



Department of Plastic Surgery, Maxillofacial and Oral Health

Chair Message: We have been busy in the department the past year! It is hard to believe it has been over a year since I started at the University of Virginia. There is so much happening within UVAHealth and within our department; I am going to have difficulty sharing everything. I did want to be clear that I am extremely proud of our team as we have been growing and pushing to achieve our goals. Growth can be difficult, but we approach these changes knowing that special things do not come easy.



The residency program remains a central focus of mine and I am happy with our ongoing evolution. In 2023, we underwent an ACGME site visit and received full accreditation with zero citations. This independent review gives us confidence that we are heading in the right direction. This past month we received approval from ACGME to expand our program to 3 residents / year. Now, we will work with the hospital to determine the timing of our expansion. Our residents are extremely engaged in the national academic scene. For the first time, our residents competed in the Resident



Bowl at Plastic Surgery The Meeting, reaching the sweet 16 and making us all proud. Many of them have presented research at regional and national meetings this past year. This heightened visibility has resulted in an increase in the number of visiting medical students and applicants for research fellowships. In the near future, we will be matching two new residents and look forward to sharing this news. The Plastic Surgery Hand Fellowship continues to thrive under Dr. Brent DeGeorge's leadership with a strong partnership with the Orthopedics Department. This year's fellow Dr.

Steve Kozusko plans to start his career in New England following graduation.

In keeping with increased visibility, the Global Health program remains active with Dr. Tom Gampper and Dr. Jon Black leading a trip to the Philippines along with several of our residents for an extraordinary experience. Future trips to India and other destinations are on the horizon. In addition to traveling, we will also be hosting this year. On December 6th and 7th, we will host the Oncologic Reconstruction Course (ORC). This course brings residents and faculty from many of the top programs in the US together for 1 weekend a year at a designated site to share ideas and techniques in reconstructive surgery. Dr. JT Stranix is the elected host of the program this year, which will include cadaver dissection, virtual reality stations, microsurgery competition and the coveted "Most Inspiring Case" award. With well over 100 attendees, this will be an excellent time to showcase our university and plastic surgery program.

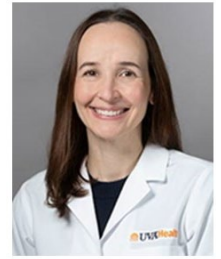


Our research program is on the verge of taking off! I am delighted to announce that we have hired Xin Li, PhD to become the Director of Research for the department. Dr. Li comes to us from NYU where she was a tenured Professor in the Department of Molecular Pathobiology. Dr. Li has been the recipient of over 15 million dollars in federal grant funding for her work in inflammation and the succinate pathway. She will help guide others in the department towards productive research pathways while also running her own highly successful basic science lab. Dr. Li will be nominated for the Edlich Endowed Professorship in Biomedical Research. I am also delighted to report Dr. Brent DeGeorge has recently received a PSF grant and continues his work on joint arthritis. Finally, Dr. Kristen Stephens was the recipient of the Commonwealth Cup for best resident presentation at the Virginia Society of Plastic Surgeons meeting this past fall. Service and leadership roles for the faculty have continued to grow. Many have leadership positions in various national societies including ASMS, ASSH, AAHS, ASRM, ACEPS and others. Dr. Campbell and I are currently serving on the SESPRS Board and I will start my term as ASPS President in September. Dr. Silva and Stranix have had a strong role in the Young Microsurgeons arm of ASRM and are positioned for increased involvement. Finally, Dr. Stranix was recently selected to join the inaugural Clinician Leadership Program designed to build future UVAHealth leaders from within.



Xin Li, PhD

We continue to build up our team with talented clinicians. Dr. Amanda Silva joined us in January, and has already made an impact with her advanced microsurgery skills. In addition, she is working to start the UVA lymphedema program. We will likely add another microsurgeon this summer. We are also looking to add a Hand Surgeon and have ongoing searches for Oral Surgery as well as Chief of Pediatrics and Craniofacial Surgery.



Amanda Silva, MD



Olivia Abbate Ford, MD

We have formally begun our expansion into northern Virginia with myself and Dr. Stranix seeing patients and operating at Haymarket Medical Center. I am very pleased to announce that we have partnered with UVA Community Health to hire Dr. Olivia Abbate Ford to serve as the anchor for our program in northern Virginia. Dr. Ford joins us from the Harvard Plastic Surgery Program where she is currently a Chief Resident. She will focus on breast reconstruction, aesthetics and skin cancer reconstruction as she builds her practice in the northern Virginia communities. The team in Charlottesville will support Dr. Ford as she ramps up her practice to create an invaluable experience for our residents in community plastic surgery.



Our visiting professor program has been very active and filled with national leaders this year starting with Dr. Kerri Woodberry, Chief of the Division of Plastic Surgery at West Virginia University. We continued with a visit from Dr. Mark Constantian who provided aesthetic skills training in our Human Fresh Tissue Lab. In addition, Dr.



Raymond Morgan joined us for our annual Research day. We continued with the ASAPS visiting professor, Dr. James Grotting who spoke on Facial Rejuvenation. Dr. Peter Arnold, UVA Alumnus and Medical Director of The Mississippi Burn Center joined us for our annual Ronald Barton Lectureship, which also sparked a surprise visit from Dr.



Barton, himself. Dr. Michael Zenn from Zenn Plastic Surgery in North Carolina provide the residents with pearls of aesthetic surgery and Dr. Raymond Harshbarger visited us as the Claude Coleman Visiting professor for Craniofacial Surgery. Our most recent visit was from Dr. Scott Hanson, newly designated Chief of Plastic Surgery at UCSF. Our group appreciated the outstanding presentations by all these nationally recognized physicians.

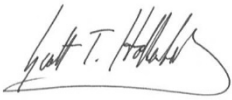


Finally, there is some exciting news around facilities! We have completed our Education Wing renovations and are actively outfitting this area with historical elements of the program, including the residency graduate photos. I am extremely excited to share that we have been granted approval for a much needed renovation and expansion of the West Complex Plastic Surgery Clinic. There remains ongoing discussions of additional off-site clinic space in Charlottesville. Still, the area I am most excited about is the Central Wing! Many of you may recall this area contained the faculty meeting room, conference room and several small offices. This area is a historic portion of the original UVA Hospital and included an operating room at one time. After some research in the library and many conference calls we were able to secure support from the university to help us

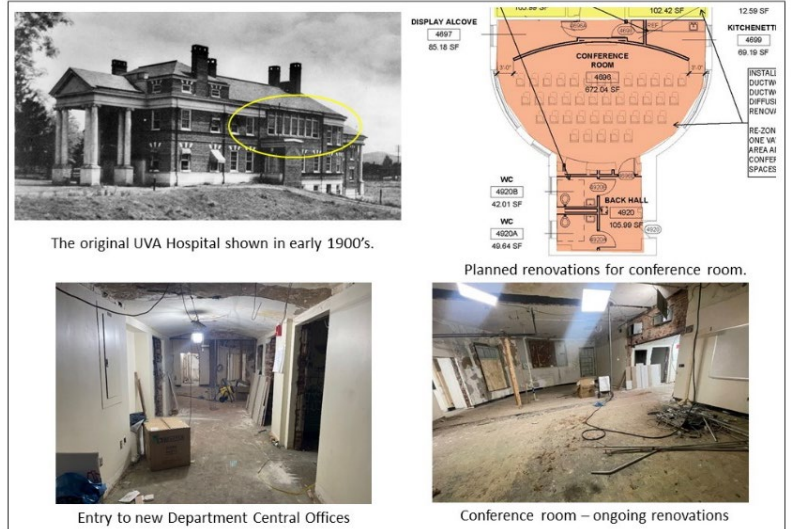
restore this area. Currently, the historic renovations team has been taking this back to the original bones and are preparing for the remodeling. This is turning out to be an exceptionally exciting project for all those involved. Many of the original windows, once covered over, have been set for restoration to bring in natural light and 180 degree views. The area will house our new semi-circular conference room, the chair's office, and several adjacent administrative offices. I look forward to offering hardhat tours to any alumni present for graduation.

As it pertains to graduation, we are delighted to celebrate Shannon Kuruvilla and her achievement in completing the 6-year plastic surgery residency program. Shannon will relocate to Houston, TX where she will begin an Aesthetic Fellowship with Dr. Bob Basu. She is planning to build her career in Houston and we are excited to watch her career grow. We will have the Morgan Research Symposium Saturday morning and graduation events Saturday night. If you would like to attend please let us know – all alumni are welcome!

Sincerely,



Scott T. Hollenbeck, MD, FACS



Alumni - Please update us with your news and activities! We want to hear if you have taken a new job, retired to the beach, or had a new baby. Stay connected and email Colleen McDowell "eja4kh@virginia.edu".

Join us for Education and CME – Plastic Surgery Grand Rounds!

The Department has launched a CME based program for those that attend our Plastic Surgery grand rounds. UVA provides the ACCME accreditation and our department welcomes our alumni and friends to participate gratis. The majority of these presentations are in-person, but we can offer live streamed via Zoom. If you would like to enroll in this program, please contact Colleen McDowell at "eja4kh@virginia.edu".

Follow us on Instagram @ uvaplasticsurgeryresidency

As we continue our efforts on Doximity to promote/optimize our plastic surgery residency program, we are encouraging you to be active and grow your network. Every time you are mentioned in the press or publish an important article in a peer reviewed journal, Doximity automatically announces that info to your Doximity network, helping you and our program stay top of mind.

Please join us in making the University of Virginia Plastic Surgery Residency Program rank towards the top in the nation! Learn more about Doximity and download the Doximity App today.



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