Dr. Bodo Knudsen & The Lego Team

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The Granville Golden Bricks Robotic team worked on a robotic design and program for the First Lego League tournament--the theme of the tournament involved biomedical engineering. The team worked together to develop attachments and programming to accomplish the missions of the robot “game.”

The team’s project was to identify a way to help prevent the recurrence of kidney stones--learning a lot about them in the process. As part of their research for this topic, Dr. Aaron Clark, father of team member Jackson, arranged for them to meet with nationally recognized kidney stone specialist, Dr. Bodo Knudsen, at The Ohio State University. Dr. Knudsen showed them the lasers and other cutting-edge equipment used in the treatment of kidney stones.

The team’s solution to help prevent the recurrence of kidney stones was to define the requirements for an app for the iPhone, or similar devices, that helps keep track of fluid intake and fluid needs over the day. This way, a person in need can stay hydrated and reduce the likelihood of the recurrence of kidney stones.
Dr. Wise’s thoughts on....

**his donations to the Department.**
There should be at least 2 or 3 chairs in urology and I hope to start a second chair. I think that’s the key. If you can get enough funds to bring people in so they’re not encumbered entirely with trying to get a university salary or trying to see a thousand patients a day to make their income, I think that’s what a chair should be used for.

**the importance of resident education.**
I think the residents are your ambassadors. That was always the fun part of being the head of a division or department. Taking kids that didn’t know much, and 3 or 4 years later hopefully they know a lot. And when they start practicing, to say “I learned this at Ohio State University.” I think that’s very important.

**Philanthropy.**
I had watched a program where they had talked to Buffet and Bill Gates and Ted Turner about philanthropy. All of them felt that giving back to the community, rather than to their own kids, is something that everyone should think about. I think that this is true.

**Dr. Bahnson coming to Ohio State.**
I told the search committee that they should take a look at this guy, Bob Bahnson. The Department has exploded since he got here, exploded in a nice way. The other thing about when Bob came, he was his own boss. I gave him some suggestions and he did follow some of them.
Giving Works Both Ways - Couple Receive James Care for Life award

Forest Hale, a 62-year-old testicular cancer survivor, received an award from the James Care for Life holiday support fund in December. He had a rare type of metastatic Leydig cell tumor. Mr. Hale was nominated by Dr. Sharp and Joyce Perry, CNP for the award. Mr. Hale was awarded a gift card to a local department store, Christmas dinner - compliments of Kroger, and a gift card to a local restaurant. In discussing the award Mrs. Hale says, “You really don’t know just how much this award means to us. The fact that he won was a heaven sent miracle. You both saved Forest’s life and now give him the chance to finally enjoy Christmas. I believe with all my heart and soul that you both are angels from God.” In receiving this award, Mr. Hale was able to enjoy a wonderful Christmas with his family.
Ervin & Bonnie Babbert are longtime supporters of the Department of Urology. Their donations to the Department are used for resident education. This year we will have our first Babbert Lecturer, Dr. Jack W. McAninch. For more information go to page 21. Pictured above: Front Row: Dr. David Shore (PGY4), Bonnie and Erv Babbert, and Matthew Johnson (PGY3). Back Row: Dr. David Ludlow (PGY2), Dr. Benjamin Gibson (Chief Resident), Katie Garcia (Residency Coordinator), and Dr. Jeffrey Wilson (PGY2).

Bladder Cancer Research Fund (Fund # 312290) Dr. Kamal Pohar.
Endourology Urologic Surgery Research and Education Fund (Fund # 313015) Dr. Bodo Knudsen.
Ervin C. & Bonnie J. Babbert Excellence in Urology (Fund # 240239) was established to support resident education.
Jack Taylor M.D. Urology Lectureship Fund (Fund # 607129) This fund supports an annual lecture (or lectures).
Michael D. Bloch and Janis B. Bloch Endowment (Fund #240533) supports research and medical education.
Michael W. Curran Research Fund (Fund # 660588) was established to support prostate cancer research.
Minimally-Invasive/Robotic Urologic Surgery Research and Education Fund (Fund # 313014) Dr. Geoffrey Box.
Oncologic & Molecular Urology/Robotic Surgery Research & Education Fund (Fund # 313013) Dr. Ahmad Shabsigh.
Robert C. Walter Memorial (Fund #247551) fund supports faculty development and patient outreach.
Robotic Urologic Surgery Research & Education Fund (Fund # 312951) Dr. Ronney Abaza.
Ronald & Ernesta Fay Endowment Fund to Support Research in Prostate Cancer and Brachytherapy (Fund # 662122).
Sara Lee Youngs Memorial Fund (Fund # 311931) was established to support a bladder cancer lectureship.
Trauma & Reconstructive Research and Education Fund (Fund # 313491) Dr. Christopher McClung.
Urology Education Fund (Fund # 306315) is used for teaching and for partial funding of urology research projects.
Urologic Oncology/Robotic Surgery Research and Education Fund (Fund # 313017) Dr. David Sharp.
Win as a Team!

Research -- Tariq Kheemes, MD

Clinical Care -- Kellie Hoffman, CNP

Support Staff -- Karen Melon
Dr. Shabsigh started his training in urologic cancer at the Molecular Urology Research Laboratory of Columbia University in New York City under the leadership of Professor Ralph Buttyan in the late 1990s. He then completed his residency training in urologic surgery at New York Presbyterian Medical Center under the mentorship of Dr. Carl A. Olsson and Dr. Mitchell C. Benson. Before joining Ohio State, Dr. Shabsigh was a Fellow in urologic oncology in the Department of Urology at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York City. During his fellowship he worked with some of the most experienced specialists in the world of urologic oncology.

Combining unique skills in laparoscopic and robotic surgery to his extensive training in urologic oncology, Dr. Shabsigh implements a global approach in the treatment of urologic cancers, such as prostate, bladder, kidney, testicular and penile cancers. His focus is on curing the cancer and minimizing the postoperative side effects. During his residency training in the early 2000s, he participated in the first few robotic prostatectomies done in New York City at New York Presbyterian Medical Center, and his experience continued during his fellowship. Since then, robotic surgery for different urologic malignancies has become an integral part of his practice. Dr. Shabsigh works closely with specialists in urologic cancer from different disciplines, medical oncology, radiation oncology, and urologic pathology to provide world class care for patients with complex urologic cancers.

He has a strong research interest focusing on surgical outcomes, quality of life and the biology of urologic malignancies. He collaborates with the departments of radiology, pathology and College of Veterinary Medicine to develop new techniques to help understand the biology, diagnosis and treatment of cancer. Dr. Shabsigh leads the clinical outcome research fellowship. He mentors medical students and urologists in clinical research methodology. His current research focuses on the outcome of robotic vs. laparoscopic vs. open techniques.

Dr. Shabsigh is a member of several prestigious national and international societies, such as the American Urologic Association, the Society of Urologic Oncology and the American College of Surgeons. He has presented at national and international meetings and has won awards from local and national urologic societies for his research in urologic cancer treatment and outcomes.

to good Prostate Health

1. Annual PSAs as per guidelines
2. Regular exercise
3. A diet that emphasizes fruits and vegetables
Patient Profile - Jay Holdgreve

The National Cancer Institute estimated that 8,480 men would be diagnosed with testicular cancer in 2010, and 350 of those men wouldn’t make it out alive. In August, I, Jay Holdgreve, became a confirmed case. I was just a 34 year-old husband and father of three, with no family history or risk factors. Thankfully, I stayed in touch with Dr. Ray Pongonis (OSU Sports Medicine) from my days as a Student Athletic Trainer at The Ohio State University; he was instrumental in organizing the best possible care available. His referral to Dr. Ahmad Shabsigh at The James Cancer Hospital was the initial step for a full recovery.

Never in my wildest dream would I have thought a consult at a cancer hospital could be so calming. Dr. Shabsigh, his staff, and all of the employees at The James were so respectful, knowledgeable and professional that they took the edge off for my wife and I during our initial visit. Dr. Shabsigh was very confident that I caught it early and no matter what happened, there was a 95% cure rate--he hammered that fact over and over. I left the James that day confident that I was going to BEAT CANCER!

My confidence never waned. I had an orchiectomy, an official diagnosis of Seminoma Stage 1-2 Testicular Cancer, and currently under a rigorous surveillance program consisting of CT Scans and blood work every three months. Why, and how did these things happen? Those are the two questions that have not been answered and they are the central focus of my plight. I want to help find those answers so others don’t have to go through it without knowing, as I did.

“You can never pay back, but you can always pay forward” —Woody Hayes

Recognition at the 28th World Congress of Endourology!

Dr. Tariq Khemees, a clinical research fellow in the Department of Urology, was recognized for his research work presented at the 28th WCE held in Chicago 2010. His presentation entitled “Renal Functional Recovery after Nephron-Sparing Surgery: The Impact of Warm versus Cold Ischemic Resection Technique” has been selected as a congress highlight. Highlights were chosen by the moderators of each session, the awards committee of the Endourology Society, and by the highlights committee. The manuscripts represent what is believed to be the highest impact contributions to the World Congress of Endourology.

Dr. Khemees graduated from Al-Nahrain University, Baghdad, Iraq in June of 2000 with a M.D degree. He finished his residency training in urology in 2007 and recently moved to the United States, seeking further education and training in the field. In February of 2009, Dr. Khemees successfully finished a six month visiting scholarship at the University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston,
Being a Buckeye from birth (and 1999 alum.), I heard that quote “...pay it forward” thousands of times. After my diagnosis, I finally understood the true meaning of Woody Hayes’ iconic phrase. I can never pay back all the people who helped me during my journey, but I can “pay forward.”

Testicular cancer is rarely discussed, and the lack of awareness and education keeps 16-34 year old males from knowing and/or reporting their symptoms, thereby increasing their risk of more intense treatment or death. I want to pay forward so my two sons and all males are more aware and better educated about testicular cancer.

The Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute at The Ohio State University is one of the nation’s finest institutions and a leader in cancer care and research. To my surprise, there was not one, out of 200+ funds, established for testicular cancer awareness, research or education.—even staff members at the James were astonished by this news. On December 14, 2010 I established The Jay Holdgreve Endowment for Testicular Cancer Research. The Endowment ensures Dr. Shabsigh and his colleagues at The James Comprehensive Care Center have the resources required to discover the exact cause of testicular cancer, and eventually the cure.

I also launched a website, www.tcare.org, to raise awareness, educate, and become a resource for those individuals diagnosed with testicular cancer. With an increase in testicular cancer awareness/education, and improved funding for research, one day testicular cancer will not take the lives of any more innocent men.

For information on donating click on the Donate Now & Fundraisers tab on the tcare webpage.

where he gained knowledge and training in the field of urological oncology. Dr. Khemees was recently appointed as a clinical research fellow at our department where he joined a research team led by Dr. Ahmad Shabsigh. He received a research fellowship grant from the Institute of International Education/ Iraq Project to support his research work, and his project entitled “Resilience of PolyScope Disposable Endoscope Optical Fiber Properties after Repeat Sterilization with Steris or Sterrad,” mentored by Dr. Bodo E Knudsen, was supported by an industry research grant from Lumenis. He recently submitted a basic research grant to The Ohio State University to support his project entitled “Dog Model of Prostate Cancer for Imaging and Treatment Discovery,” which represents an inter-departmental collaboration project with principal investigators involved from the College of Veterinary Medicine, the Department of Urology and the Department of Radiology. Dr. Khemees continues to present his research work at regional and national meetings including the American Urological Association annual meeting and the Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons.
For the third year in a row, OSU Urology will host a two-day course for Urology residents in robotic surgery that is the only one of its kind. The Third Annual National Urology Resident Preceptorship in Robotic Surgery will be held on April 8-9, 2011, at Ohio State University Medical Center in collaboration with Ohio State’s Center for Advanced Robotic Surgery and Center for Minimally-Invasive Surgery. The course was designed to allow residents from training programs where robotic surgery has not yet become standard to travel to Ohio State and learn from local and guest faculty specializing in robotic surgery for the treatment of prostate, kidney, and bladder conditions, among others.

The program will include live surgery transmitted from the OSU operating rooms to the conference center, as well as lectures and a hands-on training session on the second day of the conference. The hands-on session will be held in the OSU operating rooms where residents will be able to train on four actual robotic surgical systems as well as three virtual-reality robotic simulators.

Again this year, OSU Urology faculty teaching at the course will include Ronney Abaza, MD, FACS, Ahmad Shabsigh, MD, David Sharp, MD, and Geoffrey Box, MD. Invited faculty will include pioneering robotic surgeon, Dr. Mani Menon, as well as Dr. Matthew Gettman and Dr. Jihad Kaouk.

The RoSS, Robotic Surgical Simulator, arrived at OSUMC in January 2011. The RoSS uses virtual reality to realistically introduce the user to the operation and feel of a robotic surgical console. Not only does the RoSS provide essential "basic training" for the console it also allows the surgeon to complete fully simulated robotic procedures to further enhance their skill set.

OSUMC is one of only nine hospitals in the world to employ this technology. The RoSS provides training to residents practicing in the specialties of Urology, Gynecology, Cardiac, Thoracic, ENT, General, and Plastic Surgery.

The addition of the simulator to OSUMC’s renowned training program was made possible by the generosity and support of Carolyn and Robert Peterson.
Annual Robotic Surgery CME Event Highlights Urology

On February 25th, The James Comprehensive Cancer Center hosted a continuing medical education (CME) event entitled “Update on Robotic Surgery Across Disciplines” that was co-directed by Director of Robotic Urologic Surgery, Ronney Abaza, MD, FACS. This full-day program provided an update on the use of robotic surgical technology in all fields currently using the technology as well as pioneering work being done at The James.

Dr. Abaza gave lectures that included Urologic applications of robotic surgical technology as well as two other lectures reviewing the evolution, cost, and future directions of robotic surgery. Dr. Jeffrey Fowler, Division Director of Gynecologic Oncology, also co-chaired the course with Dr. Abaza and co-directs Ohio State’s Center for Advanced Robotic Surgery with Dr. Abaza. Other specialties highlighted during the conference included Cardiothoracic Surgery, Head and Neck Surgery, and for the first time Orthopedic Surgery, where robotic applications are just beginning to develop.

The course was held this year for the second year in a row and with more than 100 healthcare providers registering, is planned to be offered next year as well. Course materials including slides from the lectures will be available on Ohio State’s CME Office website, and next year’s program is planned for a live webcast so that providers from outside Central Ohio will also be able to participate without having to travel to Columbus.

Robotic Urologic Surgery Fellowship Accepting Applications for Third Year

OSU Urology currently sponsors a fellowship in robotic surgery allowing graduates of urology residency training programs the opportunity to train specifically in robotic surgery for one year. Such training programs are few but very much in need given that many training programs have only recently begun to perform robotic surgery or have yet to gain enough expertise to train their residents.

Current fellow, Daniel Mulligan, MD, will complete his fellowship in June having participated in hundreds of robotic procedures and having independently performed most types of robotic procedures himself as primary surgeon. Praneeth Vemulapalli, MD, was selected last Fall and will begin his fellowship in July after graduating from his urology residency at SUNY Stony Brook. Applications for the position beginning July 2012 are currently being accepted.

Upcoming dates of importance:

Saturday March 12th – Hands-on ultrasound lab- testes

Saturday June 4th – Ultrasound lab practical exam
At the October 2010 LAP-OSATS Lab the residents’ skills were rated using the OSATS format. The PGY1’s through 3’s did a nephrectomy, the PGY4’s and the chiefs did a partial nephrectomy and the PGY6 did a robotic partial nephrectomy. The semi-annual skills labs are used to assess the residents’ performance, track their improvement and certify their competence. The residents all brought their “A” game. Another laparoscopic animal lab took place February 5, 2011.
“Dr. Abaza was very compassionate, understanding – my mother is very hard of hearing and Dr. Abaza went out of his way to communicate so she would understand.”

“Dr. Pohar was extremely patient, didn't seem rushed to get to the next patient, and was concerned about all my problems.”

“Dr. Pohar and associates are extremely skilled, kind, loving and informative.”
Beginning this July, the Department of Urology will offer a new level of expertise to patients with fertility issues and sexual dysfunction. Gregory Lowe will be joining the faculty at The Ohio State University Medical Center after completing a fellowship in male infertility and andrology at the University of Virginia. Male infertility is a subspecialty that has been lacking in central Ohio, and is underrepresented in urology training programs nationwide. Male infertility is involved in nearly 50% of all infertile couples, and often these patients do not receive the evaluation necessary to appropriately direct treatment. Dr. Lowe plans to expand these operations to provide comprehensive fertility diagnostics and treatments for the male patient. Many treatments available for men provide a lower cost approach to infertility than typical IVF. However it is expected this service will also enhance the availability of couples to pursue IVF as well. Patients previously found to have no sperm present on a simple testicular biopsy are ideal candidates for microdissection TESE, a procedure allowing for the recovery of small numbers of sperm for IVF in approximately half of patients. This involves the use of an operating microscope and expertise on regions most likely to harbor foci of sperm. In fact, some of the bench research Dr. Lowe performed in fellowship involved the labeling of sperm with a fluorescent antibody for improved detection in a mouse model. Many men are finding themselves remarried after a previous divorce as well. Often the idea of having a child together is limited by the man having had a previous vasectomy. The department will begin offering patients the opportunity for vasectomy reversal for future conception. In addition, many patients are found to have a varicocele that may inhibit testicular growth. This is easily correctable with a simple microscope based operation after which the patient is able to return to normal activities in 4-5 days.

In addition, Dr. Lowe has a passion for helping men struggling with low testosterone, erectile dysfunction, abnormal penile curvature and other sexual disorders. In some situations, these problems indicate a more serious underlying disorder such as silent cardiovascular disease, for example. He takes pride in ensuring these disorders
are fully explored to improve a man’s overall health. Many patients with diabetes or metabolic syndrome have associated low testosterone. This can lead to fatigue, low sexual drive and poor erections. Some men are dealing with a curvature to the penis that limits sexual activity and satisfaction. This may be due to previous surgery, trauma or even no known cause. These patients will now have the option of surgical repair or medical therapy necessary to manage this disorder. Men who undergo prostate or bladder surgery, or prostate radiation therapy have a unique cause of their erectile dysfunction. As men are surviving longer after therapy, managing side effects of treatment is gaining greater importance. Dr. Lowe will offer these patients options to preserve as much erectile function as possible and to maximize their quality of life after treatment.

Besides clinical care, Greg is interested in improving the urology training program and options for medical students. Few academic urology departments have a specialist in male infertility. He believes it is critical to train our future urologists how to provide basic infertility care and looks forward to the opportunity to teach. This is also a great area for future research as we continue to learn more about sperm DNA damage, antioxidants, and improving semen parameters. In his spare time, people around Columbus may find Greg running, cycling, or spending time with his own family. We are pleased to have Dr. Lowe join the Department of Urology, and we will begin scheduling appointments for him in May.

Residents to Benefit from Experienced Urologist on Faculty

Dr. Smith has practiced urology with the Central Ohio Urology Group since 1978. After his retirement he will join the faculty in the Department of Urology as a Clinical Assistant Professor. His role in the department will focus on resident education.

Dr. Smith received his medical degree from The Ohio State University and his residency training at the University of Maryland. He also completed fellowship training in pediatric urology from Northwestern University. He is a member of the American Society of Pediatric Urology, American Urological Association, AOA, as well as the Columbus Medical Forum.
Urology Faculty receive SUCPD grant

Drs. Geoffrey Box and David Bahner have received a grant from the Society of University Chairpersons and Program Directors (SUCPD). The project is entitled “Urology Ultrasound Training Protocol and Assessment Program” and will run through June of 2012. Dr. Lucey, Dean for the College of Medicine, congratulated Dr. Box and Dr. Bahner on the award and is looking forward to seeing the results of the project.

NEW OFFICERS INSTALLED, NEW LEADERS ELECTED DURING CLINICAL CONGRESS

Robert R. Bahnson, MD, FACS, professor and chairman of the Department of Urology, and The Dave Longaberger Chair in Urology, is the chair of the Advisory Council for Urology. He was recently selected as Second Vice-President-Elect of the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Ronney Abaza’s video publication #V1017 “Techniques for Robotic Nephrectomy with Vena Caval Tumor Thrombectomy” is being awarded HONORABLE MENTION in the 2011 AUA Annual Audio Visual Awards.

The best videos for 2011 will be highlighted at the session entitled “Award-Winning Videos: The Best of the Best” on Saturday, May 14, 2011 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center from 10:30 am - 12:00 pm in room 204. It is one of six that will be shown. Dr. Abaza will be participating in a question and answer session following the showing of his video.
As Ohio State seeks to expand its role in the commercialization of research, it is important that we create an environment that facilitates and rewards research creativity and entrepreneurship. To support and stimulate entrepreneurial activity among our researchers, and to reward our most successful faculty and staff entrepreneurs, two new university-wide awards have been established to honor Ohio State’s Innovator of the Year and Early Career Innovator of the Year. The establishment of these awards underscores the value placed by the university on these activities.

Each award recognizes an Ohio State researcher who is working actively to promote commercialization of university intellectual property, through invention disclosures filed, patents applied for and/or received, technologies licensed, or spinoff companies formed. These activities support economic development in the central Ohio region, and serve to attract companies that create a base of operations within the state.

The 2010 recipient of the **Innovator of the Year** award is **Dr. Ching-Shih Chen**, professor in Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacognosy in the College of Pharmacy. He also holds the Lucius A. Wing Chair of Cancer Research and Therapy as well as an appointment in the Department of Urology. Dr. Chen exemplifies the “bench to bedside” goal of translational science in his approach to cancer biology research and anti-cancer drug discovery, particularly in the development of a new class of cancer therapeutic agents. The success of his drug discovery program is exemplified by the licensing of two new anti-cancer drugs to Arno Therapeutics Inc., the subsequent investigational New Drug (IND) approval by the Food and Drug Administration for both agents, and initiation of clinical trials at the James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Center.

In addition to the two compounds that are currently licensed, this innovator has been granted 11 U.S. patents and has 17 U.S. patents pending. He is currently supported by over $2 million in annual extra- and intra-mural funding. He also has over 170 publications in his name.

His outstanding research program recognizes multidisciplinary approaches to drug discovery in cancer research and integrates well with research programs of collaborators in the Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center and College of Medicine.
At the October meeting of the American Academy of Pediatrics Dr. Stephen A. Koff, MD, FAAP was awarded the Urology Section Award. The award is in recognition of outstanding contributions to the field of pediatric urology. Dr. Koff is a professor of Urology at The Ohio State University College of Medicine in Columbus, and has been chief of the Division of Pediatric Urology at Nationwide Children’s Hospital for 25 years, where he also is director of surgical operations. Dr. Koff is past president of the Society for Pediatric Urology and has made contributions to pediatric urology in the areas of hydronephrosis, altered bladder function and reconstructive surgery.
New Home.....
for OSU Department of Urology

In Spring of 2012 the Department of Urology will move to its new home. The Department will occupy space on the 3rd and 4th floor of the Eye and Ear Institute at Gowdy Field. In addition to giving the Department more space, this will enable our physicians to practice in one central location. Patients will find the facilities nicer in regards to amenities.

Look for more details in our next newsletter!
Incoming Residents

Yasser Ads, MD
I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to complete my Urology training at the Ohio State Medical Center. This department is recognized for its excellent clinical volume, faculty commitment to resident education, and for being a leader in developing novel surgical approaches, particularly in minimally invasive surgery. Moreover, we are part of a medical center already recognized as one of the best in the nation and whose commitment to continue on this upward trajectory is demonstrated in the tremendous resources currently being invested toward this end.

T.J. Morris, MD
I feel extremely privileged to be here at The Ohio State University. Ohio State has a long-established commitment to providing the best and most knowledgeable specialized patient care, now and for the future. I know that I will receive the highest quality of training while at Ohio State with the opportunity to work with some of the world’s finest urologic surgeons. I have no doubt that I will leave this program well trained and prepared to practice urology with confidence and precision.

Abhi Patel, MD
I was privileged to have rotated through the Urology program at Ohio State as a 4th year medical student. It was during this month that I decided to come to Ohio State for my training. I saw motivated and driven residents working with equally dedicated faculty and staff. The culture at Ohio State from top down is resident-focused, ensuring that I will acquire the skills and knowledge I would need as an independent urologist.

2011 Residency Match Results - New Buckeyes!

Zachary Gordon
The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University

Erin Akar
Drexel University College of Medicine

Firas Petros
Al-Nahrain University

Class of 2016!
Bob,
Thank-you so much for having me to Ohio State. What an honor. I thoroughly enjoyed your hospitality, your smart and well organized residents and your outstanding faculty. I also really appreciate the generous honorarium. That was a nice surprise!

Chris

Christopher J. Kane MD
Professor of Surgery, Chief of Urology
University of California - San Diego
Dr. Isla Garraway will present a talk entitled “Stem Cells in Human Prostate Development and Cancer” as the first Bloch Visiting Scholar on April 19, 2011. Dr. Garraway is a urologist at UCLA and the Greater Los Angeles-VA Medical Center and a research scientist at the Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center (JCCC). She has ties to the Columbus community. Her father was a professor of botany at Ohio State University prior to his death from prostate cancer in 1999. She and her brother (who is also a PCF-funded researcher) are committed to finding better treatment options and a cure for prostate cancer patients.

In 1994, her father Michael was diagnosed with prostate cancer. The news came unexpectedly and left his daughter scrambling for answers. Still working on her PhD at that time, Dr. Garraway quickly refocused her career goals on finding the best treatments for her father. Today, Dr. Garraway’s focus at JCCC is developing ways to isolate specific stem cells from patients with prostate cancer. These cells constitute a certain fraction of all cells in the prostate, and have a unique ability to regenerate themselves. Understanding what role stem cells play in cancer tumor growth could prove to be monumental in developing future targeted therapies for prostate cancer patients. In addition to her research in prostate cancer, Dr. Garraway is also eager to bring awareness to this disease whenever possible.

On October 28, 2011 Dr. Jack McAninch, MD will present the first lecture in the Babbert Lectureship series. Dr. McAninch received his medical degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch where he was an honor graduate and recipient of the Gold Headed Cane Award in recognition as the outstanding graduating senior. He received his general surgery and urology training at Letterman Army Hospital where he was recognized as the outstanding Resident Trainee and received the Robert B. Skelton Award. He is certified by the American Board of Urology and joined the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) faculty in 1977. He currently serves as Chief of Urology at San Francisco General Hospital and Vice Chairman of the Department of Urology.

Dr. McAninch is recognized as a national and international leader in the field of genitourinary trauma and reconstructive surgery. He has directed a highly recognized surgical team that has led the development of numerous new surgical techniques and new management methods in the field. He continues to be a principal investigator for many active research projects.
Dr. Yves Fradet, M.D., FRCSC has been selected as the 5th Sara Lee Youngs Lectureship speaker. Dr. Fradet is a Professor of Surgery at the University Laval. He graduated from Laval University (Quebec, Canada) in 1981, and completed an oncology fellowship at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. He has headed a research laboratory at the Laval University Cancer Research Centre at the University hospital since 1983. He also serves as the director of the urologic oncology section. He was the founding chairman of the Canadian Urologic Oncology Group from 1988 to 1995. Dr Fradet’s research activities involve translational laboratory research in tumour immunology; molecular biology of bladder and prostate cancer, and its applications to new diagnostics and treatments; epidemiological studies in bladder and prostate cancers; and clinical trials in prostate cancer, and other genitourinary cancers.

Dr. Margaret Pearle has been selected by the chief residents as the 15th Annual Winter Visiting Professor. She will present lectures and participate in case presentations on September 16, 2011. The chief residents chose her for her clinical and research interests/expertise in kidney stone management. She received her M.D. and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago and completed her residency training at Northwestern University Medical School. She moved on to a fellowship in Endourology and Minimally Invasive Surgery at Washington University. Dr. Pearle is currently on faculty at Southwestern Medical School where she holds the Dr. Ralph C. Smith Distinguished Chair in Urology Education.
If you would prefer to receive this newsletter via email, you have any comments or suggestions for future newsletters, or you would like to report an address change, please send an email to betty.chasser@osumc.edu

This year staff from the Department of Urology participated in the “2010 Hit the Road with the Buckeyes.” Participants Katie Garcia, David Ludlow, Whitney Glassman, Karen Allan, and Humberto Martinez-Suarez (not pictured) competed with over 100 teams in this fitness challenge. The goal was to match the traveling distance of the Ohio State Buckeye Football team (2116 miles). Our team surpassed this goal with a total of 2,305 miles covered. Congratulations to all of the teams who participated in this great event, and we will be ready for the challenge again next year!