Beloved Emory plastic surgery pioneer Dr. Maurice Jurkiewicz, 1923-2011

We are deeply saddened by the loss of Dr. Maurice Jurkiewicz, who passed away May 29, 2011, at Emory University Hospital Midtown. He was an extraordinarily foundational figure in the histories of both the Emory University School of Medicine and the national surgical community. Simultaneously, we will be forever grateful for all that he gave to our Department, to the students he taught and mentored, to the countless patients he served and to our field in general.

We marvel at his resounding impact. He not only established our division of plastic surgery as one of the premier clinical, educational and investigational programs of its type in the country during his tenure as its first chief from 1971-1993, he also helped shape modern reconstructive surgery during its formative stages. Perhaps his greatest legacy can be measured through the accomplishments that have been made and the achievements still to come from the gifted men and women he trained that are now leaders of plastic surgery themselves.

Dr. Jurkiewicz was born in Claremont, NH, on September 24, 1923, to immigrant parents who had come to the U.S. from occupied Poland, and was raised in Bellow's Falls, VT. After graduating Magna Cum Laude, DDS, at the University of Maryland in 1946, he served with the Naval Reserves in Normandy. He earned his MD from Harvard University Medical School in 1952 and completed his internship and general surgery and plastic surgery residencies at Barnes Hospital at Washington University. He was certified by the American Board of Surgery in 1960 (re-certified in 1980) and the American Board of Plastic Surgery in 1963 (re-certified, 1978).

Before accepting Department of Surgery Chair Dr. W. Dean Warren's invitation to develop and lead Emory's Division of Plastic Surgery, Dr. Jurkiewicz had been Chief of Plastic Surgery at the University of Florida since 1959 and Chief
of Surgery at the VA Medical Center in Gainesville, FL, since 1968. After joining Emory, Dr. Jurkiewicz also served as Chief of Surgical Services at Grady Memorial Hospital from 1972 to 1977 and Chief of Surgery at the Atlanta VA Medical Center from 1989 to 1993. Upon his retirement in 1993, he remained a Professor of Surgery Emeritus and continued to play an active role in educating and advising medical students, interns and residents up until his death.

The culmination of Dr. Jurkiewicz's career outside of Emory was his 1989-1990 term as president of the American College of Surgeons. He remains the only plastic surgeon to date to have attained this prestigious office, and he continued to be an active contributor to the ACS for decades afterwards. He was also president of the American Society of Head and Neck Surgeons (1989), first vice-president of the Southern Surgical Association (1993), scientific councilor for the National Institute of Dental Research (1966-1971), plastic surgery consultant to Walter Reed Hospital (1971-1991) and the Shriners hospitals (1995-2000), a member-at-large of the National Board of Medical Examiners (1985-1993), a member of the American Surgical Association since 1971 and an honorary fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons since 1990.

"Dr. J. has been the driving influence on my academic career," says Dr. Grant Carlson, current chief of our Division of Plastic Surgery and an Emory alumnus who received his MD and did his general surgery and plastic and reconstructive surgery residencies here. "He often said 'plastic surgery is part and parcel to general surgery' and that the alliances between the two should be collegial and collaborative. I still carry this mantra with me as I lead Emory Plastic Surgery into the post-Jurkiewicz era."

Dr. Jurkiewicz's wife Mary, to whom he was married 57 years, died in 2008. He is survived by his daughter Beth Wilson, son-in-law David and grandson Colin of Norcross, GA; his son Chris Jurkiewicz, daughter-in-law Sally and granddaughter Lucy of Fairfield, CT; and three siblings, Renata Zlatoper, Leona O'Rourke and Charles Jurkiewicz. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Children's Healthcare of Atlanta or to the Jurkiewicz Endowment of the Department of Surgery, Emory University (for the latter, contact Todd Randolph, Office of Development and University Relations, todd.c.randolph@emory.edu, 404.778.4632). A memorial service will be held at St. Jude the Apostle Catholic Church in Sandy Springs, June 17, at 1:00 PM.

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**Study concludes that exercise protects the heart via nitric oxide**

For years doctors haven't known exactly how exercise appeared to benefit the heart by protecting it from injury after a heart attack. "Exercise protects against myocardial ischemia reperfusion injury via stimulation of beta3-adrenergic receptors and increased nitric oxide signaling: Role of nitrite and nitrosothiols," published in *Circulation Research*, is making significant impact due to its new evidence that the heart's ability to store the nitric oxide generated during exercise appears to be an essential component to protecting the heart after a heart attack. Dr. John Calvert is the study's first author and Dr. David Lefer the senior author. Collaborators included scientists at University of Colorado, Boulder and Johns Hopkins University.

"We provide new evidence that nitric oxide generated during physical exercise is actually stored in the bloodstream and heart in the form of nitrite and nitrosothiols. These more stable nitric oxide intermediates appear to be critical for the cardioprotection against a subsequent heart attack," Dr. Lefer says.
Nitric oxide, a short-lived gas generated within the body, turns on chemical pathways that relax blood vessels to increase blood flow and activate survival pathways. The study found that both the chemical nitrite and nitrosothiols, nitric oxide attached to proteins via sulfur, appear to act as convertible reservoirs for nitric oxide in critical situations such as a lack of blood flow or oxygen.

In experiments with mice, the researchers showed that four weeks of being able to run on a wheel protected the mice from having a blocked coronary artery; the amount of heart muscle damaged by the blockage was less after the exercise period. Importantly, the mice were still protected a week after the wheel was taken away.

The researchers found that voluntary exercise boosted endothelial nitric oxide synthase (eNOS, an enzyme that produces nitric oxide). Moreover, the levels of eNOS in heart tissue, and nitrite and nitrosothiols in the blood as well as heart tissue, stayed high for a week after exercise ceased unlike other heart enzymes stimulated by exercise. However, the study found that the protective effects of exercise did not extend beyond four weeks after exercise ended, when nitrite and nitrosothiols in the heart returned to baseline.

Another molecule that appears to be important for the benefits of exercise is the beta-3-adrenergic receptor, which allows cells to respond to the hormones epinephrine and norepinephrine. All of the beneficial effects of voluntary exercise were lost in mice that were deficient in this receptor. One of the effects of stimulating the receptor appears to be activating eNOS. Additional animal studies are currently underway in Dr. Lefer’s lab to determine the potential benefit of beta-3-adrenergic receptor activating drugs following a heart attack.

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**Triple kidney donation at Emory exemplifies generosity of donors**

The Emory Transplant Center (ETC) initiated its innovative Paired Donor Kidney Exchange Program in 2009. In paired kidney donation, one incompatible donor/recipient pair is matched to another pair in the same situation, so that the donor of the first pair gives to the recipient of the second, and vice versa. Of course, donated kidneys also come from recently deceased donors, and while most function well, studies have shown that a kidney from a living donor provides the greatest chance for long-term success.

"Paired donor exchanges allow us to cast a much wider net to find compatible donors and recipients," says Dr. Ken Newell, who directs the ETC’s Living Donor Kidney Program. "With a paired kidney transplant, one incompatible donor-pair is able to give a healthy kidney to a compatible recipient. In exchange, the second donor-recipient pair will give a compatible kidney to the first donor-recipient pair, making two compatible living donor transplants possible and increasing the potential number of available donor kidneys. This option can help those patients waiting for kidney transplants who have family members or friends willing to be donors and who are medically suitable, but who have an ABO blood type that is incompatible with the recipient's blood type."

In this particular situation, the ball was set rolling by Jon Pomenville of Anderson, SC, who altruistically decided to donate a kidney to a recipient anywhere in the country. Gerry Smith of Five Points, AL, needed a kidney, as did 7-year-old Zion Parnes, whose kidneys had been destroyed by focal segmental glomerulosclerosis. Members of Gerry and Zion’s families wanted to
Donors and recipients: (front row, left to right) Jon Pomenville, Zion Parnes, Matt Smith, (back, left to right) Gerry Smith, Mike Parnes.

Dr. Newell worked with the donors and managed the structuring of the following chain: Jon donated his kidney to Gerry, Gerry's 20 year-old son Matt donated his kidney to Zion, and Zion's father Mike donated his kidney to a waiting teenager at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston (also where Zion's transplant was performed; the adult procedures were performed at Emory University Hospital). Drs. Paul Tso and Nicole Turgeon performed the donor surgeries, and Drs. Alan Kirk, Chris Larsen and Tom Pearson performed the recipient operations. The procedures went smoothly and all patients are doing well.

Watch the players in this amazing sequence of donations and transplants tell their story.

“The Mother of All Swaps,” a news report from 11 Alive Atlanta, also gives a fascinating account of the event and its participants.

10th Annual Emory Surgery Research Day

On Thursday, June 16, 2011, at 7:00 AM, the 10th Annual Department of Surgery Research Day will begin at Surgical Grand Rounds in the Emory University Hospital Auditorium. Carl J. Hauser, MD, Visiting Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, will present "PAMPs, DAMPs and the Pathogenesis of Sepsis and SIRS," describing the role of cellular danger molecules (DAMPs) in the pathogenesis of SIR, the function of bacterial danger molecules (PAMPs) in the pathogenesis of sepsis, and the application of modern concepts of inflammation biology antibiotic and anti-inflammatory use in patients with SIRS.

Dr. Hauser has extensive experience in all aspects of general surgery and trauma surgery, with particular expertise in advanced treatments for complications of trauma, shock and sepsis, and inflammatory responses to injury, sepsis and multiple organ failure syndromes. He was the Associate Director of Trauma at New Jersey State Trauma Center in Newark from 1996-2006 and Acting Chief of the Division of Trauma and Critical Care at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center from 2007-2008.

Dr. Hauser is an NIH-funded investigator and directs a highly productive laboratory which studies inflammatory processes in trauma and sepsis. His team participated in landmark international studies re-evaluating the coagulopathy of trauma that resulted in the revision of transfusion and blood product replacement algorithms world-wide, and recently completed the North American Trial of recombinant Factor VIIa in severely injured trauma patients.

The symposium component of Research Day will resume at 1:00 PM in School of Medicine Lecture Hall 110, and will showcase the work of the department's medical students, postdocs, residents and fellows. Oral presentations and posters in basic and clinical science categories that have been competitively reviewed and selected by a panel of distinguished departmental faculty will be featured. Dr. Hauser will assist in ranking the posters and presentations, resulting in cash awards for the winners as well as dinner with the faculty immediately following the symposium.
Chiefs' Banquet Highlights

The 2010-2011 Chiefs Banquet was held on Saturday, May 21 at 103 West in Buckhead. Dr. John Galloway received the J. Richard Amerson Teaching Award, Dr. Matthew Clifton the Junior Residents Teaching Award, Dr. Carla Haack the David V. Feliciano Teaching Award, Dr. Carrie Chu the Douglas R. Murray Professionalism Award, and Dr. Andrew Page the J.D. Martin Surgical Resident Award. The residents who had the highest ABSITE score within their PGY level were also recognized: Brendan Dewan (PGY 1), Ximena Pinell (PGY 2), I. Raul Badell (PGY 3), and John Zink (PGY 4).

Residency/Fellowship Transitions

BREAST FELLOWSHIP

The outgoing fellow is Miral Amin, who is doing an aesthetic breast reconstructive surgery fellowship at Northern Westchester Hospital, Mt Kisco, NY. The incoming fellow is Jared Linebarger, who did his general surgery residency at Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center, La Crosse, WI.

CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY

Outgoing residents

Bradley Leshnower, Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Department of Surgery, Emory; William Keeling, Division of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, University of Louisville; Hector Flores, staff surgeon, El Paso Southwestern Cardiovascular Surgery Associates.

Incoming residents

Farshad Anvari, George Washington University Medical Center; Jared Murdock, Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh; Jay Patel, Indiana University School of Medicine; Shair Ahmed, Alpert Medical School of Brown University.
Incoming fellows

Former Emory general surgery chief residents Kumari Adams and Shady Eldaieef.

ENDOSURGERY FELLOWSHIP

Outgoing fellows

Farah Husain, Exempla St. Joseph’s Hospital, Denver, CO; Kalyana Nandipati (will complete the program on August 1, 2011), Creighton University, Omaha.

Incoming fellows

Rebecca Coefield, Memorial University Medical Center of Savannah; Miller Hamrick (start date August 2011), Cincinnati Children’s Hospital.

GENERAL SURGERY

Outgoing chief residents

Kumari Adams, cardiothoracic surgery fellowship, Emory; Alisa Cavitt, trauma fellowship, Emory; Felipe Chavarriaga, vascular surgery fellowship, Southern Illinois University; Drew Davis, plastic and reconstructive surgery fellowship, Medical College of Virginia; Shady Eldaieef, cardiothoracic surgery fellowship, Emory; Puja Gaur, thoracic surgery fellowship, Brigham and Women’s Hospital; Carla Haack, Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of General and GI Surgery, Department of Surgery, Emory; Robyn Sackeyfio, plastic surgery fellowship, New York Presbyterian (Cornell-Columbia); Alexandra Turner, transplant surgery fellowship, Emory.

Incoming categorical residents

Karan Desai, USF College of Medicine

David Dragoo, University of Illinois College of Medicine

Chris Funderburk, Emory

Jordan Hoffman, Tulane University School of Medicine

Stuart Hurst, Emory

John Lyons, Emory
Incoming non-designated, preliminary residents

Ifeoma Nwadei, Pritzker School of Medicine
Joshua Rosenblum, Case Western Reserve School of Medicine
Blayne Sayed, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University

Tatiana Chadid, Colegio Mayor de Nuestra Senora del Rosario, Colombia
Roger Eduardo, Emory
Michael Kayatta, Emory

Eduardo Lacayo, Universidad Americana, Nicaragua
Craig McCready, Emory
Max Mondestin, Emory

Incoming surgical subspecialty urology residents

Andrew Michigan, Emory; Paymon Nourparvar, Medical College of Georgia; Aaron David Weiss, Emory.

Incoming surgical subspecialty oral surgery residents

Thien-Thao Le, Emory; Anne Stearns, Emory.

ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY

Outgoing residents
Amy Kuhmichel, private practice, Atlanta; Jeffrey Wallace, TMJ-orthognathic surgery fellowship, Emory.

**Incoming residents**

Travis Hamilton, Oregon Health Science University, Portland; Ibrahim Haron, University of Kuwait; Michael Rosenthal, Tufts University, Boston; Justine Moe, Dalhausie University, Nova Scotia.

**PEDIATRIC SURGERY**

Samir Pandya, the outgoing fellow, is taking an academic position with New York University, Valhalla. Drew Rideout, the incoming fellow, comes from the University of South Florida College of Medicine.

**PLASTIC SURGERY**

**Outgoing residents**

Nour Abboushi, private practice, Atlanta; Nicholas McLean, private practice, Columbia; Kimberly Singh, aesthetic fellowship, Paces Plastic Surgery.

**Incoming residents**

Brian Allen, University of Connecticut, Hartford; Michael Golinko, NYU; Sam Shih, Dartmouth – Hitchcock.

**TRANSPLANTATION FELLOWSHIP**

The outgoing fellow is David Bruno, who has taken a faculty position at Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, MI. The new fellow is Alexandra Turner (from Emory).

**TRAUMA/SURGICAL CRITICAL CARE**

**Outgoing surgical critical care residents**

Mitchell Chaar, trauma/acute care surgeon, Liberty Surgical Group – Jersey City Medical Center; Bryan Morse, Director, Surgical Critical Care, Greenville Hospital System – University Medical Center, Greenville, SC.

**Incoming trauma fellows**

Alisa Cavitt, Emory; Britani Hill, University of Utah; Gregory Lance Peck, Lankenau Hospital, Wynnewood, PA.

**VASCULAR SURGERY AND ENDOVASCULAR THERAPY**

**Outgoing residents**

Luke Brewster and James Reeves will both be assistant professors of surgery in our division of vascular surgery.

**Incoming residents**

Shannon Beal, UC Davis; Siddharth Patel, University of Rochester.
Welcome our new staff

After working for approximately three and a half years as a research accountant and business manager for the Department of Psychiatry at Emory, Juwon Adejokun has joined us as a research accountant administrator for the pre-award section of the Surgery Research Administration Office. The pre-award team assists with routing grant proposals. He is a graduate of Florida A&M and Florida State University.

Ashley Barbee (photo unavailable at press-time) is an administrative fellow who will assist with various special projects over the next year. The resident education program will be her first area of focus. Ashley earned a BS in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention from USC and an MPH in Health Education from the Rollins School of Public Health. She is also a Certified Health Education Specialist and recently completed the CDC's Public Health Prevention Service, a three-year training and service fellowship providing preparation for leadership positions in local, state, national and international public health agencies.

Tracy Jones is the new sponsored program administrator in the Surgery Research Administration Office. She joined the Winship Cancer Institute in 2005, later taking a position as a research project coordinator for the Multiple Myeloma Program of the Department of Hematology and Medical Oncology. Tracy has extensive experience in pre and post award management and recently attained certification in Research Administration at Emory (cRAE). Her interests include fundraising and event coordination for such organizations as the Be The Match Foundation and the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation.

As our new human resources assistant, Marti Martin will work with HR associate Vertis Walker on such matters as faculty and staff hires, Kronos and payroll updates, visa processing and access coordination. She received a BBA in Human Resource Management from Georgia Southern University. Marti was previously a human resource assistant for the Georgia Department of Labor and a guest services associate for Emory Healthcare.

Save the date: Emory Surgery ACS Reception

The Department of Surgery will host an Emory Surgery Alumni Reception at the American College of Surgeons 97th Annual Clinical Congress, October 23-27, 2011, in San Francisco. The reception will be held on October 25 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM in the Borgia Room of the Westin St. Francis Hotel. Former and recent graduates are encouraged to attend.
### Upcoming

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| **10th Annual Department of Surgery Research Day**  
See the detailed description above. | June 16, 2011         | Surgical Grand Rounds, EUH Auditorium, 7:00 AM; 
                                          |                                     | SOM Lecture Hall 110, 1:00 PM      |
| **SURGICAL GRAND ROUNDS**                  | 7:00-8:00 AM, June 23, 2011 | Auditorium, EUH              |
| Management of Early Stage Lung Cancer in High Risk Patients  
Presented by Felix G. Fernandez, MD  
– Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Department of Surgery, Emory University School of Medicine | 5:30-7:00 PM, June 28, 2011 | Whitehead Room                 |
| **SURGICAL GRAND ROUNDS**                  | 7:00-8:00 AM, June 30, 2011 | Auditorium, EUH              |
| Damage Control Resuscitation and Massive Transfusion Protocols  
Presented by Christopher J. Dente, MD  
– Associate Professor of Surgery, Division of Trauma/Surgical Critical Care, Department of Surgery, Emory University School of Medicine  
– Associate Director, Surgical Critical Care Residency, Department of Surgery, Emory  
– Co-Director, Trauma, Grady Memorial Hospital | 5:30-7:00 PM, July 26, 2011 | TEC B6300                      |
| **Surgery Division Chiefs Meeting**         |                       |                               |
| **Surgery Faculty Meeting**                |                       |                               |