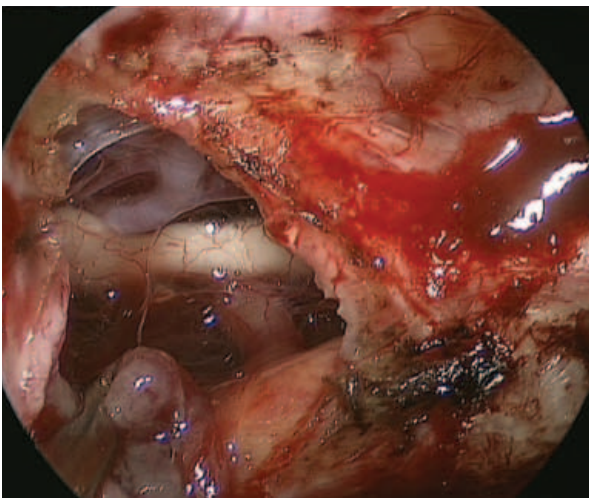
*Initial dura incision for a pituitary macroadenoma*

Dr. Naseri recently joined the Department of Surgery in August 2009. He completed a one-year rhinology/skull base fellowship at the University of Toronto after finishing his otolaryngology residency at Emory University.

Utilizing highly specialized instruments such as high-definition scopes, image-guidance, and a variety of specialized micro-instruments, the nose provides a natural access, enabling doctors to excise tumors involving the brain, sinuses and paranasal cavities, which previously required open craniofacial surgery. Similar to advances in robotic surgery, this new technology and instrumentation continues to improve visualization, accessibility and, concomitantly, accuracy. “We can repair cerebrospinal fluid leaks resulting from trauma and other causes. And we can also repair traumatic orbital floor fractures that once required incisions underneath or going through the eyelid. It has safely transformed many different types, and in some cases, much more invasive procedures.” Frequently, this new type of natural orifice surgery can be accomplished without any incisions to the face or head, resulting in less pain, fewer chances of infection or complications, and a faster discharge home, sometimes even the following day.



*Dr. Michael Petr and Dr. Iman Naseri*



*High-def endoscopic view of tumor at bottom left and normal structures above – optic nerve pituitary stalk cerebral arteries and the dural opening*

Such skull-based/nasal aperture surgeries require the close cooperative teamwork of otolaryngologists and neurosurgeons. Because this type of procedure is relatively new, it is highly dependent on the surgeons' experience, past exposure and training, and a quality team working closely together, explains Naseri, who works in tandem with Dr. Michael Petr, from the Department of Neurosurgery. "The otolaryngologist, or ENT, gains the access to the tumor through the nose, the neurosurgeon

“ Utilizing highly specialized instruments, **the nose provides doctors a natural access**, enabling excision of tumors involving the brain, sinuses and paranasal cavities. ”

removes the tumor, and the ENT closes the final defect,” Dr. Naseri says. “This ensures closure of the communication between the brain and the sinuses, thus preventing any cerebrospinal fluid leak.” Similarly, tumors involving the sinonasal cavities are treated in the traditional multidisciplinary approach that often involves radiation oncology, head and neck surgery, speech and language pathology, oral and maxillofacial surgery, oncology, and neuroradiology.

“We’re also quite fortunate here because the nearby UF Proton Therapy Institute serves as an integral component that can complement the treatment of tumors,” adds Dr. Naseri. Proton therapy spares important surrounding structure during radiation of these tumors. UF Shands Jacksonville is one of only six places in the entire country that offers proton therapy.

**For more information, visit: [www.hscj.ufl.edu/surgery/otolaryngology/patient.asp](http://www.hscj.ufl.edu/surgery/otolaryngology/patient.asp)**

# A Night for HEROES

Nearly 500 guests joined together in celebration of our local heroes at the high-flying, black-tie fundraising event benefiting TraumaOne. This year's aviation-themed fundraiser was held inside Malone AirCharter's Hangar 21 at Craig Airport.

A Night for Heroes 2010 celebrated the nearly 380 University of Florida physicians, Shands Jacksonville healthcare providers and community responders who saved this year's Honoree Patient, Kenneth Johnson's, life.

Among the Honorees from  
**UF COLLEGE OF MEDICINE –  
JACKSONVILLE**

J. Bracken Burns Jr., D.O.  
Petra Duran-Gehring, M.D.  
Omar El-Sheikh, M.D.  
Ainsley Freshour, M.D.  
Eric Frykberg, M.D.  
Reginald Griffin, M.D.  
Charles Heilig, M.D.  
Victor Lopez De Mendoza, M.D.  
Martin Northup, M.D.  
Marc Notrica, M.D., M.S.  
Adithya Suresh, M.D.  
Christopher Vashi, M.D.  
Elizabeth Vitarbo, M.D.  
David Wolfson, M.D.

Also honored were TraumaOne Dispatch, pre-hospital EMS, attending physicians, resident physicians, operating room staff, PAs/ARNPs, echo technologists, ICU nurses, medical/surgical nurses, progressive care nurses, wound care nurses, radiology technologists, dialysis nurses, PCAs, physical therapists, respiratory care, trauma psychologists, case managers, nutritionists, speech therapists, occupational



## Local Heroes Honored at Benefit Gala for TraumaOne

therapists, pharmacy department, fellows, Jacksonville Sheriff's office, Jacksonville Fire & Rescue Department.

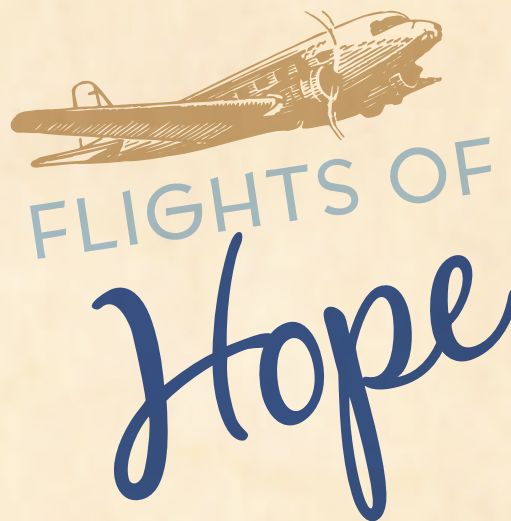
With the funds that were raised through the 2010 gala, the event's committee was proud to support housing for trauma patients' families. These units provide a convenient and comfortable environment for families during their loved one's recovery.

“ \$70,000 raised for TraumaOne at this year's third-annual event. ”

The units are located at Third and Main Streets in historic Springfield. They have been specifically provided for families that are from outside the Jacksonville area, who live too far from Shands Jacksonville, or have other needs for housing during their loved one's stay.

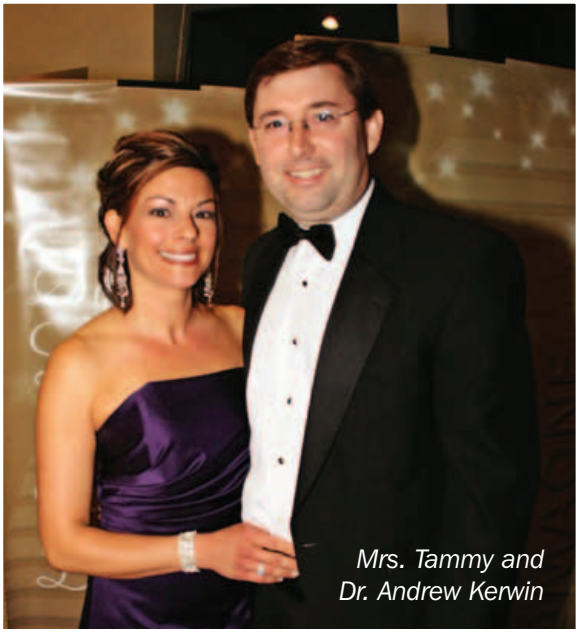
Since many patients are treated for extended periods of time, a hotel is not often a reasonable choice for the families. The units have a kitchen and are fully furnished.

Go to [www.anightforheroes.com](http://www.anightforheroes.com) to view more photos from the event.





*Drs. Sue and  
Michael Nussbaum*



*Mrs. Tammy and  
Dr. Andrew Kerwin*



## New Ethics Training Curriculum

The University of Florida College of Medicine – Jacksonville, Department of Surgery recognizes the need to incorporate ethics training in its surgical residency program. Benefits will include physicians’ enhanced overall communicative abilities, ethical and professional skills development, and an increased empathy toward patients. This key training effectively complements the Department’s current exceptional didactic environment.

“ The goal is to develop a comprehensive program to produce surgical graduates that are well-equipped to handle ethical challenges. ”

Until recently, while no formal program has previously been adopted at UF College of Medicine-Jacksonville, there has been an overall interest in and support for training opportunities in the area of ethics, professionalism and communication. Indeed, UF COM-JAX is unique among most surgical training programs in that it has two full-time functioning psychologists as members of the surgical faculty, providing a distinctive resource to address these very issues.

“My colleague and I have been teaching several sessions that have encompassed some key topics,” says Kamela Scott, Ph.D., who last year received the prestigious “American College of Surgeons Kamangar Award for Surgical Resident Training Programs in Medical Ethics,” founded by the Parviz Kamangar Foundation. It is administered by the Center for the Study of Ethics and Human Values at Washington University in St. Louis.

Dr. Scott and David Chesire, Ph.D., have taught such subjects as “How to Give Bad News Well,” “The Impaired Practitioner,” “Cultural and Lifespan issues in Communication,” “Sleep Deprivation,” and other relevant topics. “Interestingly, during these sessions, the experienced outcome reached far beyond what we presented,” reflects an enthusiastic Dr. Scott. “They’d routinely evolve into round-table



Mr. Parviz Kamangar

discussions about ethical issues that our surgical residents grappled with during their daily encounters with patients, or those issues that were still resonating with them, long beyond their encounter with patients and their families.”

Recognizing that ethics training is ongoing, the goal is to develop a comprehensive program to produce surgical graduates that are well-equipped to handle ethical challenges, wherever their life courses may take them. “It’s patterned around the already successful ‘Know-Can-Do’ model, which was once proposed as a paradigm for ethics training in an issue of *Journal of Medical Ethics*,” Dr. Scott explains.

**KNOW:** To provide the fundamental education and information required for critical thinking in medical ethics. The Kamangar Award will be the basis for the first phase of the training program, providing textbooks to UF COM-JAX’s surgical residents and a structured educational series. This material will serve as the foundation for monthly, one-hour ethics educational forums



that will be mandatory training offerings for all surgical residents but will be available for attendance campus-wide. Additional bi-monthly ethics presentations will provide educational opportunities for residents, faculty and other providers.

**CAN:** To present real-world ethical scenarios to the surgical residents in a protected, simulated setting. These exposures/vignettes will be followed by essential self and small group critiques, focusing on positive self-growth and skills enhancement. Over the next five years, clinical vignettes will be developed to confront the physicians with simulated ethical dilemmas that occur during interactions with patients and families, ethical confrontations within the multidisciplinary team, and ethical scenarios that may develop during the course of surgery and/or clinical care.

**DO:** The overall effectiveness of the training program will be evaluated regarding how well program graduates are fully able to perform in ethically challenging settings with confidence in: A) their knowledge of fundamentals in medical ethics; B) their own capacity to address these issues in a competent and ethically sound manner; and C) the ability to review their own and others' courses of action for on-going self-improvement and systems enhancement.

# KNOW CAN DO!

While the program is specifically tailored for surgical residents, the Department plans to open up all educational presentations campus-wide, for whoever desires to attend. It will publicize each offering well in advance to promote attendance, and will also modify some of the cases so that they are more "neutral" and applicable to other departments and professionals. Dr. Scott says that while surgical residents will especially benefit from having the textbooks, anyone attending the sessions can glean important and valuable information, despite not actually having the texts for reference.

"I'm very proud to be a recipient of the Kamangar Award, which will provide not only textbooks but also financial and educational support for the development of our training initiative," says Dr. Scott. "We look forward to a highly successful ethics and professionalism curriculum that will benefit not only our surgical residents, but more importantly, the patients and families that are now served and those that will be served, wherever our paths may lead."



*Kamangar Surgical Resident Training Program in Medical Ethics 2009. Dr. Kamela Scott is in the front row, third from right.*

## In Memoriam: Dr. James H. Corwin, II



**D**r. James H. Corwin, II, a prominent surgeon and former chairman of the Duval County School Board who was active in civic affairs, died at age of 81 on January 18, 2010 at the McGraw Center of Caring of Community Hospice of Northeast Florida. He had Alzheimer's disease.

Born and raised in Washington, Pa., Dr. Corwin—following the same career path as his father and grandfather—earned his medical degree in 1956 from Philadelphia's Jefferson Medical College. He then joined his father's practice in Washington, Pa., concurrently serving residencies in surgery and orthopedic surgery at hospitals in Pittsburgh and the Panama Canal Zone.

In 1963, he arrived in Jacksonville for his surgery residency at Duval Medical Center, which later became Shands Jacksonville Hospital. He decided to make Jacksonville his home and also studied at University of Florida's College of Medicine.

“**Dr. Corwin** was one of the early leaders in gastrointestinal endoscopic surgery.”

Two years later, he opened his Jacksonville practice in general surgery, becoming one of the early leaders in gastrointestinal endoscopic surgery.

Dr. Corwin served as Chief of Staff at the Beaches Public Hospital as well as a member of its board from 1969 to 1973, prior to it becoming part of Baptist Medical Center. He also served as Chief of General Surgery at Memorial Hospital and had staff privileges at St. Luke's Hospital.

Ever community minded, in 1971, he led a group of local physicians to conduct *pro bono* pre-season physicals for every high school football player in Duval County's public schools, the first group of its kind in the U.S. While his children attended Fletcher High School, he also served as its team physician.

In 1972, the Pop Warner Football Association and Jacksonville's Department of Recreation and Public Affairs

honored Dr. Corwin for his outstanding service, having conducted more than 200 volunteer hours performing physicals on youths seeking to play in the association.

Dr. Corwin was a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and served as president of the Florida Society of General Surgeons, which established an award in his honor.

In addition to his medical achievements, Dr. Corwin served on the Neptune Beach City Council from 1967 to 1971. He served as president of the Jacksonville Museum of Science and History, a trustee of Jacksonville University and a board member of the Jacksonville Zoological Society.

He was also the founder and vice president of the Duval Public Education Foundation, which raised funds to provide non-tax dollars for student activities.

He joined the Duval County school board in 1976; during his first year as chairman it became the nation's largest fully accredited system by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Dr. Corwin left the School Board in 1984. He later made an unsuccessful bid for a state legislative seat.

Dr. Corwin was predeceased by three sons, James Corwin III in 1986; and earlier in 2010, Scott Calvin Corwin, and Jeffrey Corwin. He is survived by his wife, Jean Corwin; son, Brad Corwin; daughter, Melissa Widener; a brother, William Corwin; and four grandchildren.

The family requests that memorials be sent to: Jefferson Medical College, 925 Chestnut St., Suite 110, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

# Florida Weight Loss Surgery Institute

By Robert Kaye

The University of Florida, College of Medicine—Jacksonville, Department of Surgery continues to evolve into a national leader in minimally invasive surgery. In fiscal year 2008, the Department’s surgeons performed 580 minimally invasive operations; last year, that number quadrupled to over 2,500.

“Today,” says Dr. Sunil Sharma, “nearly 70 percent of bariatric procedures are performed laparoscopically.” Dr. Sharma was appointed to lead the Department’s new Weight Loss Surgery Institute, which opened this spring on Emerson Street.

“By the end of 2010, it is projected there may be 31 million morbidly obese adults that could qualify for bariatric surgery.”

According to Dr. Sharma, ongoing innovations in laparoscopic surgery have advanced bariatric surgery and reduced many of its previous risks, often returning patients to normal activity within several weeks. Likewise, most patients’ hospital stays have been greatly shortened. Many begin mobilizing themselves hours after surgery and don’t develop the once-common complications. Whereas previously, most bariatric surgery required open abdominal procedures, which resulted in significant pain, high risk of wound infection, unsightly abdominal scars and slow recovery.

The comprehensive program at UF’s new Jacksonville Weight Loss Surgery Institute consists of a team of experienced surgeons, specialist physicians, psychologists, nutritionists, exercise physiologists, and a bariatric nurse program coordinator. Each expert is dedicated to providing support for bariatric patients before and after surgery. It also provides monthly information sessions and support group meetings that facilitate patients’ understanding of the surgery and adjustment to new daily habits.

Dr. Sharma is convinced that laparoscopic bariatric surgery, given the myriad health problems associated with morbid obesity,

“is one of the most important innovations in modern medicine.” He hopes to perform about 200 of these procedures per year.



Dr. Sunil Sharma

“Unlike many other weight loss and bariatric programs, my colleagues and I perform all three principal laparoscopic bariatric procedures,” says Dr. Sharma.

The most extensively performed procedure is the Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass (*pronounced ROO-en-why*). “We create a small stomach pouch, which serves to restrict the amount of food a patient can consume at any one meal. In addition, we construct a ‘bypass route’ directly to the small intestine, which decreases the amount of nutrients and calories that are absorbed.”

The second most common operation is Gastric Banding. This is a restrictive procedure where an adjustable silicone band and an injection port are implanted within the patient. The silicone band is placed around the upper part of the stomach, molding the stomach into two connected chambers. The injection port is attached to the abdominal wall, underneath the skin. The port is connected to the band with soft, thin tubing. The band can be increased or decreased in size by adding or removing saline via the port. When more saline is injected, it increases the band’s restriction, so patients consume less food but still feel full.

Sleeve Gastrectomy is also a restrictive bariatric procedure. “We create a small, sleeve-shaped stomach. This is often performed as the first procedure in a two-part treatment, along with Gastric Bypass at a later setting.

“Our new Weight Loss Surgery Center will bring together a specialized healthcare team that cares for the ‘whole patient’ from pre- to post-op. This ensures and empowers our patients to implement key lifestyle changes that will give them a healthier and more vibrant quality of life.”

# News & Notes:

## **Dr. Noreen Durrani Completes Nutrition Support Clinician Certification**

Congratulations to Noreen Durrani, M.D., on achieving certification in nutritional support, thereby receiving the credentials Certified Nutrition Support Clinician (CNSC). This was obtained through the National Board of Nutrition Support Certification (NBNSC), an independent credentialing board established in 1984 by the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (A.S.P.E.N.). Attaining her CNSC credentials provides a valuable addition to Dr. Durrani's professional certification and contributes to excellent patient care.

## **Dr. Fred Edwards Named Principal Investigator for Society of Thoracic Surgeons**

The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has awarded a grant to the American College of Cardiology (ACC) in partnership with The Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) to study the comparative effectiveness of the two forms of coronary revascularization: percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) and coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) surgery. It designated Fred Edwards, M.D., as a principal investigator. Dr. Edwards is also Chair of the STS Workforce on National Databases.

## **Dr. Joan Huffman Featured at Society of Critical Care Medicine's Annual Conference**

Congratulations to Joan Huffman, M.D., and the Donor Council Steering Committee, whose article on Quality Improvement was chosen for inclusion at the Critical Care Congress of the Society of Critical Care Medicine, which was held in mid-January.

## **Dr. Laila Samiian Appointed to Susan G. Komen Foundation**

Congratulations to Laila Samiian, M.D., on her appointment to the Susan G. Komen Foundation, North Florida Affiliate Board of Directors. The Komen Foundation is the world's largest grassroots network of breast cancer survivors and activists, investing over \$1 billion worldwide since its inception in 1982. The North Florida

Affiliate is very active; recognizing Dr. Samiian's efforts and expertise in breast cancer care further solidifies the commitment of the Department of Surgery and UF&Shands to breast cancer care in our community.

Dr. Samiian recently received her certification in Breast Ultrasound.

Please also join in a heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Laila Samiian, and her husband, Dr. Ehsan Shirazi, who recently had a baby boy, Aydin Shirazi.

## **Dr. Joseph Tepas, III, Appointed to Medicaid Low Income Pool Council**

Last September, Joseph Tepas, III, M.D., F.A.C.S., F.A.A.P., Chief of Pediatric Surgery and UF Trauma Surgeon, was asked to serve on the Medicaid Low Income Pool Council. The appointment was made by Larry Cretul, the Speaker of The Florida House of Representatives.

## **Dr. Carmine Volpe Appointed Director of UF& Shands Jacksonville Cancer Center**

Carmine Volpe, M.D., Chief of Surgical Oncology, was named the Director of the UF&Shands Jacksonville Cancer Center, which recently received a three-year approval upon completion of a survey conducted by the Commission on Cancer, a consortium of the American College of Surgeons.

## **Dr. Christopher Williams Named as Co-Principal Investigator**

Christopher Williams, M.D., will be the co-principal investigator for the Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute's "Phase II, Randomized, Double-Blind, Multi-Centered Study of Polyphenon E in Men with High-Grade Prostatic Intraepithelial Neoplasia (HGPIN) and Atypical Small Acinar Proliferation (ASAP)." (Polyphenon E is a green tea extract.) This trial was awarded a National Institute of Health grant. In addition to our Department, five other academic centers are participating in the study.

## Awards

**Dr. J. Bracken Burns, Jr.** was awarded the “Thad Moseley Endowment for Surgical Teaching.” He will use the grant to complete his Surgical Education Research Fellowship (SERF) from the Association for Surgical Education.

**Dr. Noreen Durrani** was awarded the “Thad Moseley Endowment for Surgical Teaching.” She will use the grant to attend the American College of Surgeons’ Annual Surgeons as Educators course this September in Lands Down, VA.

**Dr. Eric Frykberg** was awarded Senior Membership into The Halsted Society. Membership in this prestigious society is by invitation only and is limited to 75 members. Dr. Frykberg will be inducted at the 84th Annual Meeting in September 2010.

**Dr. Joan Huffman** was appointed as the *Northeast Florida Medicine Journal’s* new Editor-in-Chief. She began her new editorship duties in January 2010.

**Dr. John Kilkenny** was inaugurated as the 123rd President of the Duval County Medical Society (DCMS) at its 157 Annual Meeting in January 2010.

**Drs. Miren Schinco** and **J. Bracken Burns, Jr.** were awarded Surgical Education Research Fellowships (SERF) from The Association for Surgical Education (ASE). This award is only given to 16 fellows a year and supports the goals and activities of the ASE to access, design, review, and translate education research into academic presentations, as well as establish a network of surgical education research colleagues. Both will attend the annual meeting in San Antonio, TX in April 2010.

**Dr. Joseph Tepas, III**, has been named the Physician Champion for the EPIC Electronic Health Record (EHR) for the UF/Shands Jacksonville Campus. Dr. Tepas will serve as liaison between clinicians, project governance, executive sponsors and lead the project team during its design, validation and implementation of the EPIC EHR system.

The following trauma faculty and staff received news coverage for their amazing efforts in providing medical relief to Haitians following the devastating earthquake: **Joan Huffman, M.D.**; **David Chesire, Ph.D.**; **Laura Ford, P.A.**; and **Dawn Linder, R.N.**, LifeQuest Organ Recovery.

## Andrew Kerwin, M.D. Promoted to Chief of Acute Care Surgery

The University of Florida College of Medicine – Jacksonville, Dept. of Surgery is pleased to announce the promotion of Dr. Andrew Kerwin to Chief of the Division of Acute Care Surgery. The division encompasses the region’s only Level I trauma center, emergency general surgery, and surgical critical care services for Shands Jacksonville.



Dr. Kerwin earned his medical degree at Southern Illinois University and completed his internship at Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood, IL. He completed his surgical residency at the the Medical College of Ohio (now the University of Toledo) followed by a fellowship in trauma and critical care at University of Tennessee – Memphis. Dr. Kerwin is board certified in surgery with the added qualification of being certified in surgical critical care.

Dr. Kerwin joined the Department of Surgery of the University of Florida College of Medicine – Jacksonville in 2001 as assistant professor. He was promoted to associate professor of surgery in 2008. Dr. Kerwin has held many positions for Shands Jacksonville including the medical director of the surgical intensive care unit. He currently holds the position of Trauma Program Medical Director. He also serves on the Executive Committee of the Florida Committee on Trauma and on the Trauma Systems Planning Committee for the Florida Department of Health Office of Trauma.

He is the recipient of many awards including several Exemplary Teacher Awards and the Excellence in Student Education Award. Dr. Kerwin is an active academician with 18 publications, three book chapters, and a reviewer of several national publications including the *Annals of Surgery* and the *Journal of Trauma, Injury, Infection, and Critical Care*. He is also an active researcher with many funded research initiatives and grants.

## PROFILE: DR. RUI FERNANDES

**D**r. Rui Fernandes, D.M.D., M.D., F.A.C.S., is a board certified oral and maxillofacial Surgeon and serves as Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery, Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery as well as in the Division of Surgical Oncology. He is also the Residency Program Director for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery as well as the Director of the Microvascular Surgery Fellowship at the UF College of Medicine-Jacksonville.



Currently, Dr. Fernandes is the only head and neck microvascular surgeon south of the University of Georgia in Atlanta and north of Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa who performs these complex procedures. His practice referral base ranges from South Georgia; North, Central, and South Florida; and southeast Alabama. Recently Dr. Fernandes has received international referrals from South America and Middle East for resection and reconstruction of complex head and neck tumors and defects.

Dr. Fernandes belongs to multiple organizations, most notably the American College of Surgeons, the American Head and Neck Society, where he serves on its Education Committee; the American Medical Association; and the American Dental Association; and is a founding Fellow of the International Academy of Oral Oncology.

He serves as a reviewer for multiple journals including the *Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery*, *Journal of Surgical Oncology*, *International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery*, *Head and Neck*, and *Oral Surgery, Oral Medicine, Oral Pathology, Oral Radiology and Endodontics*.

Additionally, he's written numerous manuscripts that have been published in peer-reviewed journals and numerous abstracts. Dr. Fernandes authored book chapters in *Pediatric Surgery and Urology* by Stringer, Oldham and Mouriquand; and *Maxillofacial Surgery, 2nd Edition*, by Ward-Booth, and numerous others. He also served as guest editor for *Atlas of Oral Maxillofacial Surgery, Mandibular Reconstruction and Maxillary Reconstruction*.

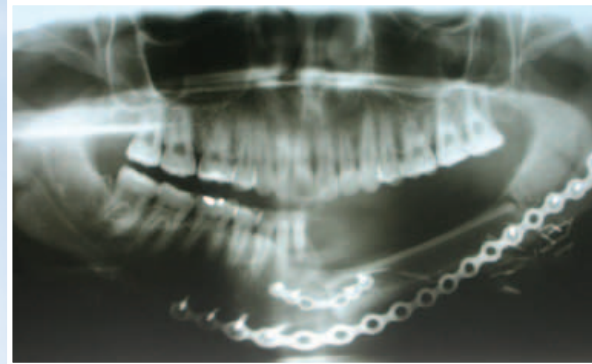
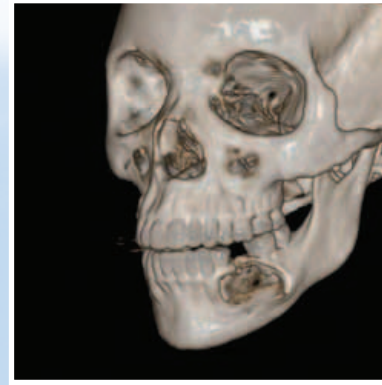
“**Dr. Fernandes** is the only head and neck surgeon in Northeast Florida performing complex microvascular procedures.”

Dr. Fernandes has also received several prestigious awards such as the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Faculty Educator Development Award (received in 2006), the University of Florida College of Medicine “Exemplary Teaching Award” (received in 2007), and the Duval County Medical Society’s 2008 “Beals Award for Outstanding Medical Research in Clinical Observation.”



Young patient with an aggressive mandibular tumor prior to surgery

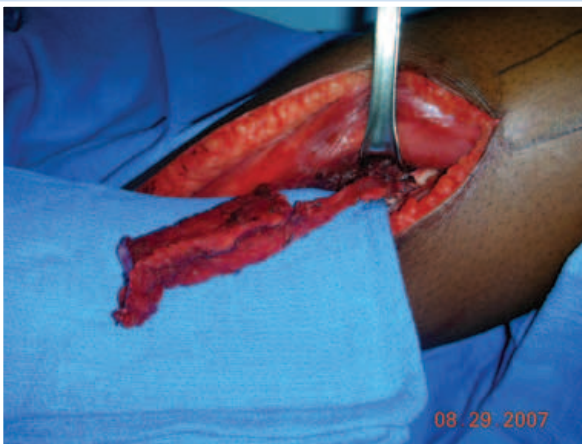
3D CT scan of patient's facial skeleton with noted tumor in the mandible



Panoramic view of the reconstructed mandible with the fibula in place



Intra-operative view of exposed tumor prior to resection



View of harvested fibula flap



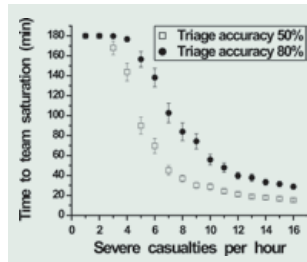
Post-operative facial appearance of patient; note the re-establishment of facial symmetry with minimal facial scar.

# Triage and Trauma Workload in Mass Casualty: A Computer Model

Asher Hirshberg, M.D., F.A.C.S.; Eric R. Frykberg, M.D.; Kenneth L. Mattox, M.D.; Michael Stein, M.D.

**Objective:** To quantitatively analyze the effect of hospital triage on the workload of trauma teams in the Emergency Department (ED) during a mass casualty incident, using a computer model.

**Methods:** The inflow of casualties in to an ED containing five trauma teams was modeled in STELLA® using a reference scenario based on the London subway bombings (July 2005). The key variables were triage accuracy (sensitivity and specificity) and casualty arrival rate. The main outcome measure was “Time to Saturation” (TTS) of the trauma teams. The TTS was computed by tracking the sum of



trauma team minutes needed to treat all severe casualties in the ED, then comparing it to the sum of available team minutes (calculated from the number of participating teams) during each simulation run. The model was implemented using the Monte Carlo method.

**Results:** Accurately identifying mild casualties (specificity), which reduces over-triage, has a larger impact on trauma team workload than accurately identifying severe ones (sensitivity).

		Sensitivity	
		50%	80%
Specificity	50%	94 ± 4.5	96 ± 4.8
	80%	164 ± 3.3	170 ± 2.2

**Conclusions:** This study introduces a set of innovative tools for quantitative analysis of hospital triage in mass casualty incidents, showing how changes in triage accuracy and mode affect the ability of trauma teams to cope with heavy casualty loads. These tools can be used to learn useful lessons from past incidents and to optimize the hospital’s response to future threats.

Accepted by the *Journal of Trauma* for publication in 2010