Greetings from the Chairman

It is with great pleasure that I announce the first edition of a newsletter from The Department of Surgery in the Einstein Healthcare Network. This first edition has been timed to coincide with the graduation for our residents in the academic year 2015-2016. Our intent is to share with you the accomplishments of the department during the academic year. The department is proud of the significant additions to the faculty, academic productivity, resident accomplishments, and overall performance of our department. It is with some sadness that, in this edition, we also bring attention to the retirement of two of the greatest faculty members this department has ever had: Dr. Robert Somers and Dr. Robert Solit. Their accomplishments both in the department and for the Einstein Healthcare Network are too numerous to recount, but, their contributions to the department on a day-to-day basis will be sorely missed. Please take time to look through this inaugural edition and we look forward to your continued support of the Department of Surgery.
Dr. Robert G. Somers retired from Einstein December 31, 2015. Beloved by several generations of Einstein surgeons and trainees, he has been a consummate clinician, outstanding educator, and Chairman and Professor of the Department of Surgery. Dr. Somers graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1958, and then completed his general surgery training here at Einstein. He finished a surgical oncology fellowship at Memorial/Sloan-Kettering, before returning to Einstein as an attending surgeon and faculty member. He has been trusted and admired by his patients and colleagues, and has been a stalwart champion and philanthropic supporter of the Department and the Network.

Dr. Robert W. Solit retires from Einstein June 30, 2016. Dr. Solit earned his MD at Jefferson Medical College in 1961, and completed his general surgery residency at Jefferson University Hospital. He has served as attending surgeon and Chairman and Clinical Professor of Vascular and Thoracic Surgery here at Einstein, leading growth and expansion of both services and establishing the Center for Wound Healing. He has welcomed new surgeons and guided them in the establishment of their practices and surgical careers. He retires with the respect and gratitude of his colleagues, patients, residents, and students throughout Einstein.
Dr. Kara Friend joined the department in 2015 in the Section of Breast Surgery. A graduate of the College of William and Mary, she went on to earn a Master of Science and her MD from Eastern Virginia Medical School (EVMS). She continued at EVMS for her categorical general surgical training, finishing in 2014. She did a Critical Care fellowship during her residency, also at EVMS, under the mentorship of Dr. L.D. Britt. After residency, she completed a Breast Fellowship at the University of Michigan, where she developed an interest in neoadjuvant staging and chemotherapy for breast cancer. Her research focus also includes early onset breast cancer (age under 40). Dr. Friend has already developed a busy practice. She has taken a keen interest in surgical education, and will be assuming the role of Associate Program Director for the training program in July. Her specific portfolio will be to further enhance the simulation curriculum for residents. In her spare time she tries to stay active in community theatre as an actress and costume designer. She also has a strong interest in martial arts and is continuing her studies in jiu jitsu and mixed martial arts.

Dr. Renée Tholey will be joining the Department as a Bariatric and Minimally Invasive Surgeon, in August. A native of Montgomery County, she completed her undergraduate work at Pennsylvania State University. She then went on to earn her MD at Jefferson Medical College. Thereafter, she completed a categorical general surgical residency at Jefferson, under the mentorship of Dr. Charles Yeo. During her residency, she spent one year in Jefferson's tumor biology laboratory. She has been in New York City for the last year, completing an Advanced GI & Minimally Invasive Surgery Fellowship at New York Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center. She is a recipient of numerous teaching awards at Jefferson, and has been inducted into the Gold Foundation for Humanism and Excellence. Her particular clinical interests include robotic surgery and foregut/bariatric surgery.

Dr. Catherine Schermer joined the department this academic year, and has developed a thriving practice at Einstein Montgomery. After earning her BA from Smith College, she completed a post-baccalaureate program at Columbia University. She then earned her MD from Temple University School of Medicine in 2004. She completed her internship at Pennsylvania Hospital and residency at Lankenau Hospital. She practiced in Delaware County for five years, prior to joining Einstein. She lives in Maple Glen with her husband Billy and their two toddlers, Max (3 years) and Madyson (17 months).

Dr. Nadia Awad is rejoining the department in August. A graduate of the Johns Hopkins University, where she majored in Chemical Engineering, she earned her MD from the University of Rochester. She completed her categorical surgical residency here at Einstein, finishing as administrative chief resident in 2014. For the last two years, she has been at Cooper University Hospital, completing a vascular surgery fellowship. She is already remarkably well-published in the field of vascular surgery, and will be bringing her particular interest and expertise in medical finance and aortic surgery when she joins the Division of Vascular Surgery.
# Faculty in the Department of Surgery

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<td><strong>Hank Simms, MD, Chairman</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Ramsey Dallal, MD, Vice Chairman</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Bariatric Surgery</strong></td>
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<td>Lori Jardines, MD</td>
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<td>Jennifer Simmons, MD</td>
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<td>Stalin Campos, MD</td>
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<td>Hitesh Kaul, MD</td>
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<td>Kamran Khanmoradi, MD</td>
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<td>Amit Joshi, MD</td>
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<td>Catherine Schermer, MD</td>
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<td>Robert Schiowitz, MD</td>
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<td>Paul Steerman, MD</td>
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<td>Daniel Westawski, MD</td>
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<td>Evan Deutsch, MD</td>
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<td>Robert Solit, MD</td>
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<td>Stephan Whitenack, MD</td>
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<td>Jay Strain, MD</td>
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<td>Salil Shah, MD</td>
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<td>Alexandra Tuluca, MD</td>
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<td><strong>Neurosurgery</strong></td>
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<td>Mark Kotapka, MD (Chair)</td>
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<td>Patrick Cooper, MD</td>
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<td><strong>ENT</strong></td>
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<td>Seth Zwillenberg, MD (Chair)</td>
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<td>Ray Lesser, MD</td>
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# Department of Surgery Training Program

Amit Joshi, MD, Program Director  
Nyali Taylor, MD, Associate Program Director  
Pak Leung, MD, Clerkship Director  
Lauren Hook, BA, Program Administrator  
Luanne Force, MD, Administrative Chief Resident

## PGY-5
- Luanne Force, MD  
- Farah Karipineni, MD

## PGY-4
- Talitha Brown, MD  
- Nick Cetrulo, MD  
- Kasia Wolanin, MD

## PGY-3
- Alisan Fathalizadeh, MD  
- Aimal Khan, MD  
- Kevin Nguyen, MD

## Research Resident
- Cinthya Yabar, MD

## PGY-2
- Jordan Henderson, MD  
- Austin Goetz, MD  
- Thaer Obaid, MD  
- Eric Veilleux, MD

## Preliminary PGY-1
- Teena Dhir, MD  
- Michelle Nguyen, MD  
- Eric Weiss, MD

## Preliminary PGY-2
- Efrain Aguilar Murillo, MD  
- Nkem Nweze, MD  
- Yangseon Park, MD  
- Stephen Parker, MD  
- Simran Randhawa, MD  
- Samudra Sanyal, MD

## Transplant Fellow
- Ossama Reslan, MD
Amy Goldberg, MD
Chair, Department of Surgery
Professor, Temple University School of Medicine
“Surgery Residents Have Never Been Better”

Nathaniel Evans, MD
Director, Minimally Invasive Thoracic Surgery Program
Assistant Professor, Jefferson Medical College
“Thoracic Surgery Update”

Jeffrey Farma, MD
Director, Cutaneous Malignancy Program
Associate Professor, Department of Surgical Oncology
Fox Chase Cancer Center / Temple University School of Medicine
“Evolution in the Treatment of Melanoma”

Daniel Dempsey, MD
Chief, Division of Gastrointestinal Surgery
Professor, University of Pennsylvania
“Minimally Invasive Esophageal Surgery”

Paige Porrett, MD
Division of Transplantation
Assistant Professor of Surgery, University of Pennsylvania
“Pregnancy Allosensitization and the Transplant Candidate: Beyond the B cell”

Mindy Statter, MD
Division of Pediatric Surgery
Associate Professor & Program Director
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
“Cold Steel for You, Chief – Informed Consent and the Surgeon”
Dr. Luanne Force completes her general surgical residency this month, having served this year as Administrative Chief Resident. She earned her BA and MD from Cornell University, before joining us in 2010. She has logged over 1350 cases, placing her in the 99th percentile nationally among surgical residents. She achieved the 98th percentile on her In-Training examination. She has delivered several oral abstracts at national meetings and co-authored two book chapters. She will be moving to Florida to complete a prestigious two-year fellowship in Colorectal Surgery at the Cleveland Clinic, Florida.

Dr. Farah Karipineni earned her BA from the University of California, Berkeley. After completing an MPH from the University of Southern California, she went on to medical school at the University of California, Irvine, before joining us at Einstein in 2011. Here, she has logged over 1350 cases, accumulated over 20 peer-reviewed abstracts, 7 publications, and co-authored 2 book chapters. She will be pursuing a fellowship in Endocrine Surgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, MD.
2015-2016 Scholarly Accomplishments

Peer-reviewed Manuscripts

**Choudry R, Deutsch E, Durinka J, Dhir T**: Stent-apposition salvage of an anterior tibial artery after inadvertent angioplasty balloon retention during CTO revascularization. In Print *Eur J Vasc Endovasc Surg*


Peer-reviewed Grants

**Dr. Greenberg:** Screening for Anal Dysplasia in Transplant Recipients (Einstein Society). (Residents Co-PIs: Drs. Force & Cetrulo)

**Dr. Joshi:** Grip Strength and Frailty in Elderly Trauma Patients (Einstein Society)

**Dr. Jablon:** (Komen Foundation)

**Dr. Weiss:** Does C1-Esterase Inhibitor Mitigate Deleterious Effects of TBI in the Brain? (Einstein Society) (Faculty Mentor: Dr. Leung)

**Dr. M. Nguyen:** Validation of a Murine Frailty Model for Surgery (Einstein Society) (Faculty Mentor: Dr. Joshi)

Peer-reviewed Oral Presentations


**Joshi ART, Trickey AW, Jarman BT, Kallies MS, Dort JM, Sidwell RA:** Independent academic medical center faculty—A repository of general surgical expertise. Annual Meeting of the Association of Program Directors in Surgery (APDS), Boston, 2016.


Peer-reviewed Abstracts


Goetz AB, Pang JH, Joshi ART: A Rare Infectious Cause of Postoperative Anemia. Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Surgical Congress, Atlanta, 2016.


Fathalizadeh A, Cetrulo L: Traumatic Abdominal Wall Hernia: A case study of blunt motorcycle trauma Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES), Boston, 2016


Wolanin K: Abdominal Gunshot Wounds, Philadelphia Annual Day of Trauma


Kaplan M: Grand Rounds, Harlem Hospital

Joshi ART: Grand Rounds, Lankenau Medical Center

Force L, Cetrulo LN: Surgical Jeopardy, American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress, Chicago, 2015
Faculty at National Meetings

Kaplan M: USC Trauma, Emergency Surgery, and Critical Care Symposium, Los Angeles, CA
Kaplan M: Medical Disaster Response, Las Vegas, NV
Joshi ART: New Program Directors’ Workshop, APDS, Boston, MA

Book Chapters


Leadership, National/Regional Committees

Dr. Choudry: Secretary, Delaware Valley Vascular Society
Dr. Dallal: Chair, Standards Subcommittee, Committee for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery, ACS
Dr. Jarrar: Chair, Membership Committee, Eastern Cardiothoracic Surgical Society
Dr. Joshi: Chair, Independent Program Committee, APDS
Dr. Kaplan: Executive Committee, WSACS, The Abdominal Compartment Society

Institutional Awards

Louis B. Schatz Award: Farah Karipineni, MD
Gold Humanism Honor Society, Jefferson Medical College: Lawrence N. Cetrulo, MD
Outstanding Educator Award: Amit Joshi, MD


Das Award: John Pang, MD
Somers Award: Luanne Force, MD
Intern of the Year Award: Teena Dhir, MD
Outstanding Clinical Teacher Award: Pak Leung, MD
Outstanding Teaching in the Operating Room Award: Paul Steerman, MD