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2019 General Surgery Residency Interns

The Department of Surgery is delighted to welcome the incoming class of resident interns. We look forward to learning, leading, and growing with you! Welcome to the team!

Tsehay Abebe, MD  
Washington University

Cameron Casson, MD  
University of Texas Southwestern

Julie Clanahan, MD  
University of Pennsylvania

Franklin Olumba, MD  
University of Texas Southwestern

Hannah Phelps, MD  
Vanderbilt University School of Medicine

Merrill Rubens, MD  
Medical College of Wisconsin

Hailey Shepherd, MD  
University of Utah School of Medicine

Kerry Swanson, MD  
University of Oklahoma

Faiz Gani, MD  
Aga Khan Medical College

Viviane Leite Abud, MD  
Universidade Federal de Rio de Janeiro

Rami Srouji, MD  
American University of Beirut

Shahed Tish, MD  
University of Damascus

New Intern Orientation begins on June 10, 2019, and rotations begin on June 24, 2019. Please give them a wave when you pass them in the halls!
2019 Graduating Residents

Congratulations to all of our graduating residents! We will be celebrating the graduates on June 24, 2019 at the Graduation Ceremony and Dinner at the Chase Park Plaza Hotel.

Joseph C. Fusco, MD
Pediatric Surgery Fellow
Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh

Coen Klos, MD
Colorectal Surgery Fellow
University of Wisconsin—Madison

Kerri Ohman, MD
Colon and Rectal Surgery Fellow
Washington University

Timothy Nywening, MD
Complex Surgical Oncology Fellow
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center

Timothy Lancaster, MD
Cardiothoracic Surgery Fellow
Washington University

Michael Onwugbufo, MD
Cardiothoracic Surgery Fellow, Massachusetts General Hospital

Elisabeth Wynne, MD
Pediatric Surgery Fellow
University of Utah

We wish you all the best of luck in your future endeavors!
Welcome to Our New Faculty!

**Dipesh Shah, MD** – Section of Cardiothoracic Surgery Fellowship, Advanced Cardiovascular Surgery, Mayo Clinic Fellowship, Cardiopulmonary Transplant and Mechanical Circulatory Support, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Residency, Cardiovascular Surgery, G.B. Pant Hospital Magister of Chirurgiae, L.P.S. Institute of Cardiology, C.S.J.M. University Master of Surgery, N.H.L. Municipal Medical College

**Dilip Nath, MD** – Section of Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgery Fellowship, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Washington University in Saint Louis Residency, Congenital Cardiac Surgery, University of Southern California Residency, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, University of Wisconsin Fellowship, Department of Surgery, University of Minnesota Residency, Department of Surgery, University of Minnesota Medical degree, New York University School of Medicine

Faculty & Leadership Updates

The Office of Education would like to offer our sincerest thanks to **Doug Brown, PhD**, for his 8 years of service as Education Specialist for the Medical Student Clerkship. We wish him the best as he continues as Specialist in Surgical Ethics for the Department of Surgery!

After serving as professor of surgical oncology since 2011, **Ryan Fields, MD**, was appointed as Chief of the Section of Surgical Oncology. In addition to this role, Dr. Fields serves as an associate program director for general surgery, as well as director of resident research. **Congratulations, Dr. Fields!**

**Laurie Punch, MD**, was the recipient of the Gerry and Bob Virgil Ethic of Service Award this year for her work with Power4STL. The award ceremony was held on April 17, 2019. She was also a speaker at TedXGatewayArch’s “Healthcare Head-On” event.

Thank you!

The residents would like to thank Dr. Peter Manning for his contributions to the surgery residency program. We wish him well in his retirement.
Off-Site Research Updates

We are proud to have residents representing our program across the globe. From Malawi to Boston, from Amsterdam to South Africa, the drive and passion of our residents is making a mark everywhere they go.

Jessica Lindemann, MD, is currently completing her research years in South Africa. She has spent the last two years working on her research at the University of Cape Town. She is returning to campus for the 2020-2021 academic year. Jessica’s research has been accepted for presentation at this year’s annual meeting of the European-Africa HPB Association meeting in Amsterdam, held June 2-5, 2019.

“Loss of patency after surgical repair of major laparoscopic cholecystectomy bile duct injuries: contributing factors and long term outcomes” was accepted for oral presentation in the Best of Biliary session.

“Mind the Gap! Extraluminal percutaneous-endoscopic rendezvous with a self-expanding metal stent for restoring continuity in major bile duct injury” and “An analysis of early postoperative complications following biliary reconstruction of major bile duct injuries using the Modified Accordion and ATOM classifications” were both accepted for e-poster presentation.

Jessica was awarded the International Student Scholarship Award by the University of Cape Town.

Tara Semenkovich, MD, has had the unique opportunity the past two years to work remotely with the thoracic surgery group at Washington University. While her husband, Nick Semenkovich, MD, PhD, is a resident at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston, Tara has been completing her research years remotely. She returns to campus in June to begin her PGY-4 clinical year.

Tara’s research in Boston has won multiple awards, and her work has been accepted for presentation and publication. She won the President’s Award at the Society of Thoracic Surgeons conference for her abstract entitled “Adjuvant Treatment for Node Positive Esophageal Cancer after Induction Therapy and Surgery Improves Survival: A Multisite Study.” She also presented other research projects at the American Surgical Association (“Trends in Treatment of T1N0 Esophageal Cancer”), and the American Association of Thoracic Surgeons (“A Clinical Nomogram for Predicting Node Positive Disease in Esophageal Cancer”).

Tara’s work was also honored during the annual Wells Day competition!
Resident Accomplishments

The Division of General Surgery at Washington University is home to some of the best and brightest in their fields. Congratulations to all of our residents for their outstanding achievements this spring. Here are some of our highlights!

**Jessica Hudson, MD**, matched with Duke University for Thoracic Surgery Fellowship starting June 2020. Jessica attended medical school at Duke University, and she and her family are excited to be “gong home.” Congratulations!

**Corbin Frye, MD** was once again the winner of this year’s Top Gun competition hosted at WISE. He went on to compete in the national competition in San Diego at SAGES.

Corbin was also named one of the 2019 Looking to the Future Scholars at the Society of Thoracic Surgeons annual conference.

Congratulations to **Lauren Barron, MD** on her Thoracic Surgery Fellowship match right here at Washington University!

**Shaina Eckhouse, MD; Wen Hui Tan, MD; and Kerri Ohman, MD**, represented Washington University School of Medicine at the Academic Residents Robotics Course in Atlanta, Georgia.

This year’s Wells Day competition winners were **Tara Semenkovich, MD**, and **Cathleen Courtney, MD**. **Erin Andrade, MD**, and **Bradley Krasnick, MD**, were also finalists. Congratulations!

Wells Day competition winners and finalists.
L to R: Tara Semenkovich, MD; Erin Andrade, MD; Samuel Wells, MD; Haile Tesfaye Debas, MD; Timothy Eberlein, MD; Cathleen Courtney, MD; Bradley Krasnick, MD
Residents’ Life News

Congratulations!
Tara Semenkovich, MD, and her husband Nick had a baby! Brooklyn was born on December 16, 2018, making little Kendrick a big brother.

Welcome, Campbell Grace!
Will Chapman, Jr., MD, and wife Ashley welcomed their second child into the world on February 2, 2019. Congratulations!

Congratulations!
Erin Andrade, MD, and husband Luis welcomed their first son on April 16, 2019. Tristan Adriel weighed in at 8lb 6oz of pure cuteness!

Beyond the Rooms
Residents lives extend beyond the operating room, the conference room, and the call room. See what they do when they’re not doing in the hospital!


Will Chapman, MD, and daughter, Campbell

Laura Lee, MD, and guest out for a night at the symphony.

Residents and their pets have a hang-out night! L to R: Britta Han, MD; Sydney Beach, MD; Jorge Zarate Rodriguez, MD; and Ken Newcomer, Jr., MD.

Ben Hudson, husband of Jess Hudson, MD, after setting the world record for fastest half marathon with a double stroller, with daughters Eleanor and Abigail.
Program Sponsored Events

The St. Louis Blues made it all the way to the Stanley Cup Finals this season, and our residents had a blast watching St. Louis sports history in the making!

Spring 2019 Resident Retreat

The residents had a rare opportunity to leave campus for some much-needed fun at the Resident Retreat in April. The afternoon was spent at Amp Up Action Park, playing arcade games and virtual reality games, throwing axes, and climbing the high-ropes ninja course.
Mark Your Calendars!

Intern Orientation
June 10-21, 2019

New Intern Welcome Picnic
June 15, 2019

Chief Graduation Ceremony and Dinner
June 21, 2019

Alumni and Prior Faculty!

We would love to stay in contact with you!

Interested in receiving updates like this from the WUSM Department of Surgery via email? Or do you have any news or updates that you would like to share with us? If so, please send your name, current position, and contact information to asksurgery@wustl.edu with any news you’d like to share.

—The Office of Surgical Education

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