INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pint-Sized Philanthropy: What you could learn from a 3rd Grader
OSU Graduating Residents: What they say about their training
Raymond Allen is a veteran of the Vietnam War who feels passionate about helping others. As a nurse during the war, he served the wounded. Homeless, he directs the parking of cars and maintains a lot in downtown Columbus for tips, of which he donates a portion to the Make a Wish Foundation. When confronted with a kidney mass, he volunteered to participate in the clear cell renal cell imaging clinical trial at The Ohio State University.

During his participation in the clinical trial led by Dr. Robert Bahnson, Chairman of the Department of Urology, he mentioned a desire to have dentures. This was something Raymond considered unattainable. Further discussion of this need with Cathy Mojzisik, RN, MS, Clinical Research Specialist, led to a fund raising project by the third grade students of St. Matthews School in Gahanna, Ohio. Under the guidance of Carol Spellacy, their teacher, the third graders have a service learning project intended to help veterans of Columbus. A dinner conversation between Spellacy and Mojzisik resulted in a revelation that meeting the needs of the students’ service learning project and Raymond may become a reality.

Learning about Raymond’s need for dentures, the students brainstormed and organized a fund raising project, “Adventures for Dentures.” Class projects to raise
money included “Deeds for Dentures,” the selling of coupons for chores performed by the students, and decorating plastic milk bottles sold as pen and pencil holders. Parents of students volunteered services and materials including dental care by a local dentist who crafted the dentures. Funds raised by the students supported taxi cab fares for office visits. The students invited Raymond to St. Matthews School for an opportunity to meet and for all to express their gratitude. On May 29, 2009, Raymond was overwhelmed by the welcoming signs that decorated the entrance to the school. The hospitality was extended inside the school where the students gathered holding signs acknowledging Raymond’s service for our country. A question and answer period included discussion and learning about Raymond’s military service, life without a home, and courage to fight cancer. In this unique experience, the children had the opportunity to meet the person they helped through their service learning project. Raymond had the chance to express his appreciation for their caring efforts and encouraged the students to continue their passion to help others.

FRIENDS of the Department

Another inspiring example of philanthropy is the generosity of John and Jane McCoy. They have been dedicated contributors to the Columbus community. As civic leaders, their example has moved others to increased philanthropic activity. The gift to OSU Urology, is yet another demonstration of their generosity and concern for patients’ issues.
Dr. David Brown and Dr. John Peck are two former residents who are making sure the excellent tradition of education continues to the next generation. They are not only generous benefactors, but they freely share their experiences and advice to current and future residents.

Dr. David Brown received a B.S. from Yale and his M.D. from the Medical College of Ohio. After a one year internship in General Surgery, he began his OSU Urology residency training which he completed in 2002. Upon graduation Dr. Brown joined Columbus Urology, Inc which he was with until he opened his own practice, Premier Urology Corp., in 2007. “His respect for patients and their problems is honorable and worthy of emulation” said Dr. Robert Bahnson, Urology Department Director.

“When I finished my urology training at OSU,” said Dr. Brown, “I was confident and prepared to enter my practice. I had an experience that was an excellent blend of academic study and didactic conferences along with a diverse medical and surgical patient mix. Dr. Bahnson and the staff challenged me every day and gave me just the right amount of autonomy that forced me to learn how to make decisions and hone surgical skills.”

While his direct contact with the OSU attending physicians and OSU residents in the Department of Urology is limited these days by the demands of solo practice, he still contributes with annual donations, with referrals for second opinions, and with complex surgeries. “My advice to current residents would be that you cannot read too much or expose yourself to too many clinical scenarios. It is this experience that you will draw from when you are in practice.”

With regard to his donations, he simply states, “It is important to give back to the department to thank Dr. Bahnson for his mentorship but also to further the scholarship and tradition of the residency.”

Dr. John Peck received his undergrad degree from Ohio Dominican College and his Doctor of Medicine from the Ohio State University College of Medicine. After a one year internship in General Surgery he began his urology residency training which he completed in 2002. “My training at OSU did an excellent job at preparing me for a busy office practice and gave me the experience and confidence to do a wide variety of surgical cases. Dr. Bahnson also helped me to understand the business aspect of urology which is becoming increasingly important in these ever-changing times.”
“I have been impressed with John in terms of his performance,” said Dr. Bahnson. “He is conscientious, caring and compassionate, and assiduous about his reading.” After completing his OSU Urology Residency, Dr. Peck moved to Ashland, Ohio with his wife Leigh Ann and children, Miranda and Johnny. He opened offices in Ashland and Mansfield and enjoys a busy general urology practice. In 2007, his practice moved to a large, brand new facility that is home to several specialists as well as an endoscopy center and sleep center. He laments being unable to make it to the OSU campus very often, as he “misses the conferences and professional interaction,” but does refer patients and communicates with the current faculty at OSU on a regular basis. “I would advise current residents to spend a lot of time in the office. It is always tempting to spend all of your time in the O.R. but without a successful office practice there won’t be many cases. Listen to your patients, they can often give you the answers and make your job easier.”

When asked about his contribution, his answer is filled with humility and gratitude. “I take pride in being able to support the Department of Urology. No matter how much I give back it can’t repay what Dr. Bahnson and the faculty gave me. I encourage you to do the most with your education and help support the training of future urologists.”

How to Give

Gifts to the Department of Urology at The Ohio State University help us to further our goal of continuously being recognized as a leader in patient care, education and research. All gifts, great or small, make a difference. Checks payable to: The Ohio State University, Department of Urology. Gifts are tax deductible in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code. Gifts can be mailed to: 456 West 10th Ave, Columbus, OH 43210

Sara Lee Young’s Memorial Fund (Fund # 311931) This fund was established to support a bladder cancer lectureship.

Bladder Cancer Research Fund (Fund # 312290) Dr. Kamal Pohar.

Robotic Urologic Surgery Research & Education Fund (Fund # 312951) Dr. Ronney Abaza

Urology Education Fund (Fund # 306315) This fund is used for teaching and for partial funding of urology research projects.

Jack Taylor M.D. Urology Lectureship Fund (Fund # 607129) This fund supports an annual lecture (or lectures).

Michael W. Curran Research Fund (Fund # 660588) This fund was established to support prostate cancer research.

Oncologic and Molecular Urology/Robotic Surgery Research & Education Fund (Fund # 313013) Dr. Ahmad Shabsigh.

Ronald and Ernesta Fay Endowment Fund to Support Research in Prostate Cancer and Brachytherapy (Fund # 662122)

Urologic Oncology/Robotic Surgery Research and Education Fund (Fund # 313017) Dr. David Sharp.

Urodynamics Urologic Surgery Research and Education Fund (Fund # 313016) Dr. Jason Gilleran.

Endourology Urologic Surgery Research and Education Fund (Fund # 313014) Dr. Geoffrey Box.
Bodo Knudsen, MD, Director of the OSU Comprehensive Kidney Stone Program, completed his residency training in urology at the University of Manitoba under Program Chairman Dr. Denis Hosking, himself a key opinion leader in metabolic stone disease and retrograde renal stone surgery. After residency, Dr. Knudsen pursued fellowship training at the University of Western Ontario in endourology and laparoscopy under Dr. John Denstedt, a world expert in the surgical management of kidney stones. After fellowship training, Dr. Knudsen was recruited to the Ohio State University to develop the Comprehensive Kidney Stone Program.

Dr. Knudsen has designed the OSU Comprehensive Kidney Stone Program to coincide with the institution’s philosophy of research, patient care, and education. Dr. Knudsen leads an active research program, focusing on improving the surgical management of stone disease. This research has led to Dr. Knudsen being recognized as a world expert in the use of lasers to treat kidney stones. He was recently elected as one of the youngest members of the prestigious R.O.C.K. (Research on Calculus Kinetics) Society, a group of international investigators who focus on kidney stone research. Dr. Knudsen has also partnered with other experts in the field, both nationally and internationally, which has led to multicenter studies aimed at improving the treatment of kidney stones.

Dr. Knudsen is committed to providing the best state-of-the-art treatment options for stone disease and has worked closely with leaders within OSUMC to ensure the best possible infrastructure is in place. This has resulted in the development of an outpatient facility centered around a Storz SLX-F2 shockwave lithotripsy machine (the only one of its kind in central Ohio), the latest flexible endoscopes which make even the most difficult to reach stones treatable, and a 100W holmium: YAG laser capable of breaking up any type of kidney stone.

Dr. Knudsen resides in Dublin, Ohio with his wife, Dr. Eunice Oppenheim-Knudsen, a family practice physician who works at the OSU Upper Arlington Clinic. Both of the Knudsen’s remember the tough struggles of medical school and take pleasure in entertaining some of the OSU medical students at their residence throughout the year. Having both grown up in Canada, they enjoy attending the Blue Jackets hockey games at Nationwide Arena during the NHL season. With superstars Rick Nash and Steve Mason, the Knudsen’s are hopeful the season will be a little longer next year.
Dr. Knudsen uses laser fibers to break up kidney stones. Above is an image of a beam profile of laser energy being transmitted through a laser fiber. By analyzing the beam profile, Dr. Knudsen can garner information regarding the quality of the laser fiber and its effectiveness in breaking up kidney stones. The image is captured with a highly specialized pyroelectric camera.

Recent Publications:


Robotics Corner

Robotic Surgery at Ohio State has a long and illustrious history beginning with the first robotic surgery in North America in 1999. Since then, OSU has continued to blaze trails in the field of robotic surgery with OSU Urology at the forefront of this continually growing multidisciplinary program. OSU currently performs approximately 100 robotic surgeries per month, which is an all-time high for the institution and represents a 50% increase over the past 9 months. This places OSU among the top five hospitals in the nation for robotic surgical volume. Approximately half of these procedures are

OSU Cornerstone of Nationally-Recognized Multidisciplinary Robotics Program

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Dr. Geoffrey Box with the DaVinci Surgical Robot
Robotics Featured at Prostate Cancer Program

On Thursday, September 24th, Ohio State’s Center for Advanced Robotic Surgery held a program in observance of Prostate Cancer Awareness Month that included a live demonstration of one of OSU’s da Vinci robotic surgical systems. This and two other robots at OSU are used to perform robotic prostatectomies, the most common treatment for prostate cancer in the U.S. OSU urologists perform more of these procedures than any other institution in Ohio. The program opened with remarks from Director of Robotic Urologic Surgery and Co-Director of Ohio State’s Center for Advanced Robotic Surgery, Dr. Ronney Abaza. Following this was a dinner program for area physicians where they were able to “test drive” the robot for themselves and then hear about the latest developments in robotic surgery for urologic conditions from Department of Urology faculty, including Dr. Abaza, Dr. David Sharp, Dr. Ahmad Shabsigh, Dr. Geoffrey Box, and Dr. Jason Gilleran.

Urology Robotics Abstract Wins Prize

The Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons recognized former OSU Urology chief resident Dr. Hugh Lavery and faculty member Dr. Ronney Abaza for their abstract entitled, “Robotic Extended Pelvic Lymphadenectomy for Bladder Cancer: Initial Experience with Greater Nodal Yield” at their Annual Meeting on September 9-12. The poster was awarded top prize in the Urology category which qualified it for a special plenary session for category winners. Dr. Lavery’s podium presentation was then judged the best presentation and won the overall prize. This is the second year in a row winning the Urology and overall prizes as senior author for Dr. Abaza whose project “Prediction and Implementation Strategies in Laparoscopic and Robotic Surgical Education” won last year.

New OSU Robotics Website Makes its Debut

Ohio State University Medical Center recently revealed a new website aimed at raising awareness in the public for robotic surgeries being performed at OSU’s Center for Advanced Robotic Surgery. CARS performs robotic surgery for urologic, gynecologic, cardiac, head and neck, gastrointestinal, and colorectal conditions, among others, and is among the top five programs in the country in the number of patients it treats with robotic surgery. While most people are aware of the role of robotic surgery in prostate cancer, it is hoped that www.medicalcenter.osu.edu/go/robotics will educate the public on the myriad of other applications of robotic technology in surgery.
Asha D. White, MD
Asha did her undergrad at the University of Akron and completed medical school at Northeastern University in Rootstown, Ohio. After the completion of her residency program, Asha will be joining a private practice here in the Columbus area. Asha was selected as the winner of the Ohio Urological Society’s resident essay contest. The topic of her paper was “Clinical Pathway for Early Discharge after Robotic Cystectomy.” She was awarded $1,000 and the Department received $1,500 to defer the cost of sending Dr. White to the AUA North Central Section Meeting in Scottsdale, AZ to present her paper.

Gregory J. Lowe, MD
Greg received his undergrad degree from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio and went on to obtain his medical degree from the Medical College of Ohio in Toledo. After Greg finishes his residency program he plans on doing a fellowship in Andrology and Infertility at the University of Virginia and then returning to The Ohio State University, Department of Urology, as an assistant professor. Greg chose urology for the wide variety of effective treatments and combined medical-surgical approaches to patient problems. His wife, Jessica, and he have two children, Colin (age 2) and Elise (1 month). Greg feels the Department of Urology at Ohio State has been a great place to develop into a confident and decisive surgeon.

Visiting Professor Announced
The two incoming chiefs, Drs. Asha White and Gregory Lowe have chosen a speaker for the 13th annual Chester C. Winter Visiting Professorship lecture, Dr. Peter N. Schlegel. The lecture will take place on September 29, 2009. “Visiting professors typically focus on areas in which we do not have much exposure,” said Dr. Lowe, “including urethral reconstruction and tissue engineering. They have challenged our thought processes through the discussion of complex cases. Their lectures have enlightened us to new techniques and ideas in the expanding and dynamic field of urology. All of the residents look forward to the visiting professor each year.”

Dr. Schlegel is Professor and Chairman of Urology, as well as Professor of Reproductive Medicine at The Weill Medical College of Cornell University; a Staff Scientist at The Population Council, Center for Biomedical Research; and a Visiting Associate Physician at The Rockefeller University Hospital. He is Urologist-in-Chief and an Attending Urologist at The New York Presbyterian Hospital. Dr. Schlegel is an internationally acclaimed expert in the treatment of male infertility, especially the interface of male factor treatment with assisted reproductive techniques. His work has also clarified the importance of genetic studies in the evaluation of men with infertility. Dr. Schlegel will be presenting two lectures entitled “Novel Concepts in Fertility Treatment for Testicular Failure” and “Testosterone and the Urologist.”

“Dr. Schlegel is a pioneer in the field of male infertility and andrology,” said Dr. White. “He has been at the forefront of applying microsurgical techniques for the treatment of infertile men. His recent research on the genetic aspect of male infertility has contributed to the understanding of sperm DNA fragmentation and its role in infertility. Dr. Schlegel was invited for our Chester C. Winter Visiting Professorship for his expertise, innovation, and enthusiasm for a subject to which urology residents nationwide have a limited exposure.”
CONGRATULATIONS
GRADUATING RESIDENTS

We want to congratulate our graduating residents. Adam C. Mues, MD is currently doing a minimally invasive urologic surgery fellowship at Columbia University in New York, NY. Hugh J. Lavery III, MD is completing a Robotic Urology Fellowship at The Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York, NY.

“Drs. Lavery and Mues have chosen to seek additional training to prepare themselves for productive careers. This is a reflection of the skill and accomplishment of our faculty. Our Department is exceedingly fortunate to have such fine faculty to serve as role models for our residents. Hugh and Adam will both be outstanding urologic practitioners.” - Robert R. Bahnson, MD

“It was a sincere pleasure to watch Adam and Hugh progress through our program and grow into competent urologic surgeons who I am sure will succeed in the field. I am pleased that I was able to contribute to their education over the past 4 years, and I look forward to seeing the leadership skills of Drs. Lowe and White emerge during their Chief Resident year.” - Jason P. Gilleran, MD

“Our residency program is built on the core competencies of surgical education. After completing a urology residency at Ohio State a trainee can expect to be a master of these principles and to have the skills necessary to be a urologist who can manage and treat problems at any level of difficulty. In particular, I know that I have acquired great skill as a clinician, expert surgeon, and as a professional who has the ability to stand up to challenge. I will always be grateful to the faculty and residents who were wonderful teachers and friends that helped me achieve my goals.” - Adam C. Mues, MD

“At the completion of my residency at Ohio State, I feel confident handling almost any urologic issue independently. I enjoyed my time here, as the residents and faculty were fun to work with. Expert faculty in all the major urologic subspecialties treat a wide range of complex patients on a daily basis. As such, I was frequently exposed to challenging problems, yet given a great deal of autonomy in handling them. The faculty constantly pushed me to improve my knowledge base and surgical skills, always expecting improvement. Working closely with them, I have grown as both a surgeon and a person. I feel very well prepared to be a skilled urologist, and I am grateful to the department for making me that way.” - Hugh J. Lavery III, MD
The nationally recognized Urology Residency Program at The Ohio State University is one of a select group that will be assessing two new surgical performance evaluators: the Objective Structures Assessment of Technical Skills (OSATS) and the Laparoscopic Transperitoneal Nephrectomy (LTN) simulator.

**OSATS**
The ability to evaluate surgical resident performance is a difficult task and often considered to be very subjective and has the potential for significant bias. In an effort to create a “level playing field” in terms of evaluating resident performance, the University of Minnesota has developed an Objective Structures Assessment of Technical Skills (OSATS) for ureteroscopy/cystoscopy. The OSATS consists of a series of written questions and hands-on stations that are designed to evaluate a trainee’s technical skills in an objective fashion. Initial validation work is now being performed at several select centers, including The Ohio State University. A lab session was held at OSU on July 25th with the OSU Urology residents, in an effort to determine external validity of the data. The evaluation contained two parts: cognitive and psychomotor skills. This enabled the residents to be evaluated in a manner free of any faculty bias, such as knowing their PGY level, etc. The ultimate goal is to incorporate this evaluation into our current curriculum. Drs. Bodo Knudsen and Geoffrey Box helped facilitate along with Dr. Baruk Argun from the University of Minnesota.

**LTN SIMULATOR**
At the AUA meeting in April, the Laparoscopic Transperitoneal Nephrectomy (LTN) simulator was debuted. The simulator is a joint venture between industry and the American Urological Association and is being designed with the goal to improve the training of urology residents in laparoscopic nephrectomy in a safe, controlled environment. The Ohio State University Medical Center has been selected as one of six beta sites that will begin initial validation studies to determine the effectiveness of the simulator and assist in further refinement. The Department of Urology recognizes the critical importance that surgical simulation holds in the training of residents and medical students. Our goal is to be able to provide the optimal training tools for our residents to best prepare them for their careers in urologic surgery.
Radiology/Urology Collaboration Leads to Publication

When Dr. Douglas Murrey, Jr. decided to pursue a Masters of Science, he had no idea that it would result in a mentoring opportunity, a research excellence award, and a lifelong friendship. Under the Imaging Signature program and the Wright Center of Innovation in Biomedical Imaging, Dr. Murrey, resident in Radiology, advanced the PET/CT imaging project in collaboration with Eamonn Bahnson. Mr. Bahnson joined the project with the hope of entering medical school. Under Dr. Murrey’s guidance, they explored the feasibility of tumor burden quantification of resected renal specimens via PET/CT imaging.

Under the mentorship of Dr. Edward Martin, a surgical oncologist, they published “PET/CT Imaging of Clear Cell Renal Cell Carcinoma $^{124}$I Labeled Chimeric Antibody” in Therapeutic Advances in Urology, (2009) 1 (2) 67-70. Dr. Murrey will receive an Excellence in Research Award for his upcoming presentation at the American College of Surgeons 95th Annual Clinical Congress (October 11-15, 2009, Chicago, IL) for targeted molecular imaging of renal specimens. Dr. Murrey will continue collaborating with Mr. Bahnson remotely as he is currently attending the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine.

Residents Get Hands-on Surgical Experience

Each class of OSU urology residents are trained in a hands-on environment. This experience gives them an unparalleled view of the surgical realities facing urologic surgeons. One of the ongoing training exercises is the “Pig Lab”. During these sessions, the residents, under the guidance of Drs. Abaza and Box, get hands-on training in the laparoscopic/robotic partial and complete removal of the kidney.
The dates for the resident interviews have been selected: October 27, November 3, November 17, and November 24.

Ten applicants will be invited to visit us on each of these dates. The interview day will be preceded by a Monday night dinner. This gives the applicants the opportunity to interact with the residents in a relaxed atmosphere and allows them to have questions answered by residents in all stages of the program. The interview day begins with a grand rounds lecture at which breakfast will be served. After that the applicants meet with the individual faculty as well as participate in several skills labs, testing their skills in areas such as robotics and laparoscopy.

For more information regarding the interviews contact Dr. Janet McGarr at janet.mcgarr@osumc.edu.

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ROESSLER SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Michael Antiporda, a medical student here at OSU (class of 2012) was awarded a Summer Roessler Scholarship. The subject of his research is Polycomb Repressive Complex 2 Mediated Epigenetic Repression in Bladder Cancer. The project’s focus is on the importance of epigenetic regulation (PRC2 mediated gene repression) in bladder cancer. He is working under the mentorship of Dr. Kamal Pohar.

ABSTRACT RECEIVES HIGH HONORS

Dr. Pankaj Dangle, a clinical fellow working with Dr. Pohar, presented an abstract entitled “Lymph Node Count and Accuracy of Nodal Stage at Radical Cystectomy” at the annual meeting of the AUA (2009) that was included in the “Take Home Messages” by Dr. Eila Skinner of the University of Southern California. The same project also received one of 13 research awards from over 300 abstracts presented at OSU Medical Center Research Day (2009). The study will be published in the Journal of Urology in February 2010.

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UROLOGY GRAND ROUNDS

Dr. Leonard Gomella presented a lecture entitled “Approaches for Improving Prostate Cancer Screening and Prevention” at the August 11th Urology Grand Rounds. Dr. Gomella is the Bernard Goodwin Professor of Prostate Cancer and Chairman of the Department of Urology at Jefferson Medical College and Associate Professor of the Kimmel Cancer Center in Philadelphia. The lecture was sponsored by Duke University School of Medicine and The France Foundation. Attendees of the lecture received CME credit from the Duke University School of Medicine.

Prospective Residents

The dates for the resident interviews have been selected: October 27, November 3, November 17, and November 24.

Ten applicants will be invited to visit us on each of these dates. The interview day will be preceded by a Monday night dinner. This gives the applicants the opportunity to interact with the residents in a relaxed atmosphere and allows them to have questions answered by residents in all stages of the program. The interview day begins with a grand rounds lecture at which breakfast will be served. After that the applicants meet with the individual faculty as well as participate in several skills labs, testing their skills in areas such as robotics and laparoscopy.

For more information regarding the interviews contact Dr. Janet McGarr at janet.mcgarr@osumc.edu.
Urology Expands to OSU East

University Hospital East is extremely pleased with the increased availability of urologic services offered by the Department and Dr. Frank Begun, both from an inpatient and outpatient perspective. As a result, quality and access to needed care is improved, length of stay for inpatients is reduced, and costly transfers to University Hospital are avoided. The hospital benefits from increased surgical activity and the residents benefit from increased educational opportunities, including the opportunity to learn and function in a “community” setting. Other areas of the OSU Medical Center benefit from Urology’s presence at University Hospital East as well including referrals to University Hospital and the James for additional services. We would further like to take this opportunity to commend Dr. Begun and the other attending Urology faculty and their residents for their exceptionally professional conduct at University Hospital East. It has been noted and commented on by staff and physician colleagues alike. Dr. Begun has quickly become part of the University Hospital East “family.” Soon after his arrival, he volunteered his services on a Saturday as part of the hospital’s annual Community Day, offering free prostate exams to community members without health insurance or other access to care.

Joel Lucas, MD, Medical Director, and Elizabeth Seely, Executive Director, OSU Hospital East

RECOGNITION

Dr. Robert Bahnson...

Chief of Staff Elect of the Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital. He will hold this position for two years followed by two years as Chief of Staff.

Named Chair of the Advisory Council Chairs of the American College of Surgeons. This term will run through October 2011.

President-Elect of the Society of University Chairpersons and Program Directors. This is a one year term to be followed by a one year term as President.

Elected as a Junior Councilor in the prestigious American Association of Genitourinary Surgeons (AAGUS) for a three year commitment. The Council consists of five persons, including three elected officers: The President, the Vice President, and the Secretary-Treasurer.
OSU Urology Recognized by U.S. News and World Report

Whether at the bedside, in the lab, in the classroom or behind the scenes, faculty and staff at OSU Department of Urology are dedicated to improving people’s lives through personalized healthcare – and now we’re ranked among the nation’s best.

U.S. News and World Report has named OSU Medical Center one of “America’s Best Hospitals” for the 17th consecutive year. This year they acknowledged the OSU Urology Department 23rd out of 4,800 hospitals.

“Our success is guided by many, many people who, each day, make the Medical Center a special place for our patients,” says Dr. Steven G. Gabbe, CEO of the Medical Center.

The “America’s Best Hospitals” issue, considered by many consumers and healthcare industry analysts as a leading indicator of quality care and performance, is compiled using data collected annually from nearly 5,000 U.S. hospitals. This year, only 174 scored high enough in measures of quality, such as mortality and patient volume, to be ranked in any specialty.

Hospitals selected for the magazine’s rankings include institutions of varying sizes around the country. Measurements such as staffing levels, reputation and technology also are used to compile the final lists.

“We are pleased and proud to have made the list,” said chairman Robert Bahnson, MD, “especially to be in the upper half of the top 50. It is a great honor.”

This year’s rankings can be found at www.usnews.com and in the magazine’s July 21st print issue.