



Message from the Chair: As we come to the end of the summer, I am proud to reflect on a season of tremendous growth, change, and continued achievement. There have been many challenges this past year, specifically with changes in institutional leadership. Overall, we seem to be entering into a more stable time with a new Health System EVP and School of Medicine Dean named in the recent months. Their vision aligns with our department's mission of excellence in patient care, education, and research, and we are excited to collaborate closely as we continue to elevate UVA Health and UVA Plastic Surgery on the national and international stage. Our department continues to perform at an exceptionally high level. Patient volumes and case complexity remain strong, thanks to the tireless dedication of our growing complement of surgeons, APPs, nurses, and staff. Both our basic science and clinical research programs are thriving. Our faculty, residents, and research fellows continue to secure competitive funding, publish in high-impact journals, and present their work nationally. The growth of our basic science programs in tissue biology and adipose research is particularly exciting, while our clinical research portfolio continues to shape how plastic surgery is practiced across the country. This June, we proudly celebrated the graduation of our chief residents, who are now embarking on fellowships and new practice opportunities. At the same time, we embrace a **new chief resident class** and ask them to lead our program as we prepare to launch them into the world. Our integrated residency program continues to expand, attracting outstanding new trainees who will carry forward our tradition of excellence. Renovation and expansion remain key priorities. Our new clinic space at Pantops is progressing toward its opening in the



Chief Residents 2025 - 2026: Ally Deal,
Kristen Stephens, Gabby Squeo

spring of 2026, while our West Complex facilities have undergone meaningful upgrades. These changes allow us to better serve patients, support our team, and create educational spaces that match the caliber of our programs. Our faculty continue to gain recognition locally, nationally, and internationally. From prestigious lectureships to national leadership roles, their contributions in the clinic, across grounds, and in the laboratory underscore the impact of UVA Plastic Surgery. We are excited to host another year of distinguished visiting professors through our Barton, Coleman, and Morgan-McCue

lectureships, along with additional invited speakers who will enrich our residency and faculty development. Finally, I want to personally invite you to **Plastic Surgery The Meeting (PSTM) in New Orleans where our alumni and faculty can gather at the Presidential Reception; Friday October 10th from 8:30 – 10pm at the Hilton Riverside; River Room**. It is always a joy to connect with alumni, colleagues, and friends and showcase the strength of UVA Plastic Surgery program on a national stage. As always, I remain deeply grateful for the dedication of our faculty, trainees, staff, and alumni. Please enjoy these updates for the Summer of 2025!

Sincerely,

Scott T. Hollenbeck, MD, FACS

Residency Highlights



Chief Residents 2024 – 2025:
Rachel Park and Lee Kilmer

We celebrated our 2025 graduates in June. **Dr. Rachael Park** joined the Affiliates in Plastic Surgery in northern Virginia Metro area and **Dr. Lee Kilmer** is continuing her training as a Microsurgery Fellow at the University of Pennsylvania. As expected, Dr. Park was all business in her speech while Dr. Kilmer delivered a memorable analysis of each faculty members “spirit animal”. Each year, as we send our graduates off to pursue their careers, we simultaneously welcome an excited group of incoming integrated plastic surgery residents. We continue to expand our program and this past year **we matched three residents** into our integrated residency program.



Brennen Bogdanovich, MD
Medical College of Georgia



Praneet Paidsetty, MD
University of Texas; Houston



Kasper Zilinkas, MD
Medical University of South Carolina

We have also been watching our national Doximity ranking move steadily in an upward trajectory over the last 3 years going from being ranked 58 in 2022 and now arriving at 36 in 2024. This is all in comparison to 89 integrated programs in the nation.

In May we held our annual **Dr. Raymond Morgan Research Day**. Once again, Dr. Morgan was able to join us in person and participate in the day’s events. **Dr. Rob Devito** was honored as the resident with overall most productive year, **Dr. Alexandra Deal** secured the Best Presentation for our senior residents with her work focusing on Aesthetic Surgery conversion rate at UVA and **Dr. Colby Newson** was awarded the Best Presentation for our junior residents with her work focusing on Hand Surgery outcomes. Each received a \$500 education stipend for their efforts in research this year. In addition, we had the opportunity to celebrate successes of our very own PGY 5 residents **Dr. Devito and Dr. Chou** at the recent 2025 June SESPRS meeting. Rob Devito was awarded best Quickshot presentation and Jesse Chou received runner-up in the prestigious Glancy Award competition for his work related to “The Impact of Sarcopenia on Breast Reconstruction Outcomes”.



Faculty, Residents and Students pictured above at the 2025 Dr. Raymond Morgan Research Day



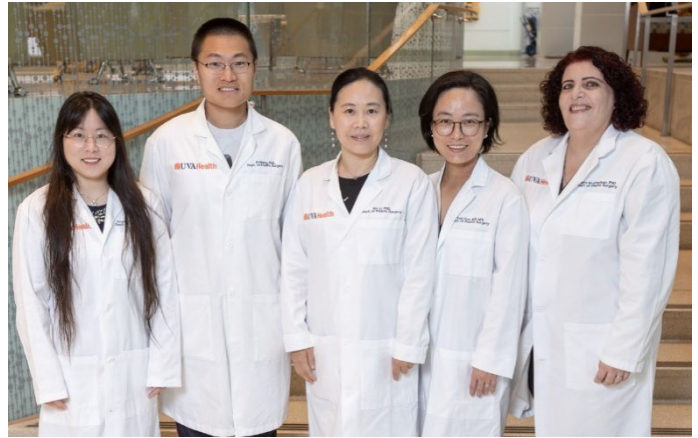
Dr. Rob Devito taking home the SESPRS 1st place Quick Shot presentation



2025 SESPRS team celebrating Dr. Jesse Chou Glancy Award Runner-up

Research Spotlight: Basic Science Advances:

In addition to her 3 existing NIH grants, **Xin Li, PhD** was awarded a new **3.9-million-dollar R01 grant by the NIH** for her proposal entitled “Targeting Succinate Signaling for Innovative Pain Relief in Oral Cancer”. Dr. Li, (Edlich Endowed Professor and Director of Research) will use this exceptional achievement to contribute to funding her research over the next 5 years. Our Lipedema research program is well underway as we have built a multi-disciplinary team of experts at UVA to study this debilitating but poorly understood disease. Our research scientist, **Sara Al-Ghadban, PhD** continues to build the translational aspect of this program within the Plastic Surgery research laboratories. She has been working closely with the lipedema foundation to explore how chronic inflammation in the adipose tissue microenvironment leads to alterations in blood vessel structure and lymphatic leakage.



Dr. Xin Li (center) and her research team and Dr. Sara Al-Ghadban (left).

Medical Student Research: Our UVA medical student research program has flourished with a number of MS1-MS3 students participating in our department projects. We also continued offering funded research fellowships this year to two accomplished medical students taking a dedicated research year during medical school. **Virginia Bailey** joins us from Florida State University and **Naomi Ghahrai** joins our team from Virginia Commonwealth University. We look forward to watching their research accomplishments this year.



Naomi Ghahrai



Virginia Bailey

Faculty Accolades

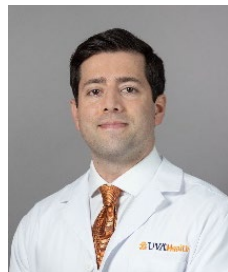
The Plastic Surgery faculty continue to grow and excel. Most notably we were pleased to welcome **Michael Grant, MD, PhD** this summer as our Division Chief of Craniofacial and Aesthetic Surgery. He joins us from Baltimore, MD where he had a long career at Johns Hopkins and the University of Maryland. He will also hold the distinguished Edgerton



JT Stranix, MD



Chris Campbell, MD



Luke Poveromo, MD

Endowed Professorship and brings an exceptionally broad skill set to our group and our patients. I am also delighted to share that **Dr. JT Stranix** has been promoted to Associate Professor and **Dr. Chris Campbell** has been promoted to Full Professor with Tenure. Additionally, Dr. Stranix



Michael Grant, MD, PhD
Chief; Division of Craniofacial
and Aesthetic Surgery

was again elected to serve on the UVA Faculty Senate and remains involved in numerous medical center committees. Likewise, Dr. Christopher Campbell was elected to the position of PSF Board Vice President of Development, a position which often leads to PSF President! Further increasing our footprint across the institution, **Dr. Luke Poveromo** was accepted onto the Medical School admissions committee.

In addition to his role as Hand Fellowship Director, **Dr. Brent DeGeorge** was named Section Head of Hand Surgery within the Department of Plastic Surgery. In this role he will manage the plastic surgery hand clinical service, research portfolio and strategic growth of the program. At graduation, Dr. DeGeorge received the



Brent DeGeorge, MD, PhD

“Outstanding Educator of the Year award”, an honor that is voted on by the plastic surgery residents. He also continues to be involved in the national leadership for Hand Surgery and remains busy with numerous innovative research programs. Congratulations to Dr. DeGeorge on an outstanding year! The Plastic Surgery hand program continues to grow with the addition of a very productive surgeon, **Dr. Ava Chappell**, this past year which is enhanced by the ongoing partnership with Orthopedic Surgery, led by **Dr. A. Bobby Chhabra**, the Chair of Orthopedics and President-elect of the American Society for Surgery of the Hand (ASSH). Speaking of growth, the Hand Surgery program once again welcomed two new hand fellows in August. **Dr. Parker Johnsen** from VCU Orthopedic Surgery and **Dr. Evelyn Reed** from WashU Plastic Surgery.



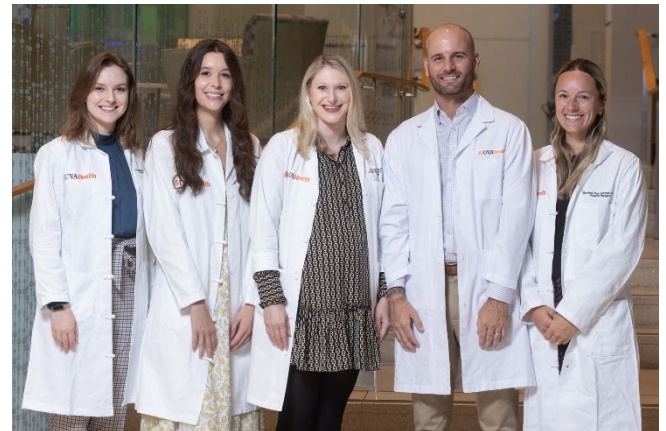
Ava Chappell, MD



Hand Surgery Fellows 2025 – 2026:
Parker Johnsen and Evelyn Reed

Growth of APP and Administrative Teams

As our clinical programs have grown in volume and complexity we have increased our support teams. We currently have 6 full time APP’s and plan to grow to 8 in the next year. We are excited to have recently added **Annie Oslund, PA-C** and **Rachel Larson, PA-C** to our team. They are essential components of our program and help our patients, surgeons, residents, schedulers and staff. They are the glue for our clinical programs and we are fortunate to have the best team around!



Plastic Surgery APP Team: Annie Oslund, Marcelle Zimcosky-Murray, Nichole Brooks, Ryan Evans, Rachel Larson. (Not shown Liz Gochenour)



Administrative Team: Nicole Campbell (Dentistry), Madison Wood (HR), Amy Morris (Clinical Operations), Angie Jennings (Grants and Contracts), Colleen McDowell (Education), Dominick Vernon (Craniofacial), Scott Hollenbeck (Department), Carla Mackey-Cooks (Plastic Surgery PC). (Not shown Matt Hamill; Education)

Likewise, we have an energetic and engaged administrative team. This past year we welcomed **Matthew Hamill and Dominick Vernon** to work with the Education and Craniofacial Division Faculty. Both have already made a tremendous impact on administrative productivity. The success of the department truly is a team effort and we have one of the best!

2025-2026 Invited Lectureships: We are looking forward to our upcoming visiting professors

- **Barton Lectureship (Sept 16/17)** -Dr. Samuel Poore, University of Wisconsin
- **Thomas Jefferson Visiting Professor (Nov 19)**- Dr. Jack Fisher
- **ASRM Zamboni Visiting Professor (Oct)**- Dr. JW Choi University of ULSAN
- **Coleman Lectureship (Dec 4/5)**— Dr. Craig Birgfeld, University of Washington Seattle Children’s Center
- **Morgan-McCue Lectureship (April 14/15)** Dr. Scott Levin, University of Pennsylvania
- **Thomas Jefferson Visiting Professor (June 19/20)**- Dr. Mark Constantian

Dentistry

The Division of Dentistry has some significant developments as well this year. We welcomed three new faculty, **Drs. Eric Bokinsky, Jiwon Lim and Dirk Oviatt**. Dr. Bokinsky is focused on providing care for adults with special needs, ensuring compassionate and tailored dental treatment for this important patient population. Dr. Lim specializes in oral medicine, bringing advanced knowledge and skills to help diagnose and manage complex oral health conditions. Dr. Oviatt joins Dr. Hughes in growing our pediatric dentistry team



2025 - 2026 Dentistry Faculty and Residents (Not shown Eric Bokinsky, DDS)



2025 Dental Graduation Richard Smith, Justin Mure, Carolyn Recupero and Misha Chaudhary

which will allow us to increase access to specialized dental care for children and enhance our pediatric services. These additions strengthen our commitment to comprehensive, patient-centered care. We look forward to the positive impact these talented professionals will have on our division and the community we serve.

This year two residents decided to stay for another year of dental training. **Dr.'s Misha Chaudhary and Carolyn Recupero** will focus on enhancing their training with dental implants and practice management.

We are kicking off our academic year welcoming two new outstanding residents; **Mychael McKeever, DDS and Noah Taylor, DDS**. We are thrilled to continue partnering with Plastic Surgery to give our residents additional valuable educational experiences and the opportunity to build strong, collaborative relationships with their faculty and fellow residents.



2025 Department of Plastic Surgery, Maxillofacial and Oral Health

Alumni Updates - 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 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 livestream via Zoom. If you would like to learn more, please contact Colleen McDowell at "eja4kh@virginia.edu".

 **Follow us on Instagram @ uvaplasticsurgeryresidency and @uvaplasticsurgerydept**

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.



Or, point your camera at the QR Code to download Doximity



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

