As we approach the end of the academic year there are many things to reflect on and be grateful about. Among those are the upcoming graduation of our two chief residents; Perry Bradford, MD and Jared Liston, MD. In the short time I have been at UVA and worked with Perry and Jared I have been impressed with their surgical talents and motivation to demonstrate their talents. The culmination of a fully trained plastic surgeon reflects countless hours of hard work, long days, longer nights, challenging patient scenarios, staff support and dedicated teaching provided by our faculty. I think we can all say that we are very proud of Perry and Jared and are excited to see what the future holds for them. I have no doubt they will have a broad impact on the specialty of Plastic Surgery and the world beyond. They both represent our core values related to clinical expertise, patient centered care, a desire to learn and improve, and leadership within the institution and broader community. I hope you will join us in the graduation celebration of Perry and Jared! We also look forward to adding two new residents to our program in July. Both Danielle and Colby will bring fresh ideas and perspectives and a rejuvenated outlook. I encourage you all to embrace this new energy and help amplify their growth and development. In my opinion, residency should not be about getting beat down but rather being built up. Achieving high standards should not be solely mandated from the outside but rather cultivated from within. I hope we can all remember that as the year progresses for all our trainees. This also applies to changes occurring in our department. Soon, we hope to see renovations to our academic and clinical facilities, new faculty additions, residency changes, and new programs developing.

I have spent a lot of time the last few years thinking about a bigger picture, finding my WHY. According to Simon Sinek, your WHY is the “compelling higher purpose that inspires us and acts as the source of all we do”. As it pertains to the department I have been imagining our WHY as a sort of mission statement. While the WHAT might be; providing excellent patient care, performing innovative research, comprehensive didactics and education and leadership. The WHY is perhaps more elusive. The one thing I keep coming back to is the love of the specialty of plastic surgery. Exuding a passion for our specialty and the care of our patients is central to our mission and what we want to accomplish within the Health System and beyond. I remember the moment I decided to become a plastic surgeon. It came while observing a plastic surgeon named Dr. Lloyd Gayle at The New York Hospital during my general surgery residency. A gifted microsurgeon and breast reconstruction expert, many of us witnessed Dr. Gayle bring tremendous passion to everything he did (operating, bedside care, teaching). His patients were so appreciative and grateful for his services it was clear that he impacted their lives in a significant way. This was magnetic to many of us that would eventually pursue plastic surgery as a career. Another influential figure in my career has been Dr. Scott Levin. Like many leaders, he is outwardly passionate about plastic and reconstructive surgery and the process of challenge and innovation. Excitement for your craft, generates a type of gravitational pull which creates buy-in and belief in what you are doing. I’m sure many of you have similar stories and similar mentors that impacted your decision to get into plastic surgery and strive for excellence. I challenge myself daily, to project that passion for the specialty and showcase the impact that our services can have on patients. I would challenge you all in the same way. Embrace and exude the passion you have for plastic surgery! At my core, I believe what we do is important and relevant. I want to share this with the world (Health System, School of Medicine, referring providers, patients, families, and communities). As members of a plastic surgery team we have the opportunity to impact a patient’s life in a unique way and help them navigate and eventually overcome a significant challenge. This is my WHY.

Scott T. Hollenbeck, MD, FACS
Faculty Highlights

- Dr. Chris Campbell traveled to Romania to help with the ASMS workshop and National Meeting. This included a cadaver dissection lab in Cluj (shown with Dr. Jaeong Tae Kim and Dr. Geoffrey Hallock) and an operative bipedicle DIEP with vascularized lymph node transfer in Iasi.

- Dr. Jon Black led the team to Romania which included Chris Campbell, Perry Bradford and Laura Humphries. Dr. Black was leading the ASMS plating course in conjunction with the National Meeting.

- Dr. Brent DeGeorge has been selected as an ASSH representative for the 43rd Brazilian Congress on Hand Surgery held in Nova Lima, Minas Gerais, Brazil, from August 16th to 19th, 2023. Dr. DeGeorge has also been selected as the Associate Editor for WikiHand (ASSH's Hand Digital Education Resource).

Welcome

Colleen McDowell has joined us Director of Education for the Department. Colleen is originally from New Jersey. Her son and daughter are both grown adults and living in NJ and Virginia. Colleen lives with her husband in the woods of Hillsborough, North Carolina with their black lab and 15 year old shih tzu. They are preparing to move to Virginia. Colleen has worked in program management for 23 years. She started as an academic program manager for Atlantic Health System in NJ, managing the departments as well as the EM, PEM, Ultrasound, EMS and student programs for 15 years and then joined her NJ Program Director/Chairman in Florida to start a new EM Department and residency program at Florida Atlantic University as program manager in 2015. In 2018 she was offered a position at Duke University coordinating the Plastic Surgery Residency, Medical Student program and CMF Fellowship, where she has been for 5 years. She has also been involved at a national level for 23 years holding various leadership roles in both Emergency Medicine (EMARC) and Plastic Surgery (ACAPS) Administrator Boards. She is currently the member at large on the ACAPS administrator executive board. For seven years she was also heavily involved with TAGME on the development team for the first EM and Peds EM TAGME assessments.

Colleen is a passionate educator and facilitator and extremely devoted to her trainees and students. She will be helping Carla with managing the residency and medical student programs as well as numerous other initiatives. Welcome Colleen!
The Plastic Surgery Administrative Team meeting up in West Complex! Thank you for all you do for our patients and our team!

The Department Photo – April, 2023

Save the Date

Thomas Imahiyerobo, MD; Director of Pediatrics and Craniofacial Surgery, New York Presbyterian Hospital. May 30-31st. Dinner May 30th.

Combined Plastic Surgery / Dentistry Faculty Meeting with Dean Kibbe; June 28th, 6:45am. McKim 3001

Visiting Scholar – Dr. Mark Constantian; Friday, June 23rd.

Graduation – Saturday, June 24th. Resident research presentations 10 am – 12pm Health Center Site TBD. Graduation: 6pm – 9pm Restoration Hall Old Trail Restaurant.

Summer Welcome BBQ – Date in July TBD

Barton Lectureship – Peter Arnold, MD. “How to Successfully Launch a Burn Center and Wound Center as a Plastic Surgeon”. Fall 2023

I hope you have time to reflect and be with your loved ones over the Memorial Day Weekend.

Scott Hollenbeck