CELEBRATE
AACU’s Golden Anniversary

AACU 2018 Annual Meeting
September 16 – 17, 2018
Willard InterContinental | Washington, DC

PROGRAM BOOK
THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE 2018 CONTRIBUTORS!

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Donate today at the UROPAC table to help us reach our Meeting goal of $30,000!
Each contributor will receive a free UROPAC travel mug.
WELCOME MESSAGE

It’s been 50 years since Charles Hoffman and Russell Carson convened a group of urologists over breakfast at the 1968 AUA Annual Meeting in Miami. The topic was advocacy and the result was the genesis of the American Association of Clinical Urologists. This meeting re-establishes the AACU Annual Meeting. Over the next two days we take the opportunity to reflect on AACU’s long and proud history, recall its historic milestones in advocacy, and celebrate its past leaders. We will also take stock of where we are and our new direction as an organization and as a specialty. For the past two years, the AACU board has been hard at work refining its strategy and optimizing its organizational and leadership structure. As a small specialty it is important to recognize other organizations’ role in urology advocacy and work synergistically.

The urology advocacy landscape has increased in complexity in recent years. The advocacy needs of the practicing urologist, always central to the AACU’s mission, have also evolved as have the mechanisms available for political giving across our great specialty. UROPAC is urology’s only political action committee and is under the sole sponsorship of the AACU. It remains as critical as ever to our mission. The panel discussion on political giving will be especially poignant in this critical election year.

We have put together a comprehensive agenda that touches on the latest clinical science, state and federal policy and advocacy updates, as well as discussion of fascinating new business models in urology. We will bring back the Capitol Steps and have organized a banquet where many of the Past Presidents will join in celebrating our 50th anniversary. Take some time to review the various displays depicting some of our impact over time. Thank you for being a part of this great organization. And thank you for participating in the conversation this week about where we have come in 50 years and the direction we will take this organization together as we chart a course for the next 50 years.

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Salisbury, MD

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(847) 517-1050
Educational Needs

The AACU 2018 Annual Meeting program has been designed with the intent of fulfilling unmet educational needs. It will include presentations on urologic malignancies which will include prostate and bladder cancer topics. It will also include presentations on physician burnout, emerging business models, and state advocacy issues including relevant state legislation and easing administrative burdens.

We have attracted a national faculty and anticipate a very successful and informative meeting.

Educational Objectives

At the conclusion of the 2018 AACU Annual Meeting, attendees will be able to:

1. Explain the role of genetics in the management of prostate cancer.
2. Describe issues related to intravesical therapy medication episodic shortages.
3. Review of strategies to manage physician burnout.
4. Describe how to select and manage prostate cancer patients for active surveillance.
5. Explain current methods of managing castration-resistant prostate cancer (CRPC).
6. Identify the young urologist’s challenges in initiating practice in academic, independent and employed practice settings.
7. Review the evolving use of private equity in the independent practice of urology.
8. Discuss the unique payment models being employed in Vermont.
9. Describe a method to counteract physician burnout by easing administrative burdens on urologists.
10. Describe the management of MACRA universal payment models.
12. Discuss techniques and support opportunities that improve clinic efficiency and improve physician attitude surrounding electronic medical records and evaluating patients in a busy clinic setting.

Accreditation

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION CREDIT INFORMATION

Accreditation

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of the American College of Surgeons and the American Association of Clinical Urologists. The American College of Surgeons is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™

The American College of Surgeons designates this live activity for a maximum of 7.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Non-physician healthcare professionals will receive a Certificate of Attendance. For information on the applicability and acceptance of Certificates of Attendance for educational activities certified for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ from organizations accredited by the ACCME, please consult your professional licensing board.

General Disclaimer

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Disclosure Information

In compliance with the ACCME Accreditation Criteria, the American College of Surgeons, as the accredited provider of this activity, must ensure that anyone in a position to control the content of the educational activity has disclosed all relevant financial relationships with any commercial interest. All reported conflicts are managed by a designated official to ensure a bias-free presentation.

The disclosure report for this meeting can be found in the course materials provided to you at registration.

Special Assistance

We encourage participation by all individuals. If you have a disability, advance notification of any special needs will help us better serve you. Call (847) 517-1050 if you require special assistance to fully participate in the meeting.
PROGRAM SCHEDULE

OVERVIEW

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2018

OVERVIEW

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.  Breakfast Available
Location: Grand Ballroom Foyer

7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  Registration

2:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  Exhibit Hall Open
Location: Pierce Room

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  Reception and Awards
Location: Pierce Room

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  50th Anniversary Banquet
Location: Willard Room

8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  Capitol Steps Performance
Location: Willard Room

GENERAL SESSION

8:00 a.m. - 8:10 a.m.  Welcome
Speakers:  Mark T. Edney, MD, MBA, FACS
           Damara L. Kaplan, PhD, MD

8:10 a.m. - 8:55 a.m.  Prostate Cancer: Testing for Genetic Risk
Speaker:  Leonard G. Gomella, MD, FACS

8:55 a.m. - 9:40 a.m.  Prostate Cancer Active Surveillance
Speaker:  H. Ballentine Carter, MD

9:40 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  Break

10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.  Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer
Speaker:  Neal D. Shore, MD, FACS

10:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  Management of Non-Muscle Invasive Bladder Cancer
Speaker:  Cheryl T. Lee, MD

11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  Urology Leadership Panel*
Moderator:  Damara L. Kaplan, PhD, MD
Panelists:  Patrick H. McKenna, MD, FAAP, FACS
           Neal D. Shore, MD, FACS
           James B. Thrasher, MD, FACS
*Not CME Accredited

12:00 p.m. - 1:20 p.m.  Light Lunch
Location: Grand Ballroom Foyer

1:20 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.  President’s Welcome*
Speaker:  Patrick H. McKenna, MD, FAAP, FACS
*Not CME Accredited

1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.  How Practice Type Affects Work-life Integration
Moderator:  Amanda C. North, MD
Panelists:  Robyn R. Leitner, MD
           Dana C. Rice, MD
           Kara L. Watts, MD

2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.  Primer for Interacting with Legislators*
Moderator:  Matthew T. Gettman, MD
Panelists:  The Honorable Carl L. Anderton, Jr.
           Maryland House of Delegates
           Michael Barnard
           Ross E. Weber
*Not CME Accredited

2:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.  ABU Update*
Speaker:  Gerald H. Jordan, MD, FACS, FAAP, FRCS
*Not CME Accredited

2:45 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.  Exhibit Hall Break
Location: Pierce Room

3:15 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  Panel on Financing/Business Models
Moderator:  Mark T. Edney, MD, MBA, FACS
Panelists:  Steven Bass
           Christopher M. Locke

4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.  Carson Lecture*
Speaker:  Nelson Sabatini
*Not CME Accredited

4:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  Federal update/UROPAC*
Speaker:  Jonathan Henderson, MD
*Not CME Accredited

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  Reception and Awards
Location: Pierce Room

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  50th Anniversary Banquet
Location: Willard Room

8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  Capitol Steps Performance
Location: Willard Room

The Capitol Steps began as a group of Senate staffers who set out to satirize the very people and places that employed them. The group was born in December, 1981 when some staffers for Senator Charles Percy were planning entertainment for a Christmas party.

No matter who or what is in the headlines, you can bet the Capitol Steps will tackle both sides of the political spectrum and all things equally foolish. What more would you expect from the group that puts the “MOCK” in Democracy?!
PROGRAM SCHEDULE

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2018

OVERVIEW
7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  Registration
7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  Exhibit Hall Open
                    Location: Pierce Room

GENERAL SESSION
7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.  Hereditary Risk Assessment Workshop and Breakfast*
                    Location: Willard Room
                    *Not CME Accredited
8:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.  State Advocacy Network Programming

8:30 a.m. - 9:10 a.m.  Delivery System Reform
                    Speaker: Joshua Plavin, MD, MPH, MBA
9:10 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.  Reducing Burnout with Team Based Care
                    Speaker: Peter M. Knapp, Jr., MD, FACS
9:50 a.m. - 10:25 a.m.  Exhibit Hall Break
                    Location: Pierce Room
10:25 a.m. - 11:05 a.m.  Modernizing State Self-Referral Laws
                    Speaker: Howard R. Rubin, JD
11:05 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.  Emerging State Legislative Issues Impacting Urology
                    Speaker: Gene M. Ransom III, JD
1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.  Panel on Political Giving*
                    Moderator: Jeffrey M. Frankel, MD
                    Panelists: Robert A. Bass, MD
                              Christopher M. Gonzalez, MD, MBA, FACS
                              Gary M. Kirsh, MD
                    *Not CME Accredited
1:45 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.  Hoffman Lecture*
                    Speaker: The Honorable Andy Harris, MD
                              U.S. House of Representatives
                    *Not CME Accredited
2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  AACU Annual Business Meeting*
                    *Not CME Accredited

A high is located in the Grand Ballroom, unless otherwise noted. Speakers and times are subject to change.

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Alphabetical as of 8/30/2018
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Know Error
CHAIRMAN NELSON SABATINI

Nelson Sabatini has an expansive career working in healthcare policy for the federal government and the State of Maryland. He served as Secretary of the Maryland Department of Health under two governors, William Donald Schaefer and Robert Ehrlich. During his tenure with the federal government, Mr. Sabatini served as Deputy Commissioner of the Social Security Administration and held several senior positions at Health and Human Services, during which time he worked to develop the Medicare and Medicaid programs. In addition to his work in the public sector, he served as Executive Vice Present of the University of Maryland Medical Systems and was a consultant on the CVS Minute Clinic initiative. Since 2016, he has served as Chairman of the Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission, during which time he has helped the State develop Maryland’s Total Cost of Care Model through negotiations with CMS. The Model is set to begin in January 2019 and encompasses a broad system-wide transformation that will improve healthcare and outcomes for all Marylanders.

CARSON LECTURE AWARD RECIPIENT

THE HONORABLE ANDY HARRIS, MD

Dr. Andy Harris found his calling studying medicine at Johns Hopkins University and Hospital in Baltimore, where he continued to practice as an anesthesiologist and served as an associate professor for nearly three decades. Dr. Harris specializes in obstetric anesthesiology, and over the years has helped thousands of women through their labor and delivery. When he is not at work in Washington, Andy still practices at Memorial Hospital in Easton, Maryland. Answering a recruitment call to fill a critical need for anesthesiologists in the Naval Reserve during the Reagan Administration, Andy volunteered to serve in the military as a medical specialist. He went on to establish and command the Johns Hopkins Medical Naval Reserve Unit. In 1990, his unit was called up to active duty in order to assist with Operation Desert Shield (and later Operation Desert Storm). They took care of active duty military, veterans, and POWs at Bethesda Naval Hospital. Harris reached the rank of Commander (O-5). Unhappy with the status quo in Annapolis, Andy decided to take on the establishment and run for the Maryland State Senate in 1998. Andy served in the State Senate for 12 years, and continued to practice medicine while in office – epitomizing our Founding Fathers’ belief in a part-time, citizen legislature. Maryland’s First Congressional District first elected Andy to serve in the House of Representatives in 2010. He serves on the Committee on Appropriations and on the following subcommittees: Agriculture; Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education; and Homeland Security.

HOFFMAN LECTURE AWARD RECIPIENT

THE HONORABLE HEATHER CARTER

Dr. Heather Carter is a Member of the Arizona House of Representatives, where she is the Chairperson of the House Health Committee, and a member of the House Appropriations Committee, as well as Vice-Chairperson of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Education. Since moving to Arizona 30 years ago, she has devoted her professional life to making Arizona a quality place to live, learn, work, retire and prosper. First elected to the Arizona House of Representatives in 2010, she has a track record of sponsoring legislation that solves many of the complex problems facing Arizona, making her one of the state’s most effective legislators. She has worked to streamline government, improve the economy, encourage job creation, protect the most vulnerable, and reform education and healthcare, while maintaining a balanced state budget through responsible spending measures. In her professional life, Representative Carter is a well-respected educational leader in her community, working as a clinical associate professor at Arizona State University, preparing teachers and leaders for Arizona Schools. She has a dual appointment at the university as Assistant Dean of Healthcare and Education Policy in the College of Nursing and Health Innovation, responsible for establishing an executive fellowship in health policy. She has more than 20 years professional work in education.
Carl L. Anderton, Jr.
The Honorable Carl L. Anderton, Jr. is a lifelong resident of the Lower Eastern Shore. He began his public service as the chair of the Salisbury Traffic and Safety Advisory Committee in 2005. A year later he was elected as a Delmar Town Commissioner and also began serving on the Planning and Zoning Commission, eventually becoming the chairman. In 2011 he was elected Mayor of Delmar. While serving on the Delmar Commission he finished his coursework through the University of Maryland School of Public Policy, becoming a Fellow of the Academy of Excellence in Local Government. An active member of the Maryland Municipal League, an education, advisory, and advocacy organization composed of elected officials from Maryland’s 157 municipalities, he was chosen to serve on their Board of Directors as well as a term as President. In 2014 he was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates representing district 38B, where he serves as the Chair of the Wicomico County Delegation and as a member of the Environment and Transportation Committee and subcommittees addressing Local Government and Environmental issues.

Robert A. Bass, MD
Dr. Bass has practiced general urology in central Louisiana since 2007. His passion for health policy and political advocacy began as a chief resident at the University of Kansas Medical Center when he attended his first JAC conference in Washington D.C. Since that time, he has served in multiple roles to help shape healthcare policy on both the federal, state, and local levels. Since 2014, Dr. Bass has served on the AUA Legislative Affair Committee. In 2015 he served as the chairman for the Council on Legislation for the Louisiana State Medical Society and assumed the role as Chairman of the Louisiana State Medical Political Action Committee (LAMPAC) which he still holds today. He served as an AUA representative on the board of UROPAC from 2009-2012. He rejoined the UROPAC board in 2014 as an AACU representative. Since that time, Dr. Bass has served as treasurer for the UROPAC board. Most recently Dr. Bass has graduated from the George Washington University School of Business with a degree of Master of Business Administration where he was selected into the international business honor society Beta Gamma Sigma.

Michael Barnard
Mr. Barnard is a Director of Federal Affairs at Johnson and Johnson. In this role, Michael works to advocate on key public policy issues before the United States Congress, White House and Department of Health and Human Services that specifically impact and affect the Janssen pharmaceutical business and the patients we serve.

Prior to joining Johnson and Johnson, he spent 10 years as a senior health policy staffer in both the US Senate and the House of Representatives. Most recently, he was the Senior Policy Advisor to US Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ). In this role, he covered the Senator’s health and human services portfolio with the primary focus on the Medicare, Medicaid and Affordable Care Act provisions under the jurisdiction of the Senate Committee on Finance, of which Senator Menendez is a senior member. In addition, Michael worked closely on legislation affecting the Food and Drug Administration, National Institutes of Health, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as issues of international trade and international market access. Michael also spent two years on the health policy staff of US Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA), including during the drafting, debate and final passage of the Affordable Care Act.

Michael graduated from the University of Oregon with a BS in Economics and received his Master’s in Political Science from American University in Washington, DC.

Steven Bass
Mr. Bass joined Chesapeake Urology Associates in January of 2008 and currently serves as the company’s Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and Treasurer. He serves in those same capacities at United Urology Group, a management services organization formed as the result of a transaction between Chesapeake Urology and Audax Private Equity in August 2016. In those roles, he is responsible for all, strategic business development, mergers and acquisitions, real estate, accounting and finance and information technology. Prior to joining Chesapeake Urology, Mr. Bass was Vice President of Finance for Aether Systems, a publicly traded wireless technology company. Prior to joining Aether, Mr. Bass was Chief Financial Officer for Alpine Medical, LLC, a regional provider of home respiratory therapy services. From June 1996 to September 1998 he was President and CEO of HealthObjects Corporation, a developer of specialized pharmacy software for the institutional pharmacy market. Prior to that, Mr. Bass was Vice President and Managing Director of Neighborcare Pharmacies, a regional provider of pharmaceutical care services, where he developed and managed the company’s institutional and home infusion therapy operations. Mr. Bass received his BS degree from Towson University and is a certified public accountant.
H. Ballentine Carter, MD

Dr. Carter has been contributing to clinical cancer research for over 30 years. After training in Urology at the New York Hospital, he did fellowship training in urologic research at the Brady Urological Institute, and joined the clinical faculty at Johns Hopkins in 1989. He established a collaborative relationship with the National Institute on Aging (The Baltimore Longitudinal Study of Aging) and was instrumental in the development of a prostate program within the BLSA, that led to initial investigations regarding age related changes in prostate volume, PSA, and factors that influence these changes. Dr. Carter initiated an active surveillance program for prostate cancer at Johns Hopkins 23 years ago that has provided insight into selection and monitoring of active surveillance candidates. Dr. Carter chaired the American Urological Association Prostate Cancer Detection Guideline Panel –a multidisciplinary team working over 2 years- that systematically reviewed the literature on PSA based prostate cancer screening, interpreted the literature from an individual perspective, and developed evidence based guidelines for the use of PSA for the average risk, asymptomatic man. Dr. Carter is co-director of the Precision Medicine Center of Excellence for prostate cancer at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

Mark T. Edney, MD, MBA, FACS

Dr. Edney was born and raised in Penacook, NH and graduated with BA in biochemistry from St. Anselm College. He graduated from Dartmouth Medical School in 1994 and completed his urology residency at Dartmouth in 2004. He has been in private practice in Salisbury, MD for 14 years. Dr. Edney has extensive experience in health policy and urology advocacy. He is past president of Maryland’s state urology coalition. He has served as Health Policy Chair for the Mid-Atlantic Section of the American Urological Association (AUA) and was the section’s representative to the AUA’s Public Policy Council from 2012-18. He is a former member of the AUA’s legislative affairs committee. In that role he lead a successful, multi-year AUA effort to achieve Federal legislation improving the inter-agency care coordination of military victims of urological trauma. During this effort, he testified before both House and Senate VA committees in support the Bill. Ultimately, the AUA urotrauma language was included in the 2013 National Defense Authorization Act. Dr. Edney is currently the State Advocacy Network Chair of the American Association of Clinical Urologists (AACU). Dr. Edney served in the medical corps of the United States Army Reserve from 1999 to 2015. During that time, he served on the urology staffs of both Walter Reed Army Medical Center (2004), Tripler Army Medical Center (2009) and was deployed to Mosul, Iraq with the 399th Combat Support Hospital (2006). Dr. Edney earned his MBA from Brandeis University in 2017. His is a former Chief of Surgery at Peninsula Regional Medical Center and is the current Surgery Service Line Medical Director.

Jeffrey M. Frankel, MD

Dr. Frankel is current Chair of UROPAC and a board member of the AACU. He is former health policy chair and past president of the AACU. Dr. Frankel is in independent private practice in Burien, Washington. He is the past president of the Washington State Urology Society and current government affairs chair as well as SSN chair. He has served on multiple AUA, section and state committees and is president-elect of the Western section of the AUA. Dr. Frankel received his medical degree from the University of Washington and did his Urology residency at Baylor in Houston, Texas.

Matthew T. Gettman, MD

Dr. Gettman is a Consultant in the Department of Urology at Mayo Clinic as well as the Haub Family Professor of Urology at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine in Rochester, Minnesota. He completed his residency in the Department of Urology at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota. Dr. Gettman was an endourology fellow at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, Texas, Minimally Invasive Surgery Program in the Department of Urology. Additional fellowship training was completed in robotic surgery at the University of Innsbruck and Hospital Henri Mondor in Creteil, France.

Dr. Gettman is departmental Vice-Chairman for Clinical Practice and Associate Medical Director for the Department of Development. He is also the Treasurer-Elect for the North Central Section of the American Urological Association. He has authored more than 150 scientific publications and has been an invited speaker locally, nationally, and internationally on the topic of robotic surgery, endourology, natural orifice surgery, and simulation training. He started the Robotic Surgery Program at Mayo Clinic in 2002. He is on the Editorial Board for BJU International, European Urology, Simulation in Healthcare, and Video-urology.
Leonard G. Gomella, MD, FACS
Dr. Gomella is the Bernard W. Godwin, Jr. Professor of Prostate Cancer and Chairman of the Department of Urology at the Sidney Kimmel Medical College. Originally from New York, Dr. Gomella completed medical school, general surgery and urology training at the University of Kentucky in Lexington. After a Urologic Oncology Fellowship in the Surgery Branch of the NCI in Bethesda, Maryland, he joined the Jefferson faculty in 1988 and was appointed Chair in 2002. He serves as Senior Director for Clinical Affairs for the Sidney Kimmel Cancer at Jefferson, Clinical Director of the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center Network and Urology Chair for RTOG (now NRG). Dr. Gomella is involved in translational basic science and clinical research in the development of new diagnostic techniques and treatments for prostate, bladder and kidney cancer through the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center and he serves as the Co-Leader of the Biology of Prostate Cancer Program. Dr. Gomella’s team was first to use RT-PCR to detect circulating micrometastasis in patients with prostate cancer, a discovery that led to a new field of investigation in this disease. Dr. Gomella is also recognized as an early contributor to urologic laparoscopy, initiating the program at Jefferson in 1990. He has given over 500 presentations nationally and internationally and written over 400 papers, chapters and monographs in the field of Urology.

Jonathan Henderson, MD
Dr. Henderson obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree at LSU in Baton Rouge in microbiology. After receiving his MD at LSU Medical Center in Shreveport, he completed his internship and residency in Urology at LSUMC Hospital. During this time, he authored a number of papers and presentations. Dr. Henderson spent the next six years in practice in Alabama where he specialized in treating disorders of the female bladder and laparoscopy. During this time, he served as a representative of Alabama to the Southeastern Section of the American Urology Association. He also served as an assistant clinical professor of Urology at the University of Alabama. Dr. Henderson is certified by the American Board of Urology. He is a member of the American Urologic Association, Shreveport Medical Society, Louisiana State Medical Society, the Society of Laparoscopic Surgeons, and the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society. He has been on the LUGPA Board of Directors since 2011 and is currently serving as Secretary.

Christopher M. Gonzalez, MD, MBA, FACS
Dr. Gonzalez is a native of Toledo, Ohio. He graduated from Denison University in Granville, Ohio with a BS degree in 1989. Afterwards he obtained his MD degree from the University of Iowa College of Medicine in Iowa City, Iowa. Dr. Gonzalez then completed both his general surgical and urologic residency training at the McGaw Medical Center, Northwestern University in Chicago, Illinois. Dr. Gonzalez served in the US Army National Guard from January 1991 – January 2001. He joined the Northwestern University Department of Urology in 2000 following residency, and was appointed Professor of Urology in 2011. He served as Chief of Urology for the VA Lakeside from 2003 – 2006 and completed his MBA degree from the Northwestern Kellogg School of Management in 2006. He was the Director of Surgery for the Northwestern Medicine Surgical Services Department from 2014 - 2015. Dr. Gonzalez was named the Lester Persky Professor and Chairman of the Urology Institute at University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, in September 2015. Dr. Gonzalez currently serves as the Chair for the AUA Public Policy and Practice Management.

Gerald H. Jordan, MD, FACS, FAAP, FRCS
Dr. Jordan graduated from the United States Naval Academy and following graduation immediately attended US Army Airborne School. He then attended US Navy Flight School and was awarded his US Naval Aviator Wings. Following tours in Vietnam, he did pre-med training at U.S. International University Cal Western Campus. He received his medical degree from the University of Texas at San Antonio. He was a Designated Flight Surgeon in the United States Air Force, completed his internship and urological residency at the Naval Regional Medical Center in Portsmouth, Virginia, and a fellowship in pediatric and adult reconstructive genitourinary surgery at Eastern Virginia Graduate School of Medicine. Dr. Jordan served as a Professor in the Urology Department of the Eastern Virginia Medical School and Chairman of that Department, and was the program director for the Devine Center for Genitourinary Reconstructive Surgery at Sentara Norfolk General Hospital in Norfolk, Virginia.

He has wide and varied academic interests and is an innovative leader in the field of genitourinary reconstructive surgery. He is keenly motivated in the area of investigation and has made notable contributions to the literature. Dr. Jordan has served as Executive Secretary of the American Board of Urology since February 1, 2012, following his six year term as a Trustee of that Board.
Damara L. Kaplan, PhD, MD
Dr. Kaplan completed her urology residency at the University of New Mexico in 2001. She started in solo private practice in Albuquerque and eventually became one of the founding partners of Albuquerque Urology Associates, the largest urology practice in Albuquerque. She will soon join Presbyterian Medical Group as a member of the newly formed Cedar Urology Practice. Dr. Kaplan has been active in organized urology for the past 16 years. She was the president of the South Central Section from 2014 to 2015. Prior to that, she served as the New Mexico representative of the South Central Section Board of directors for 6 years. Currently, she is the historian for the SCS. At the national level, Dr. Kaplan is a graduate of the AUA Leadership program 2010-2011. She has served on numerous AUA committees including Practice Guidelines, Bylaws, History, and the National Medical Student Curriculum Committee. In addition, she is the secretary treasurer of the American Association of Clinical Urologists. She is also a reviewer for Urology.

Gary M. Kirsh, MD
Dr. Kirsh earned his medical degree from the University of Chicago, Pritzker School of Medicine in 1984. He completed his urology residency at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1989. Dr. Kirsh is the President of The Urology Group, a 38+ urologist integrated group practice headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio. He has served as Chairman of the Board from 2000 through 2008, then as the group’s President from 2009 until today. Dr. Kirsh has a long history of involvement in organized urology, urologic health policy, and advocacy.

Peter M. Knapp Jr., MD, FACS
Dr. Knapp has a special interest in female urology, urinary incontinence, and other bladder control problems in men, women, and children. He has extensive experience in the evaluation and treatment of voiding dysfunction, including urethral slings for treatment of incontinence in men and women, laser prostatectomy for BPH, the use of neuromodulation for overactive bladder and female pelvic reconstruction surgery for prolapse. Dr. Knapp has published and lectured on these topics regularly. He is a Volunteer Clinical Associate Professor of Urology at Indiana University School of Medicine. He is the Immediate Past President of the North Central Section of the American Urological Association, Past President of the Large Urology Group Practice Association, and remains active in advancing health policy issues for both organizations.

Cheryl T. Lee, MD
Dr. Lee is the Chair of the Department of Urology at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center where she holds the Dorothy M. Davis Endowed Chair in Cancer Research. Her medical professional focus is dedicated to improving the care of bladder cancer patients through advocacy, education and research. She has served the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network as the President of the Scientific Advisory Board, as a current member of its Board of Directors, and as a Past-Chairman of the Bladder Cancer Think Tank. She is a recent member of the Board of Directors of the American Cancer Society, Lakeshore Division. Dr. Lee is active in the education of urologists. She has directed or been a faculty member of a postgraduate course at the annual meeting of the AUA for over a decade and has served on the ABU Oral Board Examination Committee, the AUA Education Council, the AUA Program Committee, the American Board of Urology/AUA Examination Committee, the Oncology Knowledge Assessment Test Committee of the Society of Urologic Oncology (SUO), and is an active member of the AUA Update Editorial Board. She remains an active member of the SUO, and serves as the AJCC representative to the Board of Directors. She is a Past-President of the National Medical Association R. Frank Jones Urological Society. Her current research interest involves the use of artificial intelligence to improve bladder cancer staging.
Robyn R. Leitner, MD

Dr. Leitner graduated from University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in 1995. She then obtained her medical degree at New York Medical College. Subsequently she trained at State University of New York at Brooklyn, completing an internship in General Surgery in 2001 and residency in urology in 2005. While practicing all areas of urology, Dr. Leitner specializes in female urology, urinary incontinence and pelvic prolapse. She has been voted, “Nurses Choice Physician of the Year” at Ocean Medical Center. Dr. Leitner grew up in Ocean Township, and now lives in Ocean County with her husband and their two children.

Christopher M. Locke

Mr. Locke is a health care transactional attorney. He represents health care industry clients, including hospitals, management companies, physician practices, ambulatory surgical centers, medical device manufacturers and pharmaceutical companies in mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, private placements, employment agreements, equity incentive plans and commercial agreements. Mr. Locke counsels health care industry clients with respect to issues involving Medicare and Medicaid fraud and abuse, anti-kickback, physician self-referral, general corporate, securities and employment laws.

Mr. Locke also serves as outside general counsel to many of the firm’s clients, including medical practices and hospital systems, and guides such clients’ management and boards of directors with respect to a wide range of issues. Mr. Locke also represents commercial finance clients with respect to regulatory due diligence in connection with credit financings of acquisitions of health care entities.

A former special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Mr. Locke also represents health care and other companies in governmental investigations. Mr. Locke was presented with an award for public service by the United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Columbia for one of his FBI counterterrorism cases.

Patrick H. McKenna, MD, FAAP, FACS

Dr. McKenna is the Mark and Karen Koulogeorge Family Chair in Urology, Professor, and Chief of the Division of Pediatric Urology, Department of Urology, at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, Madison, Wisconsin. He also serves as the Medical Director of Surgery Specialty Clinics at American Family Children’s Hospital, Madison, Wisconsin where he has established a very successful biofeedback program for treatment of voiding dysfunction. Previously, Dr. McKenna served as Chairman of Southern Illinois University’s Division of Urology and as Chief of Pediatric Urology at the University of Connecticut, where he helped establish the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center. Dr. McKenna has been recognized as a “Best Doctor in America” since 2005.

Dr. McKenna graduated from George Washington University’s School of Medicine and Health Sciences, and completed the Combined Urologic Residency Program at Portsmouth Naval Hospital and Eastern Virginia Medical School. He served as Head of Urology at Guam Naval Hospital for two years, and then completed a Pediatric Urology Fellowship at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. He returned to Portsmouth Naval Hospital to become Chief of Pediatric Urology, eventually earning the rank of Captain before retiring from military service.

Clinically, Dr. McKenna’s special interests are complicated urologic reconstruction, Wilms’ Tumor, antenatally detected urologic problems, disorders of sexual development, and minimally invasive treatments. His innovative uses of computer games, and a conservative noninvasive approach to the management of pediatric urinary incontinence and urinary tract infections, have been widely adopted across the country.

Amanda C. North, MD

Dr. North is an assistant professor of urology and pediatrics at Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, NY. She is a graduate of the AUA Leadership Program and serves on the AUA Data Committee and Workforce Work Group. Her research interest in physician burnout and work-life integration is aimed at maintaining a healthy urological workforce in the future.
Joshua Plavin, MD, MPH, MBA

Dr. Plavin serves as Vice President and Chief Medical Officer for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont. Dr. Plavin received his MD and MPH degrees from New York Medical College and his MBA degree through Brandeis University. He is Board Certified in both Internal Medicine and Pediatrics, having completed his clinical training at both St. Joseph Mercy Hospital and the University of Michigan Health System in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Prior to joining Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont, Dr. Plavin practiced clinically at Gifford Medical Center and served there as attending physician, Chief of the Medical Staff, and Medical Director. He continues to practice clinically on a part time basis. He served on the Vermont Board of Medical Practice. He is also a Clinical Assistant Professor in Community and Family Medicine for the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth College. His focus is on improving clinical outcomes and value in the healthcare system through applying new knowledge at the intersection of medical and management science.

Gene M. Ransom III, JD

Mr. Ransom is the CEO of MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society. He is a life-long resident of Queen Anne’s County, and former President of the County Commission. Mr. Ransom was elected to the Queen Anne’s County Commission in November 2002. Ransom graduated cum laude from The University of Maryland with honors in economics, and the University of Baltimore School of Law.

As MedChi executive, Mr. Ransom works to implement MedChi’s mission as an advocate for physicians, patients and the public health of Maryland. MedChi is the largest physician organization in Maryland; it currently represents over 8,000 Maryland physicians.

When elected, at thirty-one, Mr. Ransom made history as the youngest Commissioner ever to serve Queen Anne’s County. During his time as Commissioner he fought to improve growth management and environmental policy by helping pass landmark APFO legislation and an improved Comprehensive plan. Mr. Ransom played an instrumental role in the bipartisan effort to procure the first full service twenty four hour emergency room coming to Queen Anne’s County.

Dana C. Rice, MD

Dr. Rice is a board certified urologist with the Inova Medical Group in Northern Virginia. She completed her medical studies and her postgraduate residency at George Washington University. She has co-authored chapters on urinary tract infections and pediatric uro radiology, as well as being published in a handful of other urologic articles. She developed her UTI Tracker app to help educate patients and physicians with a goal of providing accurate, easily accessible information in one cohesive program.

Dr. Rice was named a top doctor in the Washingtonian Magazine and Northern Virginia Magazine in 2017. She has contributed to or been featured in numerous media outlets, such as, Cosmo, Buzzfeed, Romper, E Health Radio, Northern VA Magazine and Ashley Iaconetti’s I don’t get it, podcast. She resides in Mclean, Virginia and maintains a very busy surgical practice as well as being a wife and mother of two young children.

Howard R. Rubin, JD

Mr. Rubin is a partner at the law firm of Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP and is regarded as one of the leading attorneys in the country representing independent medical specialty practices in high-stakes litigation and government investigations as well as on significant health care policy and regulatory matters.

Over the last 15 years, Mr. Rubin has devoted a substantial part of his practice to serving as counsel to medical associations. His clients have included coalitions of independent urology groups and other physician specialty practices in California, Florida, Maryland, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. At the national level, Mr. Rubin serves as counsel to LUGPA as well as the Digestive Health Physicians Association (1,800+ physicians in 78 independent gastroenterology practices in 36 states). Mr. Rubin has served as lead counsel on behalf of national and state medical associations working to modernize self-referral laws following passage of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA), including in New Jersey and Maryland which became the first two states in the country to modernize self-referral laws post-MACRA. The common theme that runs through the work Mr. Rubin does for on behalf of medical associations is defending the high quality, cost-efficient, integrated care furnished in the independent medical practice setting.

Mr. Rubin received his BA, summa cum laude, and Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Miami and his JD, with high honors, from Duke University School of Law, where he was an editor on the Duke Law Journal.
FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES

Neal D. Shore, MD, FACS

Dr. Shore is the Medical Director for the Carolina Urologic Research Center. He practices with Atlantic Urology Clinics in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Dr. Shore has conducted more than 250 clinical trials, focusing mainly on GU Oncology, and serves on the Executive Boards of: Society of Urologic Oncology Board, Society of Urologic Oncology Clinical Trials Consortium, and the Large Urology Group Practice Association, currently President-elect. He has served on the AUA Male Health Committee; he is currently a member of the AUA Data Committee, the SITC Task Force for Prostate Cancer, the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Think Tank and the editorial boards of Urology Times, Current Urology Reports, Chemotherapy Advisor, OncLive, PlosOne and Urology Practice. He has numerous peer reviewed publications and book chapters; he performs peer review for numerous scientific journals.

A graduate of Duke University and Duke University Medical School, Dr. Shore completed a 6 month clinical research fellowship in Pretoria, South Africa, and then completed his General Surgery/Urology training at New York Hospital Cornell Medical Center and at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City. He is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

James B. Thrasher, MD, FACS

Dr. Thrasher is the William L. Valk Distinguished Professor and former chair of the Department of Urology and the Co-Director of Operative Services at the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City, Kansas. A native of South Carolina, he completed his Medical Degree at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, South Carolina, an internship at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington D.C., and his urology residency at Fitzsimons Army Medical Center in Aurora, Colorado. He subsequently completed a urologic oncology fellowship at Duke University Medical Center. He served for three years as Program Director for the Urology Residency Program at Madigan Army Medical Center in Tacoma, Washington, and after completing his military obligation, he was appointed as Chair in 1998.

He is immediate Past-President of the American Urological Association (AUA), Past-President of the Society of Urology Chairpersons and Program Directors, Past-President of the Society of Urologic Oncology, and a previous member of the Residency Review Committee for Urology. He stepped down as Chair of the Department of Urology in June 2016, in order to dedicate more time to his position and service for the AUA. He will assume role of Executive Secretary of the American Board of Urology in June, 2019.

Kara L. Watts, MD

Kara L. Watts, MD, Assistant Professor of Urology, joined the urology faculty at Montefiore in 2016. Dr. Watts earned her medical degree from the University of Connecticut School of Medicine in 2010 and subsequently completed her 6-year residency training in surgery and urology at Montefiore Medical Center.

As Dr. Watts launches her general urology practice at Montefiore, she is also focusing on advances in technology that will improve the diagnosis of prostate cancer. She is leading a department-wide initiative to implement the UroNav, a platform for MRI-ultrasound fusion biopsy of the prostate, to more accurately detect prostate cancer in men. Furthermore, she is working to develop protocols for risk stratification of men with newly diagnosed prostate cancer based on this technology, as well as programs for active surveillance of indolent prostate cancer and small renal masses. Lastly, she is pursuing her interest in focal therapy for prostate cancer.

Ross E. Weber

Mr. Weber graduated from The George Washington University with a degree in International Affairs. He broke into public policy while working at the Council of the District of Columbia; the city, county and state government of the federal district; in the office of Health Committee Chairman David A. Catania. Mr. Weber is an accomplished writer, policy advocate and “fixer” with diverse public, private and non-profit sector experience. He has researched and represented the interests of myriad industries including high-tech, professional sports leagues, insurance, data management firms and retailers.

Since 2010, Mr. Weber has focused his attention on matters affecting specialty physicians and the practice of medicine. He mobilizes grassroots advocates and engages policymakers on issues such as access to medically necessary health screenings and prescription drugs and medical devices, as well as liability reform, payor relations and non-physician providers’ scopes of practice. His work has appeared in several publications, including Urology Times and International Affairs Review.

Mr. Weber participates in the activities of several professional organizations including the Association Forum of Chicagoland, Chicago Area State Affairs Society and International Association of Business Communicators. Ross regularly performs in community choirs and has an inbred passion for the Green Bay Packers, a professional football franchise in which he became a stockholder in 2011.
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