

DAILY NOTED | MAY 2024

News from the Department of Surgery

NEWS



2024 William C. Wood Research Symposium: Final Report

The 22nd Annual William C. Wood Research Symposium took place on Thursday, April 18, 2024 in the Emory University Hospital Auditorium. The keynote address, "The Problems are the Opportunities," was delivered by Yolonda Colson, MD, PhD. Dr. Colson is a past president of the American Association for Thoracic Surgery, chief for the Division of Thoracic Surgery at Massachusetts General Hospital, and professor of surgery in the field of thoracic surgery at Harvard Medical School.

Following the keynote lecture, Luke Brewster, MD, PhD, current chair of the Department's Research Advisory Committee (RAC), introduced the William C. Wood Symposium and highlighted the contributions of Dr. Wood to the department. Two oral presentation sessions and basic and clinical science quickshot sessions highlighted the excellent research being conducted in the Department of Surgery.

Department Chair John Sweeney, MD, delivered the final remarks and winners for competitions were announced. Awards were given for best oral presentations and quickshots in both clinical science and basic science categories, and all presenters were recognized with a group photo and lunch in the Whitehead Room.

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Dr. Sandra Wong Officially Takes Helm as Dean of School of Medicine

Sandra Wong, MD, MS, officially assumed her role as the dean for the School of Medicine on Friday, March 22. Dr. Wong succeeded interim dean Dr. Carlos del Rio and former dean Dr. Vikas Sukhatme.

Dr. Wong joins Emory from Dartmouth, where she served as chair of the Department of Surgery for the Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center and professor of surgery in the Geisel School of Medicine. She is a surgical oncologist specializing in the management of soft tissue sarcomas, melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers.

We would like to issue a warm welcome to Dr. Wong!



Emory General Surgery Welcomes 2024 Surgery Residency Matches

Following Match Day on Friday, March 15, Emory General Surgery welcomed 14 new residents to the program! New residents are:

Titilola Oluwadara Babatunde, The Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University
Helen Osborne Ernyey, University of Florida College of Medicine
Madeleine Clair Ing, Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California
Anna Elizabeth Madia, Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University
Madison Calvert Maider, University of Washington School of Medicine
Tyson McLeish, Medical College of Wisconsin
Savanah Namasi Rumbika, Emory University School of Medicine
Lauren Rose Templeton, The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas Southwestern Medical School
Max Alan Wieder, Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University
Hongyu Zhang, Florida State University College of Medicine – Orlando Campus
Mishal Gillani, Aga Khan University Medical College
Alice J. Hsu, Emory University School of Medicine
Mustafa Khader, University of Jordan Faculty of Medicine
Daniil Menshikov, People's Friendship University of Russia Faculty of Medicine

Welcome and congratulations to all new residents!

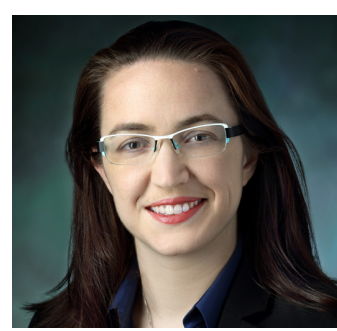
APPOINTMENTS



Dr. Yazan Duwayri Appointed Chief of Vascular Surgery

Yazan Duwayri, MD, MBA, accepted the role of chief of the Division of Vascular Surgery, beginning in April 2024.

Dr. Yazan Duwayri has been with Emory since 2011 and is a professor of surgery at Emory University School of Medicine. He has served in institutional leadership positions including as medical director of the Heart and Vascular Service Line at Emory University Hospital, where he promoted operational efficiency and alignment across the cardiovascular units. He also serves as co-director of the Emory Aortic Center, one of the highest volume aortic programs in the United States, where he has grown the volume and quality of care of patients with aortic disease through endovascular innovation, interdisciplinary collaboration, and research trial recruitment.



Dr. Laura Johnson Promoted to Professor of Surgery

Laura Johnson, MD, was promoted to professor of surgery on Tuesday, May 7, 2024. Dr. Johnson previously held the title of associate professor of surgery. She is the medical director of the Burn Center at Grady Memorial Hospital and associate program director of the Department of Surgery's General Surgery Residency.

Prior to joining Emory in 2022, Dr. Johnson held positions at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Georgetown University School of Medicine, Medstar Washington Hospital Center, and the Children's National Medical Center.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION



Dr. Lily Yang Inducted into 2024 Class of AIMBE College of Fellows

Lily Yang, MD, PhD, was inducted into the AIMBE (American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering) 2024 Class of Fellows on Monday, March 25 in Arlington, Virginia. Dr. Yang is a professor with tenure in the Department of Surgery.

Election to the AIMBE College of Fellows is among the highest professional distinctions accorded to medical and biological engineers, comprised of the top two percent of engineers in these fields.

Dr. Yang was nominated, reviewed, and elected "for outstanding contributions to the field of nanomedicine with novel nanoparticle drug delivery systems and nanotheranostics." AIMBE's mission is to recognize excellence, advance public understanding, and accelerate medical and biological innovation.



Dr. Steven Kim Wins ASTS Faculty Development Grant

Steven Kim, MD, has been awarded a Faculty Development Grant by The American Society of Transplant Surgeons (ASTS) for the funding period of 2024-2026. The study, titled "Investigating the Role of NK Cells in a Preclinical Model of Pig-to-Nonhuman Primate Xenotransplantation" also earned Dr. Kim a DOS Pilot Research Award last year, with much of the preliminary data for the ASTS Faculty Development Grant generated using the funds from the DOS Pilot Research Award.

The ASTS Faculty Development Grant is designed to support a junior faculty member in the development of transplant research so that further funding can be obtained. It provides winners \$50,000 over two years to support direct research and educational costs.



Dr. David Kooby Wins 2024 E. Napier Burson, Jr., MD, Physician Award of Distinction

David Kooby, MD, was awarded the 2024 E. Napier Burson, Jr., MD, Physician Award of Distinction along with Dr. Dheval Desai on May 1, 2024. It has been four years since the Burson Award nominating committee has named a recipient.

Dr. Kooby met and exceeded the Burson Award criteria of:

1. Adherence to the emergency philosophy and contribution to Mercy Mission in Atlanta.
2. Contribution to the quality of medicine practice at Emory Saint Joseph's Hospital.
3. Ability to contribute in a leadership role.

Dr. Kooby is a professor of surgery in the Division of Surgical Oncology and Chief of Emory Surgery in the Northern Arc.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION



School of Medicine Diversity & Inclusion Week

Diversity and Inclusion Week is next week, May 20 - 24, 2024! The School of Medicine has created an exciting program anchoring on the theme "From Being To Belonging". Faculty and staff are encouraged to register for sessions throughout the week, including a DEI Department Leadership Session panel discussion that includes our very own professor of surgery Wendy Greene, MD.

Sessions throughout the week will showcase the exceptional DEI initiatives led by our community throughout the year, cultural activities, an art gallery, a SOM block party and much more. **Registration closes Sunday, May 19th!**

[Register Now](#)