



SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

Newsletter

Issue 6 - SPRING | April 2022

[CHAIR UPDATE](#)

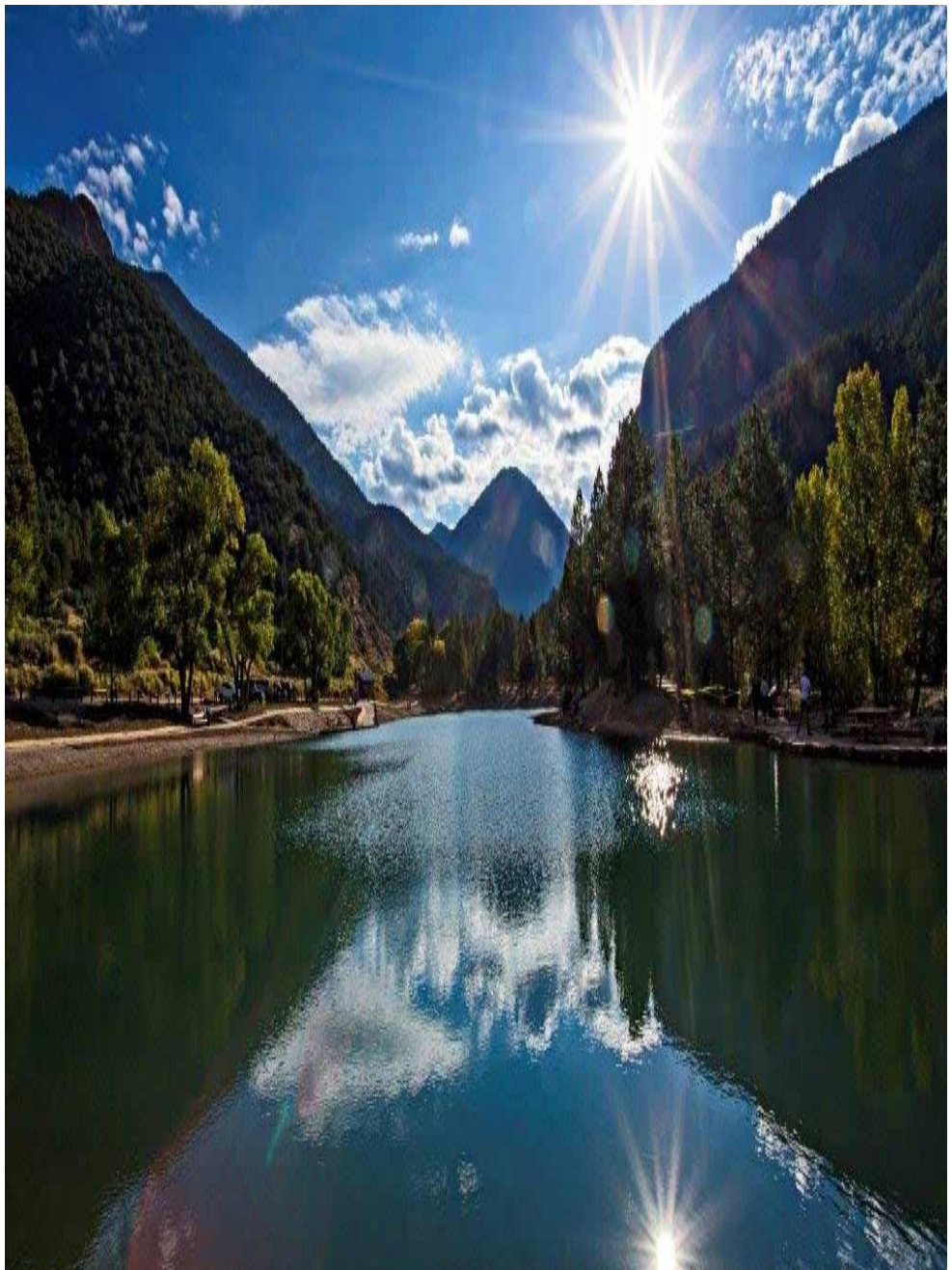
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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Hello and welcome to the Dept. of Surgery Spring 2022 Newsletter:

Spring has finally arrived to New Mexico bringing warmer temperatures, longer days and flowering trees. It has been over 2 years since the 1st reported case of COVID-19 in the United States and 24 months since the 1st case in New Mexico. There have been almost 80 million confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the United States with over 970,000 deaths in the US and 6 million deaths worldwide. After a recent period of spiking COVID cases in January due to the Omicron variant we have again seen a rapid drop in new cases, hospitalizations and deaths.

Hospital systems in NM and throughout the country have finally seen some relief from recent record census levels. The previous Crisis Standards of Care is no longer in effect and some return to normal has occurred with NM and UNM no longer requiring masks indoor except for hospitals and congregate facilities such as assisted living facilities. The pandemic is not fully over and we keep a careful watch on Europe for new variants that may lead to another wave of cases. This pandemic has been a great challenge to all of us personally and professionally as multiple waves of the COVID-19 global pandemic have impacted our patients, friends, family and ourselves as healthcare providers. Provider and hospital staff well-being and peer support remain more important than ever to helping each other through this period.

Particular to the UNM Surgery Department surgical case volumes have rapidly rebounded as the main OR, OSIS, BBRP and SRMC completely reopened the operating rooms in March. Case volume for the surgery department increased from a low of less than 600 combined cases at UNMH and SRMC in December 2020 to now an average of approximately 900-1000 cases per month currently. The New Hospital Tower continues to be on budget and on time with first patients admitted to the new tower in October, 2024. This will add 18 new operating rooms, 96 ICU beds, new imaging systems and new adult emergency room. The current 16 main hospital operating rooms will then be completely remodeled to 12 modern full size operating rooms and discussions are ongoing on adding additional inpatient beds recognizing the shortage of hospital beds in NM.

The department of surgery continues to grow with **14 new faculty members** being recruited across many of our department divisions. New faculty now growing their practice include **Dr. Alissa Greenbaum** in surgical oncology, **Dr. Jay Zhu**, **Dr. Lauren McClain** and **Dr. Lara McKean** in general and GI surgery, **Dr. Jen Nishimura** in cardiothoracic surgery, and **Dr. Brandon Behrens** in acute care surgery.

Recruitment is ongoing with excellent candidates in pediatric ENT, transplant, neurology, urology, plastic surgery and acute care surgery. Our training programs in Surgery, Otolaryngology, Urology, Plastics as well as our fellowships in Complex General Surgical Oncology, Surgical Critical Care and Acute Care Surgery are all fully accredited with approval of expansion of our General Surgery Program to 7 residents/year and the Urology program to 3 residents/year.

The residency match just completed this month and we have filled our General Surgery, Otolaryngology, Plastic Surgery and Urology programs with outstanding new residents.

Building on last year's very successful Research symposium, the **8th Annual Surgical and Ophthalmology Research Symposium will be held in person on June 24th, 2022** with this year's keynote speaker for the Donald E. Fry lectureship being **Dr. Melina Kibbe**. Dr. Kibbe is a pioneering surgeon and physician leader who recently was appointed as Dean of the University of Virginia School of Medicine.

Lastly it must be mentioned that we have all seen images of the now 1 month War in Ukraine. The heartaches, trials, suffering of the Ukrainian people are unbelievable. The strength of the Ukrainian people against overwhelming force is inspiring and the world has been united and galvanized against this atrocity. Our hearts and prayers go out to them with hopes for a rapid resolution to this humanitarian disaster.

I hope that you all enjoy this quarterly newsletter and the articles highlighting department activities, our training programs and research and education missions. Please continue to take care of yourself and your loved ones.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Ming-Li Wang, MD

Vice Chair of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



The SOM Office for DEI is providing sponsorship for the **AAMC Early Career Women Faculty Leadership Development Seminar, July 19-22, Minneapolis, MN.** [Register for the events here](#)

March was Womens' History Month. Give a shout out to all our amazing women surgeons!

The following Women's History Month Events were made possible by the UNM HSC and School of Medicine Offices for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion:

Challenges in Achieving Gender Equity in Academic Medicine (March 8)

Speaker: Jennifer Grandis, MD

Moderator: Michelle A. Ozbun, PhD

New Paths in Medical Spanish Teaching and Learning: At the Crossroads of Personal Identity and Professional Skill (March 15)

Speaker: Pilar Ortega, MD

Moderator: Veronica Plaza, MD, MPH

Adelina 'Nina' Otero-Warren: Sufragista and Advocate for New Mexicans (March 17)

Speaker: Anna M. Nogar, PhD

Moderator: Melissa Gonzales, PhD

Addressing Menstrual Equity at the Health Sciences Center (March 22)

Speaker: Amanda Collar: MD/PhD Candidate

Moderator: John Paul Sánchez MD, MPH

Belaboring Freedom: Black Women Artists and the Question of Monuments (March 24)

Speaker: Kirsten Pai Buick, PhD

Moderator: Tryphenia B. Peele-Eady, PhD

We would like to improve recruitment of diverse trainees. Help us create a recruitment flier to be distributed at events such as LMSA, AMWA and UNM website. If interested, please reach out to Joyce Pang or me. We will need a photo and brief biography to be included in the recruitment flier.

Monthly Community Connection & Reflection Book Club led by Lindsay Smart

List for 2022 is provided below, and is also available in Teams space.

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| January | <i>Two Old Women: An Alaskan Legend of Betrayal, Courage and Survival</i>
by Velma Wallis |
| February | <i>My Grandmother's Hands: Racialized Trauma and the Pathway to Mending Our Hearts and Bodies</i>
by Resmaa Menakem |
| March | <i>Everything Here is Beautiful</i>
by Mira T. Lee |
| April | <i>The Scalpel and Silver Bear: The First Navajo Woman Surgeon Combines Western Medicine and Traditional Healing</i>
by Lori Alvord and Elizabeth Cohen van Pelt |
| May | <i>America is Not the Heart</i>
by Elaine Castillo |
| June | <i>The Undocumented Americans</i>
by Karla Cornejo Villavicencio |
| July | <i>An American Marriage: A Novel</i>
by Tayari Jones |
| August | <i>Yellow Bird: Oil, Murder, and a Woman's Search for Justice in Indian Country</i>
by Sierra Crane Murdoch |
| September | <i>Girl In Translation</i> by Jean Kwok |
| October | <i>Crying in H Mart: A Memoir</i>
by Michele Zauner |
| November | <i>The Pull of the Stars</i> by Emma Donoghue |
| December | <i>Talking to Strangers: What We Should Know about the People We Don't Know</i>
by Malcolm Gladwell |

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

DR. NATHAN BOYD Chief of Staff, UNM Hospitals & Clinics

Dear Colleagues,

I would like to give you an update on several topics that have relevance to UNM Hospital (UNMH) medical staff.

Elizabeth Whitefield End-of-Life Options Act Update

The Elizabeth Whitefield End-of-Life Options Act became active on June 18, 2021. The law legalizes the practice of medical aid in dying (MAID) and grants criminal immunity to physicians and certain APPs who choose to provide these services. A **MAID task force** was convened last year and developed policies and procedures that will allow UNMH medical staff to meet our obligation under the law whether we choose to offer these services or not. **Dr. Jacqueline O'Neill** (Dept. of Internal Medicine) has assumed a primary leadership role in operationalizing and improving upon the MAID taskforce's initial work. The UNM Hospital, Cancer Center, and UNM Medical Group became participatory organizations **beginning January 17th, 2022.**

Essentially, any member of the UNMH medical staff may participate in providing MAID for their patients as long as the requirements of the law are met. A learning central module ("MAID Provider Training") is available and is a great resource. We have also developed an adhoc referral process for those providers who do not wish to offer MAID but whose patients inquire about this service. This adhoc referral process is made possible by members of the UNMH medical staff who have selflessly volunteered their time. If you are interested in becoming a UNMH MAID provider, please email me or Dr. Jacqueline O'Neill for more information.

Peer Review Process Update

Our new centralized peer review process at UNMH will commence in April. The policies related to this new system were ratified by the MEC last year and are available online. A new committee, the **UNMH Professional Practice Committee**, has been created to enact them, and **Dr. Erik Kraai** (Dept. of Internal Medicine) has graciously agreed to be its chair. I truly believe this new peer review system will be a huge improvement over our previous one, though I also completely understand that this initiative has created some unease in certain quarters. I am always available to discuss further if desired.

Upcoming Projects Related to Medical Staff Affairs

We have developed an **expedited credentialing and privileging process for new hires at UNMH**. This process will only apply to providers with a "clean" file but should considerably shorten the time needed to get a new provider up and running. This new process will be **available starting end of March.**

I would like to thank all of you for your understanding and cooperation over the past few months as the hospital struggled with an unusually high inpatient census. The disruption to OR access was challenging but necessary. As always, please feel free to reach out to me anytime at UNMH-ChiefofStaff@salud.unm.edu.

Sincerely,

Nathan Boyd, MD
Associate Professor of Surgery,
UNM School of Medicine
Chief of Staff, UNM Hospitals and Clinics



EDUCATION UPDATES

JOHN C. RUSSELL, MD Vice Chair of Education

The **NRMP Annual Residency Match** is a milestone event both for our UNM medical students and our Surgery residency programs. For most programs, the Match results are released during the third week of March, with graduating medical students learning their residency assignments this year on the morning of Friday, March 18th. The results of the **Urology Match** have already been announced, and, as usual, our program did extremely well, **filling 3 Categorical positions**. This year, **Surgery** will be **expanding from 6 to 7 Categorical positions**, and **from 3 to 5 Preliminary positions**. Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery, and Plastics/Reconstructive Surgery will remain at their currently-approved resident complements (2 and 1, respectively).

As you know, this **year's residency interview process** for all programs was done via Zoom. I'd like to thank the great work done by our program directors, our program coordinators and all the faculty and residents that participated in this year's Zoom residency interviews. We don't yet know what the interview process will look like next year - whether we'll go back to in-person interviews, remain remote, or implement a hybrid process - I think we've learned much in the past 2 years about how to best present our programs in the virtual space. I would also like to thank our faculty who serve as Match advisors to our UNM senior students. I'm confident that our UNM students, with your help and advice, will do well in matching at great programs, both at UNM and nationally.

This is also the time of the **annual ACGME Resident and Faculty Surveys**. I cannot stress enough the **importance of these surveys to the ongoing accreditation of our residency and fellowship programs**. In moving in 2014 to the "Next Accreditation System" the ACGME placed great emphasis on the annual program reports from each GME Director, and most especially on the results of the annual resident and faculty surveys. Here at UNM, concerns raised in those surveys have led to both focused and full program reviews on shortened accreditation cycles and with little advanced notice. These are not welcome surprises.

In regular meetings with their trainees and their teaching faculty, our GME program directors learn of current concerns, and also have the opportunity to update residents, fellows and faculty on efforts to address prior concerns. Faculty and trainees need this information to accurately respond to survey questions.

Residents, fellows and faculty - if you have questions or concerns, please bring them to your program directors, or to me as VC for Education. We can't continue to improve our GME programs without your constructive input.

Thanks.

John C. Russell, MD
Professor and Vice Chair for Education



NEW DEPT OF SURGERY DIVISION

DIVISION OF HEPATO-PANCREATICO-BILLIARY (HPB)

New Department of Surgery Division: Delivering Specialized Liver, Pancreas and Biliary Care to New Mexicans

Itzak Nir, MD arrived at the UNM School of Medicine in 2010 as a general surgical oncologist. As his understanding of our unique patient population grew, his clinical activity increasingly gravitated toward the surgeries of the liver and the pancreas. In 2017, he submitted to the Department of Surgery and the UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center leadership a proposal to transform his Hepato-Pancreatico-Biliary (HPB) practice into a service line.

With centralization of the operational structure focusing on standard clinical pathways, a solid multi-specialty platform, community outreach, and an extensive clinical research menu, the UNM's HPB practice became the regional referral center for the care of HPB ailments. In June of 2021, these efforts received the academic recognition when the UNM School of Medicine's Committee of Chairs endorsed the creation of a new HPB division within the Department of Surgery.

Nir's division recognizes that clinicians at UNM have a unique incumbent to deliver high quality care. As opposed to large metropolitan centers around the country, where patients have many choices, New Mexicans have few options when it comes to elective cutting-edge interventions for addressing diseases of the liver, pancreas and gallbladder. Often, treatment outside of UNM entails seeking care out of state, which in practicality is not a viable option for most individuals and communities.

"It is our mandate and responsibility to provide locally, state of the art care to our catchment area," said Nir, now UNM's first HPB division chief.

To illustrate, the UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center is the only one of its kind in a 500-mile radius, with the UNM HPB program as the state's powerhouse for liver and pancreas ailment, treated 1500 new referrals in over 2 years period. The burden of these realities falls on UNM providers, but also on the UNM HSC as an institution, Nir contends. "Fostering and maintaining these primarily elective services of unique expertise is not only an obligation, but a source of pride for any leading academic medical center". The HPB program exemplifies the feasibility of developing and maintaining such centers at UNM.

The task of providing surgical value is complex and transcends beyond just talent and skill. Asked to single out the new division's showcase initiative, Nir chose the HPB's perioperative improvement project:

"This endeavor encompasses the entire scope of surgical care, from the pre-operative clinic, to the operating room, the in-patient floor, and finally looping back to the outpatient sphere. This continuum of care required cross institution commitment, with collaboration of doctors across different departments and sub-specialties, and the engagement of nurses and ancillary services", said Nir.

This five-year venture resulted in significant measurable improvement, including adherence to best practices, shortening the time to therapeutic interventions, the length of hospital stay, lowering readmission rate, reduction of opiate use, improved global patient satisfaction, and resources utilization efficiencies.

Nir expressed his gratitude for the UNM leadership for their trust and ongoing support and for multiple colleagues across the institution, including Anesthesia, Medical Oncology, Gastroenterology and Radiology for their partnership and dedication. "Most of all," Nir concluded, "**I thank my team: [Nir's] junior partner, Dr. Benjamin Ferguson, Anita Novak and Megan Bloom (the service's dedicated APPs) and nurse navigator, Lynn Saavedra.**"



MEDICAL MUSE JOURNAL

FINDING THE EXTRAORDINARY AMID THE ORDINARY Bridget N. Fahy, MD FACS

Another Thursday. Another day of inpatient consultations on the palliative medicine service. These days provide a needed yet challenging break from my surgical practice.

In general, I relish the chance to think with my non-surgical brain. On these days, I get to see patients with a spectrum of diseases different from those I treat the other days of the week. Rather than my typical constrained script of, "Have you passed gas?" or, "Let me look at your incision," I tap into a broader repertoire of questions and delve into a wider range of potential issues.

While I believe that putting on this other clinical hat provides a needed service to the patients of my hospital, I am keenly aware of the professional benefits I derive through this dual practice experience. I trust that leading difficult conversations around initiating or withdrawing life support only improves my communication skills when the topic is cancer recurrence or describing the implications of life-altering surgery.

No matter how intrinsically rewarding and meaningful my palliative medicine practice is or can be, it also has its share of "same sh**, different day" feel to it.

On this particular Thursday, palliative care rounds proceeded as usual, with the unassigned patients on the service divvied up to the new providers coming on that day, including me. In many ways, Thursdays feel like a series of speed dates: I get a name, room number, basic clinical information and some topics to address during my visit. Somehow, in the course of these interactions with a series of strangers, I am charged with creating a connection, identifying and addressing physical, emotional, psychosocial and spiritual needs, and soliciting treatment preferences.

This day, my list included Mr. H. Unfortunately, his story is all-to-common on the palliative medicine team: 60-something-year-old man with active substance use disorder admitted with sepsis and altered mental status.

Beyond these basics, I also gleaned from my chart review that there were issues identifying his surrogate decision-maker. Like many patients in his situation, his substance use disorder had wreaked havoc on his family and sources of psychosocial support. my task: identify someone able and willing to serve as Mr. H's surrogate decision-maker. It was also Mr. H's birthday, so finding a way to recognize his special day was also on the "to do" list.

I stood outside Mr. H's room and saw the putrid green sign outside indicating he was in contact isolation. Great! As I prepared to don my PPE before entering Mr. H's room, I was surrounded by the din of unusual hospital noises: the clanging of the morning breakfast trays being removed, a volley of chirps and pings from cell phone text messages being delivered to the providers around me, fragments of conversations between patients and nurses.

Out of this cacophony came a quieting sound that resonated far beneath my hearing and reached down into my core. I felt compelled to turn around to find the source of this sweet sound.

There I saw the back of a man, probably in his 60s, holding the trembling hand of an elderly patient. The man was singing a hymn in Spanish. Owing to my lack of Spanish language skills, I couldn't understand most of what the man was singing, except that it was about Dios (God) and paz (peace). That both elements were present, in the space, at the moment, was unmistakable.

I stood there for several minutes, eyes closed, clearly aware that I was witnessing something divine and extraordinary. I said a quiet prayer for the patient and his singing visitor as I entered Mr. H's room hoping to create something extraordinary out of this seemingly ordinary encounter.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

iCARE AWARDS

Vinay Rai, MD

Since the beginning (way back when we started talking about this new project over the phone), Dr. Rai has been very open, honest, and welcoming. He checked in with me regularly prior to my accepting the position and continues to do so now that the clinic is up and running. He shows real passion for ostomates and their quality of life, which makes me enjoy working with him all the more. It's been a little over a month now and I have absolutely no regrets about coming here to open this clinic and to work with him. I am excited about the work the department can do. - Erasicleia S Tzamaloukas

Liat N. Shama, MD

Guadalupe Gutierrez wrote: "This team has been amazing with my mom and me. Quintasha was very helpful and Sheryl very kind with us. And- thank you to Dr. Shama!" - Aimee Jaramillo

Happy Valentine's Day Dr. Shama!! Thank you for always being so nice! :) - Quintasha Johnson

Brandon Behrens, MD

Dr. Behrens is a fantastic attending and we all really enjoy working with him. He teaches all the time and provides many opportunities for us to learn.- M Nicole Webb

Thanks for being a great Attending. I appreciate how you take the time to teach. - Sarah E Davis

Jason Wilson, MD

Patient parent said via Press Ganey survey: We love Dr. Wilson. Many doctors are condescending and act superior, but Dr. Wilson talks like he knows you. He is friendly and personable and allows us to give our input.- Carlos Baca

Patient parent said via Press Ganey survey: Appointment was really good, Dr. Wilson is a great doctor. Yes I would definitely recommend Dr. Wilson to others.- Carlos Baca

Patient said via paper iCare: Dr. Wilson is a great doctor. We are very thankful for him. -Carlos Baca

Patient parent said via paper iCare: Dr. Wilson has just gotten better with time. We have been seeing him for 11 years. He's always been a great doctor, but his bed side manner has gotten better ever year! Really enjoy and feel lucky to have him. He has gone out of his way to reassure me about test results and explain procedures.- Carlos Baca

Jessica Ming, MD

Patient parent said via paper iCare: Dr. Ming is a fun & caring doctor. She cares & makes her patients feel comfortable. Her up-beat personality & optimism is enjoyable to be around. Thank you Dr. Ming! - Carlos Baca

Patient parent said via Press Ganey survey: We love Dr. Ming, she gave us great advice - Carlos Baca

Sarah A Moore, MD

Dr. Moore, you were mentioned in a debrief by Krista (one of our new Circulating RNs in Training). Specifically, she said that you were knowledgeable, friendly, and that you did a great job of explaining CBDE procedures, anatomy, and high-volume GoLytle washouts to her. Thank you so much for making her feel welcome and valued. Keep being amazing! :) -Jenn (Main OR Educator, RN, CST)- Jennifer A Richmond

On being the recipient of a Preceptor Prowess Certificate from the Main OR on 2.25.22 for having a great attitude, being a synergistic member of our OR team, helping to teach our new circulating RNs in training, making people feel welcome in the OR, and for freely explaining anatomy, procedures, and OR processes to learners - JR, CI, NG & KS.

Thank you Annie! Keep up the great work :) -Jenn Richmond, Main OR Educator, RN, CST

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

ITEACH AWARDS

Maxx Gallegos, MD

Maxx, Thank you for the kind words today. Thank you for recognizing how hard Courtney and I have been working to keep training all/any staff to a standard that includes OR patient safety, regardless of staff/traveler status. Thank you for seeing the results of our contributions. It blew my mind to know that someone had actually noticed. It makes me even happier that it was you. Keep being amazing! -Jenn :)

Thank you for your help today - Carlos Baca

Gregory Borah, MD

Dr Borah agreed to see a patient who had driven from Gallup NM to an appointment made at wrong clinic ...They should have been seen in Hand . It was very kind and gracious of him to help to patient - Lynne Lamar

Jay Zhu, MD

Dr. Zhu, you were mentioned in a debrief by Briana. Specifically, she said that you took the time to teach her how to drive the Robot, in the moment, during a case. You were a patient teacher, reassuring her that "everyone was a beginner once." Additionally, she complimented you, saying that she perceived you were "cool as a cucumber." Thank you so much for making her feel welcome and valued. Keep being amazing! :) - Jenn Richmond, RN, Main OR Educator

Briana. Specifically, she said that you took the time to teach her how to drive the Robot, in the moment, during a case. You were a patient teacher, reassuring her that "everyone was a beginner once." Additionally, she complimented you, saying that she perceived you were "cool as a cucumber." Thank you so much for making her feel welcome and valued. Keep being amazing! :) - Jenn Richmond, RN, Main OR Educator

Edward Auyang, MD

Amanda mentioned today how much she appreciates you investing in helping to get her small procedure clinic going. Thanks so much for supporting her practice and development.- Brian Long

Anil Shetty, MD

Thank you for being such a great teacher. Your trust and also guidance are invaluable and have really helped me progress as a trainee. - Shawhin R Shahriari

Duncan Meiklejohn, MD

Thank you Dr Meiklejohn for helping me brainstorm about best option for pt with persistent impaired balance & dizziness - and being available via tiger connect! - Ansu Kuruvilla

Richard Miskimins, MD

Dr Miskimins went above and beyond by doing three trachs for the NSI service when he wasn't even on service! Thank you for always saying yes and helping us get people moving along their healing journey! - Maria C Kelly

Benjamin Ferguson, MD

Thanks for your prompt response today regarding your patients T&S and H&P. I appreciate your great attitude!

Eugene Wu, MD

Thank you, Dr. Wu, for everything you do to help us out over at PALS!! We appreciate you so much, and you help make a difference in patient lives, whether near or far! Your knowledge and expertise is invaluable and so important -- thanks for being a part of our team here at UNMH! - Andrea Yarnell

RESIDENCY MATCHES

ENT



Aurora Maes
The University of New Mexico



Allison Price
The University of New Mexico

General Surgery



Steven Bozell
University of Oklahoma



Deanna Gonzalez
The University of New Mexico



Jose Clement
The University of New Mexico



Alyssa Justus
The University of New Mexico



Lexi Mang
The University of New Mexico



Erin Risotto-Urbanowicz
Oregon Health



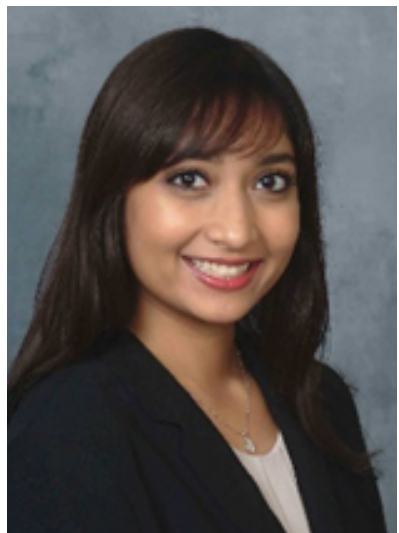
Brenda Saucedo
McGovern



Kaelyn Brooks
University of Texas



Frances Chavez
The University of New Mexico



Sarita Jamil
Univ. of Central Florida



Lauren Marek
The University of New Mexico



Jessica Sullivan
The University of New Mexico

RESIDENCY MATCHES

Plastics



Samantha Huang
Keck School of Medicine
Univ. of Southern California

Urology



Kyle Clouse
A.T Still
University of Health
Sciences Kirksville
College of Osteopathic
Medicine



Anusara "Caroyln" Ice
The University of New Mexico



Merry "Molly" Peckham
University of Arkansas
for Medical Sciences
College of Medicine

CRITICAL CARE FELLOWSHIP ALUMNI UPDATE

Drs. Victor & Rebecca Phuoc



Taking opportunities as they come leads to a lot of unexpected adventures in life!

We have very much enjoyed our small town experience in private practice in Great Falls, Montana. The laid back pace of life and the beautiful, expansive wilderness just outside our door have been cherished.

We also welcomed a baby daughter in May of 2021.

However, an opportunity came up for Victor to head the Surgical Oncology group at Hawaii Pacific Health, and for Becca to further her education with a Surgical Critical Care fellowship at University of Hawaii starting summer of 2022.

Neither of us had ever been to Hawaii until our visit there in January - what a change from Montana!

We look forward to both the challenges of moving our family across the ocean and starting new jobs while exploring our new island home. Aloha!

- Victor, Becca, Athan, and Autumn

MAKE AN IMPACT



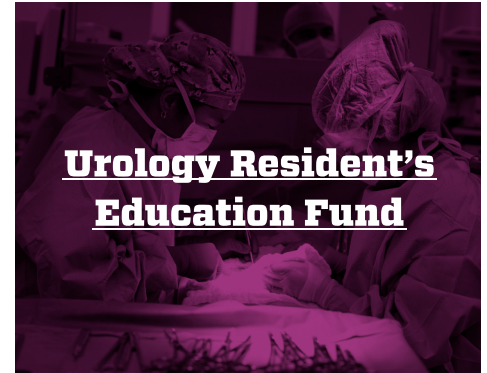
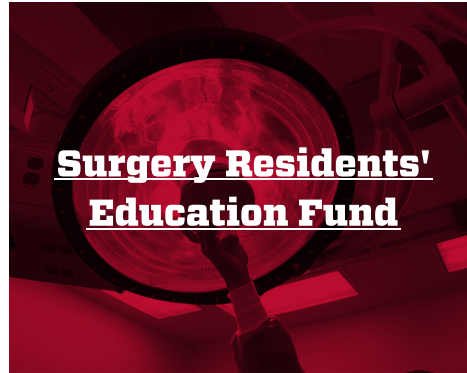
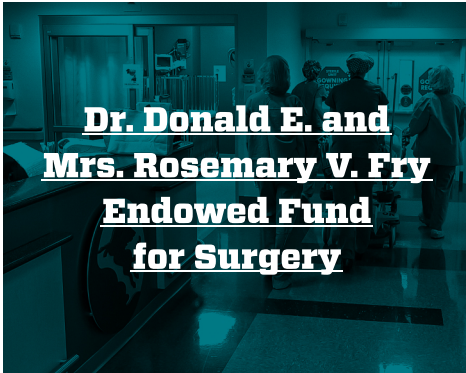
THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEW MEXICO
FOUNDATION

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SURGERY RESIDENTS

The mission of the Department of Surgery at The University of New Mexico School of Medicine is to promote compassionate surgical care, innovative research and the training of our future leaders in surgical sciences.

By making a gift to support our mission, you help deliver advanced surgical care to adult and pediatric patients, protect the pursuit of groundbreaking research and ensure the exceptional training of New Mexico's future leaders in surgical sciences.

LOOKING FORWARD BY GIVING BACK



LIFE-LONG, CAREER BUILDING EXPERIENCES

What was your favorite part on the path to becoming a surgeon?

Perhaps it was your residency experience.

There's a certain satisfaction in knowing that you can truly make a difference in the future of an institution that has made such a meaningful impact in your own life.

When you make a gift to support UNM School of Medicine surgical residents, you ensure an exceptional experience for our trainees both inside and outside of the clinical setting and operating room.

You can empower residents to present and advance their scholarship at professional conferences and meetings.

You can provide them with invaluable leadership development, continuing education and professional well-being resources.

Please consider a gift to one of the resident support funds linked above.

**Contact: Amanda Baca,
UNM Foundation**
amanda.baca@unmfund.org
505.313.7636
www.unmfund.org
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Albuquerque, NM 87102