Penn Medicine: 250th Years
Below: University of Penn College and Medical Hall 1842

This year marks the 250th anniversary of the founding of the University Of Pennsylvania Perelman School of medicine. Opening it’s doors in the fall of 1765, it became the first medical school in America. As the Division of Urology reflects upon our long and exciting past, we have also achieved a number of firsts this year. For the first time in our history, the Division of Urology achieved our highest rank of 8th in the nation for adult urology, while our pediatric colleagues perpetually rank in the top 3 programs in the nation. These results recognize the hard work and dedication from faculty, staff, residents and the vast network of Penn Alumni that have helped build the world class Penn Urology program.

Over the last few years the Division has continued to expand. Urology at Pennsylvania Hospital has moved from the old red shag carpeted offices at 8th and Spruce to the brand new Penn Medicine Washington Square. The 20 story designated green building is home to over 100 medical practices at PAH. Expansion also continues at Presbyterian Medical Center with the opening of Penn Medicine University City. Urology has recently began seeing patients at both of these new outpatient locations.

This year brought a new faculty member to the program. Puneet Masson, MD joined the staff at Presbyterian in 2013. Puneet is fellowship trained in male infertility and men’s health. He has been a nice overall addition to the program, allowing us to cover each subspecialty in urology.

Thomas Guzzo, MD, MPH (Res ’07) continues to expand his role in the division. He currently manages one of the busiest urologic oncology practices at Penn Urology with a wide assortment of open, lap and robotic surgery. He was recently made Associate Chief of the Division and is now the Associate Director of the Residency Program in Urology.

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Penn Urology Expansion: The Future is Getting Brighter

At PAH, Ariana Smith, MD (Res’ 07) has expanded her role and clinical practice in female urology and serves as the Co-Director of the Fellowship in Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery. Phillip Mucksavage, MD (Res’ 10) joined the staff in 2012 and is growing an endourology and minimally invasive oncology practice at the site. This year James O’Connell MD (Res ’73) has moved from his clinical role at PAH to a teaching role for the Division. He has assumed all medical student education for the program.

Currently the residency program consists of 4 residents per year, and we have fully integrated our program at Presbyterian Medical Center. The residents have come to appreciate the volume of robotic radical prostatectomies at PPMC under Dr. David Lee, complex male voiding dysfunction with Dr. William Jaffe (Res’ 04) and general urology cases with Dr. Joe Harryhill who moved to PPMC in 2012.

As with most of urology, the program is rapidly shifting to minimally invasive surgery. UPHS has upgraded each da Vinci Robotic system to the Xi at all locations. More recently, the Philadelphia VA Medical Center, with Dr. Keith Van Arsdalen (Fellow ’83) as the new Chief of Urology, acquired a Xi system and will also start performing robotic surgery in the coming year.

Chief Residents: Career Paths

In June, we celebrated the graduating chief resident class of 2014. This year Scott Ceasar, Nasheer Sachedina, Caleb Kovell and Marty Kathrins join the Penn Alumni family. Both Scott and Nasheer have accepted urology positions in Florida, expanding the Penn alumni network in the state. Marty is completing a 1 year fellowship in male infertility at the University of Illinois Chicago with Dr. Craig Neiderberger. Caleb has moved to Wake Forest completing a 1 year male reconstructive fellowship.

With every graduating class, a new crop of residents starts. This year we accepted 3 Penn Medical students, Alex Skokan, Jose Pulido and Ibarzo Zambrano and Marshall Strother from Washington University in St. Louis. We all look forward to breaking in the new recruits.
RESIDENT AWARDS

Zachary Smith PGY-5:
- Société Internationale d’Urologie US National Chapter Travel Scholarship winner (August 2014)
- 2014 AUA National Chief Resident Debate winner (May 2014)

Justin Ziemba: PGY-5:
- 3rd Place MAAUA Resident Essay Competition (September 2014)
- Elected Co-Chair UPHS Housestaff Safety and Quality Council (June 2014)
- 3rd Place PUS Resident's Essay Contest (May 2014)
- Howard Pollack Pyelogram Hour Winner, MA-AUA 71st Annual Meeting (October 2013)

Abdo Kabarriti PGY - 4:
- MAAUA Resident Jeopardy Bowl team winner (September 2014).

Siobhan Hartigan PGY -2:
- Society of Women in Urology Travel Award (January 2014)


Overall the Division had a very productive academic year in 2013. Over 50 peer reviewed articles were published by Penn Urology residents and faculty. Penn residents or faculty were the first or senior authors in the majority of the publications. Most articles were in the field of voiding dysfunction (> 26), followed by oncology (>13) and basics science research (>8).

Numerous book chapters were also produced in the fields of voiding dysfunction, oncology and geriatric urology. The Penn Clinical Manual second edition was also released this academic year. Make sure to get your copy today.

AUA 2014 Reception – Did you make it?

For 21 years Helen Scanlon was with the Division of Urology. For many of us, she was our surrogate mother as we navigated through our residency. Her dedication, diligence and support for the residency was recognized with the naming of the Urology Resident’s Office The Helen F Scanlon Urology Residents Room. Helen is looking forward to retirement and more time volunteering at the Church. She will be missed.
This year Dr. Alan J. Wein was the recipient of the Distinguished Graduate Award from the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine. The award honors highly accomplished alumni for their outstanding service to society and to the profession of medicine, and for their notable accomplishments in either biomedical research, clinical practice or medical education.

Dr. Wein is a recipient of a number of awards including the Urodynamics Society Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Keyes Medal (2012) – the highest individual citation in the field of urology in which only 31 medals have been awarded since 1926. He has authored or co-authors countless articles, books and editorials and is the editor in chief of the gold standard textbook in urology Campbell-Walsh urology.

He joins a very elite group of Penn Medicine Alumni who received the Distinguished Graduate Award, including classmate and Nobel laureate Michael Brown, and Surgeon General C Evert Koop.

Penn Urology Residents’ Fund

Each year funding for resident education, conferences and research becomes harder and harder to find. Despite these hardships, the Division of Urology, as we have in the past, continues to fully fund the travel expenses for any resident with an accepted abstract or manuscript.

While funding for the Chief Resident Dinners and other conferences were previously provided by industry support, much of these donations, due to current governmental regulations, are no longer available to the division. As such, the contributions from the vast number of alumni who have left Room 9 and 10 at HUP covered in sweat, blood and tears, are needed more than ever.

Please consider making a tax free contribution to the Penn Urology Residency fund. The fund will only be used for residency related activities such as support for meetings, research or other divisional activities. Your support will continue to make a Penn residency the best residency in the country.

Checks can be made out to:

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Send me your e-mail as well to keep in touch and provide contacts for the Penn family.