

2011-2012
Summary of Scholarly Activities
Department of Neurosurgery

I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES, BOOK CHAPTERS, AND PATENTS

II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

III. PUBLISHED BOOKS

IV. INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Martino AM. Invited speaker. Expandable cages: vertebral body replacement in thoracolumbar fractures. 28th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons/Congress of Neurological Surgeons Section on Disorders of the Spine and Peripheral Nerves; 2012 Mar 9; Orlando, FL.

V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

The Department of Neurosurgery has undergone a transition in leadership this year as Dr. Eugene Quindlen has stepped down as Chair after more than 25 years of service. Dr. Anthony Martino has transitioned to the role of Chair as of April 2012. Dr. Quindlen remains clinically involved, participating in daily rounds and performing elective surgeries. The department continues to increase the number of patient visits and surgical procedures performed. As the department has grown, the need has developed to address manpower issues. This has led to the hire of a new mid-level provider. We currently have two colleagues that function as assistants in surgery and provide call support. We continue to co-sponsor the weekly Neuroradiology Conference, as an excellent collaborative effort with neurology and neuroradiology. This year, in conjunction with the Department of Neurology, the department opened the neuromonitoring unit at the USA Medical Center. We have added a recent USA College of Medicine graduate in the role of pre-residency fellowship for the next year.

The neuro-oncology clinic at the Mitchell Cancer Center remains active with the Cyberknife program. We have started to perform radiosurgical procedures on pediatric patients for the first time. Along with teaching responsibilities for the second, third and fourth year medical students we are supporting a Ph.D. nursing student (Ashley Manass) for her research project for the next 24 months.

Dr. Anthony Martino continues the department's participation in Children's Rehabilitative Services for the State of Alabama. He is active in the local area chapters of the Spina Bifida Association and Think First Head Injury Prevention. As an extension of the work with head injury prevention he has given lectures in concussion awareness.

This year the concussion program, with support from Dick's Sporting Goods, all middle and high school athletes in Baldwin County have been given baseline neurocognitive testing. We currently have a Monday morning concussion clinic to assess all athletes with concussions from the previous week.

Dr. Martino served as Co-Course Director with Dr. J. Ronald Russell for the Oncology Outlook Conference held at The Marriott Point Clear March 16-17, 2012.

In conjunction with the Department of Neurology, Dr. Daniel Dees and Dr. Oliver Darbin, we are initiating a deep brain stimulation program.

We have initiated a collaborative clinical research effort with the Department of Surgery, Division of Trauma. Currently we are participating in an investigational research project.

Dr. W. George Rusyniak, Jr. has continued the epilepsy surgery program this year. As a result, seizures have been controlled in all patients operated on. He has given multiple lectures to medical students at all levels and residents on neuroanatomy and neurosurgical case management.