

2009-2010
Summary of Scholarly Activities
Department of Surgery

I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES, BOOK CHAPTERS, AND PATENTS

Ayar S, Dyess DL, Carter E. Matrix-producing carcinoma: a rare variant of metaplastic breast carcinoma with heterologous elements. *Breast J* 2010 Jul;16(4):420-3.

Carpenter RO, Williams DB, Richards WO. Laparoscopic adjustable gastric banding after previous Roux-en-Y gastric bypass. *Surg Obes Relat Dis* 2010 Jan-Feb;6(1):93-5.

Contreras CM, Abdalla EK. Metastectomy of combined liver and lung colorectal cancer metastases. *Curr Colorectal Cancer Rep* 2010; 6(2):83-8.

Contreras CM, Stanelle EJ, Mansour J, Hinshaw JL, Rikkers LF, Rettammel R, Mahvi DM, Cho CS, Weber SM. Staging laparoscopy enhances the detection of occult metastases in patients with pancreatic adenocarcinoma. *J Surg Oncol* 2009 Dec 15;100(8):663-9.

Contreras CM, Vauthey JN. Staging systems: is there a surgical staging and a medical one? A surgeon's perspective. *J Hepatobiliary Pancreat Sci* 2010 Jul;17(4):438-9.

Erickson JC, O'Grady G, Du P, Obioha C, Qiao W, Richards WO, Bradshaw LA, Pullan AJ, Cheng LK. Falling-edge, variable threshold (FEVT) method for the automated detection of gastric slow wave events in high-resolution serosal electrode recordings. *Ann Biomed Eng* 2010 Apr;38(4):1511-29.

Fabbrini E, Tamboli RA, Magkos F, Marks-Shulman PA, Eckhauser AW, Richards WO, Klein S, Abumrad NN. Surgical removal of omental fat does not improve insulin sensitivity and cardiovascular risk factors in obese adults. *Gastroenterology* 2010 Aug;139(2):448-55.

Frye KE, Luterman A. Thermal burns. In: Weinzweig, J, editor. *Plastic surgery secrets*. 2nd ed. Philadelphia: Mosby Elsevier; 2010. Chapter 98. p. 643-7.

Gonzalez RP, Cummings GR, Mulekar MS, Harlan SM, Rodning CB. Improving emergency medical service response time with global positioning system navigation. *J Trauma* 2009 Nov;67(5):899-902.

Gonzalez RP, Cummings GR, Phelan HA, Bosarge PL, Rodning CB. Clinical examination in complement with computed tomography scan: an effective method for identification of cervical spine injury. J Trauma 2009 Dec;67(6):1297-304.

Howard DD, DeShazo ME, Richards WO, Rodning CB. Retrograde jejunojejunal intussusception status following *Roux-en-Y* gastrojejunostomy. Int Surg 2010 Apr-Jun;95(2):177-82.

Howard DD, Richards WO. Endoluminal therapy for gastroesophageal reflux disease. In: Murayama K, Chand B, editors. An evidence-based approach to MIS. Woodbury, CT: Cine-Med, Inc.; 2009.

Irimia A, Richards WO, Bradshaw LA. Comparison of conventional filtering and independent component analysis for artifact reduction in simultaneous gastric EMG and magnetogastrography from porcines. IEEE Trans Biomed Eng 2009 Nov;56(11):2611-8.

Kim S, Richards WO. Long-term follow-up of the metabolic profiles in obese patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus after Roux-en-Y gastric bypass. Ann Surg 2010 Jun;251(6):1049-55.

Kishi Y, Zorzi D, Contreras CM, Maru DM, Kopetz S, Ribero D, Motta M, Ravarino N, Risio M, Curley SA, Abdalla EK, Capussotti L, Vauthey JN. Extended preoperative chemotherapy does not improve pathologic response and increases postoperative liver insufficiency after hepatic resection for colorectal liver metastases. Ann Surg Oncol 2010 Nov;17(11):2870-6.

Phelan HA, Gonzalez RP, Patel HD, Caudill JB, Traylor RK, Yancey LR, Sperry JL, Friese RS, Nakonezny PA. Prestorage leukoreduction ameliorates the effects of aging on banked blood. J Trauma 2010 Aug;69(2):330-7.

Ragel BT, Klimo P Jr, Kowalski RJ, McCafferty RR, Liu JM, Taggard DA, Garrett D Jr, Brevard SB. Neurosurgery in Afghanistan during "Operation Enduring Freedom": a 24-month experience. Neurosurg Focus 2010 May;28(5):E8. Available from: <http://thejns.org/doi/pdf/10.3171/2010.3.FOCUS09324>.

Torquati A, Richards W. Endoluminal treatments of GERD. In: Soper N, Swanstrom L, Eubanks WS, editors. Mastery of endoscopic and laparoscopic surgery. 3rd ed. Hagerstown, MD: Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins Publishers; 2009. Chapter 9. p. 83-90.

II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

Dahm PH, Mancao M, Silver F. Herpes simplex type I croup with meningitis. J Investig Med 2010 Feb;58(2):410. Abstract 193.

Frye KE, Luterman A. Advances in burn wound excision. Proceedings of the Southern Medical Association, 22nd Annual Southern Region Burn Conference 2009 Nov 6; Shreveport, LA. p. 47.

Frye KE, Luterman A. Fibrin sealant in burn wound excision. Proceedings of the Southern Medical Association, 22nd Annual Southern Region Burn Conference 2009 Nov 7; Shreveport, LA. p. 70.

III. PUBLISHED BOOKS

IV. INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Bosarge PL. Invited speaker. Current trends in early trauma resuscitation. Greater Gulf Coast Trauma Symposium; 2010 Jan 25; Mobile, AL.

Bosarge PL. Invited speaker. Pelvic fractures in the hemodynamically unstable patient. Greater Gulf Coast Trauma Symposium; 2010 Jan 25; Mobile, AL.

Contreras CM. Invited speaker. Selective use of arterial resection during pancreaticoduodenectomy for pancreatic cancer is effective. 117th Scientific Session, Western Surgical Association; 2009 Nov 11; San Antonio, TX.

Dyess DL. Invited speaker. Breast cancer in 2010. Medical Alumni Weekend, College of Medicine, University of South Alabama; 2010 Jun 4; Orange Beach, AL.

Dyess DL. Invited speaker. Screening for patients with colorectal cancer. Alabama Chapter of the American College of Surgeons; 2010 Jun 12; Point Clear, AL.

Frye K. Invited speaker. Advances in burn wound excision. 22nd Annual Southern Region Burn Conference; 2009 Nov 6; Shreveport, LA.

Frye K. Invited speaker. Fibrin sealant use in burn wound excision. 22nd Annual Southern Region Burn Conference; 2009 Nov 7; Shreveport, LA.

Gandy RE. Invited speaker. Alabama Chapter of the American College of Surgeons; 2010 Jun 11; Point Clear, AL.

Gandy RE. Invited speaker. History of medicine. DREAM Program for Underrepresented Minorities, USA Medical Sciences Building; 2010 Jul 6; Mobile, AL.

Gonzalez RP. Invited speaker. Current management of colorectal injuries. Greater Gulf Coast Trauma Symposium; 2010 Jan 25; Mobile, AL.

Gonzalez RP. Invited speaker. Pre-hospital clinical clearance of the cervical spine: a prospective study. Southeastern Surgical Congress; 2010 Feb 22; Savannah, GA.

Gonzalez RP. Invited speaker. Patient transport from rural vehicular trauma sites. Does aeromedical evacuation improve survival? Alabama Chapter of the American College of Surgeons; 2010 Jun 12; Point Clear, AL.

Gonzalez RP. Invited speaker. Rural EMS en route IV insertion improves IV insertion success rates and EMS scene time. Midwest Surgical Association; 2010 Aug 3; Mackinac Island, MI.

Hodge JS. Invited speaker. Violence against women. Eta Phi Chapter of Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc., Alabama State Nurses Association and Mobile County Nurses Society, Annual Nurses Week Seminar, Providence Hospital; 2010 May 15; Mobile, AL.

Hollands CM. Invited speaker. Robotics, notes and single port laparoscopy. Scientific Session: Alternative Technologies, International Pediatric Endosurgery Group Annual International Meeting; 2010 Jun 11; Waikoloa, HI.

Luterman A. Invited speaker. The use of artissR fibrin sealant (human) in burn surgery skin grafting. Luncheon Seminar, Sponsored by Baxter Healthcare, 22nd Annual Southern Region Burn Conference; 2009 Nov 6; Shreveport, LA.

Luterman A. Invited speaker. Burn care: what a trauma doc needs to know about burns. 2010 Greater Gulf Coast Trauma Symposium, University of South Alabama; 2010 Jan 25; Mobile, AL.

Luterman A. Invited speaker. Fibrin sealant in burn treatment. Baxter Dinner Presentation, Original Oyster House, Dauphin Street; 2010 Mar 20; Mobile, AL.

Luterman A. Invited speaker. Lessons from the burn world for the foot and ankle orthopaedic specialist. 21st Annual Southeastern Orthopaedic Foot Club Meeting; 2010 May 13; Sandestin, FL.

V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Daniel A. Beals serves on the American Pediatric Surgical Association (APSA) Ethics Committee.

Patrick L. Bosarge serves as a Major in the United States Army Reserve and was a recipient of a United States Army Commendation Medal.

D. Lynn Dyess serves as a member of the Breast Disease Committee for the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast & Bowel Project (NSABP); the American College of Surgeons – State Chair for the Commission on Cancer; and as a Board Member of the Alabama Chapter, American College of Surgeons.

Roy E. Gandy serves on the Editorial Board of *Current Surgery* and is a Member of the Association of Program Directors in Surgery.

Richard P. Gonzalez serves as Chairman on the Gulf Region State Trauma Advisory Council. He also serves on the Alabama State Trauma Advisory Council and Committee on Trauma Care.

Celeste M. Hollands serves as an ad hoc reviewer for the *European Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology*; on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Advanced Laparoendoscopic & Advanced Surgical Techniques*; and as a Member of the Association for Surgical Education, Board of Directors. She serves on the following committees: Chair, Association for Surgical Education Faculty Development Committee; Council Member and Resource Editor, Association of Women Surgeons and Career Development; Executive Council of the American College of Surgeons Medical Student Committee; International Pediatric Endosurgery Group (IPEG) Co-Chair, Standards & Safety Committee, Publication Committee, and Emerging Technology Committee; and SAGES Pediatric Liaison Committee.

Arnold Luterman is the Assistant Dean for Graduate Medical Education and Chairman of the Graduate Medical Education Committee, and serves as the Designated Institutional Official (DIO) for the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) of the American Medical Association. He serves on the Clinical Studies Subcommittee of the Shriners Hospitals for Children Research Advisory Committee; on the Advanced Burn Life Support Committee of the American Burn Association; and on the Sanofi-Aventis, Regeneron, Data Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB). He serves on the Editorial Board of the following journals: *American Surgeon*, *Current Surgery*, *New Directions in Critical Care Nursing*, and the *Journal of Burn Care and Research*. He serves as an invited reviewer for the *Journal of Trauma* and the *Journal of the American College of Surgeons*. He is listed in America's Top Doctors (8th edition/2009 and 9th edition/2010): Castle Connolly Medical Ltd. New York and Best Doctors in America Data Base: Best Doctors in America Inc.

William O. Richards serves as a Member of the Board of Governors for the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons and for the American College of Surgeons. He serves as an ad hoc reviewer for the *Annals of Surgery*, *Surgical Endoscopy*, *Digestive Diseases and Sciences*, *Journal of Surgical Research*, and *Surgery*. He is Editor for the *Journal of Laparoendoscopic and Advanced Surgical Techniques*. He is Joint Professor, Department of Physician Assistant Studies, College of Allied Health Professions, University of South Alabama; and an External Associate of the

Vanderbilt Institute for Integrative Biosystems Research and Education. He is the recipient of the 2010 Research Grant Award from the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons and American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery.

Charles B. Rodning serves as President-Elect, Alabama Chapter, American College of Surgeons; and President-Elect, Medical Society, County of Mobile. He also serves on the Board of Trustees of the Mobile Medical Museum and the Christian Medical Ministry of South Alabama. He is a recipient of the Distinguished Service Award/2010, Alumni Association, College of Medicine, University of South Alabama.

Frederick M. Silver serves on the Alabama 3 Disaster Medical Systems Team (DMAT).

VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

The Department of Surgery (DOS) continues to mature under the able leadership of William O. Richards, M.D., F.A.C.S., Professor and Chairman. Despite the evolving medical economic environment, the heightened morale and enthusiasm of the residents and faculty of the Department of Surgery is readily apparent. The core value system of the Department of Surgery – commitments to surgical education, community service, and research in relationship to the art and science of surgery – remains foremost in our objectives and planning.

Trauma/critical care surgery: Initiatives for the Division of Trauma/Critical Care Surgery have centered on the development of the Level 1 Trauma System within the State of Alabama. USA faculty are substantively involved in the planning and the execution of a trauma system within the state. Organizational meetings to review hospitals that wish to become part of the trauma system and development of a plan for funding will be presented to the State. Dr. Richards was appointed by the Medical Association of the State of Alabama as one of the representatives to the Statewide Trauma Committee in September 2010. The committee chaired by Dr. Don Williamson will investigate and make recommendations to the State legislature regarding the funding for the statewide trauma system.

During this past year, the Division of Traumatology/Surgical Critical Care recruited two new faculty—Patrick L. Bosarge, M.D., F.A.C.S. who completed his trauma/critical care fellowship at the University of CA, San Diego has returned as a trauma/critical care surgeon and Sid Brevard, M.D., F.A.C.S. trauma/critical fellowship trained, former U.S. Air Force Flight Surgeon, joined the Department in July, 2010. These two critical care trained surgeons have greatly increased the capabilities of our trauma unit.

The DOS hosted the First Annual Greater Gulf Coast Trauma Symposium, January, 2010, coordinated by Richard P. Gonzalez, M.D., F.A.C.S., Professor and Director, Center for Traumatology and Surgical Critical Care. Numerous faculty from the Department of

Surgery participated in that valuable educational endeavor which focused upon numerous aspects of traumatology and acute care surgery.

Kenneth L. Maddox, M.D., F.A.C.S., Professor and Vice-Chairman, General Surgical Division, Michael E. DeBakey, Department of Surgery, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas, graciously served as the William A. L. Mitchell Endowed Lecturer in Traumatology and Surgical Critical Care, March, 2010.

He is a pre-eminent authority in relationship to those topics and holds prominent national leadership positions in the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma and the Committee on Trauma/American College of Surgeons.

USA Burn Center. The University of South Alabama Burn Center admits greater than 400 patients a year from the Gulf Coast region. A multispecialty team of physicians, nurses, therapists and technicians provide the complex care required for successful recovery and rehabilitation from these injuries. The Department of Surgery is instrumental in providing the leadership and surgical and critical care expertise for this effort. The center also serves as a major teaching resource for the College of Medicine undergraduate and graduate students (residents and fellows), Nursing and paramedical personnel. The center is a community resource serving as tertiary treatment resource center for the medical services of southern Alabama, southern Mississippi, western Florida and eastern Louisiana. The University of South Alabama Burn Center has served in this capacity for over 30 years and is the only Burn Treatment facility in a roughly 400 mile radius area servicing more than 1.5 million people.

The University of South Alabama Burn Center has been instrumental in the development of numerous new modalities of burn care and is internationally recognized for its contributions in burn care. An active research program continues with the mission to expand and develop new modalities for ongoing care of burn patients. The results or outcomes of patients treated at this center as reported by the National Burn Data Base of the American Burn Association shows superior results with survival data that far exceeds the national averages. Continuing research efforts and ongoing support from the University of South Alabama Medical Center, and the University of South Alabama College of Medicine continues so that the prognosis for burn patients will continue to improve.

Surgical Oncology was a major focus during the past year as a number of oncologic surgeons have been interviewed and recruited. The DOS perceives that there is a huge opportunity for development of Surgical Oncology along the Gulf Coast and has initiated dialogue with Dr. Boyd and his colleagues at the USA/Mitchell Cancer Institute (USA/MCI) to develop such a program.

Surgical Oncology now has a number of physicians as associate or affiliate members of the USA/MCI including: D. Lynn Dyess, M.D., F.A.C.S., Paul F. Rider, M.D., F.A.C.S., and Dr. Richards, all of whom interact with other physicians at the USA/MCI to discuss multidisciplinary care of patients with cancer.

Carlo Contreras, M.D., F.A.C.S., who has recently completed his fellowship in Surgical Oncology at the M.D. Anderson Hospital in Houston, TX, joined the DOS, September, 2010. Dr. Dyess and Dr. Contreras will have their academic offices and clinics within the USA/MCI and be the first surgeons within the DOS to develop a close relationship with the USA/MCI. The DOS is recruiting a second fellowship trained Surgical Oncologist.

Colorectal Surgery: Dr. Rider has developed a very active program in colorectal surgery and has worked closely with the USA/MCI in development of critical pathways for treatment of colon and rectal cancers. Dr. Rider is the sole colorectal surgeon in Mobile, so we think that there is substantial potential for recruitment of other colorectal surgeons to bolster our service to the community and our educational mission.

Bariatric Surgery: A bariatric surgical program has been established by Dr. Richards. Ms. Tammy O'Haver was recruited to provide expert dietary education pre- and post-operatively. The third floor of the USA Medical Center (USAMC) has been designated as our Bariatric floor and additional training in the care of bariatric patients has been initiated with the assistance of Ms. Valerie Heintz, RN. Furthermore, to amplify the program, we have applied to BLIS Insurance Program for inclusion. That program allows patients who wish to pay cash for their bariatric procedure to be insured on the BLIS Program against complications that might occur. Ultimately, the program is preparing to perform 125 cases per year and we plan to apply for Center of Excellence designation from the American College of Surgeons in 2011.

Pediatric Surgery: We have recruited a second full-time Pediatric surgeon, Daniel A. Beals, M.D., F.A.C.S., who joined the practice August 1, 2009. The addition of Dr. Beals has dramatically increased the numbers and types of cases being performed by the Pediatric Surgical Service. The Division experienced a 62.9% increase in charges between 2009 and 2010. As the DOS anticipates the renovation and expansion of the wards and operating rooms at USA Children's and Women's Hospital, we plan to recruit a third pediatric surgeon to handle the marked increase in operative cases being performed by the Pediatric Surgery Service.

General Surgery: Julie A. Freischlag, M.D., F.A.C.S., The William Stewart Halsted Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery, Johns Hopkins University, and Surgeon-in-Chief, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland, served superbly as the Emmett B. Frazer, M.D., F.A.C.S./Milton M. Leigh, M.D., F.A.C.S. Memorial Lecturer, April, 2010. She is an exceptional authority in relationship to peripheral occlusive arterial disease and surgical education and serves as Editor-in-Chief of the Archives of Surgery.

Several faculty members were recipients of the Red Sash Award from the Graduating Class, College of Medicine, 2010, for their teaching excellence, including: Drs. Gandy, Hodge, Luterman, and Rodning. The DOS is incredibly proud of the excellent teaching provided by these surgeons.

Resident Education: Dr. Bosarge was installed as Program Director, DOS, December, 2009. The Assistant Program Director, Roy E. Gandy, M.D., F.A.C.S., served admirably while Major Bosarge was deployed to Iraq as a US Army Surgeon. Dr. Bosarge has reinvigorated resident education. That emphasis on the acquisition of basic and clinical science knowledge resulted in improvements in virtually every single resident on the annual ABSITE standardized test. In addition, recently 3 out of 4 of the graduating chief residents notified us of their successful passing score for the ABS Qualifying Examination. This 75% pass rate thus exceeds the 65% mark that is mandated by the ABS. An Interesting Case Conference has evolved to a specific senior resident and attending presentation of an interesting case along with the salient clinical and basic science facts ending with a question and answer period that has heightened the learning experience for the residents. Dr. Bosarge has done a yeoman's job of proctoring the review of Schwartz's Textbook of Surgery for the residents and there is a high attendance at these conferences with vigorous discussion. Another important aspect of the DOS resident education is the increase in the number of operative cases being performed at USAMC.

Operating Rooms USAMC: It was quickly recognized that USAMC had a limited number of operating rooms and thus increased capacity could not be added without expansion. However, as previously discussed, we have expended considerable effort and manpower to provide 24/7/365 coverage of our surgical intensive units and the Level 1 Trauma Center, with in-house attending surgeons as well as a resident night float system that provides expert coverage. Over the past year a substantial increase of general surgery operative cases, primarily bariatric, MIS foregut, and colorectal, has yielded a substantial increase in the volume of cases and an increase in the percentile of insured patients.

Finances: At every faculty meeting this past year, the need for careful attention to billing has been emphasized. One of the major initiatives was the development of General Surgical Consultation and Admission templates that enable careful documentation of attending involvement. These notes also incorporate clinical features that are necessary to complete the National Surgical Quality Improvement Project (NSQIP) forms which will allow for accurate and complete depiction of the co-morbidities and risk factors for patients undergoing operative procedures at USAMC. These initiatives have increased our charges by 7.4% and our billing percentage by 3%, which has resulted in a healthy 14% increase in revenues to the DOS over this past year with the same number of faculty. In addition, the DOS has been very frugal and decreased cost to below that budgeted.

NIH Funded Research: Dr. Richards has successfully transferred his NIH grant “Biomagnetic Signals of Intestinal Ischemia,” which is funded through NIDDK. Significant research alliances have been made with the College of Engineering (Dr. Tom Thomas and Dr. Silas Leavesley) to support and renew this grant. The renewal project was submitted July, 2010, and several visits to Vanderbilt University to work on the grant were initiated by Dr. Richards. Co-investigator, Dr. Allen Bradshaw, visited Mobile, AL, during 2009, for a series of seminars and collaborative discussions regarding the research project.

Funded Research Projects: Considerable interest in metabolism, obesity, and metabolic syndrome has engendered collaborations among Dr. Richards and COM researchers throughout the year. Two research projects were funded with Dr. Richards as the Principal Investigator—one from the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons entitled “Erythrocyte and Adipocyte G6PD Activity Levels Correlate with Differing Degrees of Dyslipidemia, Insulin Resistance, and Obesity.” That research project segways with Dr. Sachin Gupta in attempting to correlate basic science discoveries to patients undergoing bariatric surgery. Mr. Andrew Schneider is a Senior Pre-Medical student and is doing his honors thesis in relationship to this project. The other grant was funded by the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery entitled, “Vascular Endothelial Changes after Bariatric Surgery.” That clinical research aims to translate basic science findings by Dr. Diego Alvarez and Dr. Donna Cioffi from the USA Center for Lung Biology to morbidly obese patients. Additional collaborators include Dr. Lyudmila Rachek, who is looking at mitochondrial function in diabetic individuals undergoing bariatric surgery. Dr. Gonzalez received funding for a research project entitled “Optimizing Pre-hospital Time and Appropriate Utilization of Rural Medical Evacuation Helicopter Services.” Overall, the DOS aspires to amplify greatly its clinical research activities with pharmaceutical and device manufacturers as well as with the NIH working in close collaboration with our basic scientists.

Surgical Resident Research: The DOS commitment to resident research is also ongoing and amplified by the success of Dr. Josh Chouteau, who has been working with Mark Gillespie, Ph.D., Professor and Chairman, Department of Pharmacology. Dr. Chouteau received the James Glenn Donald, III, M.D., F.A.C.S. Memorial Resident Paper Competition Award at the 2010 Annual Meeting of the Alabama and Mississippi Chapters of the American College of Surgeons. His presentation was entitled “A mitochondrially targeted DNA repair enzyme prevents oxidant-induced edema formation in ex vivo perfused lungs.”

Dr. Jack Rostas began his basic science experience working with Dr. Rajeev Samant in the USA/MCI. The goal of that research is to investigate the role of N-myc interactor in modulating breast tumor progression.

Junior Student Clerkship Direction. One of the new initiatives for the DOS is the institution of hands-on training in basic knot tying and surgical suturing skills for all of

the incoming junior medical students during their June orientation prior to their clinical rotations. Many of the surgical faculty were organized by Celeste Hollands, M.D., F.A.C.S., and Dr. Gandy to participate in this activity after watching videos of the techniques to be learned. It is anticipated that further training in surgical techniques and simulations will be developed in the future.

The faculty of the Department of Surgery strive daily to fulfill their missions as clinicians, educators, and investigators. The implications of the Health Reform Act and what it portends for not-for-profit, safety net, public hospitals, are unclear. Nevertheless, we continue to provide substantive clinical, educational, and investigative opportunities for our students and residents.