NewYork-Presbyterian Weill Cornell Medical Center



Department of Surgery General Surgery Residency Program

Chairman: Fabrizio Michelassi, MD, FACS Vice Chair of Education: Thomas J. Fahey, III, MD, FACS Program Director: Anthony C. Watkins, MD, FACS Associate Program Director: Abraham Po-Han Houng, MD Program Manager: David Fehling, MA Residency Program Coordinator: Joval Wilson, BA

Welcome



From the Chairman

We are delighted and proud to be an active part of our institution, which is among the top-ranked clinical and medical research centers in the country. Our affiliation with a major academic medical center underscores our department's three-pronged mission: to provide the highest quality of compassionate care, to educate the surgeons of tomorrow, and to pursue groundbreaking research. As

members of the clinical staff of New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell, our team of experienced surgeons practice at the forefront of their respective specialties, offering patients outstanding, humane and personalized care. As faculty of Weill Cornell Medical College, these physicians are educating future generations of surgeons and advancing state-of-the-art surgical treatment.

The history of surgery at the New York Hospital, the second oldest hospital in the United States, reflects the evolution of surgery in America, and is marked by some of the most extraordinary achievements in medicine. The New York Hospital was the cradle of early surgical developments and instruction in America, earning a worldwide reputation for excellence and innovation. Many of todayís practices and techniques arose from our institution. Our department continues to build upon our rich legacy of surgical innovations, making important contributions to the advancement of new surgical procedures.

Wright Post, MD, one of the first surgeons appointed to the hospital in 1792, was the first in America to successfully treat aneurysms, developing state-of-the-art surgical techniques. In 1878, Lewis Atterbury Stimson, MD, the first professor of surgery at The New York Hospital, performed the first public demonstration of an antiseptic operation in the United States. In 1898, Dr. Stimson organized the charter that established Cornell University Medical College.

William Stewart Halstead, MD, widely regarded as the founder of modern surgical residency training, was trained at The New York Hospital, under the mentorship of Henry Sands, MD, who fostered Dr. Halsteadís early interest in anatomy and surgery. Another of our distinguished earliest surgeons was Valentine Mott, MD, a pioneer in vascular surgery.

In 1932, George J. Heuer, MD, joined The New York Hospital as Chief of Surgery and established the nationís second modern surgical training program. During the 1950ís, Frank Glenn, MD, the first Lewis Atterbury Stimson Professor of Surgery, was internationally recognized as the leading expert in biliary and cardiovascular surgery. In 1963, the first kidney transplant in the metropolitan area was performed by our hospitalís surgeons.

Dr. C. Walton Lillehei, who became the Lewis Atterbury Professor of Surgery in 1967, is widely regarded as the father of heart surgery because so many of his innovations were crucial to the evolution of cardiac surgery and cardiopulmonary bypass. He also trained Norman Shumway, MD and Christiaan Barnard, MD, early pioneers of cardiac and organ transplantations.

In 1976, the hospital formed the first comprehensive Burn Center in the New York region which is today one of the largest and busiest in the nation. In 1996, we created the first pancreas transplant program in the tri-state area. In 2004 we were the first in the tri-state area to perform minimally-invasive islet cell transplants to cure Type I diabetes. Today our surgeons continues to lead the way in shaping the medical world of the 21st century, and we remain one of the most outstanding academic departments and training programs in the world.

Thank you for applying to our General Surgery Residency Program.

Fabrizio Michelassi, MD, FACS

Lewis Atterbury Stimson Professor of Surgery Chairman of Surgery, Weill Cornell Medical College Surgeon-in-Chief NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center



Welcome



Welcome to the General Surgery Residency program at New York Presbyterian – Weill Cornell Medicine. Our program has a long tradition of training the finest surgeons in the world. The goal of our program is to train exceptionally qualified surgeons who have the skills and ability to function at the highest level and provide state-of-the-art, compassionate patient care. The faculty believes their mission is not only to produce technically superb surgeons, but in addition, to produce surgeons wellgrounded in the basic science of surgery and with sufficient clinical judgment to render complete care of the surgical patient.

A broad exposure to all areas of general surgery is provided to ensure development of adequate clinical knowledge. New York Presbyterian serves as the primary teaching facility offering expertise in primary, secondary, and tertiary surgical medicine. On almost every rotation you will find a blend of teaching faculty, residents, medical students, pa students, and visiting residents/students. Resident rotations at Cornell include Breast Surgery, Colon and Rectal Surgery, Endocrine Surgery, Gastrointestinal Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery, General Surgery/Surgical Oncology, Kidney and Pancreas Transplantation, Liver Transplantation and Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Surgery, Pediatric Trauma, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (as part of an elective), Trauma, Burns, Acute and Critical Care, Vascular and Endovascular Surgery.

Additional experience in surgical oncology is obtained at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Jamaica Hospital provides experience in acute trauma and elective general surgery in an underserved urban environment. Didactic instruction plays an integral part in the training program and is provided through both departmental and interdepartmental teaching conferences.

Weill Cornell Medical College's mission is to support, advance, and promote clinical and translational research enterprises. All surgical residents without significant research prior to entering the program are encouraged to spend two years in the lab. Faculty members in the Divisions of the Department of Surgery are engaged in robust research programs, many of which include cutting-edge clinical trials. Many of our residents also pursue graduate degrees and outcomes research on a fully funded T-32 training grant. Residents also have additional opportunities to focus on surgical oncology and pediatric research at MSKCC and the Rockefeller Institute. Currently, the program also supports residents completing global health research with the Paul Farmer foundation. With the recent expansion of Cornell Tech, we expect to have even more options for residents to participate in cutting-edge research in biomedical technology.

I look forward to meeting you and encourage you to consider training here in the Department of Surgery at New York Presbyterian – Weill Cornell Medicine.

Anthony Watkins, M.D., F.A.C.S.

Program Director

WHO ARE WE?

The Department of Surgery of Weill Cornell Medical College and New York-Presbyterian Hospital/ Weill Cornell Medical Center is internationally recognized for outstanding and innovative surgical expertise. We have seven divisions: Critical Care and Trauma, General Surgery, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Dentistry, Pediatric Surgery, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Transplantation Surgery, and Vascular Surgery. There are also seven sections within General Surgery: Breast Surgery, Burn Surgery, Colon and Rectal Surgery, Endocrine Surgery, Gastrointestinal Metabolic Surgery, Laparoscopy and



Bariatric Surgery, and Surgical Oncology. We provide our patients with the highest quality, most compassionate care, utilizing state-of-the-art, minimally invasive technologies and techniques to achieve the most successful surgical outcomes.

Many of our esteemed surgeons today in the Department of Surgery at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell have been consistently recognized over the years by their peers as among the best doctors in their respective fields. These honors include being listed as best doctors by Castle Connolly, New York Magazine, and New York Super Doctors.



Pictured Above: New York-Presbyterian / Weill Cornell Medical Center

Overview of the Program

The goal of our residency program is to train exceptionally qualified surgeons who have the skills and ability to function at the highest level and provide state-of-the-art, compassionate patient care. The program is under the supervision of the chairman of the department, the Program Director and a large full-time and volunteer faculty. The faculty believes their mission is not only to produce technically superb surgeons, but in addition, to produce surgeons well grounded in the basic science of surgery and with sufficient clinical judgment to render complete care of the surgical patient.

A broad exposure to all areas of general surgery is provided to ensure development of adequate clinical knowledge. NewYork-Presbyterian serves as the primary teaching facility offering expertise in primary, secondary, and tertiary surgical medicine.

Additional experience in surgical oncology is obtained at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Jamaica Hospital provides experience in acute trauma and elective general surgery in an underserved urban environment. Didactic instruction plays an integral part in the training program and is provided through both departmental and interdepartmental teaching conferences.



The General Surgery Program at New York Presbyterian Hospital-Weill Cornell Medical College is a 5 year program.



THE PGY YEARS

The PGY 1 & 2 Years

The emphasis during the junior surgical residency is the primary care of the surgical patient. The junior surgical residents are directly responsible for preoperative and postoperative care, with progressive operative responsibilities.

Patient care is supervised by the more senior resident staff and the attending staff, which allows the junior surgical resident to take on the responsibilities of primary patient care in an atmosphere that fosters constant learning from more experienced surgical personnel. The junior resident becomes familiar with physiological and metabolic problems that face each surgical patient Significant operative experience is obtained under the direct supervision of senior residents and attending surgeons.

During the first year of training, resident rotations are 2-6 weeks long. The rotations include general surgery, surgical oncology, trauma surgery, vascular surgery, cardiothoracic surgery, and care of the burned patient.

During the second year, the resident continues preoperative and postoperative care, and in addition, takes on even more operative responsibilities. Additional exposure to plastics, orthopedics, urology, otolaryngology and neurosurgery is obtained while rotating at Jamaica Hospital. Second year residents have an in-depth experience in surgical critical care on rotations in the SICU and CTICU.

Rotations as the general surgery consult resident provide the junior resident with the opportunity to evaluate surgical patients de novo and gain further experience with acute care surgery.

The hallmark of the junior surgical residents training is a command of basic and intensive care of the surgical patient. Residents in the preliminary track are integrated fully into the junior surgical residency, with variations in their rotation schedules to complement their area of concentration.

The PGY 3 Year

The focus of experiences gained during this year is on the development of advanced surgical judgment in and out of the operating room. The transition from junior resident to chief resident is developed during this year, as the senior resident assumes major responsibility for the day-to-day activities of the surgical inpatients, directly supervising the junior resident staff. Advanced elective and emergency surgery are performed by the third-year resident on the general surgery, bariatric, vascular, endocrine, and trauma services. The third year begins the senior residency's emphasis on advanced laparoscopy and robotic surgery.

The PGY 4 & 5 Years

The chief resident hones his/her surgical judgment and skill during these years but also assumes many other primary responsibilities. These include the supervision of junior and senior surgical residents in the overall care of surgical patients and the direct instruction of medical students and physician assistants assigned to their services.

In the operating room, the Chief Resident becomes skilled with most general surgical procedures, gaining experience in the more complex surgical procedures and is involved in the operative teaching of junior residents.

The fourth-year resident serves as the Chief Resident on the pediatric and transplantation service at NewYork-Presbyterian, as well as the general and trauma services at Jamaica Hospital. The fourth and fifth-year resident also serves as the primary operating fellow on the breast, hepatobiliary, colorectal, gastric mixed tumor and thoracic surgical services at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

During the fifth year, the Chief Resident role continues on the general surgery, hepatobiliary surgery, and trauma services at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center.

Advanced elective time is available during the fourth year in gastrointestinal endoscopy, plastic surgery, and cardiac surgery.

The Chairman of the Department of Surgery designates two Administrative Chief Residents from the group of fifth year Chief Residents. The Administrative Chief Residents are responsible for assisting the Chairman and the Program Director in the overall administration of the division relative to the surgical residency and medical student clerkship**s**.

Our Residents

Our Residents

The General Surgery Program has a residency compliment of 53 residents comprised of 40 Categorical Residents and 13 Preliminary Residents. Currently, 13 residents are in research.



PGY-5

Marco Bertucci Zoccall, MD Andreas de Biasi, MD Administrative Chief Resident Elinore Kaufman, MD Jennifer Minneman, MD Michael Pezold, MD Administrative Chief Resident Matthew Smith, MD

PGY-4

Jonathan Abelson, MD Neel Chudgar, MD John Creasy, MD Jason Gardenier, MD Brandon Guenthart, MD Oriana Petruolo, MD Saurabh Saluja, MD Marc Vimolratana, MD

PGY-3

Dalia Alqunaibit, MD Christopher Chandler, MD William Hammond, MD Jackly Juprasert, MD Nicole Meredyth, MD Maureen Moore, MD Dagny von Ahrens, MD Matthew Wingo, MD

PGY-2

Victoria Aveson, MD Matthew Iyer, MD Gregory Jones, MD Jessica Limberg, MD Paul Shin, MD Matthew Skovgard, MD Dessislava Stefanova, MD Jessica Thiesmeyer, MD

PGY-1

Solange Bayard, MD Alyssa Blood, MD Jake Connolly, MD Catlin Egan, MD Jacques Greenberg, MD Harry Lengel, MD Claire Li, MD Bryce Robinson, MD

Research Residents

Richard Cass, Jr, MD Meera Cheerharan, MD Nicole Croteau, MD Patrick Dolan, MD Gregory Eckenrode, MD Adham Elmously, MD Katherine Gray, MD Brandon Guenthart, MD Kendall Lawrence, MD Jeremy Leonard, MD Mengyuan Liu, MD Caitlin McIntyre, MD Alexander Peters, MD John Stratigis, MD Matthew Symer, MD Timothy Ullmann, MD

NewYork-Presbyterian The University Hospital of Columbia and Cornell

Our Faculty



NewYork-Presbyterian The University Hospital of Columbia and Cornell

Our Faculty

Our Faculty is internationally recognized in the field of Breast, Burn, Colon and Rectal, Critical Care and Trauma, Endocrine, Gastrointestinal, General, Laparoscopic and Bariatric, Pediatric, Plastics and Reconstructive, Surgical Oncology, Transplant and Vascular Surgery.

Breast Surgery

Rache M. Simmons, MD Alexander J. Swistel, MD

Breast and Endocrine Surgery Jennifer Marti, MD

Burn Surgery

Palmer Q. Bessey, MD James J. Gallagher, MD Abraham Houng, MD Robert J. Winchell, MD

Colon and Rectal Surgery

Alan Abrams, MD Kelly Garrett, MD Daniel Hunt, MD Fabrizio Michelassi, MD Jeffrey W. Milsom, MD Parul Shukla, MD Toyooki Sonoda, MD Heather Yeo, MD

Critical Care and Trauma

Philip S. Barie, MD Anton Kelly, MD Mayur Narayan, MD Jian Shou, MD Kira Smith, MD Robert J. Winchell, MD

Endocrine Surgery

Toni Beninato, MD Thomas J. Fahey, III, MD Rasa Zarnegar, MD

Gastrointestinal, Hepatobiliary & Pancreatic Surgical Oncology

Fabrizio Michelassi, MD James D. Smith, MBBCh

G.I. Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery

Cheguevara Afaneh, MD Gregory F. Dakin, MD Alfons Pomp, MD

Pediatric Surgery

Edmund Kessler, MD Demetri Merianos, MD Stephen Oh, MD Shaun Steigman, MD Nitsana Spigland, MD

Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Leslie Cohen, MD Robert T. Grant, MD David Otterburn, MD Kevin H. Small, MD Jason A. Spector, MD Mia Talmor, MD

Surgical Oncology

Michael D. Lieberman, MD Fabrizio Michelassi, MD

Transplant Surgery

Rohit Chandwani, MD Karim Halazun, MD Sandip Kapur, MD Benjamin Samstein, MD Anthony C. Watkins, MD

Vascular Surgery

Peter H. Connolly, MD John Doolan, MD Sharif Ellozy, MD Tikva Jacobs, MD Andrew Meltzer, MD Soo Rhee, MD Darren Schneider, MD Herrick Wun, MD



Fabrizio Michelassi, MD, FACS

Lewis Atterbury Stimson Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery *Weill Cornell Medical College*

Surgeon-in-Chief

NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center

Fabrizio Michelassi, MD, FACS, is an internationally-renowned, board-certified gastrointestinal surgeon with a strong expertise in the surgical treatment of inflammatory bowel disease, gastrointestinal and pancreatic cancers. He is the Lewis Atterbury Stimson Professor of Surgery and Chairman of the Department of Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College and Surgeon-in-Chief at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center.

A prolific author of more than 270 papers, book chapters and abstracts, Dr. Michelassi has contributed new insight in the surgical treatment of pancreatic and colorectal cancers, ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease. He has pioneered the development of important new techniques that ensure better outcomes and improved quality of life for patients with rectal cancer and ulcerative colitis. These techniques have resulted in a greater percentage of patients avoiding permanent stomas and maintaining urological and sexual function. His recognized expertise in the surgical treatment of pancreatic cancer has led many patients to seek his counsel; in turn, Dr. Michelassi has contributed new knowledge to this field through clinical trials. His experience and expertise in treating Crohn's disease led him to develop a novel bowel-sparing procedure, now known as the Michelassi strictureplasty, designed to avoid sacrificing large amounts of bowel at the time of surgery and facilitating quiescence of the acute disease affecting the diseased intestinal loops. He has edited a book on "Operative strategies in inflammatory bowel disease" and has produced eleven instructional movies for surgeons on the surgical treatment of complications of Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis.

Internationally renowned as an outstanding clinician, researcher and teacher, Dr. Michelassi has been invited to be a visiting professor at close to 50 national and international institutions. He has delivered more than 40 named lectures and keynote addresses. He is Associate Editor of the Annuals of Surgical Oncology and serves on the editorial board of five prestigious medical journals including: The Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery, Surgery, The British Journal of Surgery, Annals of Surgery and the World Journal of Surgery. A recognized leader in the gastrointestinal surgical field, Dr. Michelassi has been appointed to many international and national task forces and panels. A member of more than 50 professional societies and foundations, Dr. Michelassi has been elected to leadership positions in many of them, serving as President in nine of them. Dr. Michelassi is President of the Society for the Surgery of the Alimentary Tract. He has served as President of the Western Surgical Society, the Central Surgical Association and the Central Surgical Association Foundation, the Society of Surgical Chairs, the Society of Surgical Oncology and Society of Surgical Oncology James Ewing Foundation, the Illinois Surgical Society and the New York Surgical Society. He serves as Vice Chair of the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors and Vice Chair of the Advisory Council for General Surgery of the American College of Surgeons. Dr. Michelassi is a senior Director of the American Board of Surgery. He has served as a Director since 2006, as the Chair of the Surgical Oncology Advisory Council (2009-2011) and as the first Surgical Oncology Board Chair (2011-2012). He is a Director and Secretary, US Chapter, of the James IV Association of Surgeons, Inc.

Dr. Michelassi has earned numerous awards for his innovative contributions to advancing the treatment of digestive diseases, including the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Award, the American Cancer Society Cancer Development Award and the Distinguished Leadership Award from the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America. Dr. Michelassi has received federal and non-federal support for his research since 1987. His research on Crohn's disease has been funded by the International Organization of Inflammatory Bowel Disease and numerous other foundations; his research on the genetics of gastrointestinal cancer has been funded by the National Institutes of Health and the American Cancer Society.

He has been repeatedly recognized by Castle Connolly, New York Magazine and Chicago Magazine as one of the "Best Doctors in America." Dr. Michelassi was selected as one of "America's Top Doctors" by US News & World Report. He was chosen as one of "American's Top Surgeons" by the Consumers' Research Council of America, and has been selected as one of New York's "Super Doctors" every year since its inception, an honor accorded to just 5 percent of all New York physicians.

Born in Pisa, Italy, and graduated summa cum laude from the University of Pisa School of Medicine, Dr. Michelassi completed his internship and surgical residency at New York University and a research fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard University. In 1984, he joined the faculty of the Department of Surgery at the University of Chicago. He became Section Chief of General Surgery in 1994, tenured Professor in 1995, Vice Chair of the Surgery Department in 2000 and the Thomas D. Jones Professor of Surgery in 2001. He also served as Director of the Surgical Oncology Fellowship from 1988 through 1995 and Director of the General Surgery Residency Program from 1997 through 2004. He moved to his current position at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center in 2004.

In 2009, in recognition of his many lifetime achievements, Dr. Michelassi was honored as an Official of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Italy with the rank of Commendatore, the most prestigious and important distinction awarded by the President of the Republic of Italy to Italian citizens of particular merit. He was also inducted as a member of the American Society of the Italian Legions of Merit (ASILM), the Italian-American society comprised of those 600 individuals who have been so decorated by the Republic of Italy. Dr. Michelassi received the prestigious 2010 Golden Lion Award from the Order of the Sons of Italy in America and the "Campano d'Oro" medal from the University of Pisa, the highest honor that can be accorded to a University of Pisa alumnus. In 2012, he received the "Grand Award of Merit," the most prestigious award of the American Society of the Italian Legions of Merit, in recognition of his accomplishments, dedication and leadership that have improved the lives of numerous Americans, Italians and Italian Americans. Previous recipients of the Grand Award of Merit include H.E. Giorgio Napolitano, President of the Republic of Italy, George W. Bush, former President of the University, and US Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi.





Thomas J. Fahey, III, MD, FACS

Vice Chair of Education

New York Presbyterian Hospital-Weill Cornell Medical Center

Dr. Fahey is the Johnson and Johnson Professor of Surgery and Vice-Chair for Education in the Department of Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College. He is an Attending Surgeon at NewYork Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Medical Center where is also the Chief of Endocrine Surgery and the Director of the Endocrine Oncology Program.

Dr. Fahey graduated from Duke University Magna Cum Laude in 1982, and Cornell University Medical College in 1986. He did his surgical residency at The New York Hospital, serving as Administrative Chief Resident. He was a Harvey and Katharine Cushing Fellow in Surgical Physiology from 1998-1990, and an American Cancer Society Fellow in Clinical Oncology from 1989- 1990. In addition, Dr. Fahey was a guest investigator at The Rockefeller University, Laboratory of Medical Biochemistry from 1988 - 1991. He then completed a fellowship in Endocrine and Head and Neck Surgery at the Royal North Shore Hospital in Sydney Australia.

He accepted a position as an Assistant Professor of Surgery at UT Southwestern Medical Center in the Division of GI and Endocrine Surgery in 1993. He was recruited back to New York Hospital-Cornell in 1996 as the Chief of the Section of Endocrine Surgery and rose to the level of Associate Professor in 1998, and was promoted to Professor of Surgery in 2007. He held positions as the Frank Glenn Faculty Scholar in Minimal Access Surgery and the G. Tom Shires Faculty Scholar before accepting the Johnson and Johnson Professorship in 2015.

Dr. Fahey has been consistently recognized over the years as one of America's Best Doctors by Castle Connolly and one of New York's Best Doctors by New York Magazine. He was named one of New York's Super Doctors in 2008 (an honor given to just 5% of physicians in New York) and has continued to be awarded that accolade for the past 9 years.

As the Program Director of the General Surgery Residency Program at NewYork-Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Medical College from 2000-2015 he played a strong leadership role in physician training and mentoring. He was recently promoted to Vice Chair of Education, a role in which he will continue to oversee the residency and fellowship programs in General Surgery, as well as focus on medical student education. Dr. Fahey also continues on as Chair of the Department of Surgery's Resident Education Committee and Residency Review Committee.

His clinical and research interests lie in the field of endocrine oncology (thyroid, parathyroid, adrenal and pancreas) and minimally invasive surgery. His articles are widely published in peer-reviewed journals, and he has authored many book chapters. Dr. Fahey belongs to many professional associations, including the American Surgical Association, American College of Surgeons, Society of University Surgeons, American Thyroid Association and American Association of Endocrine Surgeons, where he was honored to serve as Vice-President in 2013.

He holds positions on the editorial board of the International Journal of Endocrine Oncology and the International Journal of Endocrinology, as well as an ad hoc reviewer for Cancer, Cancer Research, Clinical Cancer Research, International Journal of Cancer, Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism, Journal of Clinical Oncology, Surgery, Thyroid and the Annals of Surgery.



Anthony C. Watkins, MD, FACS

Program Director Weill Cornell Medical College

Assistant Professor of Surgery Weill Cornell Medical College

Assistant Attending Surgeon NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

Director, Skills Acquisition & Innovation Laboratory

Anthony C. Watkins, MD is the Program Director of the General Surgery Residency Program, Surgical Director of the Skills Acquisition & Innovation Laboratory (SAIL), and Assistant Professor of Surgery at Weill Cornell Medicine. He is an Attending Surgeon at New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medicine and an experienced, board-certified surgeon who specializes in kidney, pancreas and liver transplantation, laparoscopic donor nephrectomies, dialysis access surgery and general surgery. Dr. Watkins has authored several publications and book chapters and his current research interests include topics ranging from improving outcomes and increasing access to transplantation to exploring innovative ways to enhance surgical education.

Dr. Watkins received his B.A. degree from Fisk University, Nashville, and his M.D. degree from the University of Tennessee College of Medicine. He completed his general surgery residency training at the University of Medicine and Dentistry, New Jersey Medical School, Newark, New Jersey, and spent an additional two years conducting research related to trauma hemorrhagic shock and multiple organ dysfunction syndrome. He completed his fellowship in Multi-Organ Transplantation/Hepatobiliary Surgery at New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia University. Prior to joining Weill Cornell, Dr. Watkins was Assistant Professor of Surgery at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Dr. Watkins was recognized by Super Doctor, as a New York Rising Star in 2015 and a recipient of the Top Healthcare Professionals Under 40 Award by the National Medical Association in 2013. In addition, Dr. Watkins has been repeatedly recognized by Castle Connolly as one of "America's Top Doctors", an honor given to the top 1% of all physicians in the country.





Abraham Po-Han Houng, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery Associate Program Director Department of Surgery, Weill Cornell Medical College

Assistant Attending Surgeon New York-Presbyterian Hospital

Abraham P. Houng, MD is an Assistant Professor of Surgery in the division of Burns, Critical Care and Trauma at Weill Cornell Medical College and Assistant Attending Surgeon at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital. A board- certified, Dr. Houng specializes in the treatment of burns, burn surgery, and surgical critical care. Prior to his arrival in 2015, Dr. Houng was an attending surgeon at Saint Barnabas Medical Center, Department of Surgery in Livingston, New Jersey. He obtained his BS from Columbia University in Bioengineering and received his MSE from University of Pennsylvania. He attended New Jersey Medical School, affiliated with Rutgers University, for his MD. He completed his surgical residency at Saint Barnabas Medical Center and continued his training in Surgical Critical Care Fellowship with special emphasis in burn surgery and treatment at Massachusetts General Hospital. He has led multiple teams of fellow surgeons, anesthesiologists, nurses, and physical therapists on short-term basis to serve the population in need and to further train the physicians in Haiti. Dr. Houng is an active member of many prestigious medical and surgical societies, including the American Burn Association, American College of Surgeon, and Society of Critical Care Medicine. He has also published numerous peer-reviewed journal articles and abstracts. Dr. Houng's research interest is in laser scar revision, artificial and biological skin matrix substitute, and ultrasonic wound debridement.





Robert T. Grant, MD, MSc, FACS

Chief of the Combined Divisions of Plastic Surgery New York Presbyterian Hospital-Weill Cornell Medical Center

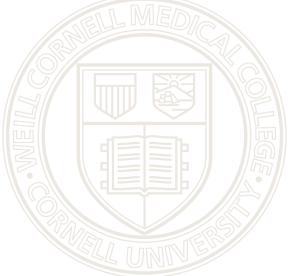
Professor of Surgery

Columbia Presbyterian

Adjunct Assistant Professor of Surgery Weill Cornell Medical College

Robert T. Grant, MD, MSc, FACS is Plastic Surgeon-in -Chief for the combined Divisions of Plastic Surgery at New York-Presbyterian Hospital, the University Hospitals of Columbia and Cornell. He is also an Associate Clinical Professor of Surgery at Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons and an Adjunct Associate Professor of Surgery (Plastic Surgery) at Weill Medical College of Cornell University. A New York native, Dr. Grant received his MD degree from Albany Medical College and completed his General Surgery and Plastic Surgery Residencies at The New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center. Following a Microsurgical fellowship at NYU Medical Center/Bellevue Hospital, Dr. Grant assumed leadership of the Division of Plastic Surgery at North Shore University Hospital/NYU School of Medicine in 1991. He became the Plastic Surgery Residency program director at New York-Presbyterian Hospital and Chief of Plastic Surgery at the Columbia University Medical Center campus of New York-Presbyterian Hospital in 1999. He was named Acting Chief of the combined Divisions of Plastic Surgery at New York-Presbyterian in January 2004. Dr. Grant assumed his current position in April 2006. Board-certified in General Surgery and Plastic Surgery, Dr. Grant is a member of the American Association of Plastic Surgeons, the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery, and the American Society of Plastic Surgeons. He is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons. In 1999 he received his MS degree in Management from NYU. Dr. Grant's clinical interests reflect his expertise in cosmetic surgery and in reconstruction after cancer surgery and trauma. His research work focuses on outcomes studies in Plastic Surgery as well as helping to pioneer tissue-engineered approaches to wound healing. In addition to numerous local and national radio and TV appearances Dr. Grant has been interviewed for multiple magazine and newspaper articles regarding Plastic Surgery topics. He is included in the annual Castle-Connolly Guide of America's Cosmetic Surgeons and Dentists Surgeons' and has been included in N ew York magazine's list of 'Best Doctors in New York'.

Dr. Grant is also the Medical Director of the NYPH Medical Staff Office and Physician Advisor for the Hospital's Care Coordination Department.





James Gallagher, MD

Director of The Burn Center Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery Associate Attending NewYork-Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Medical Center

James Gallagher is an Assistant Professor of Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College and an Assistant Attending Surgeon at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center. A board-certified surgeon, Dr. Gallagher has extensive experience in the treatment of burns, surgical critical care, and international surgery. His areas of special interest include surgical education, international surgical outreach, the burned hand, burn resuscitation, and surgical care of the burn wound.

James Gallagher, M.D. received his B.S. Summa Cum Laude in Biochemistry from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1988 and his M.D. from SUNY Upstate Medical Center, Syracuse, New York in 1992. He completed his internship and residency training in general surgery at Robert Packer Hospital, Sayre, Pennsylvania in June, 1997.

After completing training in General Surgery, he worked in the western fingers small town of Dansville, New York. After four years in private practice in Dansville, the Gallagher family now was two small boys, Mrs. and Dr. Gallagher. They decided to sell their home, and leave Dansville. The Gallaghers moved to Cameroon West Africa. There Dr. Gallagher become the solo surgeon in a rural missionary hospital. The hospital was located at the edge of the Sarah desert in the Extreme Northern Province of Cameroon. The family lived there for over a year. During this time Dr. Gallagher developed his interest in nutrition, and teaching. Cameroon was also his first exposure to patients with burn injury. The care of burn patients is not a usual part of the practice of General Surgery or training in the United States.

Upon returning home to the United States, the Gallaghers moved to Stony Brook on Long Island's North Shore. This allowed them to be near family and Dr. Gallagher became a fellow in surgical Critical care and trauma surgery at the University there. After completing his fellowship the family again moved, this time to Manhattan. Dr. Gallagher became the clinical burn fellow at the William Randolph Hearst Burn Center at New York Hospital.

After completing his burn fellowship, with great conviction and enthusiasm he now was resolved to narrow the focus of his career to the complete care of the burned patient. Dr. Gallagher accepted a position as an attending burn surgeon joining a team of four surgeons and more that 65 research scientists all devoted to the advancement of burn care in Galveston, Texas. Galveston is home to the world's leading academic burn center. The Shriners Burns Hospital for Children and the Blocker Adult Burn Unit at the University of Texas Medical Branch have made an unparalleled contribution to the scientific literature in burn surgery and the metabolism of Critical illness. In this environment, mentored by the chief of staff Dr. David Herndon, Dr. Gallagher thrived. Dr. Herndon is the editor of Total Burn Care text book and a former president of the American Burn Association and The International Society for Burn Injury. Dr. Gallagher was appointed chairmen of performance improvement and infectious disease at the Shriners Hospital. A special part of Dr. Gallagher's time in Galveston was the twice yearly trip to Guadalajara, Mexico. In Guadalajara, Dr. Gallagher was part of a team of American and Mexican burn reconstructive surgeons who provided care to children in need of surgical care to help relieve the long term effects of burn scar on their growing bodies.

On September 13th, 2008 Galveston Island was devastated by a direct hit from Hurricane Ike. Shriners Hospital Burns Hospital for Children was closed for over a year. This disaster forced the Gallaghers and many other families to relocate. From this terrible disaster a home coming was enabled. Dr. Gallagher and his family relocated to New York City and Dr. Gallagher rejoined the team at the Burn Center in New York Hospital. Now again a part of one of our nation's greatest burn centers and in their home state the Gallaghers have settled to complete the raising of their three children.



Sandip Kapur, MD, FACS

Chief of Transplant Surgery Director of Kidney and Pancreas Transplant Programs Attending Surgeon New York Presbyterian Hospital-Weill Cornell Medical Center

Professor of Surgery G. Tom Shires, M.D. Faculty Scholar in Surgery Weill Cornell Medical College

Dr. Sandip Kapur is Chief of Transplant Surgery and Director of Kidney and Pancreas Transplant programs at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center. He is a Professor of Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College and an Attending Surgeon at NY-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center. In February 2010, Dr. Kapur was named the G. Tom Shires, M.D. Faculty Scholar in Surgery in recognition of his outstanding commitment to clinical surgery, research, and education.

An internationally recognized expert in pioneering transplant techniques, Dr. Kapur specializes in adult and pediatric kidney transplantation and whole organ pancreas and islet cell transplantation. Dr. Kapur heads the oldest kidney transplant program in New York State, and one of the highest volume programs in the country. He is a nationally recognized pioneer in developing innovative strategies that allow for successful transplantation in situations where transplants might be contraindicated at most other centers. These include crossmatch and blood type (ABO) incompatible programs, donor exchange for live kidney donation, and facilitating transplantation in older individuals. In February of 2008, Dr. Kapur led the Weill Cornell team that performed one of the nation's first living-donor kidney transplant surgery chains (kidney paired donation). These chains have revolutionized the organ transplant process in the United States and dramatically improve the opportunity for patients in need of kidney transplants to find a compatible living donor. A leader in the area of kidney paired donation, NYP/Cornell is the highest volume transplant program participating in the National Kidney Registry, with nearly 1 out of every 5 living donor kidney transplants facilitated through kidney paired donation.

Dr. Kapur's main areas of research include clinical trials on new immune protocols for kidney transplant patients; early corticosteroid withdrawal after kidney transplantation, prevention of delayed graft function after kidney transplantation, and kidney paired donation research. Dr. Kapur has also worked collaboratively with researchers in the NYP/Cornell core transplant immunobiology laboratory in developing and studying a non-invasive test utilizing molecular signatures to more accurately predict organ rejection before outward signs of rejection.

The innovative strategies described above are offered by just a handful of transplant centers in the United States. The skilled transplant team at NYP/Cornell offers progressive therapeutic options not generally available through other transplantation programs, with lower rejection rates and excellent graft survival rates compared to national standards.

Dr. Kapur earned his undergraduate degree from Fordham. He earned his MD in 1990 from Cornell University Medical College, and completed his internship and residency in general surgery at NY-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center in 1996. He was a research fellow from 1993-1994 in Transplant Immunology at Weill Cornell Medical College, and from 1996-1998, he completed a fellowship in Multi-Organ Transplantation at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute. Dr. Kapur is a member of many professional societies and organizations. He has published over 90 peer-reviewed papers and book chapters, and plays a strong leadership role in surgical education, having served as Director for the Clinical Clerkship in Surgery for the Medical School. He is a Preceptor for medical student surgical clerkships and serves as a Faculty Mentor for surgical house staff. Dr. Kapur also serves as the Surgical Director of the Weill Cornell Physicians Assistant Program.



Jeffrey W. Milsom, MD, FACS. FASCRS

Chief of Colon and Rectal Surgery, Attending Surgeon Executive Director of the Center for Advanced Digestive Care (CADC) Co-Director for the Minimally Invasive New Technologies (MINT) Program.

New York Presbyterian Hospital-Weill Cornell Medical Center

Jerome J. DeCosse MD Professor of Surgery Weill Cornell Medical College

Internationally recognized pioneer in minimally invasive surgery and state-of-the-art laparoscopic technologies for colorectal cancer, Crohns disease and other inflammatory bowel diseases.

Dr. Milsom has unique expertise and unparalleled experience in minimally invasive surgery for complex colorectal diseases. He has performed over 3,000 laparoscopic colon and rectal operations, and has been invited to perform surgeries in over 30 countries. Under Dr. Milsom's leadership, 90% of all procedures in the Colon and Rectal Section at New York Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Medical Center are now performed using high-tech, minimally invasive technologies. He has published four books, 24 book chapters and over 250 papers, presentations and educational videos.

He is a member of 14 prestigious professional societies, and is a Fellow at the American Society of Colon & Rectal Surgeons, the American College of Surgeons and the Society of Surgical Oncology.

After graduating summa cum laude from the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Milsom received his medical degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1979. He fulfilled two years of residency at Roosevelt Hospital in New York and completed his residency at the University of Virginia Medical Center, where he served as Chief Resident. He concluded his advanced training as a Fellow in Colon and Rectal Surgery at the Ferguson Clinic, Grand Rapids, Michigan in 1985, and has been a board certified colon and rectal surgeon since 1986. He joined the faculty of New York Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Medical Center in 2001.

Dr. Milsom was Assistant Professor of Surgery at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan from 1986 through 1989. During this period he was also the Director, Department of Surgical Research at the Ferguson Clinic. From 1990 to 1998, he was the Director of Research, Department of Colorectal Surgery at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation and from 1997 through 1998 he was also the Director of Research, Minimally Invasive Surgery Center at the Cleveland Clinic. In April 1998, Dr. Milsom became a Professor of Surgery at The Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York, Chief of the Division of Colorectal Surgery and Co-Director of Minimally Invasive Surgery.

Reflecting his strong interest in advancing the care of the digestive disease patients, Dr. Milsom currently serves as a co-director of the Center for Advanced Digestive Care and comes to work each day to make progress in developing new approaches to medical care.





Alfons Pomp, MD, FACS, FRCSC

Chief of GI Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery, Vice Chairman, Department of Surgery *New York Presbyterian Hospital-Weill Cornell Medical Center*

Leon C. Hirsch Professor of Surgery Weill Cornell Medical Center

Alfons Pomp, MD, FACS, FRCSC is Chief of GI Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery and the Leon C. Hirsch Professor of Surgery. He is an Attending Surgeon at the NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital-Weill Cornell Medical Center.

Dr. Pomp is an internationally-recognized expert in advanced laparoscopic surgical techniques. His primary clinical interests include minimally invasive bariatric, foregut, hernia and solid organ surgery.

A graduate of McGill University and the University of Sherbooke he completed his surgical training in Montreal and Rhode Island and then practiced in Montreal at the Hotel Dieu Hospital until 1999 when he was recruited to the Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York, In 2003, Dr. Pomp moved to the Weill Cornell Medical College/New York Presbyterian Hospital, and in 2005 he was appointed the Frank Glenn Faculty Scholar in Minimal Access Surgery. In 2008 he was named the Leon C Hirsch Professor of Surgery.

Dr. Pomp has written more than 100 PubMed cited articles and has been a speaker at over 250 national and international meetings. He was funded as a Principal Investigator in NIDDK/NIH Bariatric Surgery Research – LABS (Longitudinal Assessment of Bariatric Surgery). He has served on the executive boards of SAGES and ASMBS. He serves on the Editorial board of SOARD and Obesity Surgery. He is one of Castle Connolly's America's Top Doctors; won the SAGES Clinical Excellence Award in 2013 and was honored as an ASMBS "Thirty Members Who Made a Difference 198**3-2012".**





Benjamin Samstein, M.D.

Chief of Liver Transplantation and Hepatobiliary Surgery Associate Attending Surgeon NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

Associate Professor of Surgery Weill Cornell Medical College

Benjamin Samstein, MD is Chief of Liver Transplantation and Hepatobiliary Surgery in the Department of Surgery at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medicine and Associate Professor of Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College, Cornell University. Dr. Samstein is the Surgical Director of the Living Donor Liver Transplant Program at NYP. Dr. Samstein is a renowned pioneer in minimally invasive liver surgery and state-of-the-art laparoscopic techniques for liver cancer. Dr. Samstein is a Castle Connolly Top Doctor.

Dr. Samstein heads up the multidisciplinary liver transplantation and hepatobiliary surgery team at NYP/Weill Cornell. His specialties include the most advanced laparoscopic procedures for liver cancer, benign liver tumors and hepatobiliary pancreatic disease. He has been invited to talk about minimally invasive liver surgery throughout the world. He is a member of many surgical societies including a founding member of the International Laparoscopic Liver Society (ILLS), American Society of Transplant Surgery, American Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association (AHPBA). He is the Chair of the Medical Advisory Board of LiveOnNY and served as the Regional representation to the Liver and Intestine Committee of UNOS from 2014 to 2016. Dr. Samstein is well-published in the field, authoring more than 40 peer-reviewed articles in prestigious medical and surgical journals, books and book chapters.

Other areas of clinical expertise include hepatic adenoma, hepatic hemangioma, cholangiocarcinoma, colorectal metastasis, live donor nephrectomy, laparoscopic living donor nephrectomy, and pediatric liver and organ transplant.

Dr. Samstein received his undergraduate degree from Cornell University in 1992 and earned his MD at the State University of New York at Stonybrook in 1997. He did his internship and residency in general surgery at NYP/Columbia, and completed a research fellowship at the Mayo Clinic in 2001. He completed a fellowship in ASTS Multi-organ transplant at NYP/Columbia in 2006. He was Assistant Professor of Surgery at Columbia University Medical Center from 2006 to 2015. He served as Program Director of the transplant surgery fellowship at Columbia University from 2007 to 2015. He is a reviewer for American Journal of Transplantation, Transplantation, Liver Transplantation, Pediatric Transplantation, Clinical Transplantation among other journals





Darren B. Schneider, M.D.

Associate Professor of Surgery (Vascular Surgery) Weill Cornell Medical College

Attending Surgeon New York-Presbyterian Hospital

Chief, Vascular and Endovascular Surgery *Weill Cornell Medical College*

Program Director, Vascular Surgery *NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital*

Darren B. Schneider, MD is Chief of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College, and Director of the Center for Vascular and Endovascular Surgery at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center. He is a board-certified in both Surgery and Vascular Surgery and a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Schneider is an internationally recognized expert in advanced minimally invasive treatment for vascular disease. He is a pioneer in the development and application of innovative endovascular techniques for the treatment of carotid disease, aortic aneurysms, and peripheral artery disease. His clinical research is focused on the design and development of endovascular devices for the treatment of patients with these conditions, and he is an investigator in numerous national and international clinical trials. Currently he is the lead-investigator of a single-center IDE study at the NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center evaluating the use of branched and fenestrated aortic stent grafts to treat thoracoabdominal aortic aneurysms. He is also the national principal investigator of a multicenter study of endovascular iliac artery aneurysm repair using branched stent grafts.

Dr. Schneider earned his medical degree from the University of California, San Diego, and completed his residency at University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Medical Center. His fellowships in interventional radiology and vascular surgery were completed at UCSF Medical Center and he completed a post-doctoral research fellowship at the Gladstone Institutes of Cardiovascular Disease. He is Associate Professor and Chief of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College, Program Director in Vascular Surgery at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, and Co-Executive Director of the Vascular Service Line at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital.

Dr. Schneider was an Associate Professor of Surgery and an Associate Professor of Radiology at the University of California, San Francisco prior to coming to NYP/Weill Cornell as Chief of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery.





Rache M. Simmons, M.D. Chief of Breast Surgery

Anne K. and Edwin C. Weiskopf Professor of Surgical Oncology Weill Cornell Medical College

Professor of Surgery Weill Cornell Medical College

Attending Surgeon NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

Dr. Rache M. Simmons is Chief of Breast Surgery and a nationally and internationally renowned breast cancer surgeon at New York Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center who is recognized for her innovations and contributions in the field of minimally invasive breast cancer surgery. She also serves in the leadership position of Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion at Weill Cornell Medical College with a particular interest in the issues of women medical students, residents and faculty.

Dr. Simmons is a graduate of Duke University and Duke University Medical School. After her surgical training she did a Breast Oncology Fellowship at NewYork- Presbyterian Hospital where she then was invited to join the surgical faculty. She has been on the surgical faculty since that time and is a Professor of Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College; the Anne K. and Edwin C. Weiskopf Professor of Surgical Oncology and an Attending Surgeon at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center.





Nitsana A. Spigland, MD, FACS

Chief of Pediatric Surgery New York Presbyterian Hospital-Weill Cornell Medical Center

Professor of Clinical Surgery *Weill Cornell Medical College*

Dr. Spigland is currently the Professor of Clinical Surgery and the Chief of the Division of Pediatric Surgery and Chief of Pediatric Trauma at the Weill Cornell Medical Center and the NewYork Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Campus. She has maintained that position since July 2006.

Dr. Spigland's areas of clinical expertise include: Neonatal congenital malformations, pediatric thoracic surgery and pediatric surgical oncology. She has special expertise in the management of patients with chronic and ano-rectal malformations which has culminated in our division being recognized as a center of excellence for these disorders. This has generated multiple referrals to our division of patients with complex ano-rectal malformations, persistent cloacas and re-do cloacas from all over the world.

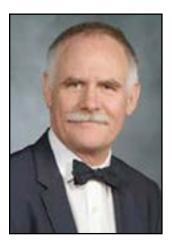
Dr. Spigland is also an active participant in the Children's Oncology Group and is on staff at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. In collaboration with her colleagues at Memorial Sloan Kettering, they have a very large referral base for children with solid tumors.

Dr. Spigland has received national recognition as follows: Named "Best Doctors" in New York City for 2016 in New York Magazine, was selected as a "New York Superdoctor" in 2015 (an honor awarded to 5% of physicians). She was named as one of America's top doctors 2016 and America's top doctors for Cancer by Castle and Connolly in 2015. She was cited as one of America's Top Doctors by US News and World report, which recognizes the top 1% of all physicians in the country.

In her role as Chief of Pediatric Surgery Dr. Spigland has built up the division to include 4 busy faculty members. The division performs the full spectrum of pediatric surgical procedures including an endosurgery program which pioneered advanced laparoscopic and thoracoscopic techniques. They have established a busy perinatal program where we provide multidisciplinary antenatal counseling for pregnant woman with fetal anomalies. Our division is a major referral center for complex congenital malformations, rare gastrointestinal disorders, pediatric surgical oncology, thoracic surgery and trauma.



WHO'S WHO IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY



Robert J. Winchell, MD

Chief, Division of Trauma, Burns, Critical, and Acute Care Department of Surgery, Weill Cornell Medicine

Director, Trauma Center New York-Presbyterian Weill Cornell Medical Center

Assistant Professor of Surgery (Interim) Weill Cornell Medicine

Attending Surgeon

New York-Presbyterian Weill Cornell Medical Center

Robert J. Winchell, MD, FACS, received his undergraduate degree from the California Institute of Technology, his MD from Yale University, and did his internship, General Surgery residency, and Trauma and Critical Care Fellowship at the University of California, San Diego, where he remained on the faculty as Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery in the Division of Trauma through 1999. After leaving the University of California, Dr. Winchell established, developed and subsequently directed the Tacoma Trauma Center in Tacoma, Washington, which continues to operate successfully as a joint venture between two previously competing hospitals. In 2001, Dr. Winchell accepted a post at the Maine Medical Center, as Associate Professor of Surgery with the University of Vermont School of Medicine, and became Head of the Division of Trauma and Burn Surgery in 2004. He remained in that position for 10 years, also as Associate Professor of Surgery at the Tufts University School of Medicine. Under his direction, Maine Medical Center became a verified Level I trauma center in 2007. After leaving Maine, Dr. Winchell served as Chief of Trauma and Visiting Professor of Surgery at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and Chief of Trauma at Memorial Hermann -Texas Medical Center. In July 2015, Dr. Winchell joined the faculty in the Department of Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College as Chief of Trauma, Burns, Critical and Acute Care and Director of the Trauma Center at New York-Presbyterian Weill Cornell Medical Center.

Dr. Winchell is a leading authority in the development and evolution of trauma systems. He has been involved in trauma center and trauma systems design and operation in a wide variety of settings, covering the spectrum of system development, for his entire career. He was instrumentally involved in leadership roles with both the day-to-day operations and ongoing development of the seminal San Diego County trauma system for over ten years and served as chair of the San Diego and Imperial County Committee on Trauma. He participated in the leadership, operation and ongoing development of the Washington state trauma system, serving on the state advisory board, and as chair of the Southwest EMS region. During Dr. Winchell's tenure in Maine, he helped develop the Maine state system, serving as a member of the state advisory board and as a chairman of the Maine State Committee on Trauma. In Texas, he served on the Trauma Systems subcommittee of the Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council. Dr. Winchell is Chair of the Trauma Systems Evaluation and Planning Committee of the American College of Surgeons and also serves as a senior site reviewer for the trauma center verification program of the College. He is also a leader in international trauma systems development, and one of the founders and representative from the American College of Surgeons to the World Health Organization's Global Alliance for the Care of the Injured.

Dr. Winchell's academic foundation is as scientist and engineer, starting as a research associate at the Jet Propulsion Lab at Caltech, through a small startup engineering firm in Chicago, and work in the early development of magnetic resonance imaging at Yale. His current research interests involve signal analysis in the ICU setting, spectral analysis of heart rate variability, and computer assisted decision making. Dr. Winchell is also interested in the use of large-scale administrative data to look at injury epidemiology and trauma system function, as well as focused clinical investigations, both single and multi-institutional.

In parallel to his clinical and research work, Dr. Winchell has had the honor to serve the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma for almost 20 years, first as a State Chair for San Diego County and for Maine, and currently as a member and part of the Executive Committee. His leadership and forethought have been instrumental to the development of the Trauma Systems consultation program of the COT since 2006, and he currently serves as Chair of the Trauma Systems Evaluation and Planning Committee. In that role, he has conducted expert consultation visits in 20 states and regions, serving as team leader for 17 of these, and has also participated in trauma systems work internationally.

Dr. Winchell has dedicated almost two decades to the advancement care of the injured as a part of national public health policy, and the implementation of state and regional trauma systems based upon and supported by that policy.

Dr. Winchell is Board certified in General Surgery, with added qualifications in Surgical Critical Care. He is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons as well as a member of the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma, the Association for Academic Surgery, the Southwest Surgical Congress, the Society of Critical Care Medicine and the New England Surgical Society. Dr. Winchell is author of more than 50 scientific papers and book chapters, and has given over 100 regional, national and international presentations. He is an ad hoc reviewer for the Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery, the Archives of Surgery and the World Journal of Surgery.

Research & Clinical Trials

Clinical Trials

Weill Cornell Medical College's mission is to support, advance, and promote clinical and translational research enterprises. Faculty members in the Divisions of the Department of Surgery are engaged in robust research programs, many of which include cutting-edge clinical trials.

Basic Research

Physicians and scientists of Weill Cornell Medical College are engaged in cutting-edge research in such areas as stem cells, genetics and gene therapy, diabetes, geriatrics, neuroscience, structural biology, cardiovascular medicine, AIDS, obesity, and cancer. Our faculty members continue to delve ever deeper into the molecular basis of disease in an effort to unlock the mysteries behind the human body and the malfunctions that result in serious medical disorders. Weill Cornell is the birthplace of many medical advances including the development of the Pap test for cervical cancer, the synthesis of penicillin, the first successful embryo-biopsy pregnancy and birth in the US, the development of a new bowel sparing procedure for advanced Crohn's disease, and the world's first clinical trials for gene therapy for Parkinson's disease.

The mission of the Department of Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College is threefold: to provide the highest quality, state-of-the-art, personalized patient care; to train tomorrow's surgeons; and to conduct important research to advance he field of medical science and develop new procedures and techniques. The superior clinical services offered by the department's faculty members are enhanced by an extensive and innovative research program. Physicians and faculty members are actively involved in a broad range of basic, translational and clinical research.

Engendering Collaborative Research with Engineers and Basic Scientists

Weill Cornell Surgery faculty and Cornell University biomedical engineers have continued to meet for scientific retreats for the expressed purpose of encouraging surgeons and biomedical engineers to develop and pursue a wide array of collaborative research projects. These types of bi-campus collaborative research efforts have been identified as a major priority for Cornell by President Skorton and Dean Gotto. The Morgan family's generous gift to the Department of Bioengineering, along with support from the Department of Surgery's friends and grateful patients, has been used as seed money for collaborative research projects proposed by the retreat's participants. Our interactions with Cornell University researchers has great potential for promoting novel imaging modalities as well as tissue engineering strategies. We look forward to continuing and enhancing these cross-campus collaborations.

Over the past three years, a cadre of basic science researchers have joined Surgeons in building collaborative and translational research programs here in the Department of Surgery. We envision these laboratories as providing an outstanding environment for Surgery Residents on the research track to carry out cutting-edge mentored research in stem cell biology, regenerative medicine, and cancer biology among other fields of relevance to our clinical mission.

Active basic science research programs in the Department of Surgery include:

Researcher Biosketches



Todd Evans, Ph.D Professor of Surgery and Cell & Developmental Biology Vice Chair for Research

Organogenesis and Regeneration.

The overall goal of research in the Evans Laboratory is to understand the molecular regulation of normal

organ development during embryogenesis, and thereby reveal the underlying genetic programs that, when deregulated, cause developmental defects and organ-based disease throughout life. We focus primarily on hematopoietic and cardiovascular programs, but also other organ systems including liver, gut, and pancreas. Our goal is to use a developmental biology perspective to develop genetic, pharmacological, or cellular therapies to impact diseases, such as heart failure, liver disease, and cancer. Our experimental focus is on the key extrinsic developmental signaling pathways (TGF-beta, Wnt, etc.) and the intrinsic gene expression machinery that controls stem cell commitment, cell differentiation, and organ morphology (GATA, TBOX, bHLH transcription factors, translational control, epigenetics). We use two primary experimental systems: embryonic stem cell models that are optimal for studying stem and progenitor cell biology, and zebrafish, which provides an exceptional animal model for studying organ development and morphogenesis. Here at Weill Cornell, in the Department of Surgery, we are helping to establish a triad of translational synergy, melding

Research & Clinical Trials

strong programs in basic research, clinical research, and tissue engineering to develop targeted strategies for regenerative therapies. Toward this goal, we have recently embarked on several new projects related to stem cell aging and chemical biology.



Thomas J. Fahey, III, MD

Chief of Endocrine Surgery Professor of Surgery

Endocrine Oncology Lab

Thomas J. Fahey, III, MD is the chief of endocrine surgery and Professor of Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College. He is an Attending Surgeon at New York Presbyterian-Weill Cornell

Medical Center.

His clinical and research interests lie in the field of endocrine (thyroid, parathyroid, adrenal and pancreas) and minimally invasive surgery.

His articles are widely published in peer-reviewed journals, and he has authored many book chapters. Dr. Fahey belongs to many professional associations, including the American College of Surgeons, Society of University Surgeons, American Association of Endocrine Surgeons and the American Thyroid Association.

He serves on the editorial board of the Journal of Oncology, the Journal of Thyroid Research and the Journal of Surgical Radiology. He is the Associate Editor for Endocrine Surgery for the Year Book of Surgery, and an ad hoc reviewer for Cancer, Cancer Research, Clinical Cancer Research, International Journal of Cancer, Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism, Journal of Clinical Oncology, Surgery, Thyroid and the Annals of Surgery.

The aims of the Endocrine Oncology Lab are twofold: To improve the pre-operative diagnosis of endocrine tumors and identify novel therapeutic targets for endocrine cancers.

The group uses a translational approach to understand endocrine pathology. They focus on:

- Thyroid tumors
- Neuroendocrine tumors of the stomach, pancreas and gastrointestinal tract
- Adrenal tumors
- Parathyroid tumors

The laboratory is located in the Weill Cornell Medical College and collaborates with several other groups at the institution and worldwide. They have accrued a vast collection of endocrine tumors and cell lines. The laboratory utilizes advanced technology that allows for a comprehensive approach to endocrine tumor biology. In addition, they have maintained an extensive database that permits correlative studies of molecular markers and clinical parameters.

Marco Seandel, MD, PhD

Asst. Professor of Surgery and Medicine

Probing the Microenvironment of Stem Cells and Tumor Cells.

We employ models of adult stem cell plasticity, including the spermatogonial stem cells (SSCs) of the testis, to study the role that the microenvironment plays in determining whether stem cells will continue to self-renew or otherwise differentiate in a lineage-specific manner. SSCs represent an extreme example of cellular plasticity due to their unique ability, as we have shown, to acquire pluripotency in vitro without the addition of exogenous genes. The mechanisms of this "switch" in cell state, and, in particular, the positive and negative influences of the microenvironment are under investigation. We have recently identified a novel G protein coupled receptor (GPR125) which has proven useful as a marker of undifferentiated spermatogonia in both mouse and humans. The function of GPR125 is also being scrutinized using GPR125deficient mice and other novel molecular tools. The second major line of inquiry addresses the specific role of the vascular endothelium, as a key component of the microenvironment (or niche) in vivo, in maintenance of adult stem cells and cancer cells. We recently demonstrated that human endothelial cells support tumor cell survival and clonagenic growth. These studies were enabled by the discovery of the adenoviral E4ORF1 gene which confers a pro-survival but non-transformed status upon primary endothelial cells which can then be studied in the absence of serum or most exogenous growth factors. Genetic and chemical screens are being employed to identify extrinsic factors that abrogate lineage commitment of stem cells or block the supportive effects of vascular endothelium on the tumor.

Research & Clinical Trials

Yariv Houvras, MD, PhD

Asst. Professor of Surgery and Medicine

Genetics and Epigenetics of Cancer Progression

Our laboratory is interested in studying the genetic and epigenetic basis of human cancer. We use zebrafish as a model organism to engineer specific malignancies and test the interactions of genes and pathways. We have developed a genetic system in which candidate genes can be screened for their ability to accelerate BRAF-V600E dependent melanoma in zebrafish. Using this model of melanoma we discovered that SETDB1 and SUV39H1 accelerate the onset of melanoma in cooperation with BRAF-V600E. We are interested in understanding the epigenetic effects of SETDB1 overexpression in melanocytes and other cell types. These studies may help us understand the mechanism that SETDB1 acts through and identify epigenetic biomarkers which may have prognostic value in patients.

Shuibing Chen, PhD

Asst. Professor of Surgery and Chemical Biology

Pluripotent cells for directed differentiation-based cellular therapies and disease modeling.

The major research interest in the Chen Laboratory is to manipulate stem cell fate using chemical and biological approaches and to generate functional tissues and organs that can be used for translational research. Our current main focus is on human pluripotent stem cells (PSCs), including human embryonic stem cells (hESCs) and induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs). We combine our knowledge of stem cell biology, developmental biology, chemical biology, medicine chemistry and tissue engineering to derive functional cells, tissues and organs from human pluripotent stem cells. Our long-term goal is to apply patient specific PSC-derived tissues or organs for replacement therapy and build up "disease in a dish" platforms for drug discovery. Our major interests include human pancreatic beta cells, cardiomyocytes and conduction system cells, as well as other clinically relevant cell types.

Jason Spector, MD

Asst. Professor of Surgery

Bioregenerative Medicine and Surgery

The Laboratory for Bioregenerative Medicine & Surgery is the research arm of the Weill Cornell Medical College's Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery. Our aim is to advance various aspects of tissue engineering from the bench to the bedside. Current research projects are focused on tissue engineering for wound healing, overcoming ischemia/ reperfusion injury, hydrogel scaffolds for dermal replacement, and ultrasound as a wound healing modality.

Additional active basic and translational research programs are headed by Drs. Thomas Fahey III, Rasa Zarnegar, and Jeffery Milsom.

CAREER PATHS OF PROGRAM GRADUATES



The majority of the program's general surgery graduates continue their training in a specialized area of surgery. Chief Resident's routinely secure prestigious fellowship positions in any one of a number of academic programs across the country. Fellowship positions obtained by Chief Residents graduating in the recent past are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

2017 Graduates

Anna Aronova, M.D. Endocrine Surgery Fellowship Mount Sinai (NYC)

Filippo Filicori, M.D. Advanced GIMIS Fellowship Portland Medical Center

Brendan Finnerty, M.D. Endocrine Surgery Fellowship NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center

> **Jamie Green, M.D.** Surgical Oncology Fellowship Cedars-Sinai (LA)

Robert McMillan, M.D. Transplantation Fellowship UCLA

Michael Morton, M.D. Colorectal Surgery Fellowship Brigham & Women's Hospital

Jennifer Murphy, M.D. Pediatric Surgery Fellowship Johns Hopkins Medicine

Patrick Seastedt, M.D. General Surgeon United States Air Force

2016 Graduates

Christopher James Agrusa, M.D. Vascular Fellowship at NewYork-Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Medical Center

Hasan Ali Aldailami, M.D. Vascular Fellowship at NewYork-Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Medical Center

> Daniel Robert Fish, M.D., M.S. Colon and Rectal Fellowship at The Cleveland Clinic

Kareem Ibrahim, M.D. Thoracic Surgery Residency Program at the Texas Heart Institute/Baylor College of Medicine

David A. Kleiman, M.D., M.S.c. Colon & Rectal Fellowship at NewYork-Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Medical Center

> **Gregory Gordon Salzler, M.D.** Vascular Fellowship at University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA

LIVING IN NEW YORK CITY



Life in New York City

Weill Medical College of Cornell University is located in an attractive residential area on the upper east side of New York City, adjacent to the East River. The center is ideally situated to take advantage of New York's cultural treasures. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Museum of Modern Art, the Frick, Whitney, and Guggenheim Museums along with several renowned private art galleries all are within walking distance. Many other cultural attractions including Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, The American Museum of Natural History, the great playhouses of Broadway, and world famous jazz clubs are just a short bus ride away.

Madison Square Garden, Yankee Stadium, Giants Stadium, and Shea Stadium are easily accessible. Residents are able to enjoy the haven that Central Park provides from the City's pavements since it is located just blocks from the Medical Center. Numerous restaurants and shops of every kind are also just blocks away. Perhaps most appealing is the great diversity represented in New York's many ethnic neighborhoods, each offering their own unique experiences.

Housing

NewYork Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Medical Center offers all residents the option to reside in hospital-owned apartments located on York Avenue directly across the street from the hospital. The modern luxury apartments are offered at a reduced rate that is considered superior to that offered by other medical centers in New York City.

East Campus

NewYork-Presbyterian owns and leases 1,400+ residential apartments located in close proximity to the East Campus on the Upper East Side of Manhattan (primarily a residential neighborhood). Our buildings are within walking distance of Central Park and the East River Promenade, and to all types of stores and restaurants in the neighborhood. We are also convenient to mass transportation (the Lexington Ave. subway line, uptown, downtown and crosstown buses). For car travel, the FDR Drive offers easy accessibility to and from the East Campus to the West Campus and out of the city. 9 additional Pre-War properties are available from 70th Street to 75th Street and York Avenue.

LIVING IN NEW YORK CITY

Benefits and Malpractice Insurance

At NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital (NYP), we offer a competitive benefit package to our employees. Core benefit include medical, dental, basic group life insurance, short and long-term disability, accidental death and dismemberment coverage and supplemental life products. NYP makes significant contributions to employee's medical and dental benefits.

Each graduate staff is provided malpractice insurance free of charge at each through MCIC Vermont, Inc. (MCIC), an insurance company jointly owned by Columbia University, Cornell University, and NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, as well as University of Rochester, Johns Hopkins University and Yale University. The insurance program has been in existence for over 25 years.

In addition, \$100,000.00 in life insurance is provided and four weeks of paid vacation per year.

Stipends

The stipends for interns and residents at NewYork Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Medical Center are consistent with those offered by other medical centers in the New York City area. The stipends undergo yearly adjustments to keep pace with increases in the cost of living.

2017-2018 Salary Scale for General Surgery

Graduate Staff Level 1 \$69,271 Graduate Staff Level 2 \$72,625 Graduate Staff Level 3 \$78,578 Graduate Staff Level 4 \$80,786 Graduate Staff Level 5 \$83,530 Graduate Staff Level 6 \$85,031 Graduate Staff Level 7 \$87,590

The NYP benefit plans include features and services such as: vision care, Rx prescription coverage, IVF program, term life insurance iliving benefitî, portable life insurance products at group rates, a 24/7 Nurse Line, Disease Management programs and financial planning services to beneficiaries of group life insurance.

There is also an array of voluntary benefits including flexible spending accounts for transportation, adoption, health and dependent care, universal and dependent life insurance, critical illness plans for employees and dependents, long-term care for employees and family members, financial planning, legal services, ASPCA pet insurance, identity protection and college savings.

And, with a focus on preparing employees for a secure financial future, NYP sponsors the NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital Retirement Plan, a competitive 100% Hospitalpaid portable pension. In addition, employees can participate in a TSA 403(b) savings plan and have access to retirement planning services.

MEET OUR SURGICAL EDUCATION STAFF



L-R: Joval Wilson – General Surgery Residency Coordinator, Aleksandrs Karnick - Plastic Surgery Residency and Fellowship Program Coordinator, Iskander Bagautdinov - Senior Audio Visual Specialist for S.A.I.L., David Fehling, MA - Surgical Education Administrator, Faith Ebel, MPH, RD - Research Program Coordinator, Aaron Powell - OMS/Dentistry Administrator, Vanessa Mejia- Medical Student Clerkship Coordinator

The administrative staff at Weill Cornell Medical Center provides support for the residencies, fellowships, and medical students rotating in the department of surgery. The staff ensures that programs comply with requirements mandated by the ACGME, LCME, and other governing bodies. Additionally, the administrative support staff is available to assist residents and fellows regarding questions about institutional and departmental policies and credentialing issues, as well as provide information regarding support services for a variety of challenges that may arise.

MEET OUR SURGICAL EDUCATION STAFF



Joval Wilson

General Surgery Residency Coordinator

Joval Wilson is currently the General Surgery Program Coordinator at New York Presbyterian Hospital- Weill Cornell Medicine. He brings years of Graduate Medical Education experience and has a keen interest in Resident well-being. Joval is currently completing his Masters in Public Administration and consistently applies his fundamental knowledge of leadership and understanding of Graduate Medical Education to help create a unique atmosphere for Residents. Joval's focus goes beyond supporting the General Surgery program as he a major contributor to our continued program improvement process.



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