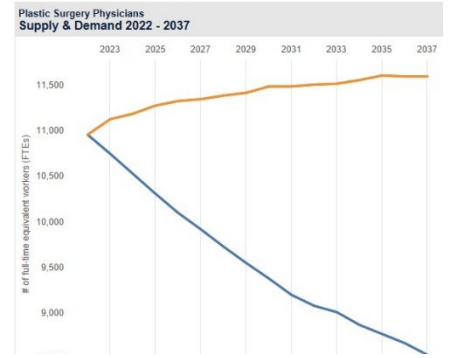
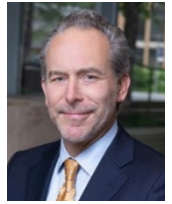
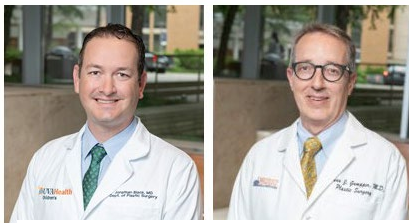




Message from the Chair: The start of a new year is always filled with hope and ambition. As 2026 gets underway we have the usual set of challenges and opportunities ahead of us. There is an array of leadership changes occurring in state government, within the university board and at the medical center. With each new leader comes a set of fresh perspectives and ideas. To be successful we will remain engaged and continue to demonstrate that what we do in Plastic Surgery is unique and valuable. To that end, I would like to share with you some exciting new initiatives that are ahead. As a residency training program, we recognize our obligation to prepare the next generation of plastic surgeons to serve the needs of our society. As you may know, the National Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) workforce analysis projects a shortage of physicians across many medical specialties with surgical fields most affected. Believe it not, the **Plastic Surgery Workforce** is expected to be 25% insufficient for patient needs by the year 2035. This is especially problematic in rural and small community settings where that number is closer to 15% coverage. One of our goals is to train residents that are *at the very least*; familiar with these environments. To achieve this, we plan on starting new rotations in several surrounding hospitals and ambulatory settings with a focus on rural and community plastic surgery. We are also exploring a dedicated spot and track within the residency program geared towards individuals inclined and committed to pursue rural and community plastic surgery for a portion of their career. Another way we hope to impact the world around us is



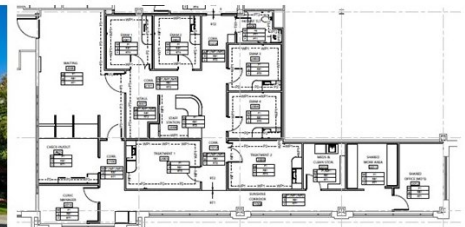
HRSA; Plastic Surgery demand remains high, workforce supply predicted to drop.



Jon Black, MD and Tom Gampper, MD lead the Global Health Program

through our **Global Health Program**. This has been a consistent effort for many years in the department and we are strengthening the support for this program both internally and through ongoing philanthropic efforts. The program has remained strong under the leadership of Dr. Tom Gampper and will continue to grow along with the efforts of co-director Dr. Jon Black. In Charlottesville, we are excited as we prepare to open our **Pantops Aesthetic Clinic** location this spring. The clinic will offer easy access for patients interested in a variety of facial and

body aesthetic procedures. The facility will have two procedure rooms along with four exam rooms and associated work and office spaces. Overall, we feel like there is a lot of enthusiasm and energy surrounding our program and the continued growth that has been possible due to the strong foundation and incredible legacy of Plastic Surgery at the University of Virginia.



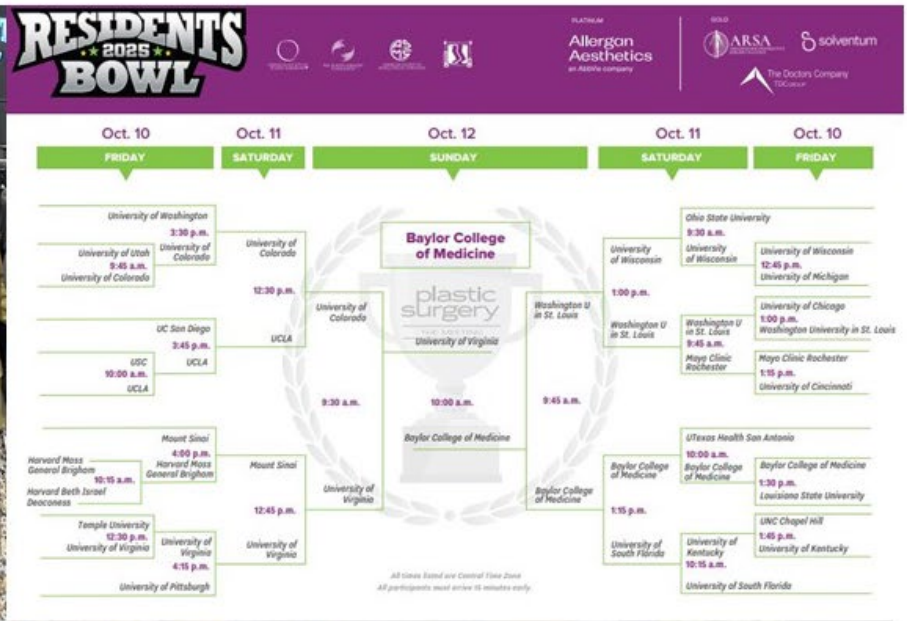
Sincerely,

Scott T. Hollenbeck, MD, FACS

UVA Plastic Surgery – Pantops Aesthetic Clinic

Residency Highlights

In only their 3rd ever Residents Bowl appearance, the University of Virginia Plastic Surgery residents made a championship run in the 2025 contest held in New Orleans at the ASPS Annual Meeting. Led by team captain Kristen Stephens, MD and co-chief Gabby Squeo, MD; this was a true team effort that included 6 different residents throughout the tournament. With victories over Temple, Pittsburgh and Mt. Saini, the UVA team found itself in the Final 4! The semifinals occurred early Sunday morning and pitted UVA against Colorado. As the pressure built in the final 2 questions, Colorado stumbled, and the UVA team was flawless, advancing to the finals in a dramatic, come from behind fashion. In the final round, the judges introduced a surprise microsurgery skills competition. The UVA team made up of junior and senior residents, would face a strong Baylor team composed of all senior residents. It was clear the UVA team was no match for the senior residents from Baylor on the microscope. Still, they did not give up! Once again, in the decisive moment on the final question, the UVA team answered flawlessly, while Baylor faltered, giving UVA a slim advantage and claim of the Kahoot Question Resident Bowl title. While the microsurgery station bonus points would ultimately push Baylor over the UVA team for the overall victory, there was an undeniable feeling of accomplishment for this memorable team.



Dr. Jesse Chou (PGY5) became the 4th UVA Plastic Surgery resident to be named the Bostwick award winner for his paper entitled **“A Prospective Randomized Double-Blinded Placebo-Controlled Trial Evaluating Intravenous TXA in DIEP Flap Breast Reconstruction”**. This project, led by JT Stranix, MD was a true team effort including critical contributions from program graduate Rachel Park, MD, CRC, Lindsey Wilken, our breast free flap surgery team and a number of other residents and students. Prior Bostwick Award winners from UVA include Dr. Deborah Yu (2014), Dr. Jonathan Olenczak (2018) and Dr. Jared Liston (2021). Dr. Chou received a check for \$2,000 and was able to attend the Atlanta Breast Symposium in recognition of this award.



Chief Resident Destinations: We are excited to report that all 3 chief residents have chosen to pursue additional training and have successfully matched into fellowship programs. Ally Deal, MD, will be attending the Harvard / BIDMC Aesthetic Surgery fellowship, Kristen Stephens, MD, will attend the U Penn Microsurgery fellowship and Gabby Squeo, MD, will attend the Vanderbilt Craniofacial fellowship. We are extremely proud of them but will be sad to see them go!



Ally Deal, MD, Kristen Stephens, MD, Gabby Squeo, MD

Visiting Professors, Lectureships and Gatherings

This past fall has been busy with numerous occasions to gather, exchange information, network and celebrate! We started the year off with the Barton Lectureship in September which featured Dr. Sam Poore, Chief of Plastic Surgery at the University of Wisconsin. Dr. Ron Barton attended the dinner with Dr. Poore where they shared their experiences in Australia at the Bernard O'Brien Institute of Microsurgery, among other things. Dr. Poore gave grand rounds for the department and focused on his work in Global Health and bringing 3D printed microscopes to underserved areas of the world.



Dr. Sam Poore gives the annual Barton Lectureship



Dr. Jack Fisher is welcomed back to Charlottesville!

In November we were honored to have distinguished UVA Plastic Surgery alum Dr. Jack Fisher as a Jefferson Visiting Professor. He met with faculty and residents and gave an impressive Grand Rounds lecture on the story of the skin graft and its importance in the development of organized plastic surgery. During his visit, Dr. Fisher challenged us at UVA to develop a comprehensive Plastic Surgery library. We are underway with these efforts!



Dr. Jack Fisher tells the story of the skin graft.

The fall also was an opportunity to participate in several courses. Our two PGY5 residents; Jesse Chou, MD and Rob DeVito, MD attended the Penn Flap course along with guest faculty instructor JT Stranix, MD. Not to be outdone, our PGY4 residents; Brittany Ward, MD and Jess Pawly, MD attended the Oncological Reconstruction Course held in Chicago along with guest faculty instructors Scott Hollenbeck, MD, Amanda Silva, MD and JT Stranix, MD. Additionally,



Oncological Reconstruction Course (ORC)

Luke Juckett, MD attended the ASPS Advocacy Summit in Washington D.C. and the ASMS Basic course in Chicago along with fellow PGY2 Annie Glenney, MD. Finally, first year resident class had the opportunity to attend the ASPS / ACEPS / SESPRS sponsored Intern Boot Camp in Tampa, Florida.



Penn Flap Course



ASPS Advocacy Summit; Luke Juckett, MD (PGY2), Scott Hollenbeck, MD and Virginia Bailey (medical student)



Intern Boot Camp; Drs. Brennan Bogdanovich, Praneet Paidisetty and Kas Zilinskas

The year culminated with our annual Coleman Lecture featuring Dr. Craig Birgfeld from the University of Washington Seattle Children’s Center. Despite the snow, we had an excellent visit with Dr. Birgfeld who gave a lecture focused on facial reanimation in pediatric patients with facial paralysis. He also spent time with the residents discussing career and life goals and even got involved in a snowball fight on the UVA lawn! Dr. Birgfeld joined us, along with the Coleman family the following night for our department holiday party where he was again recognized as the 2026 Coleman Visiting Scholar.



Dr. Birgfeld is joined by the residents in front of the Old Medical School Building.



Dr. Craig Birgfeld – 2026 Coleman Lecturer

Research Spotlight:

Medical Student Clinical Research: This has been a very productive year for our medical student research fellows. Naomi Ghahrai was recognized with an award by the Virginia-ACS Committee on Trauma for her work in Hand Surgery and will also be presenting some of her additional research at the PSRC meeting in Los Angeles. Virginia Bailey will be presenting her research on plastic surgery workforce shortage at the ACEPS meeting in Nashville and her work on trends in Oncoplastic Surgery procedures at the ASBrS meeting in Seattle. Additionally, both Naomi and Virginia were awarded Cannon Scholarships to attend the AAPS meeting in Hawaii. Ben Ke has been finishing his MBA at Darden Business School but has found time to remain active in research. His work related to the impact of socioeconomic disadvantage on breast reconstruction approaches was accepted into the PSRC Best Papers session. Eileen Wen has completed multiple manuscripts and was recognized at PSTM for giving the Best Presentation in the Breast Section, for her work related to the impact of neo-adjuvant chemotherapy on tissue expander infection. This is a small sample of the work performed by this outstanding group of research students. Given their success, it’s no surprise we received 19 applications for research fellowship positions for the 2026 – 2027 year. As this program aligns with our core mission of building the next generation of plastic surgeons and being a thought leader in plastic surgery research, we anticipate finding the support to accommodate 6 research fellows in the upcoming year.



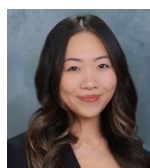
Naomi Ghahrai



Virginia Bailey

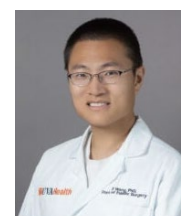


Ben Ke



Eileen Wen

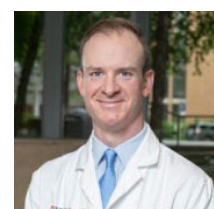
Basic Sciences: Director of Research and Edlich Endowed Professor, Dr. Xin Li, continues to be a brilliant leader of our basic science research program. In addition to her multiple NIH grants, she is serving as a mentor to a number of promising graduate students. Her postdoctoral fellow, Dr. Zi Wang has been invited to deliver an oral presentation in a main scientific session at the 2026 IADR/AADOCR/CADR General Session & Exhibition. His presentation is entitled “Succinate Hyperactivates Neutrophils and Mimics the Aging-associated Phenotypes in Periodontitis”. In addition, Dr. Li will be organizing a special research symposium on “Immunity at the Oral–Systemic Interface: Molecular Mechanisms and Beyond” at the meeting. The meeting will be held at the San Diego Convention Center from March 24–28, 2026.



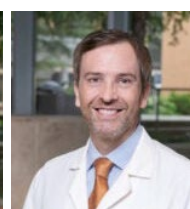
Zi Wang, PhD

Faculty Accolades:

-Congratulations to Dr. JT Stranix and Dr. Chris Campbell on well deserved promotions. Dr. Stranix has risen to the level of Associate Professor and Dr. Campbell has now achieved Full Professor with Tenure rank!



JT Stranix, MD



Chris Campbell, MD

-Congratulations to Dr. Jon Black on receiving the Dean's Award for Clinical Excellence. This award was given to recognize Dr. Black's overall contribution to clinical care at UVA. In particular, it was noted that he started two programs from scratch; 1) mandibular distraction to treat congenital micrognathia and 2) surgery for the treatment of migraine headaches.



-Finally, please congratulate Dr. Hollenbeck on completing his tenure as President of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons. This would not have been possible without the support from the department faculty, residents, APPs and support staff.



Dr. Hollenbeck speaks at Opening Ceremonies of Plastic Surgery the Meeting (PSTM) (left). Dr. Hollenbeck is joined by the UVA residents and Dr. Jon Black in New Orleans (center). ASPS / PSF Presidential Panel at PSTM (right).

Advanced Practice Provider Team Updates:



Exciting news about our APP team. Nichole Brooks, PA and Marcelle Zimcosky-Murray, NP were among a group of outstanding providers who were recognized for exceptional patient satisfaction scores and Ryan Evans, NP was nominated for a Daisy Award for his excellent care. We are also thrilled to welcome Madeline Sieglinger, PA who is starting as our inpatient APP for the plastic surgery service.



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

- **Morgan-McCue Lectureship (April 14/15)** Dr. Scott Levin, University of Pennsylvania
- **Thomas Jefferson Visiting Professor (Spring)-** Dr. Mark Constantian



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".

-Angela Cheng, MD (class of 2011), has been elected to the ASPS / PSF Board of Directors in 2025 as Chair of the Assembly of Member Sections. She is pictured to the right at the home of ASPS President Dr. Bob Basu in January 2026.

-Chris Campbell, MD (class of 2009), has also been elected to the ASPS / PSF Board of Directors in 2025 as PSF Board Vice President of Development. He is also pictured at Dr. Basu's home.

-Brent DeGeorge, MD, PHD (class of 2016), has been elected to the Board of Trustees of the American Federation for Surgery of the Hand as the Trustee-At-Large.



BRENT R. DEGEORGE, MD, PHD, AFSH TRUSTEE-AT-LARGE

Term: 10/11/2025 – 10/9/2027

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. 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.

