Message from the Chairman

We have had an outstanding year at UF Health Urology. This has been a year of excitement, growth, teamwork and awards. Our clinical volumes have continued to increase with over 20,000 patients seen through our clinics and over 15% growth in our surgical volumes over the prior year. Our faculty has continued to provide excellent care with continued emphasis on quality and safety. Vizient Health Care Network rated UF Health as having the lowest patient mortality rate amongst 120 peer institutions.

We have added two new faculty including JB Mason, MD who completed a genitourinary reconstruction and trauma fellowship at the University of Iowa. He will be working predominately at the Malcom Randall VA Hospital. We have also expanded our outreach to Sacred Heart Hospital in Pensacola, FL with the hiring of a pediatric urologist, C. Gerry Henderson, MD. We continue to recruit in the areas of pediatric urology, urologic oncology and male infertility.

Notable awards this past year include; Benjy Canales, MD recipient of the Gold Cystoscope Award from the American Urological Association and the Cook "Arthur Smith" Award from the Endourological Society; William Donelan, PhD recently received an American Urological
Association Research Scholars Award for his research in developing a point of care urine oxalate test; and our chief residents have matched at outstanding fellowship programs.

As always, our faculty group has continued to strive to provide the very best individualized and patient-centered care through multidisciplinary teams, advanced technologies and clinical trials. Other exciting developments include faculty promotions, resident fellowships, and national faculty awards, many of which will be detailed further in this newsletter.

It's great to be a **UroGator!**

Li-Ming Su, MD
David A. Cofrin Professor of Urologic Oncology
Chairman, Department of Urology

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**UF HEALTH UROLOGY RANKS #1 WITH LOWEST MORTALITY IN NATIONAL DATABASE**

Patient safety and quality of care remain our Department’s highest priority. We place great effort in improving patient outcomes through annual quality improvement projects and multidisciplinary collaboration with services throughout UF Health. This year **UF Health Urology was ranked #1 with the lowest mortality rate amongst hospitals participating in the Vizient Health Care Network.** This network comprises a national group of 120 not-for-profit hospitals and provides data on patient outcomes among its members.

[Read More](#)
As you may be aware, it is nearing the time of year when U. S. News & World Report solicits input and nominations for Best Hospitals and Children’s Hospital rankings through the annual Doximity survey. UF Health Urology places a high value on this recognition, which informs patients, our community and our physician partnerships of the commitment and excellence provided in urologic care by our team of physicians and providers. In keeping with UF Health’s overarching missions, we remain committed to our primary focus of providing outstanding patient-centered care, conducting innovative research, and training tomorrow’s leaders. Doximity non-members will be surveyed between January and March. Doximity members will be surveyed in late February and March.

If you feel UF Health Shands Hospital and UF Health Urology is one of the nation’s top hospitals for providing care to adult and/or pediatric urology patients who have challenging urologic conditions, please cast your vote online.

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**AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS**

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**New T32 Fellow receives AUA Research Scholars Award**

Department of Urology welcomed our fourth and newest T32 Fellow, William L. Donelan, PhD. Dr. Donelan recently received an AUA Research Scholars Award in support of his research alongside his mentor, Benjamin Canales, MD in developing a point of care urine test for oxalate.

[Read More](#)

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**Li-Ming Su, MD appointed to Shands Teaching Hospital and Clinics, Inc. Board of Directors**

Li-Ming Su, MD, David A. Cofrin Professor of Urologic Oncology and Chairman, Department of Urology has been appointed to the Shands Teaching Hospital and Clinics, Inc. Board of Directors, as well as the Quality and Safety Committee. Dr. Su’s appointment begins January 1, 2018.

[Read More](#)
Benjamin Canales, MD, the 2017 recipient of the Cook Medical Arthur Smith Award

Benjamin Canales, MD, was presented the award, commonly known as the “Arthur” award, at the recently concluded 35th World Congress of Endourology meeting held in Vancouver, Canada. Dr. Canales also received the Gold Cystoscope Award this past year. Both awards are bestowed upon an individual within 10 years of training who has made the most significant contributions to the field of urology.

UF Health Urology Faculty Receive Endowed Chairs During the 2017 Celebrating Distinction Event

Drs. Li-Ming Su and Vincent Bird were amongst nine faculty members within the UF Health Academic Health Center who were recognized for receiving endowed professorships during the sixth annual Celebrating Distinction ceremony.

2017 Exemplary Teacher Awards

The UF College of Medicine recognized both Drs. Paul Crispen and Larry Yeung as 2017 Exemplary Teachers. This award is given to faculty members within the College of Medicine who have demonstrated excellence in their teaching of medical students, residents and fellows as well as mentorship of other faculty.
UF Urology Resident Match into Highly Competitive Fellowships

Congratulations to Drs. Russell Terry and Marla Wardenburg for successfully matching into highly competitive endourology fellowships at Duke and Columbia University respectively.

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PROMOTIONS

The University of Florida Board of Trustees and the College of Medicine has recently announced the promotion of its faculty and tenure appointments. Congratulations to Thomas F. Stringer, MD, who was promoted to Clinical Associate Professor of Urology.

Read More

COMPREHENSIVE, STEP-BY-STEP ATLAS OF ROBOTIC UROLOGIC SURGERY IS RELEASED

Due to the rapid advancements and adoption of robotic surgery in the field of urology, Dr. Li-Ming Su amassed the nation’s thought leaders in robotic surgery to provide a comprehensive and beautifully illustrated, step-by-step guide to the entire range of robotic urologic surgical procedures. This text represents the second edition of the Atlas of Robotic Urologic Surgery, published recently by Springer.

The chapters in the text are accompanied by on-line videos of individual procedures and incorporates advances in new robotic instruments, technology, as well as advanced intraoperative imaging modalities used for surgical navigation.

Read More
October 5 – 7, 2017, the UF Department of Urology celebrated the 4th Annual David M. Drylie Visiting Professor Events with Dr. Peter N. Schlegel as the guest lecturer, along with his lovely wife, Dr. Samantha Pfeifer.

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CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE UF DEPARTMENT OF UROLOGY

UROLOGIC ONCOLOGY
Paul Crispen, MD
UF Urologic Oncology
Dedicated to Multidisciplinary Care of Bladder Cancer Patients

The care of patients with locally advanced bladder cancer can be especially challenging given the amount and complexity of care required. Despite the known survival benefit of neoadjuvant chemotherapy prior to radical cystectomy, the routine use of neoadjuvant chemotherapy has remained low. In recent reports from other academic medical centers the use of neoadjuvant chemotherapy ranges from 30-40%.

Dr. Kevin Campbell (pictured) a current urology resident, recently reviewed UF Urology’s experience in patients undergoing radical cystectomy from the years 2011 through 2016. This review noted a significant increase in the use of neoadjuvant chemotherapy over time at UF, climbing from 39% in 2011 to 68% in 2016. In addition to greatly exceeding the reported utilization rates from other institutions, Dr. Campbell noted pathologic response rates similar to prior randomized trials further supporting our current practice.

The ability of our urologic oncologist to provide this level of effective and multifaceted care is only possible due to our close relationships with a dedicated medical oncologist team at UF and in the surrounding communities.

ENDOUROLOGY/MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY
Vincent Bird, MD

UF Urology Advancing Quality of Care for Urinary Stone Disease

UF Health Urology’s Division of Endourology/Minimally Invasive Surgery strives to be a leader in the care for patients with urinary stones. We are one of only a handful of national centers that offers comprehensive surgical, medical, and preventive care for patients with urinary stone disease. We work in conjunction with the renowned UF Division of Nephrology, providing advanced evaluation and care for even the most complex forms of urinary stone disease. In conjunction with the Division of Nephrology, our group has ongoing research relating to improving urinary stone prevention regimens for our patients.

UF’s Division of Endourology/Minimally Invasive Surgery is also a known leader in surgical care for patients with urinary stone disease, including those with complex stones and medical diseases, such as cardiovascular disease. In efforts to improve surgical safety for our patients, we have successfully instituted a regimen in which our patients with cardiovascular disease can remain on aspirin for complex procedures to remove urinary stones, thus potentially lowering their risk for cardiovascular events both during and after surgery. This is a significant step forward in surgical care for these patients. Our efforts in this respect have been acclaimed at both the national meeting of the American Urological Association as well as the International meeting of the Endourological Society.

Lastly, our clinical services compliment the active kidney stone research that is ongoing through our T32 grant under the mentorship of Saeed Khan, PhD and Benjamin Canales, MD.
**Phase II Trial to Evaluate Stem Cell Therapy in Restoring Normal Erectile Function**

Erectile dysfunction (ED) can affect up to 20% of men worldwide, and it is estimated that it could affect up to 332 million men by the year 2025.

Stem cell therapy, utilizing adipose derived stem cells (ADSC), has shown promise in animal and human studies to help restore one’s natural ability to achieve an erection; whereas conventional treatments have only had success in treating symptoms. ADSC are found around vessels in adipose tissue and can be harvested in large amounts and processed for re-injection into the body. ADSCs release cytokines and growth factors that can induce changes in surrounding tissue to restore normal anatomy and function in damaged tissues.

In a phase I clinical trial, autologous ADSC harvested by liposuction were processed and then re-injected into men who suffered from post-prostatectomy ED to determine the safety of the procedure. No significant adverse outcomes were seen and 73% of continent men were able to successfully complete intercourse as compared to 29% of continent men FROM a historical control group from the practice in this small group of men.

Dr. Yeung is currently collaborating with Dr. Keith March in Cardiology to begin enrolling patients in a phase II clinical trial to evaluate the use of autologous ADSC to treat men with ED due to radical prostatectomy, vascular disease, or diabetes. The ADSCs will be harvested via liposuction, processed with the Tissue Genesis Icellator Cell Isolation System, and re-injected into the patient’s own corporal body. The goal of the study is to determine the safety of the procedure as well as efficacy, utilizing validated questionnaires and penile color flow Doppler studies to assess the restoration of erectile function.

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**UF Stone Researchers Recognized for Awards and Grants**

The basic science kidney stone laboratory of the Division of Minimally Invasive Surgery, headed by Dr. Saeed Khan, had another productive year of research publications, awards, and grant funding. Within the last 12 months, the lab published over 20 manuscripts in high-impact journals such as *British Medical Journal*, *Journal of Urology*, *Surgery for Obesity and Related Diseases*, *PLOS 1*, *Kidney International Reports*, and *Urolithiasis*. Two research abstracts, “A rat model to study the role of gut bacteria in regulation of urinary calcium” and “Calcium oxalate and hydroxyapatite have opposite effects on human macrophage...
differentiation,” were considered “highlights” from the kidney stone sessions of the 2017 American Urological Association meeting in Boston. In addition to research, Dr. Canales received the 2017 Endourological Society/Cook Urology® Arthur Smith Award - presented to one young urologist internationally who has demonstrated distinction in the field of urology through research, clinical, and educational contributions.

Over the last year, our NIH-funded T32 program welcomed a new fellow - Dr. William Donelan. Since his hire in August 2017, in addition to his AUA Care Foundation Scholar Award, Will has submitted an additional grant (Oxalosis-Hyperoxaluria Foundation grant) and has started a number of exciting new stone related projects. Our current fellow, Dr. Allison O’Kell, submitted an NIH K08 grant application that was scored extremely well on its very first submission. Although her tenure with us will be done in the Spring of 2018, we look forward to watching her career as a future academic researcher. Finally, the program’s T32 reapplication for funding was well received at the NIH, and we expect to be funded in the years to come. Please stay tuned for more information regarding our Division’s unique research program in stone disease.

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**PEDIATRIC UROLOGY**

Romano DeMarco, MD

The Pediatric Urology Division had another productive year with continued steady growth of our clinical volume. Our hard work and reputation was recognized at both the recent SESAUA and AUA meetings.

From a research standpoint, we have several ongoing clinical outcomes projects and benefit from our collaboration with renowned UF developmental biologist, Dr. Martin Cohn.

We are also very proud of our recent graduating resident, Dr. Anja Zann, who started her Pediatric Urology fellowship at Nationwide Children’s Hospital in Columbus, OH this past July.

In addition to C. Gerry Henderson's presence at UF Health in Sacred Heart Hospital in Pensacola, we hope to add further faculty in the near future to improve the Pediatric Urology experience for both patients and residents in Gainesville and the surrounding area.

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**UROLOGY RESIDENCY PROGRAM**

Lou Moy, MD
Celebrating Our Resident’s Research Accomplishments

Two of our chief residents have been accepted to prestigious MIS/Endourology fellowships. In July, Russell Terry, MD will be attending Duke University in Durham, NC for two years and Marla Wardenburg, MD will be attending Columbia University, New York, NY for one year.

At the past Florida Urological Society Meeting, our third year residents Kevin Campbell, MD, Paula Domino, MD, and Alex Galante, MD participated in the Victor Politano resident debates and the Milton Coplan Pyelogram Hour. It was the inaugural year of the Resident Research Podium Presentations and two of the four residents chosen to present their research were from UF. Blake Noennig, MD presented his research on the “Evaluation and Timing of Adjuvant Mitomycin C Following Nephroureterectomy for Urothelial Carcinoma of the Upper Tract” and Marla Wardenburg, MD presented her research on “Metformin Use and 24-Hour Urine Abnormalities in Urinary Stone Formers.”

To learn more about our past resident and alumni, click here.

WELCOME NEW FACULTY MEMBERS

UF Health Pediatric Urology Comes to Pensacola

It is our pleasure to announce the addition of C. Gerry Henderson, MD as new adjunct faculty member in the Department of Urology at UF Health. Dr. Henderson’s practice will reside at The Studer Family Children’s Hospital at Sacred Heart in Pensacola, FL.

Former Graduate Returns to UF Health Urology

It is our pleasure to announce the addition of James (JB) Mason, MD as a new faculty member in the Department of Urology at UF Health and the Malcom Randall VA Medical Center. Dr. Mason completed his residency training at UF and returned after finishing a one-year fellowship in genitourinary reconstruction and trauma at the University of Iowa.
MEET OUR PGY 1’S

Jeremy Archer, MD
Undergraduate: University of Alabama
Medical School: University of Mississippi School of Medicine

Troy Larson, MD
Undergraduate: University of Minnesota
Medical School: University of Vermont College of Medicine

Tanner Rawlings, MD
Undergraduate: University of Texas at Dallas
Medical School: University of Texas Southwestern

MEET OUR NEW CLINIC EXTENDERS

Rosario Alfaro, ARNP
Assists: Dr. Tom Stringer | Dr. Michael Dennis | Dr. JB Mason
Hayley Johnson, PA  
Assists: Dr. Li-Ming Su | Dr. Brandon Otto

Betsy Stacy, PA-C  
Assists: Dr. Larry Yeung | Dr. Paul Crispen | Dr. Michael Blute

UPCOMING EVENTS

The University of Florida & the UroGators Alumni Society  
11th Annual Alumni Society AUA Reception  
held in conjunction with the 2018 American Urological Association Meeting

Held during the week of the American Urological Association Meeting  
San Francisco, CA • May 18—21, 2018

Watch for more information coming soon!
CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The UF Department of Urology is unique in that our physicians and researchers are leaders in all key treatment areas and their ongoing research programs push the boundaries of medical progress. If you would like to be part of a family and a close knit community of multidisciplinary doctors, please click below for more information about our open positions.

- Pediatric Urologist
- VA Urologic Oncologist
- Male Infertility/Men’s Health Specialist

Read More
For more information regarding the UroGators Alumni Society, please click here.

2017 PUBLICATIONS


Blute ML Jr, Kucherov V, Rushmer TJ, Damodaran S, Shi F, Abel EJ, Jarrard DF, Richards KA, Messing EM, Downs TM. Reduced estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR <60 ml/min) at first transurethral resection of bladder tumor is a significant predictor of subsequent recurrence and progression. BJU Int, 2017. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 28464520.


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Department of Urology