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## It is my great pleasure, once again, to introduce the OBGYN Alumni Newsletter.

In this month's addition we have a special feature. As you recall, normally we feature clinical departments but this month we are going to focus on the Magee-Womens Research Institute (MWRI) as our divisional spotlight. The research institute and its role locally, nationally, and internationally has changed significantly over the last five years and we would like to update you with some of the newest research and administrative changes that have occurred at MWRI.

In addition, we will be spotlighting the career, particularly the international work, of Dr. Dan Lattanzi who recently retired after a long service-directed career and many international initiatives which he facilitated, including training for our Magee residents.

Again, we hope to see you for our Alumni Day and the Inaugural Kunschner lecture. Also note the date and agenda for the upcoming Magee Summit, which is a new initiative this year, and we look forward to seeing you at ACOG or at one of the regional specialty meetings again this year.

Best regards,

Robert P. Edwards

Milton Lawrence McCall

Rolet A. Elens

Professor & Chair

Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences



#### **RESIDENT ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**

# A Passion for Global Health Serves Communities in Pittsburgh and Haiti

For Dr. Daniel Lattanzi, having deep ties to communities and their needs has been a lifelong commitment and a global effort.

A native Pittsburgher, he went to medical school at St. Louis University Medical Center but he always knew he wanted to return home to practice. He came to Magee for residency in 1982, after being drawn to the program because of its "standing in the community and its reputation for excellence," he says. After experiencing what makes Magee so special firsthand, he decided to stay, and came on staff after completing residency. Over 35 years later, he still serves communities in Pittsburgh through his practice in Mt. Lebanon and educates the next generation of physicians in his role as Assistant Professor in the Department of Obstetrics. Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences. He and his wife, who he met on a blind date, share a passion for community service. They have six children, as well as 11 grandchildren-nine boys and two girls.

But Pittsburgh isn't the only community with which Dr. Lattanzi has developed longstanding ties. His connection to global health, specifically through his work in Haiti, likewise stretches back decades. After hearing the pastor of the LaCroix Haiti New Testament Mission speak at a Pittsburgh church in 1997, he was inspired to join a trip to the Caribbean country. Though he had met with Pittsburgh-based administrators of Hôpital Albert Schweitzer Haiti before he left, nothing could adequately prepare him or anyone going through the experience for the first time. As he recalled for Magee Magazine: "It was very dramatic. We traveled from village to village, setting up makeshift clinics, and we saw a lot of tuberculosis, a lot of malaria, a lot of intestinal parasites. Almost all the children had intestinal worms, and they were big

ones. We saw a lot of malnutrition. About 25 percent of the children died before they reached age 5. They didn't even name the children for the first year of life because it was such a bad situation."

His experiences inspired him to act and make health care more accessible in a country where deaths from preventable and treatable diseases are all too common. After several trips, Dr. Lattanzi and his wife opened a permanent primary care clinic on the grounds of the LaCroix mission, and it has been serving the community for over 15 years. It provides vaccines, birth control, dentistry, and general medical care and includes a birthing center for prenatal and obstetrical care. About five years after opening the clinic in LaCroix, they opened another one in Paul. The reach and scope of the care provided by the clinics has grown to meet the needs of the area, and it currently has a staff of 10 health care providers two doctors, and eight nurses. Last year, the clinic at LaCroix recorded 36,000 patient visits, and they recently added a clinic for tuberculosis care. This year, in recognition of their extraordinary service and efforts, the clinics were awarded a citation of merit from the Haitian government for exceptional care to the community.

Through the Global Health program at Magee, Dr. Lattanzi has been able to connect his work in Haiti with residents interested in international medicine. "At Magee there has always been a commitment to giving those residents who are interested a depth of experience in global health," Dr. Lattanzi says. The program provides participants with firsthand experience with global health issues, helps raise awareness of disparities in women's health care, and helps to markedly improve the wellbeing of women and children in the communities it touches.

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# Magee-Womens Research Institute: Changing How We Think About Women's Health



For over 25 years, Magee-Womens Research Institute (MWRI) has harnessed the power of scientific investigation to improve the lives of women and infants around the world.

In 1992, MWRI was established as an independent research institute and the research arm of the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences of the University of Pittsburgh. Initially located in a 50,000-sq. ft. remodeled building on Craft Avenue, across the street from UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital, the Institute's research building expanded in 2007 to a total of 125,000 sq. ft. of modern laboratory facilities, core space, and conference rooms. From its inception, the Institute was nationally recognized for its research. It has grown from approximately 20 to 75 faculty members and over 370 total employees.

Today, MWRI is a globally recognized leader in reproductive

biology and women's health research and the largest independent research institute in the US devoted exclusively to reproductive sciences. Our research scientists are engaged in health research that spans reproductive biology and development and diverse aspects of women's health. Key physiological processes and diseases that span a woman's entire life cycle are pursued — from the formation of germ cells and embryos through childhood and adolescence to reproductive life, pregnancy, menopause, and aging. "Our approach is unprecedented and it could change lives and create a better future for everyone," says MWRI Executive Director Yoel Sadovsky, MD.

MWRI's researchers use a variety of basic, translational, and clinical investigative tools that support our central mission to: advance knowledge in the field of reproductive biology and medicine; translate discoveries into improved health for women and their infants; train the next generation of reproductive science scholars; and partner with local, regional and national communities

on the role of science in health and wellness.

Whereas laboratory-based research is housed primarily within the research building on Craft Avenue, patient-based research is conducted at Magee-Womens Hospital and other UPMC clinical facilities located throughout the Pittsburgh academic community. This structure fosters unique opportunities for collaboration among investigators and a rich environment for our training programs. Researchers concentrate on seven key areas of discovery: Reproductive Development, Pregnancy & Newborn Medicine. Infectious Diseases, Gynecology, Reproductive Endocrinology and Fertility, Women's Cancer, and Women's Health Services & Wellness. Since its inception, Magee has brought more than \$400 million in project funding to Pittsburgh from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and other sources.

To ensure the future of women's health research, the Institute has established educational programs at all levels of academic

development. From the MWRI Summer Internship program for high school and college students, to the Interdisciplinary Biomedical Graduate Program, MWRI Fellowships, the Women's Reproductive Health Research (WRHR K12) Career Development Program for early career OBGYN physicians, and many more, the Institute provides opportunities at all stages of a career.

Today, some of its notable initiatives and areas of focus include:

# Groundbreaking Research into Global Women's Health Issues

Investigators from the Women's Cancer Research Center, a collaboration between MWRI and the UPMC Hillman Cancer Center, discovered that precision medicine and tailored treatments for breast cancer can improve diagnosis and therapies for patients with breast tumors and brain metastatic tumors. MWRI was also part of a collaborative project that found that estrogen treatments long used in breast cancer patients may also be beneficial to ovarian cancer patients. Researchers in the Microbicide Trials Network (MTN) housed within Magee-Womens Research Institute confirmed that a vaginal ring containing an antiretroviral drug was safe and reduced HIV risk in women and adolescent girls.

# Developing Powerful Tools to Solve High Infant Mortality

The power and utility of the Magee Obstetrical Maternal Infant Database (MOMI) will increase significantly thanks to a \$5M grant from the Richard King Mellon Foundation. This grant will allow researchers to collect up to 500 variables, giving a 360-degree view into the lives of mothers and babies with risk of death before the age of one. The longitudinal data from 20 years of clinical data will help collaborators to develop a predictive model for prevention, and clinical interventions to reduce infant mortality. An additional \$1M funded 11 research projects chosen for their potential to reduce infant mortality in the short-term.

# Harnessing Expertise of Researchers and Advocates



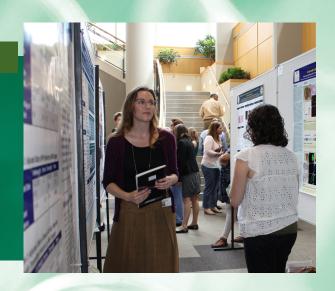
The Women's Cancer Research
Center convened the first
International Invasive Lobular Cancer
(ILC) Symposium where 32 of the
world's leading ILC researchers
discussed with patient advocates
the latest clinical research related to
the second most common subtype
of breast cancer. Greatly expanding
our outreach, MWRI partnered with
Women's Health Conversations,
a lifestyle brand with an online
community reaching 6.8 million, on a
conference to educate women about

"Our approach is unprecedented and it could change lives and create a better future for everyone."

- Dr. Yoel Sadovsky



# Celebrating Research Achievements



### On Friday, May 18, the Annual Research Day in Reproductive Biology & Women's Health took place at UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital.

This event featured poster and oral presentations from Magee's students, residents, fellows, post-doctoral scholars, and faculty researchers in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, & Reproductive Sciences and at Magee-Womens Research Institute. At the end of the day, awards were presented for the best oral and poster presentations, as well as other research accomplishments.

Two ongoing lecture series were presented by distinguished guests.

The Margaret Prine Joy Lecture in Reproductive Sciences, "Reading & Writing Genomes: Technology, Clinical Applications & Societal Concerns," was presented by George Church, PhD, Professor of Genetics, Health Sciences, and Technology and Founding Core Faculty & Lead, Synthetic Biology, Wyss Institute at Harvard University.

The Celebration of Life: A Lecture Honoring Mothers, "Designer Babies: Ethics and Evidence," was presented by R. Alta Charo, JD, Warren P. Knowles Professor of Law and Bioethics, University of Wisconsin Law School.

## Research Day 2018 Awardees

# Best Fellow/Graduate Trainee Oral Presentation

Hui Li, BS: The Communication Between Placental Trophoblast Exosomes and Their Target Cells

## Marvin C. Rulin, MD, Research Day Resident Presentation Award

Jacqueline Atlass, MD: Preconception Blood Pressure and Evidence of Placental Malperfusion

#### Best Fellow/Graduate Trainee Poster Presentation

Elizabeth Sutton, PhD: Applying the New ACC/AHA Guidelines in Pregnancy: Maternal and Neonatal Outcomes Associated with Stage 1 Hypertension

#### Best Resident Poster Presentation Alexandra Melnyk, MD: Impact of Operating Room Etiquette Video on Medical Student Comfort in the

Gynecologic OR

#### Amy Roberts Health Promotion Award

Alisse Hauspurg-Janicki, MD: Home Blood Pressure Monitoring After Preeclampsia to Reduce Progression to Sustained Hypertension: A Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial

Paul M. Rike Fellowship Award Saqib Sachani, PhD

#### Magee Clinical Trainee Research Award (CTRA)

Erin Bargerstock, MD: Action of a Novel Glucocorticoid in the Neonatal Rat Brain

## Department Ceremony Awardees

Faculty and trainees also were recognized at the Department's annual award ceremony on June 1 at the University Club.

#### Faculty and Fellows Teaching Awards

APGO Excellence in Teaching Award Robert Kaminski, MD

## CREOG – Faculty

Madeleine Courtney-Brooks, MD, MPH

#### Outpatient Clinic John Harris, MD, MSc

Community Faculty Carol Krupski, MD

Obstetrics Faculty Teaching Award Stacy Beck, MD

## Obstetrics Fellow Teaching Award Alisse Hauspurg Janicki, MD

#### SASGOG Faculty Teaching Award Robert Kaminski, MD

Gynecology Fellow Teaching Award Christina Ramirez, MD

#### Resident Awards

Ryan Program Resident Award for Excellence in Family Planning Misha Pangasa, MD

Magee-Womens Hospital Junior Resident Award for Excellence in Family Planning
Aaron Campbell, MD

The Margaret Searce Compassionate Care Award Alison Garrett, MD

SGO – Annual Residency Award Taylor Orellana, MD

Dr. Morris Turner Procedural Teaching/Guidance Award Chelsea Chandler, MD

AAGL – Special Excellence in Endoscopic Procedures Jason Ricciuti, MD

SLS Outstanding Laparoendoscopic Resident Chelsea Chandler, MD

AUGS – Award for Excellence in Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery Elizabeth Pronesti, MD

NASPAG – NASPAG Outstanding Resident Award Alayna Butcher, MD

SMFM Resident Award for Excellence in Obstetrics Alison Garret, MD

SASGOG Resident Award Kelsey Dressen, MD

Best General OB Skills by an Intern Jennifer Anhut, MD

Best Teaching Fellow as Selected by Third-Year Medical Students Malcolm Ross, MD

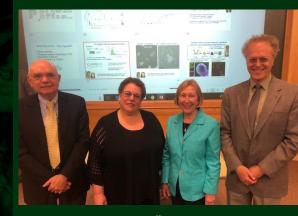
Best Teaching Residents as Selected by Third-Year Medical Students

R1: Aaron Campbell, MD R2: Kathleen Pombier, MD

R3: Kelsey Dressen, MD & Jason Ricciuti, MD

R4: Kelly Ferroni, MD

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The guest speaker for "The Celebration of Life: A Lecture Honoring Mothers," R. Alta Charo, JD (second from left) with W. Allen Hogge, MD (left), his wife Joan (second from right) and MWRI Executive Director Yoel Sadovsky, MD (right). The Hogges' generosity funded the Celebration of Life lectures.

## Department Spotlight

research advances and lifestyle choices.

## Women's Cardiovascular Health

Women who have had vascular problems during pregnancy may be at higher risk for cardiovascular disease years later. A multidisciplinary MWRI team received a \$3.7M grant from the American Heart Association to examine cardiovascular disease and its early risks and causes through the lens of pregnancy. MWRI is one of five centers funded by the American Heart Association that is studying heart disease in women, and the only one looking at women in pregnancy.

# The Magee-Womens Research Summit

On October 9-10, 2018, MWRI will host the first Magee-Womens Research Summit at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The Summit is our first international conference bringing together global leaders in reproductive sciences, early human development, gender-based wellness; nationally- and worldrenowned scientists and thought leaders in precision medicine, scientific wellness, aging and women's health: clinicians and industry experts whose ideas and research intersect with women's health; and influential policy and community thought leaders.

When Sadovsky talks to researchers around the world, "they know that we're the largest research center for women's health in the country. But we're taking it to a higher

level and we are making Magee a beacon to inform the scientific world about issues critical to health. That's what everyone is so excited about." The summit is designed to ignite the imagination of world class scientists from many fields, in both the developed and developing world, to pursue research and find novel ways to enhance the health and wellness of women and infants worldwide.

During the Summit, we will award the \$1 million Magee Prize. The prestigious award will fund a collaborative team whose groundbreaking research in reproductive sciences and women's health will improve lives globally. The Prize, made possible through a generous gift from the Richard King Mellon Foundation, will be a catalyst for truly transformational research. The recipient(s) will be announced at the Summit Gala on October 9. You can learn more and register at MageeSummit.org.

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## Resident Alumni Spotlight

Interested residents can participate in year three of residency, using their elective time to complete an international rotation. They can participate in the program at Dr. Lattanzi's clinics in Haiti.

What advice does Dr. Lattanzi have for those inspired by his story, who might be motivated to join the global health movement? He says, "global health is important, and at Magee we are in a place where we see issues affecting global women's health walk through

our doors every day. Once you understand it, take advantage of all the opportunities to get involved and do more."

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# Celebrating Research <u>Achievements</u>

# Awarded by the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Medical Student Research Mentoring Award Colleen Krajewski, MD

The Gold Foundation Humanism and Excellence in Teaching "Little Apple" Award

Aaron Campbell, MD

# Residency Program UPDATE

### **Graduating Fellows**

#### **Gynecologic Oncology**

- Shannon Grabosch, MD Faculty at St. Louis University, Saint Mary's Health System, Division of Gynecologic Oncology
- Casey Hay, MD Faculty at West Michigan Cancer Center, Gynecologic Oncology, Kalamazoo, Michigan

#### Family Planning

 Jessica Tarleton, MD – Faculty at the Medical University of South Carolina Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

# Female Pelvic Medicine & Reconstructive Surgery

Charelle Carter-Brooks, MD –
 Faculty at George Washington
 University, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

#### Maternal-Fetal Medicine

- Adriane Haragan, MD Faculty at Montana Perinatal Center, Kalispell, Montana
- Allison Serra, MD Faculty at University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences, Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine

#### Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery

- Lisa Chao, MD Faculty at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Dallas, Texas
- Christina Ramirez, MD Faculty at San Antonio Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas

### **Graduating Residents**

- Rachel Beverley, MD Fellow in Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility, UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital
- Daniel Chan, MD, PhD Fellow in Gynecologic Oncology, UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital
- Chelsea Chandler, MD Fellow in Gynecologic Oncology, UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital
- Tiffany Deihl, MD Fellow in Maternal-Fetal Medicine, UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital
- Kelly Ferroni, MD Generalist in a Hospital-Based Practice, Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center, La Crosse, Wisconsin
- Max Horowitz, MD, PhD Fellow in Gynecologic Oncology, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH
- Neggin Mokhtari, MD Fellow in Maternal-Fetal Medicine, MedStar Washington Hospital Center, Washington, DC
- Misha Pangasa, MD Academic Generalist, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts
- Kavita Vani, MD Faculty, UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital, OB Specialties and Ultrasound Divisions
- Carly Zuwiala, MD Generalist in Hospital-Based Practice, Washington Hospital, Washington, Pennsylvania

## **Incoming Residents**

- Alexandra Buffie, MD Baylor College of Medicine
- Latima Collins, MD The University of Toledo College of Medicine
- Jason Conger, MD Medical College of Georgia at Augusta U
- Eesha Dave, MD Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
- Caroline Elbaum, MD, MPH Tufts University School of Medicine
- Jourdan Schmitz, MD, MS USF Health Morsani
- Julia Tasset, MD, MPH University of Michigan Medical School
- Coralee Toal, MD University of Oklahoma College of Medicine
- Alison Zeccola, MD Jacobs SOM Biomedical Sciences at the U. of Buffalo

#### **Incoming Fellows**

# Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility

 Rachel Beverley, MD – Temple University School of Medicine (Med School); Current resident transferring to fellowship

#### Gynecologic Oncology

- Daniel Chan, MD, PhD University of South Dakota, Sanford School of Medicine (Med School); Current resident transferring to fellowship
- Chelsea Chandler, MD Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University (Med School); Current resident transferring to fellowship

#### Maternal-Fetal Medicine

- Lauren Carlos, MD Yale
   University School of Medicine (Med School); Yale New Haven Hospital (residency)
- Mitchell Onslow, MD University of Cincinnati College of Medicine (Med School); Indiana University School of Medicine (residency)
- Tiffany Deihl, MD Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine (Med School); Current resident transferring to fellowship

# Female Pelvic Medicine & Reconstructive Surgery

Linda Burkett, MD - Virginia
 Commonwealth University School of Medicine (Med School); Washington Hospital Center/Georgetown University (residency)

# Minimally Invasive Gynecologic

#### Surgery

- Christine Foley, MD University of Massachusetts Medical School (Med School); New York University (residency)
- Laura Newcomb, MD University of Michigan Medical School (Med School); Duke University Hospital (residency)

#### Family Planning

 Kavita Vinekar, MD - University of Michigan Medical School (Med School); Current resident transferring to fellowship

# Upcoming Events

#### Annual Magee Alumni Day Reception

Thursday, October 4, 2018 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. The Pittsburgh Golf Club

#### 43rd Annual Magee Alumni Day

Friday, October 5, 2018 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital

Make plans to attend the 43rd Annual Alumni Day which will feature the Inaugural Alan Kunschner, MD, Memorial Lecture. All former trainees – residents and fellows – as well as former faculty are invited back to meet and mingle with current trainees and faculty.

We will honor the classes having reunions - 1968, 1978, 1988, 1993, 1998, 2008 and 2013. Speakers include Drs. R. Marshall Austin, Sara Sakamoto, Steve Hasley, Amanda Ecker, Courtney Schreiber and Levi Downs, Jr.

#### Magee-Womens Research Summit

Tuesday, October 9 & Wednesday, October 10, 2018 David L Lawrence Convention Center, Pittsburgh. PA mageesummit.org

#### **AUGS Magee Alumni Reception**

Save the Date- Wednesday, October 10, 2018 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. InterContinental Chicago- ENO Wine Bar Chicago, IL

#### AGL Magee Alumni Reception

Tuesday, November 13, 2018 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Il Fornaio Italian Restaurant 3790 S. Las Vegas Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV, 89109

To register, email Colleen Gaughan at cgaughan@magee.edu

This international conference is designed to attract top scientists and thought leaders from around the world to tackle key issues influenced by the early stages in life, across three major themes: 9-90, and the Origins of Wellness & Disease; Sex Differences, Beyond X and Y; and Reimagining Aging. The event will allow MWRI to contribute to the international agenda on early human development and its implications for health and disease risk across the lifespan, and the role of development in precision medicine, and its impact on women's wellness and disease for the coming generations. The conference will also serve to attract trainees to our field and build community advocacy in support of research and women's health. The highlight of the conference will be the awarding of the first Magee Prize, a \$1 million prize for a collaborative, transformative research project in an area of inquiry within the reproductive sciences.

www.mageewomens.org



## Join Our Email List!

Stay up to date on the great things happening at Magee. It's easy! Just email Colleen Gaughan at cgaughan@magee.edu.

# News

## Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency Training Program Awarded Grant for Robotic Simulator

The Magee-Womens Medical Staff Research and Education Funding Committee awarded the Obstetrics and Gynecology residency training program a \$29,400 grant for a four-year service contract for the Mimic dV-Trainer Robotic Simulator. The trainer was originally purchased with funds awarded by the Magee Volunteer Service Board in 2013 and is used by Ob/Gyn and surgical residents, fellows and faculty for the development and maintenance of robotic surgery skills.

## Two Faculty Appointed to University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine Promotions and Appointments Committee

Arundhathi Jeyabalan, MD, Associate Professor, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences and Division Director, Maternal Fetal Medicine, and Isabelle Wilkins. MD, Professor, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences and Vice Chair, Faculty Affairs, were elected by the School of Medicine Executive Committee of the Faculty as members of the Non-Tenured Faculty Promotions and Appointments (NTFPA) Committee for the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. The NTFPA Committee reviews all actions for appointment and promotion to associate professor and professor without tenure

## Two Teams Selected for the ASCO Quality Training Program

Two interdisciplinary teams from the Gynecologic Cancer Program and the School of Nursing have both been accepted to the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Quality Training Program (QTP). Team 1 will focus on the development and implementation of a protocol for systematic assessment of patients and family caregivers within the center, and includes Dr. Lauren Hand (physician leader), Dr. Grace Campbell, and Nora Lersch. Team 2 will focus on development and implementation of core services within the center and includes Dr. Michelle Boisen (physician leader, Dr. Heidi Donovan, and Barb Suchonic. The first of five full-day workshops occured in July.

Residents and staff pose with the Mimic dV-Trainer Robotic Simulator. The trainer was originally purchased with funds awarded by the Magee Volunteer Service Board in 2013 and is used by Ob/Gyn and surgical residents, fellows and faculty for the development and maintenance of robotic surgery skills.



# Iyad inmulA sageM bn24 sht bnstfA

Thursday, October 4 & Friday, October 5



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