

URO | BEST REPORT™



VOLUME 2 - ISSUE 1 - FALL 2011

THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF UROLOGY

COMMITMENT TO FLORIDA

I paused recently to reflect on departmental progress toward our core missions of research, education and patient care. Although we take pride in the continuous improvement of our productivity and volume over the past five years, it is far more important that we pause and reflect on the true purpose of all these efforts; – the impact we have on the lives of our patients. Providing access to high quality interdisciplinary care can be transformative for a local community, and even an entire region. It is gratifying to know that we are making great strides in that offering.

Service to the community has always been a major focus of the Department of Urology. Since its inception, we have been reaching out to patients, advocates and health care providers to earn their trust, to provide accurate, evidence-based health information, and to collaborate and engage in debates on health-related issues. For example, the UF Urology Seminar Series, an annual CME symposium, is designed to inform community urologists, nurse practitioners and other health care providers of new advances and best practices in urologic care today. It also provides a platform for discussing pertinent issues currently facing the public health system. This

seminar series, held each February, attracts more than 80 community urologists and other health care professionals.

During the fall months, our faculty, with the support of many volunteers, conducts annual prostate cancer awareness events in Gainesville and the Villages at Lake Sumter to counsel patients regarding prostate cancer and other prevalent urologic diseases. These events have received financial and logistical support from our hospital partner, Shands HealthCare, demonstrating our shared vision for community outreach and disease prevention. Further, we have recently established an exciting new partnership with Winter Haven Hospital, a 433-bed community hospital serving Floridians in Polk County. At present, two of our faculty members serve as in-resident urologists at the Winter Haven (WH) facility. Thanks to this partnership, we are satisfied that high-quality urological care may now be accessed through the facility, while patients with more complex diseases now have rapid access to the UF&Shands academic teaching hospital here in Gainesville.

Targeted outreach efforts, led by Folakemi Odedina, Ph.D. and her dedicated team have created new dialogues with area minority communities, thereby undertaking a critical initiative toward reducing the significant

health disparities that exist in the State of Florida. As an added benefit, these efforts have further facilitated partnerships with Florida A&M University and Bethune Cookman University that seek to increase the involvement of minority students in urologic research. Also noteworthy is a new collaboration with the Ingalls Foundation, led by David Most, Ph.D., a dedicated patient advocate serving prostate cancer patients in Palm Beach County. The Ingalls Foundation, an organization committed to community outreach for raising prostate cancer awareness, sponsors an annual symposium that is typically attended by more than 100 prostate cancer survivors! As a result of our new collaboration, our department will assist the Foundation with the annual organization of the symposium including the participation of our faculty members at these conventions.

Finally, we are working closely with the Florida Department of Health in Tallahassee to improve access to health information and education regarding urologic diseases throughout the state. Web-based materials, educational events and symposia are among the communication tools through which we engage with Florida health care providers and the

public to make them aware of emerging scientific findings, new guidelines that impact care, and the availability of clinical trials at Florida institutions. A legislative bill that expands these outreach and educational activities through the creation of a multi-institutional advisory council has just been signed by Governor Rick Scott.

We will continue to work diligently to build and strengthen our presence in our local communities through service, education and community outreach, and by delivering the very best clinical care. I would like to extend my thanks to the dedicated faculty and staff of the UF Department of Urology for their persistence and hard work, and to all of you who have enthusiastically supported, and contributed to our mission to improve the health of the people of Florida. I fully expect to see the tangible fruits of our labors in a relatively short time, and that is what makes it all worthwhile!

Johannes Vieweg, MD
Professor and Chairman
The Wayne and Marti Huiזenga
Eminent Scholar Chair in Urology

INSIDE	Faculty Profile	Female Urology	Translational Research	Outreach	News & Notes	UroGators Update
	2	3	4	5	6	7

FACULTY PROFILE



VINCENT G. BIRD, MD
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF UROLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF UROLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Vincent Bird, M.D., joined UF Urology on July 1, 2010 as an associate professor. A Board-certified urologist, Dr. Bird brings to us his expertise in urinary stone disease, renal obstruction and renal cancer. Dr. Bird was previously at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine where he was an associate professor of clinical urology. Dr. Bird completed his fellowship training in laparoscopy and endourology at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics where he was awarded a clinical science award by the Endourological Society for Research for relating patterns of treatment for urinary stone disease.

Previously recognized in the Castle Connolly Top Doctors in America (2008), Dr. Bird's clinical interest spans from newly developing imaging technologies that can be used to diagnose cancer in new noninvasive ways to basic science such as the identification of new markers which aid in the diagnosis of different and/or aggressive types of kidney cancers

Dr. Bird brings an enthusiastic spirit to the department and has already shown himself as both an outstanding clinician and a distinguished scientist. Previously recognized in the Castle Connolly Top Doctors in America (2008), Dr. Bird's clinical interest spans from newly developing imaging technologies that can be used to diagnose cancer in new noninvasive ways to basic science such as the identification of new markers which aid in the diagnosis of different and/or aggressive types of kidney cancers.

Dr. Bird has already made an impact on the residency program in the time he has been working with our 13 residents. Dr. Daniel Willis, Chief Resident notes that Dr. Bird creates a learning environment in the operating room that is conducive to developing the residents into successful surgeons. His patience and willingness to let them participate fully in the surgery while demonstrating a meticulous method for care will leave a lasting impression. His careful approach in the treatment of his patients continues through in the clinic setting. Dr. Willis appreciates seeing Dr. Bird put his patients' needs first and making cautious decisions that provide the right course of treatment for each of his patients, while balancing the mission of excellence in education. Dr. Bird's approachability and attentiveness to resident education makes him an asset to UF Urology.

CLINICAL TRIALS

A primary goal of the UF Prostate Disease Center and Department of Urology is to offer patients access to cutting-edge treatments available through participation in clinical trials. The following studies are currently open for enrollment:

- A Phase 3 randomized, double blind study to compare the efficacy of Ipilimumab to a Placebo in asymptomatic and minimally symptomatic patients with metastatic chemotherapy naïve castration resistant prostate cancer. Dr. Long Dang PI.
- A Phase 3 randomized, double blind study to compare the efficacy of Ipilimumab following radiotherapy in subjects with castration resistant prostate cancer patients that have received prior treatment with docetaxel. Dr. Long Dang PI.
- A Phase I study of the combination of BNC105P with Everolimus for progressive metastatic clear cell renal cell carcinoma following prior tyrosine kinase inhibitors. Dr. Long Dang PI.
- A Phase II double blind, placebo controlled study of Silodosin to facilitate urinary stone passage. Dr. Vincent Bird PI.
- Assessment of metabolic renal injury during open vs. Laparoscopic/robotic partial Nephrectomy for renal cell carcinoma using Neutrophil Galatinase Associated Lipocalin (NGAL) as a biomarker of acute renal injury. Dr. Ed Ross, PI, Li-Ming Su, Sub-I, Benjamin Canales, Sub-I, Sott Gilbert, Sub-I, Phillip Dahm, Sub-I.

More information on these trials is available at <http://clinicaltrials.gov>. We are also currently working on opening three new clinical trials in the area of metastatic prostate cancer and one new trial in the area of renal cell cancer. Please check our website, <http://www.urology.ufl.edu/>, for information on these new trials for enrollment. You can also contact our clinical trials study coordinator, Judy King, at 352-265-8285.

FEMALE UROLOGY



FEMALE UROLOGY AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY

At the University of Florida, we are making strides to become part of a comprehensive program for the diagnosis and management of pelvic floor disorders. Louis Moy, MD, is the director of female urology and reconstructive surgery. Since his arrival and creation of the program in 2009, Dr. Moy has been working toward his goal of developing a program within a multidisciplinary setting that delivers excellent patient care with compassion, a program poised to become a nationally known center for the care of pelvic disorders.

Within their specialties, Dr. Moy and his team of urologists manage both basic and complex pelvic disorders. The Female Urology program offers the latest diagnostic equipment for the management of vaginal prolapse, performs laparoscopic and robotic-assisted procedures, both transvaginal and transabdominal. Under Dr. Moy's leadership, the program offers a wide range of care for patients with urinary incontinence, including reconstructive surgery.

Dr. Moy also notes that more complex cases are starting to show up at his clinic since his arrival. He estimates that 40% of his patients come to him with a prolapse condition, in which the uterus, bladder or even the vagina, among other pelvic



organs, prolapse out of the regular positions. The other 60% of patients are dealing with incontinence or loss of bladder or bowel control. Among his surgical cases, Dr. Moy performs procedures on patients who have had unsuccessful previous surgical procedures.

Michael Binder, MD, specializes in interstitial cystitis (IC), or inflammation of the bladder. Dr. Binder describes IC as a great mimicker, as it sometimes can resemble symptoms of a urinary tract infection, overactive bladder, prostatitis or testicular pain. About 50% of the patients who see Dr. Binder are diagnosed with IC, which worsens with age. Although it is difficult to diagnose, IC can often be found as a result of inpatient testing to rule out any more serious conditions, such as cancer.

Dr. Larry Yeung, a former UF urology resident joined us in July. He completed a fellowship in trauma and reconstructive surgery at Washington University in St. Louis. Dr. Yeung not only brings with him specialized surgical training, but a unique perspective in the diagnosis and management of pelvic floor disorders.

In the spirit of the Department of Urology's commitment to excellent patient care, and its core belief in a multidisciplinary approach, our urologists participate in the University of Florida Pelvic Floor Program. This clinical program is designed to provide evidence-based, comprehensive and coordinated care for patients with pelvic floor disorders. Patients with urinary and bowel dysfunction, vaginal prolapse and pelvic pain disorders are all under the umbrella of this program. This collaborative effort includes input from urologists, gastroenterologists, colorectal surgeons, gynecologists, physical therapists, nutritionists and a dedicated nurse coordinator. Each patient who comes to this program receives comprehensive care based on a multidisciplinary approach. Regularly scheduled conferences with participation from these providers allows for review of patient history, physical findings, radiologic and functional studies, and the creation of a comprehensive plan. The UF Pelvic Floor Program physicians meet at least once a month and review 5-10 cases per month, but meet more often if necessary.

Aside from clinical care, the UF Female Urology and Reconstructive Surgery program also aspires to reach ambitious research goals, including establishing clinical trials for the latest treatment modules.



TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH

ZHONGZHEN NIE, PH.D., LABORATORY RESEARCH

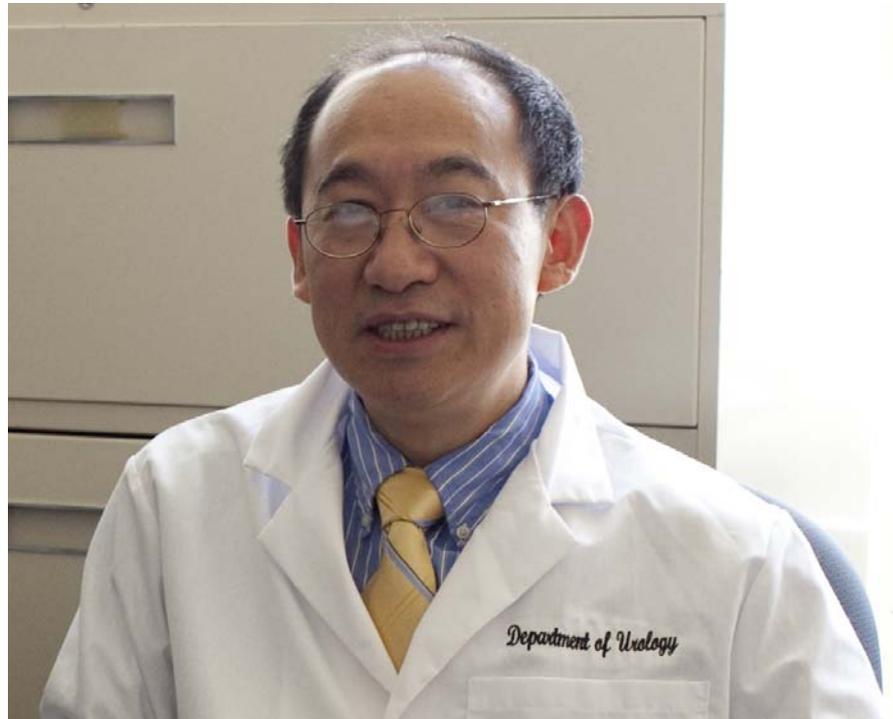
Zhongzhen Nie, Ph.D., assistant professor, started with the University of Florida Department of Urology in 2009 and he, along with a team of scientists, has since made strides in investigating the causes of urogenital cancer. Dr. Nie currently specializes in the molecular mechanisms controlling the formation and spread of urogenital cancers. Specifically, his research focuses on the way cancer cells interact with other cancer cells and the mechanisms which lead to tumor growth and metastasis.

The main goal of his research is to determine the molecular mechanisms by which Arf GTPase-activating proteins (Arf GAPs) are involved in human cancers, especially cancers of the urogenital system. Arfs are GTP-binding proteins that do not contain self-regulatory GTPase activity so that the GTP hydrolysis on Arf proteins is catalyzed by Arf GAPs. Later studies found that Arf GAPs regulate membrane trafficking and actin cytoskeleton. Remodeling of both membrane and actin is critical for physiological processes such as secretion and cell movement, and pathologic processes such as invasion and metastasis.

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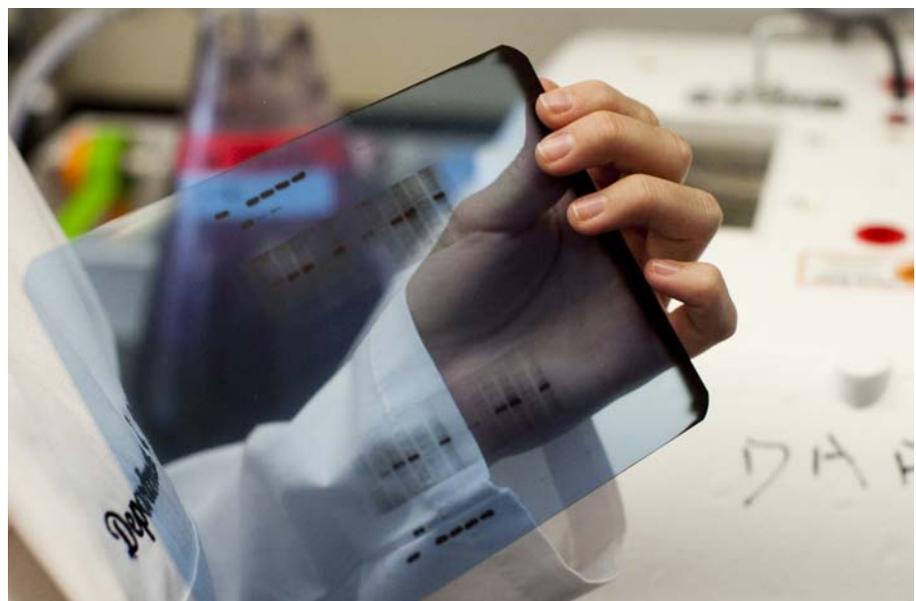
His major contribution to the field includes two aspects. The first is the identification of AGAP1 and AGAP2 for their regulation of membrane traffic. During his post doctoral training in the laboratory of cellular oncology at the National Cancer Institute, he found that both AGAP1 and AGAP2 interact with the clathrin adaptor proteins to form transport intermediates. AGAP2 is particularly relevant to cancer research in that it associates with the coat protein AP-1 that is known to regulate the trafficking of the E6 oncoprotein of papilloma virus, a major cause of cervical cancer. His second contribution is in defining the mechanism by which the ASAP1 gene regulates membrane traffic. ASAP1, known to promote prostate cancer metastasis, interacts with Arf to induce membrane deformation and vesicle formation, with an end result of accelerated recycling of EGF receptors, a function dependent on the BAR domain of ASAP1.

In addition to GTP hydrolysis and Arf inactivation, Arf GAPs are structurally complex and have been shown to bind to oncogenic protein kinases such as Src and Akt. Elevated expression of Arf GAPs has been detected in different cancers. Over expression and gene



knockdown studies have implicated Arf GAPs in various human cancers. His goal is to define how AGAP2 regulates the initiation and progression in urogenital cancers. Dr. Nie and his team currently focus their research on the following areas: (1) Regulation of focal adhesion kinase activity and focal adhesion remodeling by AGAP2. They recently reported an interaction between AGAP2 and focal adhesion kinase that is involved in several human cancers, and are further dissecting the molecular mechanisms of these interactions. (2) Interaction of AGAP2 with ROCK-I. ROCK-I is a Rho kinase that plays critical roles in human diseases. They aim to investigate how AGAP2 and ROCK-I are involved in the migration and metastasis of urogenital cancer cells. (3) Regulation of membrane receptor trafficking by AGAP2. Signaling from cell surface receptors is vital to normal cellular functions but excessive signaling from these receptors results in disease. Aberrant trafficking of the cell surface receptors contributes to excessive receptor signaling culminating in human diseases. Dr. Nie hopes to determine just how AGAP2 regulates the trafficking of EGF receptors that are attractive drug targets for various human cancers.

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AVOIDING CONTRACTUAL PITFALLS: CAPTURING THE “SPIRIT” OF THE AGREEMENT THOMAS CRAWFORD MBA, FACHE

Constance F. Bagley defines a contract as “a legally enforceable promise or set of promises.” (Managers and the Legal Environment, 2002). The definition is simplistic; however, it provides the perfect opportunity to highlight and underscore a fundamental and vitally important contracting fact: If it isn’t written down, it doesn’t exist. You cannot rely on anecdotal comments made during the recruitment process or promises that are not reflected within your contract. Be aware that a preponderance of employment contracts have an “Entire Agreement” clause that generally specifies that the contract supersedes and replaces all prior negotiations, promises and/or agreements. Again, if it isn’t written down, it doesn’t exist.

When negotiating the terms of an employment agreement, physicians are usually told that they received the “standard contract.” It may very well be the standard template; nevertheless, if it does not reflect the promises made to you, revise it. Unfortunately, physicians sign contracts on a daily basis that they either did not read or comprehend. With this stated, it should not be surprising that an estimated 22 physicians per business day are handing in their resignations within the first 12 months of their employment. Protecting yourself from unwanted employment surprises begins at the initial interview; you need to be armed with questions produced by your personal and professional priorities. Additionally, and quite simply, you will also need to take notes, thus allowing you the opportunity to capture every recruiting promise made to you during the interview process (this is the “spirit” in which you are deciding to accept an employment position).

Once you receive your letter of offer or employment contract, you simply contrast the document against the answers to your questions and the recruiting promises made to you. If you cannot find the answers and promises



within the contractual covenants, you need to add the language. If you locate the language within the contract and find it to be nebulous or ambiguous, you need to add granular verbiage to ensure the covenant is easily interpreted. To illustrate this point, consider the following:

In previous positions, I interviewed and hired a number of employed physicians and I honored the contractual covenants and the spirit of each agreement. Those same contracts are now subject to interpretation by new leadership that was not present during the recruiting, negotiating and contracting process. Point made.

In closing, I firmly believe that you have an opportunity to capture the spirit of the agreement through the interviewing and contracting processes and to create a legally binding document that protects your best interests, as well as your employer’s. Nevertheless, it pays to understand that even the most seasoned health care lawyers are not going to bring contractual shortfalls to your attention if they are unaware of the recruitment promises made to you.

THE FLORIDA PROSTATE HEALTH OUTREACH PROGRAM (PHOP)

According to the American Cancer Society, prostate cancer is the second most common cause of cancer death, with 32,050 estimated deaths in 2010. Although prostate cancer affects all men, there is a disproportionate burden of the disease in minority and medically underserved populations. It is clear that prostate cancer remains a major public health problem, especially in Florida. The UF Prostate Disease Center is thus leading a statewide effort in community education and awareness to mitigate the burden of prostate cancer and eliminate prostate cancer disparities in Florida through the Florida Prostate Health Outreach Program (PHOP). Directed by Folakemi Odedina, PhD., the mission of PHOP is to reduce the morbidity and mortality of prostate cancer in the State of Florida through the following core services: community relations, organization & provider relations, and research relations.

In “community relations,” our Community Outreach & Education (COE) Division of the Center presented its first Annual Health Village as part of the national minority cancer awareness week celebration held every year in the third week of April. The week-long celebration raises awareness about all types of cancer through several events, including ministerial outreach at community churches and an education panel known as A Frank Talk about Cancer.

Based on a community-centered approach, the “community relations” service core also includes programs such as Barbers Against Cancer, a partnership program with Alachua County black barbershops. This unique program promotes cancer education and awareness in the black communities. The PHOP signature program is the Annual Prostate Health & Wellness Expo, held in September at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Multipurpose Center in Gainesville, FL. More than 100 participants were provided with health information, health screenings and breakfast with medical experts.

In “organization and provider relations,” the core service focuses on facilitating collaborative efforts among community-based cancer organizations, providers, public and private organizations and academic institutions through partnerships. Some of the newly formed partnerships included; The Science of Global Prostate Cancer Disparities in Black Men conference funded by the National Cancer Institute held Aug. 27-29, 2010, where global burden of prostate cancer in black men was rigorously



investigated and discussed, the W. Bradford Ingalls Memorial Prostate Health and Cancer Seminar held on March 19, 2011 in Palm Beach FL., as well as the International Conference on Cancer Advocacy for African Countries (CAAC) to be held in November 29 30, 2011 in Cairo, Egypt.

In “research relations,” community-based solutions are the first and foremost research platform to tap. Guided by the fundamental principle of “if the problems are in the community, then the community must be involved in determining the solutions,” community-based participatory research partner researchers with diverse community groups to develop culturally-relevant, tailored and targeted educational programs. Ongoing research projects include: An Exploratory Study of Florida Black Men’s Health, A Survey of Motivators of and Barriers to Health-Smart Behaviors among Black Men, and Black Men’s Views on Participation in Prostate Cancer Clinical Trials.

NEWS & NOTES



SCOTT GILBERT, MD, MS, PUBLISHES ARTICLE ON THE EFFECT REIMBURSEMENT RATES HAVE ON PRESCRIBED THERAPY

Dr. Scott Gilbert, along with colleagues at the University of Michigan and the University of Texas Medical Branch, recently published "Reimbursement Policy and Androgen-Deprivation Therapy for Prostate Cancer" in the prestigious *New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM)*. The study results showed paying physicians less for a commonly administered prostate cancer therapy can help curb inappropriate use without preventing use among people who need it, and at the same time save health care dollars. See *NEJM* 363(19):182232, 2010 for the full article.

MICHAEL BINDER, M.D., PRESIDENT ELECT OF FLORIDA UROLOGIC SOCIETY

Dr. Michael Binder will serve as President elect of the Florida Urologic Society (FUS) for 2012. Last year as secretary Dr. Binder tracked the financial health of the FUS, the state's leading urology association which serves as a liaison between Florida urologists, the Southeastern Section of the American Urological Association and the American Urological Association.

BENJAMIN CANALES, MD, MPH, FEATURED ON JOURNAL OF UROLOGY COVERS

Dr. Benjamin Canales recently published an article in the September 2011 Issue of the *Journal of Urology* with Dr. Khan, "Ultrastructural Investigation of Crystal Deposits in Npt2a Knockout Mice: Are they similar to Human Randall's Plaques?" A photomicrograph from the article was also featured on the journal's cover. Another article and photomicrograph "Bladder Amyloidosis," was featured in June, 2010 edition, which reviews the etiology, presentation and histology of bladder amyloidosis, as well as treatment options for this rare entity.

PHILIPP DAHM, MD, MHSC., PUBLISHES PROSTATE SCREENING ARTICLE

Dr. Philipp Dahm published Screening for prostate cancer: Systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials in the September issue of the *British Medical Journal (BMJ)*. Dr. Dahm examined the evidence on both the benefits and harms of screening for prostate cancer during six randomized trials. His full article can be found in *BMJ* 2010; 341:c4543.

SIJO PAREKATTIL, MD, AND KEVIN LEE, MD JOIN WINTER HAVEN FACILITY

Dr. Sijo Parekattil, a UF faculty member, now serves as the director of the minimally invasive surgery and robotics program at the Winter Haven Hospital in Winter

Haven, Florida. Starting in November 2010, Dr. Parekattil heads the new partnership with Winter Haven Hospital by helping to establish a new multidisciplinary urology center at the facility. He is joined by Dr. Kevin Lee.

UROLOGY DEPARTMENT RANKING

University of Florida's Department of urology is ranked 23rd among urology departments nationally, according to the U.S. News & World Report's Ranking of America's Best Hospitals for 2011-2012. It is the highest-ranked department at Shands at UF.

In another ranking, UF Urology is listed in the top 15 for 2010-2011 in the entire University for grants awarded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Under the leadership of Yehia Daaka, PhD, the Department improved 13 spots, from 28th in 2009-2010.

PHILIPP DAHM, MD, MHSC, PUBLISHES EVIDENCE-BASED UROLOGY TEX TBOOK

Dr. Philipp Dahm, associate professor and director of the urology residency program for the University of Florida, recently served as editor with Roger Dmochowski, MD, from Vanderbilt University, for a ground-breaking new text book on evidence-based urology. The book provides up-to-date information on the appropriateness of both medical and surgical treatment options for a broad spectrum of urological conditions based on current best evidence.

INTRODUCTION OF UROLOGIC ONCOLOGY FELLOWSHIP AT UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

We are delighted to introduce the University of Florida department of urology's first urologic oncology fellowship. This urologic oncology training program has found strong support and formal approval by the UF Graduate Medical Office and has received accreditation from the Society of Urologic Oncology. The two year fellowship program will include a one-year clinical component and a one-year research component. For clinical experience, UF urologic oncology fellows will be able to capitalize on the large and continuously expanding case volume at UF as a tertiary referral center for complex and major open and minimally invasive surgery cases. A multidisciplinary cadre of expert urological surgeons, medical oncologists, radiation oncologists and research faculty will ensure the highest level of training for this and future generations of UF urological oncology trainees.

UF DEPARTMENT OF UROLOGY WELCOMES TWO UF ALUMS TO THE FACULTY

Dr. Stringer, a leader in the north Florida Urology community, will serve as Medical Director of the UF & Shands Urology Practice. His close ties to the private practice community will strengthen opportunities for physician referrals into the Shands system. He received his residency training at the University of Florida.

Dr. Yeung, a four-time University of Florida Academic Achievement Award recipient, received his medical school and residency training at the

University of Florida. He has just completed sub-specialty fellowship training in reconstructive urology, prosthetics and uro-trauma at Washington University in St. Louis.

BENJAMIN K. CANALES, MD, RECEIVES NIH GRANT FUNDING

Dr. Benjamin Canales, was awarded a five-year, \$750,000 National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant to study the relationship between obesity, gastric bypass surgery, oxalate metabolism and kidney stones. Dr. Canales and his colleagues have developed an obese rat model where the effects of this surgery can be studied more closely. Along with this prestigious award he was one of two recipients of the 2011 "Rising Star in Urology Award" through the American Urological Association (AUA) Foundation and Astellas Pharma Global Development, Inc. This program, designed for young urology faculty with externally-funded career development awards, will provide \$150,000 of funding over the next four years to Dr. Canales and his research efforts.

SERGEI KUSMARTSEV, PhD, RECEIVES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH GRANT

Dr. Sergei Kusmartsev received a grant of \$400,000 for a study titled, "Tumor-Infiltrated Myeloid Cells and Prostaglandin Catabolism in Human Bladder Cancer." The funding of the study is provided by the Florida Department of Health and the James & Esther King Biomedical Research Program.

LI-MING SU, MD EDITS TEX TBOOK "ATLAS OF ROBOTIC UROLOGIC SURGERY"

Li-Ming Su, M.D. along with Humana Press has recently released the *Atlas of Robotic Urologic Surgery*, a surgical techniques atlas authored by the thought leaders in robotic urologic surgery. This atlas provides a detailed, step-by-step guide to common robotic urologic procedures for the purpose of helping novice surgeons in their transition to robotic surgery and seasoned robotic surgeons to refine their surgical technique and expand their repertoire of robotic procedures. In addition, less commonly performed robotic procedures such as those for male infertility, pelvic organ prolapse, urinary tract reconstruction and pediatrics are included. Each chapter contains descriptive step-by-step text, complimented by figures and intraoperative photographs detailing the nuances of each procedure.

PRESTIGIOUS AWARD NAMED AFTER SIJO PAREKATTIL, MD

The Center for Reproductive Medicine at the Glickman Urological and Kidney Institute & OB/GYN Women's Health Institute, Cleveland Clinic will name its prestigious best reproductive medicine research intern award by one of our faculty members. The "Dr. Sijo Parekattil Award for Excellence in Reproductive Research" is given to the most outstanding intern every year at the Cleveland Clinic's summer internship program.



UROGATOR UPDATE

UROBEST REPORT

UROGATORS: MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As most of you know, the UroGators™ Alumni Society is now an active association comprising former residents, fellows and faculty representing more than 50 years of urology training at the University of Florida. The charitable alumni organization was established four years ago with several chartered goals.

Our foremost goal was to establish a vehicle for enhanced communication, fellowship and networking for all of us who shared a common history of urology training at the University of Florida. This ongoing effort is evidenced by the newsletters and updates provided several times a year. Additionally, we added a very successful inaugural UroGators tailgate party generously hosted by a UroGator, Dr. Jeffrey Thill and Winter Park Urology at the LSU vs. UF football game on October 9th, 2010. We continue to host the annual UroGators Alumni and Department receptions at the annual AUA meetings which are growing in interest and attendance, as evidenced by the attendance of more than one hundred participants at the Washington, DC. AUA in May of 2011.

Another goal was to develop opportunities for continuing medical education for our members. Since our inception, we have now created 4 annual Urology CME Series. The most recent event at Ponte Vedra, FL on February 12-14, 2011 focused on Comparative Effectiveness & Current Best Practices in Urology. Faculty members, as well as visiting scholars, led a vigorous, didactic session and discussion, which included the first Birdwell Finlayson lectureship delivered by Dr. Tony Atala from Wake Forest University. Other sessions dedicated to health policy included lectures and a panel discussion led by former State Surgeon General Ana Viamonte Ros that investigated the impact of health care reform on all stakeholders.

It was also an originally stated goal to develop and foster an enhanced working relationship between the alumni and the faculty. The Department's growing faculty, as well as its expanded clinical expertise, together with applied research and clinical trials provide, in many cases, a clear patient benefit. Through a better working relationship and understanding of available treatment interventions, we all become better patient advocates.

One of our most important goals most certainly is to function as patrons of our Resident Education Fund. The responsibility includes enhancement of the education process. Indeed, many of us have donated our time over the years as visiting attendings at the VA hospital. I personally served as a representative from private practice on the original AUA task force that produced the white paper on the future of residency training in 2006. All of us in one way or the other have a stake in urology training at the University of Florida. The Heritage Campaign, which was introduced at the AUA in San Francisco in 2010, is yet another important step in the continuation of that commitment. This campaign supports the establishment of a visiting professorship in urology. Ongoing tax-free contributions to this cause will support a

permanent visiting professorship that will serve to further elevate our program to vie with other top-tiered programs nationally. As we aspire to an even higher ranking in the annual U.S. News & World Report, pause and reflect on your own career beginnings as we strive to establish a living legacy of urologic education at our own alma mater.

Ms. Ronda O'Boyle from within the Department is the liaison with our alumni association. She is available to all of us to assist in alumni matters and she will also support me with any of the planning and communication necessary to carry out our mission as outlined above. Mr. Tom Crawford, as department manager, and Dr. Johannes Vieweg, as department chairman, continue to be very supportive of our cause and department affiliation. We cannot wish for a better team!



UROGATORS

DR. GREG OLDANI, BECKY OLDANI, LEAH STRINGER, DR. TOM STRINGER

Lastly, I would like to offer a personal tribute to someone who has been instrumental in the training of so many of us. I remember reading a book years ago called, "The Making of a Surgeon." Dr. Zev Wajzman helped us achieve that and more during his career that has spanned across 40 years and more. I have watched him carefully and personally mold young, and sometimes tentative residents into confident, skilled and compassionate surgeons time and time again. He has given all of us a piece of himself, as if we were his family. Although I had already completed my training by the time he arrived in Gainesville, I have since been blessed to know him as a leader and a role model for resident education. I am thankful for the laughs, and the tennis sweat, that we have shared over the years and I am grateful and appreciative of Zev's ongoing and long-standing contributions to the Department and the UroGators.

SINCERELY,
TOM STRINGER, MD, PRESIDENT OF THE
UROGATORS ALUMNI SOCIETY

THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF UROLOGY FACULTY



Johannes Vieweg, MD
Professor and Chairman



Chester Algood, MD
Clinical Assistant Professor



Michael Binder, MD
Clinical Assistant Professor



Vincent Bird, MD
Associate Professor



Benjamin Canales, MD, MPH
Assistant Professor



Brian Cleaver, PhD
Director of Core Programs



Marc S. Cohen, MD
Professor



Thomas Crawford, MBA
COO UFPDC



Yehia Daaka, PhD
Vice Chair of Research



Philipp Dahm, MD, MHSc
Associate Professor



Scott Gilbert, MD
Assistant Professor



Sergei Kusmartsev, PhD
Assistant Professor



Kevin Lee, MD
Assistant Professor



Louis Moy, MD
Assistant Professor



Robert Newman, MD
Professor



Zhongzhen Nie, PhD
Assistant Professor



Folakemi T. Odedina, PhD
Director of Community Outreach and Minority Affairs



Sijo Parekattil, MD
Assistant Professor



Thomas Stringer, MD
Medical Director Urology Clinic



Li-Ming Su, MD
Professor, Associate Chair of Clinical Affairs



Ahmad Z. Vafa, MD
Clinical Assistant Professor



Zev Wajzman, MD
Professor Emeritus



Lawrence Yeung, MD
Assistant Professor

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