

Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

FALL 2011 NEWSLETTER

 Washington
University in St. Louis
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

.....
“We are very appreciative of the support from our alumni for the important endeavors of our faculty, residents and fellows and wish you all a happy and healthy new year!”

— Susan Mackinnon, MD

From the Division Chief

Tradition remains strong as surgeons take on new roles

The Division of Plastic Surgery has had an exciting year culminating with the recruitment of Dr. Amy Kells and Dr. Kamlesh Patel. Dr. Kells will be carrying on our long tradition of hand surgery at Washington University, having completed hand fellowships at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, MS, and SUNY Syracuse, Syracuse, NY. In July, Dr. Kells will be joined by Dr. Amy Moore, who is currently completing her hand fellowship at Mayo Clinic. The tradition of providing outstanding management of complex hand injuries established by Dr. Paul Weeks continues! This year also celebrates the 40th anniversary of the Milliken Hand Center, another landmark “Weeks” contribution. We are proud to report that this important tradition of superb hand care remains strong.

With Dr. Alex Kane’s departure to be vice-chairman of the Department of Plastic Surgery at University of Texas Southwest, Dr. Albert Woo has taken firm hold of the section of pediatric plastic surgery and has recruited Dr. Kamlesh Patel to join the pediatric section. Dr. Patel has just completed a superb craniofacial fellowship at Children’s Hospital in Boston, working with Dr. John Mulliken, and thus brings immense expertise to our institution. In July 2012, Dr. Allison Synder-Warwick will join Drs. Woo and Patel, adding depth with the management of complex pediatric nerve injuries and facial reanimation expertise.

We were all delighted to celebrate Dr. Keith Brandt’s election as vice-president of education for the American

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Remembering Maurice Jurkiewicz
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Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery faculty members include (front row, l-r) Amy Kells, MD, PhD, Chief Susan Mackinnon, MD, Marissa Tenenbaum, MD, Ida Fox, MD, (back row, l-r) Albert Woo, MD, Kamlesh Patel, MD, Keith Brandt, MD, Thomas Tung, MD, and Terence Myckatyn, MD.

Milliken Hand Center celebrates 40th year

The John T. Milliken Hand Center – created through the vision of Paul Weeks, MD, former chief of the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery – recently celebrated its 40th Anniversary.

When Dr. Weeks came to St. Louis in 1971, his goal was to open a regional hand center. This ambition was accomplished within the year, as the center became the first in the Midwest and only the third hand center in the United States.

The center was a joint effort on the part of Dr. Weeks, the Irene Walter Johnson Rehabilitation Institute and Thomas Moore, president of St. Louis Milliken Publishing Co., who named the center in honor of his grandfather. The center was originally located in a hallway of the rehabilitation institute and staffed by three people: a full-time physical therapist, a full-time occupational therapist and a secretary. Dr. Weeks served as director and performed all medical treatments and surgical procedures.

In its first month, the center treated six



The Milliken Hand Center is located on the sixth floor of the Center for Advanced Medicine.

patients. Today – located in the Center for Advanced Medicine at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and Washington University School of Medicine – the center's staff treats more than 500 patients a month. The center is staffed by six physical therapists and nine occupational therapists who work with plastic surgeons, orthopedic surgeons and other physicians from Washington University and the community. The center also has a second location in west St. Louis County.

Congratulations to the physicians and staff of the Milliken Hand Center and thank you to Dr. Weeks!

Chief's Message

Continued from page 1

Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS). What an honor for Keith and also for our division and its alumni. The presidency of the ASPS requires a tremendous time commitment as he progresses up the leadership line.. As a warm up, Keith will be serving as president of this year's Annual Meeting of the American Society of Reconstructive Microsurgery. We hope to see many of our alumni in Nevada to celebrate with him.

The division is blessed with a fantastic group of outstanding and talented plastic and reconstructive surgeons who are complemented by an extraordinary group of residents and fellows. As outlined in

this newsletter, clinical and basic research continues to move forward in our division. We are honored and very appreciative of the support from our alumni for these important endeavors and wish you all a happy and healthy new year.

Susan E. Mackinnon, MD
Shoenberg Professor, Surgery
Chief, Division of Plastic and
Reconstructive Surgery

In Memory:

Maurice Jurkiewicz, MD

Plastic Surgery
Residency alumni
Maurice
Jurkiewicz, MD,
passed away on
May 29, 2001, at
the age of 87 in Atlanta, Ga.



After receiving his medical degree from Harvard University and serving his internship and general and plastic surgical residencies at Barnes Hospital from 1952-59, he went on to a distinguished career in academic medicine. Dr. Jurkiewicz was chief of plastic surgery at the University of Florida from 1959-1971 and chief of surgery at the VA Medical Center in Gainesville, Fla., from 1968-1971. He then became chief of reconstructive/plastic surgery at Emory University and served in that position until 1993. During those years, in those two programs, he educated some 100 residents and fellows. In 1993, he was named professor of surgery emeritus at Emory University. He continued to play an active role in the education process of medical students, interns and associates until his death.

Dr. Jurkiewicz was president of the American Association of Plastic Surgeons in 1981, president of the American Society of Head and Neck Surgeons in 1989 and president of the American College of Surgeons in 1989-90. An extraordinary educator and surgeon, he is survived by his legacy of patients, students, associates and friends whose lives were forever changed by his fundamental joy of life and education. He has supported the Department of Surgery at Washington University through a gift in honor of Carl Moyer, MD, who served as department chairman from 1951-65. Through another gift, he founded the department's Carl Moyer Award for Excellence in Teaching.

2012 Brown Visiting Professor

J. Peter Rubin, MD, will speak on obesity and adipose tissue

J. Peter Rubin, MD, chief of the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Pittsburgh, will be the featured speaker at the 16th Annual James Barrett Brown Resident Research Day.

Dr. Rubin, an associate professor, is a noted expert on adult stem cells derived from fat tissue and body-contouring surgery. His topic will be: "Connecting the Dots: Obesity, Plastic Surgery, and the Science of Adipose Tissue."

Dr. Rubin earned his undergraduate degree in biology from Grinnell College and his MD degree from Tufts University. He completed a categorical residency training program in general surgery at Boston University/Boston City Hospital. He took time away from the clinic to pursue a two-year fellowship in surgical basic science at Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School. After graduating from general surgery residency, he completed a three-year plastic surgery residency at Harvard Medical School.

In addition to his role as division chief, Dr. Rubin leads a program that is devising innovative strategies for the use of adipose (fat)-derived stem cells to not only address problems of tissue regeneration but also other diseases that benefit from stem cell-based therapies. In addition, he is the director of the UPMC Life After Weight Loss Program, a leading center for plastic surgery after weight loss. He is co-director of the Adipose Stem Cell Center and co-director of the UPMC Aesthetic Plastic Surgery Center. His laboratory research focuses on applications of adult adipose-derived stem cells for restoring damaged tissues after trauma and cancer therapy. He currently is the lead investigator for clinical trials using technologies designed to improve the lives of wounded military personnel.

He has published extensively in the medical literature and has received numerous awards for his research work.

Dr. Rubin has been a consistent leader in



J. Peter Rubin, MD

the international plastic surgery community. As a past president of the International Federation for Adipose Therapeutics and Science, Dr. Rubin led a group of scientists worldwide who are leaders in the study of the use of fat stem cells for treating numerous disorders. Dr. Rubin also has been chair of the Plastic Surgery Research Council, the oldest and one of the most respected basic science research organizations in the field of plastic surgery.

James Barrett Brown Resident Research Day

"Connecting the Dots: Obesity, Plastic Surgery, and the Science of Adipose Tissue"

How we connect our clinical and research interests to create synergy and success in an academic career.

June 8, 2012

8 a.m.

Gordon Letterman Library

Northwest Tower

Washington University Medical Center

The James Barrett Brown Resident Research Day program was established in 1997 and has ongoing generous support from the James Barrett Brown family.

Past Resident Research Day James Barrett Brown Professors

1997: William M. Kuzon, Jr., PhD

1998: Nicholas Veddar, MD

1999: Christopher Forrest, MD

2000: Michael Longaker, MD

2001: W.P. Andrew Lee, MD

2002: Arun K. Gosain, MD

2003: Paul S. Cederna, MD

2004: Michael W. Neumeister, MD

2005: Joseph G. McCarthy, MD

2006: Warren L. Garner, MD

2007: Thomas Mustoe, MD

2008: Foad Nahai, MD

2009: Geoffrey Gurtner, MD

2010: Steven Moran, MD

2011: Andrea Pusic, MD

CURRENT RESEARCH

RETS nerve transfer found useful in cases of incomplete muscle recovery

A recent study by researchers in the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at Washington University School of Medicine found that a nerve transfer utilizing additional motor fibers might be useful in treating patients with nerve injuries in which incomplete muscle regeneration is expected.

Functional recovery after peripheral nerve injury is predominantly influenced by the time span before innervation is established and the number of regenerated motor axons. Philip Johnson, PhD, Susan Mackinnon, MD, Santosh Kale, MD, and others in the Washington University Peripheral Nerve Research Lab proposed the use of a reverse end-to-side (RETS) nerve transfer to help in cases with incomplete regeneration. They theorized that RETS might augment the regenerating nerve with additional axons and more quickly reinnervate target muscle.

To test the hypothesis, the researchers randomized 36 rats into three groups. In group 1, the negative control, they cut the tibial nerve crosswise and prevented it from regenerating. In group 2, the positive control, they cut the tibial and peroneal nerves and performed an end-to-end (ETE) nerve transfer. In group 3, the experimental model, they cut the tibial and peroneal nerves and performed a RETS nerve transfer between the end of the peroneal nerve closest to the body and the side of the denervated distal tibial stump. They also performed the RETS procedure on six Thy1-GFP transgenic rats expressing green fluorescent protein in their neural tissues to evaluate with confocal microscopy.

The results, reported in the October 2011 issue of *The Journal of Hand Surgery*, showed statistically significant nerve regeneration in ETE and RETS animals at 5 and 10 weeks and robust regeneration across the RETS coadaptation by

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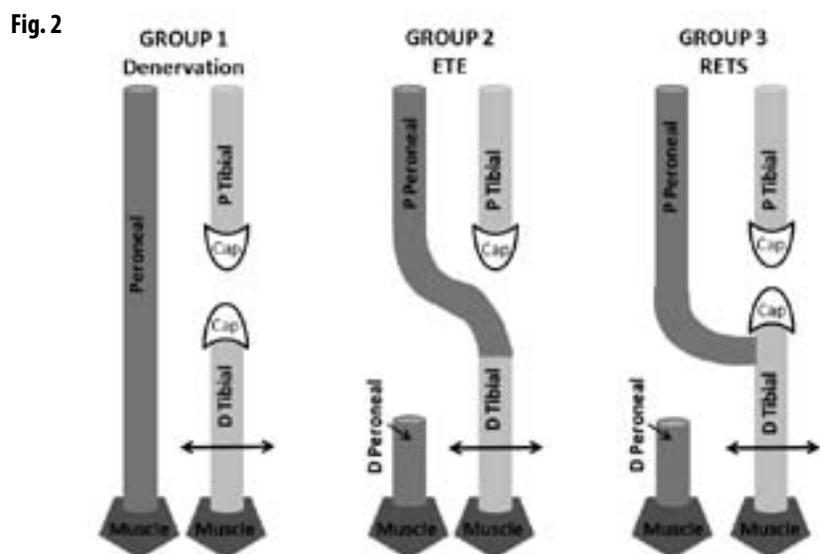
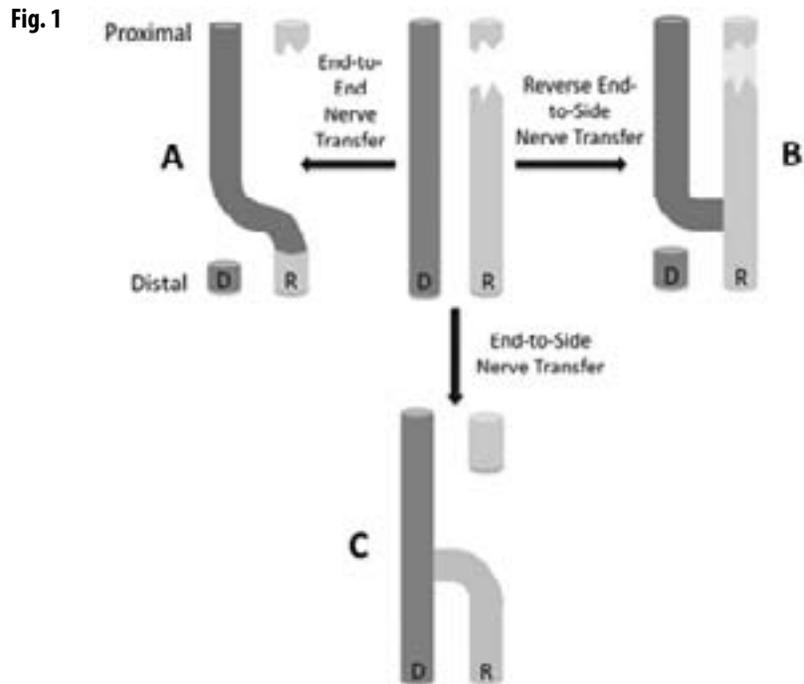


Fig. 1) Schematic diagram of (A) ETE nerve transfer, (B) RETS nerve transfer, and (C) ETS nerve transfer. Fig. 2) Schematic diagram of surgical groups. Reprinted from J Hand Surg Am. Vol. 36(10). Kale SS, Glaus SW, Yee A, Nicason MC, Hunter DA, Mackinnon SE, Johnson PJ. Reverse End-to-Side Nerve Transfer: From Animal Model to Clinical Use. pp:1631-1639. Copyright © 2011. Reprinted with permission of Elsevier.

ALUMNI NOTES

Alumni host reception honoring Paul Weeks at ASPS Meeting



1st Row (l-r): Dr. Dale Collins Vidal, Doris Weeks, Dr. Paul Weeks, Robin Woltman, Dr. Gilbert Lee; 2nd Row (l-r): Dr. Roger Khouri, Dr. Grant Stevens, Dr. Gene Deune, Dr. Leroy Young, Dr. Cesar Gumucio, Dr. Donald Huebener; 3rd Row (l-r): Dr. Paul Pin, Dr. Thomas Mustoe, Dr. Keith Brandt, Dr. Ronald Schuster, Dr. David Martin, Dr. John Jensen, Dr. Herluf Lund, Dr. Phil Higgs, Dr. Laurent Lantieri.

Distinguished alumni from the Division of Plastic Surgery and their guests honored Dr. Paul M. Weeks during the American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) Annual Meeting at the alumni reception on Oct. 2, 2010. The renewed alumni reception has been held in conjunction with the annual ASPS meeting for the past four years. Last year, Drs. Leroy Young and Grant Stevens wanted to surprise Dr. Weeks and his wife Doris; hence, the reception was a sit-down dinner at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel in Toronto. The alumni recognized Dr. Weeks for his years as a consummate teacher and physician in the Division of Plastic Surgery at Washington University School of Medicine.

Guests and former residents who attended

the reception were: Mrs. Cindy Gumucio, Dr. Phyllis Schuster, Mrs. Dominique Lantieri, Dr. Devra Becker, Dr. Andrew Chen, Ms. Kimberly Farley, Dr. Ida Fox, Dr. Terry Myckatyn, Dr. Marissa Tenenbaum, Dr. Albert Woo and Mrs. Susan Grimm.

Dr. Weeks' mentoring and teaching is remembered each year by the current residents and fellows with the Paul M. Weeks Resident Teaching Award. This award is given to the faculty member (or members) who most exemplifies the dedication to resident teaching that Dr. Weeks brought to the division. The current residents and fellows choose the faculty member(s) to receive this award at the annual graduation dinner.

Supporters of Peripheral Research Fund

Jan Agatstein	Leslie Loewe	Donna Mikoff
Robert Beckenbaugh	Michael Frederick	Michael & Mary Sue Shannon
Citizen Potawatomi Nation	Byron Lapin	Rita Thorne

Faculty spotlight



Albert Woo, MD, (right) and neurosurgeon Matthew Smyth, MD, with pediatric patient.

Albert Woo, MD, was appointed as the chief of Pediatric Plastic Surgery and director of the Cleft Palate Craniofacial Institute at St. Louis Children's Hospital. Dr. Woo's leadership has been instrumental in developing the hospital's pediatric plastic surgery program. He has been recognized by Washington University for excellent patient satisfaction and is considered a national authority on complex craniofacial problems.

Welcome!

The division welcomes **Amy Kells, MD, PhD**, and **Kamlesh Patel, MD**, as assistant professors of surgery.

Dr. Kells completed a fellowship in microsurgery at Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California and a plastic surgery



residency at the University of Texas Medical Branch Hospitals. She is also a fellowship-trained hand surgeon. Dr. Kells will offer surgery of the hand and upper extremity, reconstructive plastic surgery and microsurgery to both adult and pediatric patients.

Dr. Patel completed a craniofacial fellowship at Children's Hospital in Boston and a plastic surgery residency at University of California-



Davis. He specializes in cleft lip and palate disorders, craniofacial surgery, and pediatric plastic surgery at St. Louis Children's Hospital.

Dr. Susan Mackinnon receives President's Achievement Award

From BJC Today

Susan Mackinnon, MD, The Foundation for Barnes-Jewish Hospital-funded Sydney M. Shoenberg Jr. and Robert H. Shoenberg Professor of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, accepted the President's Achievement Award during The Foundation's annual Celebrate Giving dinner this October

Dr. Mackinnon was selected, in the words of Rich Liekweg, BJH president, because she is a "leader among one of the most talented and dedicated groups of physicians in the world. She is considered an international authority on nerve regeneration, nerve transfer and nerve transplant. And, her life's work is a reflection of the power of charitable giving."

At the event, one of Dr. Mackinnon's patients, a gunshot victim, spoke and said the treatment she received from Dr. Mackinnon wasn't available anywhere else.

"Her surgery was the first of its kind and, because of its success, we can apply it to help so many of our patients," Dr. Mackinnon said. "By using the same nerve transplantation surgery, I was able to help a quadriplegic patient regain the ability to feed himself."

In her acceptance remarks, Dr. Mackinnon explained how gifts to The Foundation help her team advance medicine. "I don't think you know



Barnes-Jewish Hospital president Richard Liekweg presented Dr. Susan Mackinnon with the 2011 President's Achievement Award at The Foundation for Barnes-Jewish Hospital's annual "Celebration Giving Dinner."

how much you touch people," Dr. Mackinnon said to the donors. "Your gifts have purchased my team a microscope so that we can look at how nerves grow; this practice allowed us to design the operation I mentioned earlier. Your gifts also funded our nerve website, on which we share recipes for operations with surgeons around the world so their patients can benefit."

Plastic Surgery Residency approved as integrated program for 2012

The Washington University Plastic Surgery Residency Training Program was recently approved to become an integrated program effective July 1, 2012. Applicants participating in the March 2012 Match will enter the 6-year "Integrated" Plastic Surgery Residency as a PGY1.

The initial 3 years include 14 months directly on the plastic surgery services, 4 months of subspecialties (anesthesia, orthopedic trauma, oculoplastics and surgical dermatology), and the remainder of the time is spent completing the required general surgery rotations.

The final 3 years involve full-time plastic surgery training that includes the full range of plastic and reconstructive surgery, advanced training in microsurgery, hand surgery, peripheral nerve and brachial plexus surgery, craniofacial surgery and all aspects of flap reconstruction. Interested medical students are encouraged to pursue a senior elective rotation of at least two weeks with the plastic surgery division here at Washington University.

Keith Brandt, MD, the William G. Hamm Professor of Surgery, serves as program director.

Nerve decompression offered for headaches

Thomas Tung, MD, has teamed up with Washington University neurologists and pain management specialists and outside



collaborators to manage debilitating chronic and migraine headaches with nerve decompression. The physicians have established a standard screening protocol including local nerve blocks with anesthetic and/or Botox®. They also are collaborating on a grant proposal to fund a clinical trial comparing surgical decompression to current medical management.

RET nerve transfer

Continued from page 4

the Thy1-GFP rats by 5 weeks. The authors conclude that the RETS nerve transfer might augment motor recovery when less-than-optimal recovery is anticipated.

Along with the animal model, the authors reported several instances of success using a RETS nerve transfer to enhance recovery after ulnar nerve injury secondary to recurrent cubital tunnel syndrome. In a case described in the article, a 65-year-old man had undergone surgery for cubital tunnel syndrome and lost sensation and function of the intrinsic muscles in his hand. After the RETS transfer, the man recovered muscle function, and the pinch and grip strengths were similar for the right and left hand.

Dr. Kale received the Joseph H. Boyes Award from the American Society for Surgery of the Hand for the paper. The research was supported in part through a grant from the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and Tribal Chairman John A. Barrett.

2011 Graduates — Residents



Amy M. Moore, MD
Orthopaedic hand
fellowship at the Mayo
Clinic in Rochester, MN;
returning as faculty
in July 2012



Alison K. Snyder-Warwick, MD
Pediatric plastic fellowship at
the Hospital for Sick Children
in Toronto; returning as faculty
in July 2012



Kirsty Boyd, MD
Ottawa University
Ottawa, Ontario



Andre Nimigan, MD
Peterborough Regional
Health Center
Peterborough, Ontario



Farooq Shahzad, MD
Essentia Health
Fargo, ND

Second-Year Residents



Jessica Belz, MD
Aesthetic and Recon-
structive Breast Surgery
Fellowship with
Dr. Dennis Hammond,
Grand Rapids, MI



Jason Dudas, MD
Facial Plastic Surgery
Fellowship,
University of California-
San Francisco



Santosh S. Kale, MD
Microsurgery
Fellowship, Ohio
State Medical Center,
Columbus, OH



Tracy So, MD
Private practice
Minneapolis, MN

First-Year Residents



Noopur Gangopadhyay,
MD



Michael Nicoson, MD



John Barbour, MD



David Tang, MD



Derick Mendonca, MD

Hand Fellows

Craniofacial Fellow

Our thanks

Maintaining excellence in plastic surgery takes commitment. Suffice to say we would not be able to have a top-ranked training program without your support. Gifts can be made to the Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Education and Research Fund and mailed to Mike Schroeder, Medical Alumni and Development, Washington University School of Medicine, CB 1247, 7425 Forsyth Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63105. We are grateful to our friends for generously supporting the research and teaching initiatives of the Division:

American Association for Hand Surgery	The Foundation for Barnes-Jewish Hospital
American Foundation for Surgery of the Hand	Mr. Philip Hanel
American Society for Surgery of the Hand	National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
AxoGen Inc.	Dr. Henry D. Onken
Dr. William Barkins	Plastic Surgery Educational Foundation
Dr. Ramsey Ellis	

News from alumni welcome

Alumni — we would love to hear from you! Send your news to Debbie Osborne at osborned@wudosis.wustl.edu.

314-747-2629 phone

314-362-4536 fax

Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

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Submit news to osborned@wudosis.wustl.edu

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