



Penn Surgery Society

NEWS

FALL 2024

The Penn Surgery Society News is published quarterly for its members, colleagues and friends of the Department of Surgery. For submissions, inquiries or comments, please contact clyde.barker@penntermedicine.upenn.edu.

Message from the Chair

SCS 2024

In early November, approximately 80 surgeons from around the country descended upon Penn. The Society of Clinical Surgery was originally conceived by Harvey Cushing and then established in 1903 with some other notable surgeons, such as Charles Frazier and George Crile. It is a traveling club whose mission is to promulgate surgical advances. There are several members from the Penn faculty – Drs. Barker, Kelz (who was in her last year as President), Fraker, Singhal, Vollmer, Olthoff, Markmann, and me, and many others who previously trained or worked here. The last meeting at Penn was 2 decades ago.

The three-day meeting commenced midday Thursday, when there was the option of golf at the Philadelphia Country Club or a tour on the Schuylkill River walk. Incredibly, the weather was an unseasonable 70 degrees and sunny. We followed tradition on Thursday night by hosting a dinner at the chair's house. My wife initially exclaimed, "There is no way we're having 120 people over for dinner," and then did all the work to make it happen.

Entertainment was provided by the Penn Counterparts, an a cappella group that boasts having John Legend as an alumnus.

The meeting was full of activities, but as usual centered around direct observation in the operating rooms and research presentations. There was a 3-hour observation period Friday morning that occurred primarily in the Pavilion ORs with 25

(continued on page 3)

FRIDAY
**Operating Rooms**
**Research Presentations**
**History**
**Streets of Philly**
Partner Program
**Philadelphia's MAGIC GARDENS**
Partner Program
**Barnes Museum Dinner**

SATURDAY
**CHASING MY CURE**
Lecture
**Philly Mural Tour**
**Giuseppe's**



Society for Clinical Surgery 2024



From the Editor

Clyde F. Barker, M.D.

On November 12, the APS published a book on the history of Penn surgery that my daughter Elizabeth and I had been working on for the last four years.

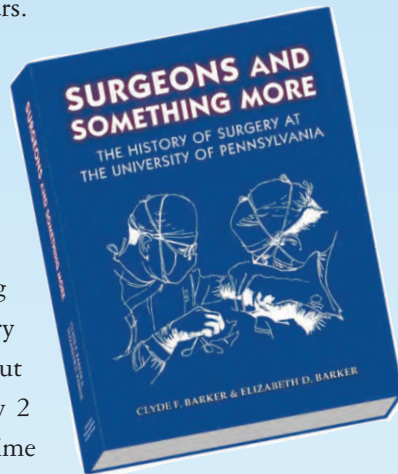
Chapter 14 is about the Department's 12th chairman, I. S. Ravdin. In the University archives, 24 large cardboard boxes of papers and photographs review Ravdin's fascinating 57 years at Penn. His story merits a full biography but this article is limited to only 2 ½ years of it. But these wartime years (1943-45) were the most

influential in transforming the direction of our department and may still be reflected in the style and performance of its surgeons.

The most useful source on Ravdin was his 550-page unpublished oral history. It reads like the screenplay of an adventure film. Rav appears most often as the stage manager but sometimes as the star. His cast is a roster of Army generals, the dominant figures of the CBI (China-Burma-India Theater of WWII). This forgotten, ultimately tragic tale is so riveting that parts of it occupy more than 30 books currently available on Amazon.

The CBI has been called the forgotten theater. Maybe so but as I. S. Ravdin was on his way there the forgetting hadn't begun. It was more than a year until D-day and Anzio and only a month since young inexperienced American soldiers had first bested the seasoned Japanese jungle fighters at Guadalcanal. In the newsreels and the covers and pages of newspapers and Life magazine Americans, British and Chinese soldiers were fighting and dying. Madame Chiang Kai-shek was speaking to the U.S. Congress begging for more aid to China. Hollywood featured John Wayne as a Flying Tiger, Raymond Massey as General Chennault, Errol Flynn as a paratrooping Merrill's Marauder and Noel Coward as Lord Mountbatten. The eyes of the world were on the CBI and I. S. Ravdin was on his way there where he would have a front row seat.

The first five players of Ravdin's script were generals that were Rav's patients in India's 20th General Hospital, and/or his 2 regular dinner companions and lifelong friends.



Lieutenant General Joseph Stilwell (r) speaking with I. S. Ravdin. On Sunday mornings they made rounds together at the 20th General Hospital.

1) **General Vinegar Joe Stilwell.** This intellectual soldier had an abrasive and foul mouth that offended everyone. Eventually it got him fired. Before that, he was the favorite 4-star general of George Marshall, the US Army's chief of staff. Marshall selected him over the other generals of similar rank (MacArthur and Eisenhower) to lead the American forces of the CBI. It was there that in December 1941 the US first got into a shooting war. The Japanese had taken over the ports of our Chinese allies so the only remaining approach for us to supply them was across Burma. Then in May 1942, the Japanese occupied Burma by defeating Stilwell's army. Stilwell, with his tail between his legs, then accompanied his troops in a famous 250-mile walk across Burma to safety in India, vowing to return, lick the Japanese, and recapture Burma. Now the only way left to supply the Chinese and keep Japan from overrunning all of Asia was by air or by building a road across Burma.

2) **General Lewis Pick.** To supply the Chinese and keep them in the war, Roosevelt and Churchill envisioned a 500-mile road from Ledo, India (site of Penn's 20th General Hospital) to the old Burma Road, and then 500 miles more on that road to Kunming, China. To build it would require cutting through heavy jungle full of 10 ft long pythons, tigers, clouds of mosquitoes, 18,000 ft mountain peaks, wide



Chief of Army engineers General Lewis Pick speaking with the workers on the Ledo Road

(continued on page 4)

Message from the Chair *(continued from page 1)*

highlighted procedures. A few surgeons went to CHOP and Presby. John Keogh, anesthesia and the perioperative staff were quite accommodating. Surgeons directly observed techniques or watched livestreaming. Of course, lunch was Philly cheesesteaks and pretzels, during which Dr. Barker recounted some anecdotes from his newly published Book on the history of Penn Surgery. Everyone received a copy of The Book. A few hours of research presentations in the Law Auditorium followed.

Friday night dinner was at the Barnes, with several docents enlightening us during the cocktail hour. A few Mummers appeared and clanged during dinner to educate the uninitiated. On Saturday morning at the Logan, David Fajgenbaum from the Department of Medicine shared his compelling personal journey on researching his own disease. Afterwards, we took a bus tour to see some of the Philly murals. It turns out that there are 4,000 of them!

Fortunately, there were no glitches (e.g., bus breakdowns, highway closures, post-election political unrest, I.V. fluid shortages) thanks to the detailed planning of Kara Lehman, Meredith Fox, Gretchen Harz and Lauren Rossi, as well as the assistance from the houses-

taff. The Measey Foundation helped support the educational event. Overall, the meeting was a resounding success and a distinct occasion to show off the essence of Penn Surgery.



Watching Livestreaming



Barnes Museum



Mummers

From the Editor *(continued from page 2)*

rivers, and Japanese snipers. This would be the engineering miracle of the 20th century. Many considered it impossible. General Pick, the Army's Chief Engineer, disagreed and started constructing it at the rate of a mile per day. The cost of his eventual success was the lives of 1,000 American engineers, 20,000 local workers, and \$149 million—the equivalent of \$2 billion today.

3) **General Frank Merrill.** This sickly, bespectacled MIT PhD was Stilwell's second in command. The result of his walk accompanying the defeated Stilwell from Burma to India was hospitalization at Ravdin's 20th General Hospital for a myocardial infarction. He possibly suffered two more MIs while leading in battle his 3,000 American commandos. These seasoned jungle fighters were volunteers except for some that were pulled from stockades (aka the movie *The Dirty Dozen*). They called themselves Merrill's Marauders. This force was conceived by Roosevelt and Churchill and recruited to protect Pick's engineers as they built the Ledo Road across Northern Burma to supply the Chinese. By sometimes fighting 100 miles behind enemy lines and crossing back and forth for 1,000 miles over jungle, rivers, and mountains, they were successful. But only a few survived.



Ravdin with General Frank Merrill of the commandos protecting the Ledo road

On May 17, 1944, the Marauders approached their most important goal—the crucial airfield and city of Myitkyina. By then, their original 3,000-man force was down to about 1,400 from wounds, dysentery, malaria, and malnutrition. The supplies and reinforcements and periods for rest and recovery they had been promised never arrived. They were exhausted and used up. Nevertheless, Stilwell ordered them to push on. In the battle for Myitkyina, they could have called on help from British jungle fighters and commandos who were stationed nearby. But Stilwell was impatient for success and determined that he and American soldiers not share with the Limeys the credit for Myitkyina's occupation. To reinforce the Marauders, he drafted General Pick's road-building American engineers, who had neither training nor experience as fighters. The Americans won the ensuing battle for the city but at a terrible price: 57 killed, 302 wounded, and 377 evacuated with disease. They swelled the census of the 20th

General Hospital to 2,700 patients. Only a handful of Marauders survived in condition to fight. What was left of the gallant commando force had to be disbanded. The hollow reward for their valor and sacrifice was a place in military history and bronze star for every member of their original 3,000.

4) **Louis Mountbatten.** This grandson of Queen Victoria was the overall commander of Allied forces in the CBI. When Mountbatten's eye was pierced by a branch of bamboo, he was flown to the 20th General Hospital where Rav first took care of him before turning his care over to Colonel Hank Scheie (future chair of ophthalmology at Penn). He made a full recovery while staying for several weeks at the 20th General. When he signed himself out of the hospital to deal with a Japanese offensive, Rav sent Scheie to accompany him. Initially somewhat aloof, Mountbatten was warmed up by his gratitude to Ravdin and Scheie, who became his lifelong friends.



Ravdin initiated treatment of Louis Mountbatten's eye injury

5) **General Sun Li-jen.** I was surprised to learn that Ravdin's closest friend among the Generals was Chinese. He was the son of a wealthy diplomat. As a teenager he was the star of China's national basketball team in the Far East championships. Wishing to be an engineer he went to the U.S. where he graduated from Purdue and VMI before patriotism drew him back to China where he became one of his country's top Army generals. Although usually outnumbered against crack Japanese forces he won many battles. Stilwell, Mountbatten and Slim considered him the war's best technical general and called him the Rommel of the East.

He helped the Marauders protect the Ledo Road as it was being constructed.

He worked with Ravdin in starting a large blood bank using Chinese soldier donors who were at first reluctant to give blood until Sun designed a medal for those who did.

Ravdin's enigmatic charm comes through in his description of their first meeting. Rav opened their conversation by saying "General Sun, you and I are enemies". Sun asked why, and Rav said, "you stole the old Oaken Bucket". Sun laughed and responded "I went to Purdue, and you went to Indian". The old Oaken Bucket was the trophy these 2 universities played for in their annual football game.

(continued on page 5)

From the Editor *(continued from page 4)*

Sun and Rav became great friends. Both of them usually worked late into the night, missing dinner. Often, they then got together for a late evening meal, either Chinese food at Sun's fancy house in Ledo or more often bacon and eggs which Rav cooked for them on a hot plate in his basha at the hospital.

Several years later as Chiang Kai-Shek's popularity decreased Sun was seen as his possible successor. The jealous Chiang then arranged to have Sun placed under house arrest that lasted for 30 years. When Chiang died Sun was finally released and awarded the highest military honors.



Chinese General Sun Li-jen, called the Rommel of the East, he was rated as China's best General. An American-educated engineer, he was also Ravdin's close friend. The elephant was one of those used in building the Ledo road.

We know less about Rav's relationships to members of his story's supporting cast. Some were probably only acquaintances; others more, but forgotten perhaps because of wartime censorship of their letters home. But they were more than just bit players.

General William Slim. Commander of the CBI's British Army he stopped the Japanese from overrunning India and was a worthy rival of the Americans for credit of the reoccupation of Burma. Mountbatten called him WWII's finest general.

General Orde Wingate. An eccentric, legendary British general who originated deep penetration of enemy lines for jungle fighting. Orde's Indian Chindits were commandos that schooled Merrill's Marauders. Wingate was killed in a plane crash in 1944.

Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek. Chief of State, leader of China's Nationalist party and government. General Chennault



**General William Slim.
On right with beard is Wingate**

rated him as a patriot. Stilwell, who was assigned to be Chiang's advisor and chief of staff, saw him as a crook and nicknamed him "Peanut."

General Claire Chennault. Leader of the Flying Tigers, he had been a fighter pilot in WWI. His skin was leathered by flying in open cockpit planes that also rendered him deaf in one ear. He wrote the primer on the art of dogfights with Japanese Zeros over the Himalayan peaks. Rav would not have been there in 1941 when the American pilots of Chennault's Flying Tigers were alone in preventing Japan from overrunning China and the rest of Asia. They were actually mercenaries hired by Chiang as the Chinese National Air Force with FDR's endorsement. Never having more than 62 patched-up pursuit planes decorated with their famous shark-toothed nose art, they were the first to fly over the 30,000-ft peaks of the Himalayas to supply the Chinese and harass the Japanese. In a year and half, they shot down 300 Japanese planes while losing only 12 American pilots.

After 1942, the Tigers were folded into the 14th US Air Force, which was assigned to develop an airlift. Chennault was still their leader and Rav would have known him then. The dangerous flights over the 15-30,000 ft. Himalayan peaks ("the Hump") by the airlift's American pilots flying outdated, damaged planes kept Chinese in the war. It is one of the most romantic, frightening, and heroic stories of the era. In one of several



Chiang Kai-Shek, Mrs. Kai-Shek and General Stilwell

Hollywood movies, John Wayne was a pilot and Raymond Massey played General Chennault. Despite the subzero temperatures, the deadly and unpredictable air currents, the lack of lights on the ground or reliable charts or radio navigation aids or instruments, this first of the
(continued on page 6) **5**

From the Editor *(continued from page 5)*

world's major airlifts flew in all kinds of weather and delivered 650,000 tons of food and weapons to our Chinese ally. For a time, the airport at Ledo was probably the world's busiest with one flight taking off every minute 24/7. The eventual cost of the airlift was 600 lost planes and the lives of 1,700 American airmen.

Ravdin himself made many flights back and forth over the Hump, but this never made it into the newspaper accounts. It appears only in Ravdin's oral history. The superior medical care available at the 20th General Hospital was a magnet for Chinese royalty, generals, and other wealthy or otherwise prominent Chinese. This resulted in a multinational practice for Rav that mandated flights over the Himalayas and also called on him to function in China as an informal American ambassador. Madame Chiang and her friends sometimes requested him and his staff to shop for American clothes and cosmetics in San Francisco during stopoffs in their trips to Washington.

Rav was only at the edge of Chinese social life and politics, but as a US Army general and commander of his hospital in Ledo, he was an integral member of a powerful cadre of generals that surrounded him. He was there as they helped determine the course of World War II.

General Chennault, the 30-year veteran pilot, believed that air power was not only indispensable for winning the war, but that if he were given 500 modern pursuit planes and bombers, he could by himself bring Japan to her knees and surrender. Chiang Kai-Shek was convinced Chennault was right and that this approach was cheapest and best for himself and China. FDR and Churchill were enchanted by Chennault's war record, charisma, and theory.



General Claire Chennault (l) and General Stilwell
6 arguing about strategy to defeat Japan

Stilwell, the foot soldier's general, strongly disagreed and was sure that only the infantry could be the key to Allied victory. At Rav's dinner table, the generals must have bickered about their separate plans. Neither general kept his opinion secret. Hearing their debate would have been a treat. Eventually Stilwell and Chennault were called to Washington to argue for their different approaches to end the war. They and President Roosevelt sat down together for the debate, and in the end, FDR sided with Stilwell. This decision did not sit well with Chiang, probably encouraging him to reverse his previous support of Stilwell, his chief of staff. Eventually, he insisted that Stilwell be fired and sent him home, forbidding him or others to tell anyone why. Other reasons for Stilwell's dismissal were his abrasive personality, his well-known dislike of the British, and an unwillingness to cooperate or share credit for success with them. In addition, he was blamed for the lack of support that annihilated Merrill's Marauders.

General I. S. Ravdin. The ninth general in this collection, Rav in 1944 was not your grandfather's Penn Professor. At five years younger and 38 pounds lighter than when he was a Philadelphia doctor, he was now a soldier spoiling for adventure. After Rav's staff had cleared the mud and jungle from an abandoned polo field, he built there a 2,000-bed, modern university hospital with laboratories, operating rooms, x-ray, a blood bank, and an academic conference theater and schedule that attracted military doctors from all parts of the CBI. It was WWII's largest military hospital. Stilwell swore it was the best damn hospital in the Army.

Word of the excellence of medical treatment at the 20th General Hospital soon got around. The hospital was then overfilled not only with wounded or ill Americans, but with British and American generals, ailing Chinese royals, wealthy businessmen and politicians who braved the dangerous flight over the Hump to obtain expert medical care. To make house calls and attend prominent Chinese in their homes, Rav made many flights over the treacherous 15-20,000-ft high mountain peaks. With Chinese patients at his hospital in Ledo, India, and others in Kunming and nearby Chinese cities, he made many friends. He was invited for dinner or other social occasions at the homes of the

(continued on page 7)



General Claire Chennault
leader of the legendary
Flying Tigers

From the Editor *(continued from page 6)*

elite, including Generalissimo and Madame Chiang Kai-Shek.

The 20th General Hospital's record was more than just okay. Over its two and a half years, it took care of 73,000 patients with a 0.4% mortality. Generals Merrill, Stilwell, Pick, Sun and Mountbatten all became Rav's close lifelong friends, as letters in the Department's archives show. Rav was never just part of the medical and administrative background. Once a week, Ravdin's officers abandoned their battle fatigues, scraped the mud off, shined their boots, and in dress uniforms gathered at his table for dinner. Often generals, visiting entertainers, and other dignitaries joined them. One night, General Merrill flew in for dinner, took two pieces of metal from his pocket, and passed them around. He had carried them from Washington. One he gave to Pick; it was a star for the road-builder. The other was a star making Ravdin the only general to lead an overseas hospital during wartime. Several years later, Pick would deliver Ravdin's second star.

Ravdin's leadership was most clearly manifested by concern for his patients. One day, sixty-three Merrill's Marauders, badly mauled in a firefight with the Japanese, were admitted to the hospital. General Stilwell came and ordered them out of bed and back to battle if they could stand. After inspecting the men, Ravdin decided they were in no shape to fight. Risking the danger

of defying Stilwell's orders, he refused to let them go. Stilwell backed off and conceded that Ravdin was right. Another example was Ravdin's persuading Stilwell to remove the air conditioners from his officer's quarters in New Delhi and installing them in the ICU of the 20th General. Mountbatten showed up to dedicate the new unit.

Germany fell in the summer of 1945 and activity in the CBI cooled down; but elsewhere, things were moving fast. Japan's cities were on fire from bombs dropped by planes that took off from the airlift-supplied city of Kunming. Stilwell had been rehabilitated from the disgrace of being fired by Chiang and was now headquartered at Okinawa where he was preparing to direct the invasion of Japan. On August 1, Stilwell wrote to Ravdin, ordering him to come at once to join him in Okinawa, where he would organize and direct the medical care of the million American casualties predicted to result from the invasion.

In New Mexico, there was another plan to end the war. On August 7, an atom bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. Stilwell wrote another letter advising Ravdin not to come to Okinawa because there would be no invasion. On August 14, the Japanese surrendered.

(continued on page 12)

Retirement of Deborah Rose as Chief Operating Officer

(Contributed by Ron DeMatteo)

It is a sad time for Penn Surgery as Deborah Rose MBA will be retiring as Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the Department of Surgery, effective January 3, 2025.

Deb joined the Department 22 years ago and has been the COO for the past 15 years. She partnered effectively with 3 Chairs and an Interim Chair. She has played an instrumental role in overseeing clinical operations, financial performance, research administration, and strategic planning. She led the department through several key relocations: 1) the clinical practices to the Perelman Center, 2) Trauma from HUP to PPMC, and 3) Surgical Services to the New Patient Pavilion. She was integral in the opening of PMUC, PMWS, Radnor, and Cherry Hill. During her tenure, there was substantial growth in the faculty (107 to 152 surgeons), operative cases (47%), net patient revenue (77%) and wRVUs (59%).

At the institutional level, Deb has served on numerous CPUP committees, including the Finance Committee, Executive Committee, Managed Care Contracting Committee, and



Human Resources Committee. She also chaired the CPUP Service Excellence Committee. Her knowledge of the intricacies of Funds Flow has greatly benefited the department. In addition to being a trusted advisor to numerous staff and faculty, she has mentored many senior leaders throughout UPHS. In essence, she has been the "go to" COO.

Deb has maintained a perfect balance of humor, understanding, and grit. In retirement, she is looking forward to the upcoming birth of her grandson and will spend time in Florida spoiling him. She will also continue her animal conservation work and has travel plans booked out for the new few years.

A formal search for a new Chief Operating Officer for the Department of Surgery will commence in the coming weeks, in collaboration with the CPUP leadership team.

Please join me in thanking Deb for her years of service to Penn Medicine and her leadership of Penn Surgery, and in wishing her and her family happiness and relaxation in the years ahead.

American College of Surgeons Surgical Forum

Penn Surgery was again well represented in the Scientific program of the 2024 Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons. Below are the titles and authors of papers given by Penn students, residents and faculty at the Surgical Forum.

Bariatric and Foregut

Postoperative Heartburn and Proton Pump Inhibitor Use after Peroral Endoscopic Myotomy vs Heller Myotomy with Dor
Shubha Vasisht, BA, Aarush Sahni, BSE, Vivek K Singh, BA, BS, Alexandra L Strauss, MD, Gregory G Ginsberg, MD, Daniel T Dempsey, MD, FACS, Monica Saumoy, MD, MS, Victoria M Gershuni, MD, MS, MTR, Daniel Hashimoto, MD, MTR

Colon and Rectal Surgery

Nature, Nurture or Both? Genetic Risk, Healthy Lifestyle, and Severe Diverticulitis

Thomas E Ueland, BS, Jonathan Mosley, MD, PhD, Jamie R Robinson, MD, PhD, Richard Peek, MD, Eric R Gamazon, PhD, Lillias H Maguire, MD, FACS, Christopher Neylan, MD, Rebecca Hoffman, MD, MSCE, FACS, Alexander T Hawkins, MD, MPH, FACS

The Relationship Between the Microbiome and Diverticular Disease: A Mendelian Randomization Study

Christopher Neylan, MD, John DePaolo, MD, Michael Levin, Jeffrey Roberson, MD, Scott M Damrauer, MD, FACS, Lillias H Maguire, MD, FACS

Endocrine

Active Choice Nudge to Enhance Screening for Primary Aldosteronism: A Pilot Study

Jesse Passman, MD, MPH, Jasmine Hwang, MD, Justin Tang, BS, Mika Epps, MSN, RN, Jordana Cohen, MD, MSCE, M. Kit Delgado, MD, MS, Heather Wachtel, MD, FACS, Daniel Herman, MD, PhD

What Level of Intraoperative Parathyroid Hormone Decline Predicts Postoperative Hypocalcemia in Normocalcemic Primary Hyperparathyroidism?

Timothy Kravchenko, MD, Caitlin B Finn, MD, Douglas L Fraker, MD, FACS, Rachel R Kelz, MD, FACS, Carrie Cunningham, MD, FACS, Heather Wachtel, MD, FACS, Lauren Krumeich, MD

Low Screening Rates May Explain Delays in Treatment for Hyperparathyroidism in Men

Jasmine Hwang, MD, MS, Jesse Passman, MD, Justin Tang, BS, Rachael Acker, MD, Douglas L Fraker, MD, FACS, Heather Wachtel, MD, FACS, Daniel Herman, MD, PhD, Rachel R Kelz, MD, FACS

General Surgery

A Nationwide Observational Study of Acute Cholecystitis in Older Adults with Multimorbidity

Rachael Acker, MD, James E Sharpe, MS, Luke Keele, PhD, Emna Bakillah, MD, Jasmine Hwang, MD, Drew Goldberg, MD, Heather Wachtel, MD, FACS, Giorgos C Karakousis, MD, FACS, Rachel R Kelz, MD, MSCE, MBA, FACS

Do Treatment Approach and Outcomes of Older Adults with Acute Cholecystitis Differ Based on the Availability of Percutaneous Cholecystostomy? A Nationwide Cohort Study

Drew Goldberg, MD, MSTR, James Sharpe, MS, Luke Keele, PhD, Emna Bakillah, MD, Jasmine Hwang, MD, Elinore J Kaufman, MD, FACS, Rachel R Kelz, MD, FACS

The Burden of Emergency General Surgery Hospitalization on Patients and Informal Caregivers: A Qualitative Study

Emna Bakillah, MD, Cristina Micale, BS, Jacob W Rosenthal, BS, Megan Grabill, BA, Catherine E Sharoky, MD, MSCE

Health Services Research

Access to Surgical Care after Newly Acquired Insurance Enrollment

Angela T Chen, MA, Diane Haddad, MD, MPH, Ella Eisinger, BS, M Kit Delgado, MD, MS, Joseph Kern, MD, Lisa M Knowlton, MD, FACS, Deacon Lile, MD, Anna U Morgan, MD, MSc, Omar I Ramadan, MD, MSHP, Elinore J Kaufman, MD, FACS

Neurosurgery

Combined Quetiapine and Propranolol after Severe Traumatic Brain Injury Additively Reduce Penumbra Leukocyte Mobilization and Cerebral Edema

Priyanka Bele, MD, Patricia Santos Carlin, MD, Matthew Culkin, BS, Patricia Martinez Quinones, MD, Anastasia Georges, MS, Christina Jacovides, MD, Lewis J Kaplan, MD, FACS, Victoria Johnson, MBChB, PhD, Douglas H Smith, MD, Jose L Pascual-Lopez, MD, PhD, FACS, FRCS(C), FCCM

Pediatric Surgery

Hypoxia-Inducible Factor 1-Alpha in the Fetal Lamb Model of Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia's Hippocampus

Rachel A Sachs, MD, Gabriela Daszewska-Smith, MS, Abby Larson, MD, Mia Kwechin, BS, Rachel Conan, BS, Emily A Partridge, MD, PhD

In Utero Delivery of CRISPR/Cas-9 via Lipid Nanoparticles for Treatment of Friedreich's Ataxia

Andrew Mudreac, MD, Marco D Carpenter, PhD, Alanis D Perez, BS, MS, Nicole J Kus, MD, William H Peranteau, MD

Systemic Delivery of LNP mRNA In Utero Permits Editing in a Mouse Model of Spinal Muscular Atrophy

Nicole J Kus, MD, Marco D Carpenter, PhD, Rosa B Choi, MD, Ana Maria G Dumitru, MD, PhD, Andrew Mudreac, MD, William H Peranteau, MD

Surgical Education

Evaluating the Inclusion of LGBTQ-Content in Surgical Residency Programs: A National Survey of Program Directors

Andrew Pregnall, MSc, MPhil, Gennady M Vulakh, BS, Joshua A Pesantes, BA, Youvin Chung, BA, Setareh Gooshvar, BS, Constance J Dine, MD

Changing Nature of General Surgery Training: 2 Decades of Case Log Data

Neha Shafique, MD, Mikhal Yudien, BA, Gracia V Vargas, MD, Major Lee, MD, Giorgos C Karakousis, MD, FACS (continued on page 9)

2024 Surgical Forum *(continued from page 8)*

Surgical Oncology

Single-Cell RNA Sequencing of Murine Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumor Reveals Tumor Cell Heterogeneity and Differentiation Spectrum

Juan Perez, MD, Jonathan H Sussman, BS, Katherine Tardy, MD, Alina Mangold, MD, Hyunjee V Kwak, MD, Kevin Do, BS, Ferdinando Rossi, PhD, Ronald P DeMatteo, MD, FACS

Healthcare Utilization and Cost of Care among Cancer Survivors with Ostomy: Findings from 3 Large Hospital Systems in the US
Daniel Maeng, PhD, Rebecca Hoffman, MD, FACS, Virginia Sun, PhD, RN, Robert P Sticca, MD, FACS, Robert S Krouse, MD, FACS

Implementing a Multi-Modal Prehabilitation to Rehabilitation Program to Improve Surgical Outcomes among Patients with Pancreatic Cancer

Amanda Bader, MD, Saiesh Kalva, Maya Alexis, Sharon Tejada, MS, Sarah Winawer-Wetzel, MBA, Justin Grischkan, MD, Justin Bekelman, MD, Charles M Vollmer Jr, MD, FACS, Victoria M Gershuni, MD, MTR, MSGM

Thoracic Surgery

Improving Depth of Penetration During Intraoperative Molecular Imaging Using Second Window Near-Infrared Technology

Katherine A Ortmeyer, MD, Kelly A McGovern, MD, Adam Honig-Frand, BA, Ryan Krouse, BA, Michael E Brown, BA, Andres Bermudez, BA, Venu G Bandi, PhD, Sunil Singhal, MD, FACS

Transplantation and Tissue Engineering

Does Machine Perfusion of the Liver Allograft Impact Post-Transplant Renal Function?

Nicolas Munoz, MD, Claire Cywes, BS, Amay M Banker, MD, Peter L Abt, MD, FACS

Trauma, Burn, and Critical Care

Back to the Drawing Board: Exploring the Composition and Mechanical Properties of Traumatic Hemothorax

Nathaniel R McLauchlan, SM, Irina Chernysh, PhD, Kandace Gollomp, MD, Ali B Ali, MD, Lydia Fisher, John Weisel, PhD, Jeremy Cannon, MD, SM, FACS

Loss of Glucagon Action in the Liver Is Associated with Decreased Stress-Induced Hyperglycemia and Decreased Markers of Inflammation after Trauma and Hemorrhage

Anna E Garcia Whitlock, MD, PhD, Olivia Y Y Ong, BA, Matthew J Gavin, BA, Niels D Martin, MD, FACS, Carrie A Sims, MD, PhD, FACS, Joseph Baur, PhD, Paul Titchenell, PhD

Sex-Related Differences in Penumbral Leukocyte Mobilization after Severe Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

Patricia Santos Carlin, MD, Priyanka Bele, MD, Matthew Culkin, BS, Michael Coons, BS, Patricia Martinez Quinones, MD, Advait Thaploo, BS, Lewis J Kaplan, MD, FACS, Victoria Johnson, MBChB, PhD, Douglas H Smith, MD, Jose L Pascual-Lopez, MD, PhD, FACS, FRCS(C), FCCM, FCCM

Distinguished Lifetime Military Award

At Convocation during this year's Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgery, C. William Schwab, MD, FACS, a retired Commander in the US Navy and past director of the Department's trauma program, received the Distinguished Lifetime Military Contribution Award.

Dr. Schwab is the founding chief of the Division of Traumatology and Surgical Care at the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center. He also founded the PennSTAR Flight Program, a critical care air and ground medical transportation serving Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York within a 100-mile radius of Penn Medicine in Philadelphia.

Dr. Schwab and his colleagues pioneered the concept and practice of damage control surgery, which aims to control bleeding through unconventional means and is now considered integral to surgical care worldwide for potentially fatal injuries.

Dr. Schwab has mentored hundreds of postgraduate fellows in traumatology and critical care. Due to his guidance, training surgeons from the US Army, Navy, and Air Force has been a continuous part of the educational mission of the ACS Trauma Programs since the early 1990s.



During the military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, 16 of his faculty and postgraduate fellows deployed as military combat surgeons.

Dr. Schwab has been president of the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma and the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma.

Alumni News

Faculty, Residents, Alumni of Penn Surgery
email your news to Clyde Barker
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New Faculty

♦ Seema P. Anandalwar, MD, MPH

was appointed Assistant Professor in Surgery in the Division of Traumatology, Emergency General Surgery, and Surgical Critical Care.

MD - College of New Jersey / Rutgers New Jersey Medical School; MPH - Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health; General Surgery Residency, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston; Surgical Critical Care and Acute Care Surgery Fellow, R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, Baltimore, Maryland.



♦ Morgan Callahan, DO

was appointed Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery in the Division of Plastic Surgery at Virtua.

DO - Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine at Seton Hill, Greensburg, Pennsylvania; General Surgery Residency - Memorial Hospital, York, Pennsylvania and Geisinger Medical Center, Danville, Pennsylvania; Independent Resident in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center, Paterson, New Jersey; Reconstructive Surgery and Microsurgery Fellowship - UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles, California.



♦ Duy T Dao, MD

was appointed Assistant Professor of Surgery in the Division of Pediatric Surgery.

MD - Stanford University School of Medicine; MPH - Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health; General Surgery Residency, NYU Langone Medical Center; Pediatric Surgery Fellowship, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.



♦ Mark Etherington, MD

was appointed Assistant Professor of Surgery in the Division of Endocrine & Oncologic Surgery.

MD - Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia; General Surgery Residency, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania; Complex



Pittsburgh Medical Center, Hepatobiliary Surgery Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

♦ Kathleen Y. Hwang, MD

was appointed Professor of Surgery in the Division of Urology.

MD - New York Medical College, Valhalla, New York; Urology Residency, University of Virginia, Charlottesville; Male Reproductive Medicine and Surgery Fellowship, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas.



♦ Kyle R. Jackson, MD, PhD

was appointed Assistant Professor of Surgery in the Division of Transplant Surgery.

MD - University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Pittsburgh; PhD - Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland; General Surgery Residency, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland; Abdominal Transplant Surgery Fellowship, Emory University Hospital, Atlanta, Georgia.



♦ Michael A. Lanni, MD

was appointed Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery in the Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, Lancaster General Health.

MD - Albany Medical College, Albany, New York; Plastic Surgery Residency, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania; Surgery Fellowship, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas.



Death

♦ Cleon Walton Goodwin Jr.

died May 20, 2024. Cleon attended high school at The Hill School in Pottstown, Pennsylvania graduating in 1961. He attended and graduated from college at the University of North Carolina and medical school at The University of Pennsylvania in 1969 and internship and residency in General Surgery at HUP from 1970-1977. In 1977, Cleon joined the Army. After serving in the military, he became Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery at The University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio Texas from 1979 to



(continued on page 11)

Alumni News *(continued from page 10)*

1982. In 1982 Cleon became Associate professor at Cornell University Medical College – New York, New York until 1995. From 1995-2002 he succeeded Basil Pruitt Commander and Director for the US Army Institute of Surgical Research Fort Sam Houston Texas. He was Associate professor of Surgery John

Hopkins Bayview Medical Center Baltimore, MD from 2002-2004. He became The Director of North Colorado Medical Center in Greeley CO from 2005-2022.

From 1994-1995 he was President of the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma and in 1999 President of the American Burn Association.

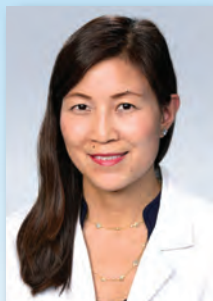
Grace Wang Appointed Vascular Director, Penn Aorta Center

(Contributed by Nimesh D. Desai, MD, PhD)

Dr. Grace J. Wang has been appointed Vascular Director of the Penn Aorta Center.

Dr. Wang is a world-renowned expert in the management of aortic diseases. Her over 200 peer-reviewed publications have significantly contributed to the body of knowledge in aortic and vascular surgery. Additionally, Dr. Wang serves on several clinical guideline and standards committees that have guided clinical care worldwide.

At Penn, Dr. Wang has been a major driver of innovation and clinical excellence in aortic surgery, developing novel therapeutics and improving the quality of interventions. Dr. Wang's leadership in this new role is poised to further enhance the Penn



Aorta Center's reputation as a global leader in aortic care.

Dr. Wang completed her General Surgery residency at Massachusetts General Hospital and her Vascular Surgery fellowship at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Her clinical practice encompasses all aspects of vascular surgery, with a special focus on the management of the thoracoabdominal aorta and thoracic aortic dissection.

Dr. Wang's appointment as the Vascular Director of the Penn Aorta Center is a testament to her unwavering dedication, exceptional skills, and innovative spirit. Her vision for the future and commitment to excellence will undoubtedly benefit our patients and the broader medical community.

Frank Spitz Named Chair of Surgery at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU)

Francis Spitz, MD, has been appointed chair of surgery at CMSRU at Cooper University Health Care (CUHC). He succeeds Jeff Carpenter, a former HUP resident and faculty member.

"Dr. Spitz is an outstanding surgeon, educator, and leader whose dedication to patient care and academic medicine makes him an ideal choice for these important roles," said CMSRU Dean Annette C. Reboli, MD. "I am confident that he will continue to inspire and mentor future generations of surgeons, while advancing the missions of both CMSRU and Cooper."

Dr. Spitz, who has been part of the CMSRU and Cooper communities since 2009, has built an impressive career that spans clinical practice, academic medicine, and leadership. From July 1997 to March 2009 he served at the University of Pennsylvania as assisted professor to associate professor of surgery. He attended the University of Connecticut School of Medicine and completed his general surgery residency at Thomas Jefferson University. Dr.



Spitz further specialized by completing both research and surgical oncology fellowships at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. In 2021, he earned a master's in health care management from Harvard University.

During his time at Cooper, Dr. Spitz has held numerous leadership roles, including vice chair of the department of surgery, division head for general surgery, and deputy director for MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper. He has contributed to the medical education mission of CMSRU as a professor of surgery, playing a key role in advancing the school's academic and research agendas.

Dr. Spitz's research focuses on surgical oncology, with expertise in gastrointestinal, esophageal, pancreatic, gastric, hepatobiliary cancers, as well as melanoma. He has nearly 100 peer-reviewed publications and book chapters to his name, and he frequently serves as a speaker and moderator at national medical conferences.



Penn Surgery

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PENN SURGERY SOCIETY

FALL 2024

From the Editor *(continued from page 7)*

At this time, Ravdin residents Jim Hardy and my brother Hal were with 3,000 American soldiers on the USS General G. O. Squier, headed from Europe to Japan. On August 15, while watching the ship's wake they saw that it had changed directions, and they were on their way home. The war was over.

The Ledo Road and the 20th General Hospital were soon abandoned and swallowed by the jungle. It seems now that the heroism of Merrill's Marauders, the dreaded flights over the Hump, and even the CBI never made much of a difference. Stilwell told Rav that since Japan was already finished, there had been no need to drop the atom bomb. Who knows? History is a funny thing.

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