

Schedule for Upcoming Grand Rounds

You are all invited. Grand Rounds is held every Wednesday at 7 am in the Fitkin Amphitheatre.

DATE	SECTION	PRESENTER	TITLE OF TALK
01/07/09	Yale-New Haven Hospital	Rick D'Aquila <i>Chief Operating Officer</i>	State of Yale-New Haven Hospital
01/14/09	Internal Medicine	Jack Elias, MD <i>Waldemar Von Zedtwitz Professor and Chairman, Internal Medicine</i>	State of the Department of Internal Medicine
01/21/09	Transplant	Sanjay Kulkarni, MD <i>Assistant Professor</i>	Update on Pancreas Transplantation
		Antonios Arvelakis, MD <i>Assistant Professor</i>	Liver Transplantation for Hepatocellular Carcinoma
01/28/09	Yale School of Medicine	Robert Alpern, MD <i>Ensign Professor and Dean</i>	State of Yale School of Medicine
02/04/09	Harvey Lecture	Charles Yeo, MD <i>Samuel D. Gross Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery at Jefferson Medical College</i>	
02/11/09	Association of Women Surgeons Foundation Visiting Professor Program		
02/18/09	Department of Surgery Bridgeport Hospital	Nabil Atweh, MD <i>Surgeon-in-Chief and Chairman</i>	Overview of Bridgeport Hospital... Past, Present, Future
02/25/09	Yale-New Haven Breast Center	Donald Lannin, MD <i>Professor and Co-Medical Director</i>	The Yale-New Haven Breast Center: Lessons from the First 1400 Cancers
	SUNY Upstate Medical University	Kwame Amankwah, MD <i>Assistant Professor of Radiology, Cell and Developmental Biology, Division of Vascular Surgery and Endovascular Services and Chief at VA</i>	Deep Venous Thrombosis: Current Treatment Strategies
03/04/09	Otolaryngology	Elias Michaelides, MD <i>Assistant Professor</i>	
		Dianne Duffey, MD <i>Assistant Professor</i>	
03/11/09	Matory Lecture	L.D. Britt, MD, MPH <i>Brickhouse Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery, Eastern Virginia Medical School</i>	
03/18/09	Endocrine	Tobias Carling, MD <i>Assistant Professor</i>	Extent of Surgery for Well Differentiated Thyroid Cancer—Controversies Persist
	Gastrointestinal	Andrew Duffy, MD <i>Assistant Professor</i>	Obesity Surgery Strategies for the Super-Super Obese
03/25/09	Yale-New Haven Hospital, Office of Graduate Medical Education	Rosemary Fisher, MD <i>Director and Associate Dean, Graduate Medical Education</i>	Sleep Deprivation and Fatigue Awareness
04/01/09	Pediatric	Christopher Breuer, MD <i>Assistant Professor</i>	Cardiovascular Tissue Engineering
	Plastics	Stephan Ariyan, MD <i>Associate Chief, Yale-New Haven Hospital</i>	
04/08/09	Sample Lecture	Douglas Tyler, MD <i>Chief, Section of Surgical Oncology; Professor and Vice Chairman, Department of Surgery; Chief, Surgical Services, Durham VA Medical Center</i>	
04/15/09	Yale Surgical Society Gustaf E. Lindskog, MD International Travel Award Presentations		
04/22/09	Trauma	Kimberly Davis, MD <i>Professor and Section Chief</i>	Life After Damage Control Laparotomy: Management of the Open Abdomen
	Internal Medicine	John Hughes, MD <i>Professor of Medicine, Section of General Internal Medicine</i>	Ethics in Healthcare
04/29/08	Department of Surgery Bridgeport Hospital	John Schulz, MD, MPH <i>Chief of Trauma, Burns and Surgical Critical Care</i>	



Members who made it to Yale's ACS reception in San Francisco (see story inside) left sporting these YSM pins on their lapels. In our next issue, we'll give you a look at our newly designed YSS pins.

Yale Surgical Society

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Yale Surgical Society

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN ANDREW J. GRAHAM, MD



Autumn has been very mild here in New England. As I write in early November, the trees in my neighborhood are mostly in full leaf, and the hardier plants still have flowers. As you read this in December, I won't hazard to predict whether there will be snow on the ground. While June may seem a long way away, I urge you to save the date for our reunion now. In the meantime, I'm happy to share some news about exciting developments on the Yale Medical Campus.

CHANGES AT Y-NHH

In mid-September, another step toward a fully electronic record was made as the hospital worked toward the goal of fully integrating with health facilities across our nation. All hand written notes in the paper record will be scanned into the existing electronic record. The paper record will be destroyed two weeks after a patient's discharge. Whether the notes will be any more legible is anyone's guess. The next step will be a wholly dictated record faithfully transcribed electronically.

Beginning January 1, 2009 the hospital's immediate environs will become tobacco-free as has been the policy for the hospital's interior since 1989.

The adult emergency department is going to expand again, doubling in size on the ground floor. The growing use of

emergency departments is requiring more and more space, facilities and personnel while we continue to wait for a national consensus on alleviating our country's health care needs. The construction will also expand the second floor, allowing additional space for diagnostic and interventional radiology. On the third floor, space will be added to the operating room. All this is in addition to the construction of the 14-story Smilow Cancer Hospital, which continues on track to open in 2009.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

On Tuesday, October 28, Yale-New Haven Hospital celebrated 30 years of ambulatory services. Some of you may remember that the first freestanding surgical center was established in Phoenix, Arizona. Shortly thereafter, a visionary group including **Drs. Alvin Greenberg, Richard Pschirrer and Jack Landau, Evelyn McGuckin, RN**, and others began an effort to establish a freestanding surgical center alongside radiology in the newly constructed Temple Medical Center in downtown New Haven, a short walk from Yale-New Haven. Local hospitals and others across the state and country became alarmed and united to stop these ventures in their tracks, concerned that such facilities would attract primarily insured patients or those able to pay for services, leaving the hospitals to serve those without resources and unable

to cost shift to cover the poor.

They could not stop the tide. Most hospitals learned that if you can't beat them you either imitate them, or join them or buy them. Y-NHH did all three. The Yale-New Haven Hospital Ambulatory Division was created and now supports facilities in surgery, diagnostic radiology, radiation therapy, laboratory medicine, emergency services and endoscopy at locations in the Temple Medical Center, The Shoreline Medical Center and at Yale New-Haven Hospital. Ambulatory medicine has come of age, and the large group that celebrated together in the ballroom of the New Haven Lawn Club included the pioneers and the current hospital administration.

REUNION XIV

Please mark your calendars! On June 4, 2009, we will convene to celebrate **Robert Weiss** for his long service as section chief of urology and for stepping in as interim chief of surgery in 1999 and 2000. We are pleased to announce that **John Libertino**, professor and chairman, Department of Urology, Lahey Clinic Medical Center, Burlington, Mass., is to be our guest speaker. John completed his urology residency at Yale-New Haven Medical Center in 1970. More details of the program will be sent your way in the spring bulletin and in the formal invitation. I look forward to seeing you then.

President Andrew J. Graham, MD
President Elect Michael O'Brien, MD
Vice President John Seashore, MD
Secretary Melissa Perkal, MD
Treasurer John E. Fenn, MD
Assistant Treasurer Thomas Sweeney, MD
Chief Robert Udelseman, MD
Associate Chief Stephan Ariyan, MD
Robert Bell, MD
Agnes Czubulka, MD
Richard Kim, MD

TREASURER'S REPORT

JOHN E. FENN, MD

To those many members and non-members of the Yale Surgical Society who have continued their generous support even in these difficult economic times, we say: Thank you so much. Our endowment established under the aegis of Yale University now stands at almost \$65,000, with more than \$16,000 targeted to support the Lindskog International Travel Award Fund. I shall come back to that in a moment.

Our expectation is that the above monies will grow as we receive additional tax-deductible contributions, and with the wizardry of the Yale Investment Office the future of the Society will not only be assured but will be a thriving one. As I write this brief report, I await a summary from the University as to our current net worth, and being the perpetual optimist I shall hope that our economy will soon turn in a favorable direction and there will be positive news for our members in my next missive.

Now, returning to the subject of the Lindskog International Travel Award Fund: Applications have been distributed to the most senior of the Yale medical students who are seeking support for 2009. As our members are aware, the Lindskog Fund provides support to selected students who travel to developing countries with Yale surgical faculty members where they provide care to the poor and disadvantaged. This has proved to be an extremely popular program, although many of the students are unable to participate since the subsidy is relatively meager compared to the expense that accrues. Our target is to provide full reimbursement for these students, but we currently cannot do that without seriously diminishing the principal of funds in the Lindskog account. As we grow, and as our members continue their demonstrated generosity, we hope that investment return will allow us to meet our target for full coverage of expenses, thus enabling all interested students to apply, not just those with independent resources.

You will be receiving a request for your tax deductible contributions in January, 2009. Please do what you can to support the Society's mission and to help us sustain the programs that have been established. Depending on the initial response to our plea, we shall consider sending out a reminder sometime later in the year to those that do not respond initially. Those that benefit by your generosity are most grateful, and we thank you for your support.

The 94th ACS Clinical Congress

A great opportunity for fellowship and learning

San Francisco, the most popular host city for the American College of Surgeons, always welcomes the largest gathering of surgeons

ANDREW J. GRAHAM, MD

to this fabulous site. A significant highlight of the week's events for us was the reception hosted by our chairman, **Robert Udelsman**.

The bounty of the buffet and bar at this year's celebration was exceptional.

As you may be aware, two years ago the Yale Surgical Society initiated a domestic travel award so that a Yale medical student who had shown an interest in a surgical career could attend the Congress. That award this year went to **Christina Shenvi** whose essay on her experience appears in this issue. Rob Udelsman was so impressed with this concept that he approached YSS with an offer to provide for additional students with funds that were available to him. This pledge, made in September, was quickly put into action by **John Fenn, MD**. Six additional second-year students were able to make the trip, mingle at the reception and enjoy the marvelous program for medical students that the ACS provides. They were **Elie Balesh** and **Derek Kennedy**, co-leaders of the Yale

Surgical Interest Group, and **Marko Boskovski**, **Nupur Garg**, **Don Hoang** and **Andrew Kobets**. They came, they saw and they returned to New Haven even more enthusiastic about seeking careers in surgery. I am sure that this program will continue and that another group will attend the next Clinical Congress in Chicago.

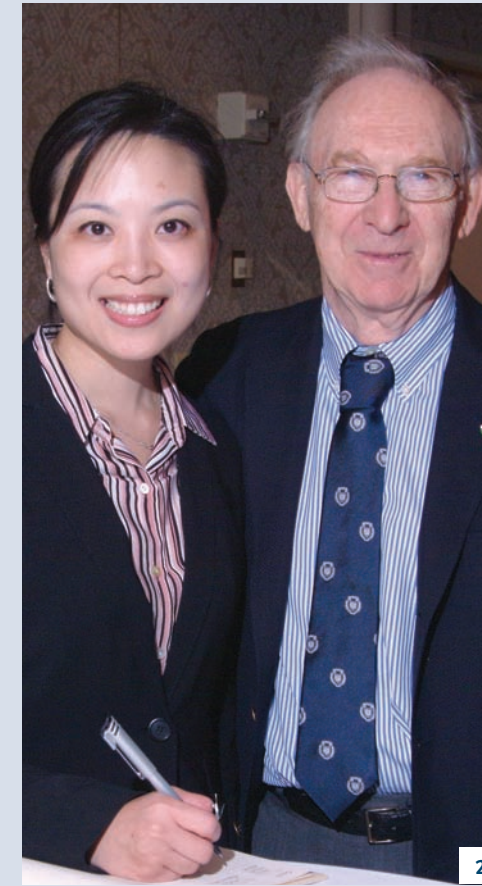
Also participating was a strong contingent of our trainees who were sent to actively participate and contribute to the academic and clinical portions of the meeting as well as to enjoy the enduring fellowship to which they were initiated. They were **Stan Frencher**, **Tamara Fitzgerald**, **Clinton Protacki**, **Jason Prescott**, **Tormod Westvick** and **Sharon Kiang**.

Attending the reception were **Dana Andersen**, **Charlotte Ariyan**, **Chip Baker**, **Paul Barcewicz**, **Hilary Brown**, **Bill Cherniak**, **Amelia Clark**, **Alan Dardick**, **Kimberly Davis**, **Stan and Terry Dudrick**, **Julie Fancher**, **Tiffany Fancher**, **Michael Fuenfer**, **Amy Gallo**, **Andrew and Elizabeth Graham**, **Donald Graham**, **Nelson Goldberg**, **Rick Greene**, **Katherine Grieco**, **Baiba Grube**, **Roger Foster**, **Leigh Evans** and **Dick Gusberg**, **John Jasaitis**, **Lewis Kaplan**, **Neal and Thea Koss**, **Donald Lannin**, **Rifat Latifi**, **Sidney Levitsky**, **Felix Lue**, **Jim and Maxie Mark**, **Mary McGrath**, **Marvin**

McMillen, **Leila Mureebe**, **Christian Navarro**, **Sean Roddy**, **Ronnie Rosenthal**, **John Schultz**, **Neal Seymour**, **Seth Spector**, **Rick Stahl**, **Christopher and Pamela Tasik**, **Barbara Ward**, **Sherry Wren** and **Areiyu Zhang**. Representing our friends at Covidien were **Betsy Cowell**, **Scott Flora**, **Jerry Lieber** and **Tom McEachin**. We try hard to account for everyone, but there were a few who never signed in or whose scribble was not legible. We also had a few Canadian medical students from Calgary who stopped in briefly stating they were looking for a future in a warmer climate. **Michael Curci** and **Ralph and Irene Greco** were active in the Congress but were unable to join us.



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- 1 Tiffany and Julie Fancher (L-R) share a light moment with Theresa Dudrick at Yale's ACS reception.
- 2 Andrew Graham welcomes surgery resident Sharon Kiang to Yale's reception at the ACS Clinical Congress.
- 3 Gathering at the ACS Clinical Congress in San Francisco are (L-R) Chair Robert Udelsman with trauma faculty Felix Lui and Kim Davis and surgery resident Stanley Frencher.
- 4 The ACS Clinical Congress provided opportunities for learning and for fellowship. Yale surgeons (L-R) Felix Lui, Stanley Dudrick and Lewis Kaplan enjoy the latter.

ACS Congress gives medical student early introduction to surgery

Thank you for the opportunity to attend the recent American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress! It was an outstanding

CHRISTINA SHENVI, YSM '10

opportunity to gain a new perspective on a range of issues relating to surgical practice and research. I also attended lectures and receptions organized as part of the Medical Student Program. These involved talks on topics ranging from why surgery is a great career, how to succeed in surgery,

perspectives from practitioners in different specialties and to how to lead a balanced life as a surgical resident. There were several receptions for medical students in which we could interact with surgeons in different specialties, with residents or with program directors. I was able to meet with a pediatric surgeon. As I hadn't had much exposure to pediatric surgery, I was happy to learn more about the unique aspects of this specialty.

The general sessions also offered an exciting array of opportunities, from the grand opening ceremony, to named lectures, to more

detailed research talks. One that was particularly memorable was Dr. Britt's lecture, *The Renaissance Period for American Surgery*, in which he exhorted the audience to search for new methods or systems for health care delivery given the problems with lack of insurance and misallocation of resources inherent in the current system. Another lecture of interest, which sparked some debate among attendees, was *An International Perspective on Surgical Work Hour Restrictions*. Surgeons from France, Switzerland, Australia and the US presented some of the challenges present in their varied

health care systems as they relate to resident training. Specifically they discussed the difficulty of adequately training residents within work hour restrictions in the setting of limited resources and, in the U.S., a cap on the number of residents at each institution. This talk broadened my understanding about what a complex issue resident training is, involving financial, practical and ethical concerns.

Finally, the research presentations I attended were an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of specific fields, and their potential future applications to practice.

A Yale resident presented some of her work in the surgical oncology session.

Aside from the presentations, an enjoyable part of the conference was meeting residents and surgeons at the Yale reception. The residents had helpful advice from first-hand experience on topics such as why surgery is an appealing field and how to balance having a family while being a surgical resident.

I am thankful to have been able to attend this conference. The talks, as well as the infectious excitement of surgeons for their field, were both stimulating and inspiring.

CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

ROBERT UDELSMAN, MD, MBA



The Department of Surgery continues to enjoy unprecedented growth. The ranks of our faculty are growing; the physical space in which we practice and do research is growing; and the philanthropy that supports that vital work is growing.

We're pleased to welcome **Michael Matthew** to the Section of Plastic Surgery. Michael is a graduate of Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. He did his residency in plastic surgery at the University of Virginia School of Medicine, followed by a fellowship in hand surgery at the New York University School of Medicine. His research interests include bioengineering and microvascular flap physiology. **Nwanmegha Young** has joined the Section of Otolaryngology. After obtaining his medical degree at the University of California, he completed a residency at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and a fellowship in Neurology/Laryngology at St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital. His interests include voice disorders, an expertise often sought by professional singers. He has already formed a relationship with Yale Opera and other musical groups on campus. We are also actively recruiting two surgeons to join Pediatric Surgery and are in the midst of a nationwide search for a new section chief in Urology.

The current surgical residents continue in the proud tradition of house staff here at Yale. They are an extraordinary group of young physicians being groomed for leadership positions in American surgery. They will leave Yale to undertake some of the most prestigious fellowships in the world. The excellence of the residency program is an important asset to leverage as we encourage Yale School of Medicine students to pursue careers in surgery. **Walter Longo, MD** and **Andrew Duffy, MD** continue to guide the program with extraordinary commitment. Indeed, we see more and more medical students attend socials with faculty and residents to ask questions about the field in an informal atmosphere. I'd like to acknowledge the extraordinary contributions of **John Fenn, MD**, as faculty advisor to the Surgical Interest Group. His efforts are paying off, as evidenced by the number of medical students at grand rounds and at our mortality and mobility conference. **Michael O'Brien, MD, PHD**, continues to encourage our medical

students to pursue surgical interests.

We expect new office space for the sections of Cardiac, Vascular and Thoracic Surgery in the Boardman Building to be ready for occupation in January. The entire second floor of the building will be part of the Department of Surgery. We have also acquired 1,200 feet of incremental research space in the Brady Memorial Laboratory. Comprehensive renovation in Brady creates three open-design laboratories, laboratory support space, faculty offices and administrative support space. This project is designed to meet the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Gold Certification program in support of Yale University's comprehensive sustainability strategy. We have invested \$1 million in core equipment to support the work of our investigators. With the opening of the Smilow Cancer Hospital in 2009, we will see considerable expansion in clinical space. In addition to the clinical areas available to us at Smilow, the movement of various departments to the new north tower of Yale-New Haven Hospital will create vacancies in the Yale Physicians Building that will be a boon to our rapidly growing department.

We continue to enjoy the support of philanthropists who recognize the vital role that advancing surgery plays in human health. The Susan G. Komen Foundation has awarded \$1.4 million in support of **Donald Lannin, MD**, and **David Stern, PHD**. Their proposed research on the molecular markers of invasive



forms of ductal carcinoma in situ promises to give doctors and patients an earlier and more accurate basis for determining the appropriate treatment course for this common pre-malignant breast cancer diagnosis. Donald is a professor of surgery and co-director of the Yale-New Haven Breast Center and David is a professor of pathology.

Jean-Claude David Schwartz, MD, was recently named the 2008-2009 Norma Lies Mitchell Breast Surgery Fellow. The fellowship is funded by the Breast Cancer Alliance, which has long been an extraordinarily generous supporter of the Yale Cancer Center. Norma Lies Mitchell was the mother of **Jack Mitchell**, who serves on the boards of the Cancer Center and the Breast Cancer Alliance. Jack, a successful clothing retailer, is well known for his book, *Hug Your Customers*, and has shared his philosophy of personalized customer service with us during Grand Rounds.

Finally, thanks to all who joined us at the American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress in San Francisco. It was a pleasure to see so many of you at the Yale reception. The Department of Surgery established a travel fund for Yale medical students who wish to attend the Congress. The department is following the Yale Surgical Society's lead, as YSS began the program two years ago. It was a delight to see so many alumni house surgical staff interacting with the students who may very well be our future house staff.



Above
New space in Brady Memorial Laboratory supports the department's expanding research effort.

Left
Yale has invested \$1 million in state-of-the-art equipment to support surgical research.