IN THE NEWS

MicroRNA tied to colon cancer growth identified. Research led by Subbaya Subramanian is featured in the India Business Standard, The Health Site and Counsel & Heal.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Dominique Tobbell, Ph.D., has been appointed the interim Director of the Program in the History of Medicine. Dominique joined the Program in 2008 as an assistant professor and oral historian for the Academic Health Center History Project. Since then she has published a field-shaping book, Pills, Power, and Policy: The Struggle for Drug Reform in Cold War America and its Consequences (University of California Press, 2012), won two national article prizes, and been awarded a McKnight Land Grant Professorship, the University's highest honor for junior scholars.

UPCOMING LECTURES

The Medical School and Department of Surgery present the seventh annual
David A. Rothenberger Lecture

Marilyn Carlson Nelson
Former chairman and CEO of Carlson, the global travel and hospitality company headquartered in Minneapolis speaks on

Have We Done Enough?

4 p.m. Wednesday, October 15, 2014
Mayo Auditorium
Free and open to the public; reception follows

Join us as Marilyn Carlson Nelson speaks on the need for medical leaders to take on the issues of our modern health care world from her perspective as a business leader of a worldwide corporation, her experience as the past chair of the Mayo Board of Trustees, and as a leader in global humanitarian efforts.
SPECIAL GRAND ROUNDS
Lecture
"ACCESS, QUALITY, AND VALUE IN SURGICAL CARE"

SAMUEL R. G. FINLAYSON, M.D., M.P.H.
Professor and
Chairman of the Department of Surgery
University of Utah
Salt Lake City, Utah
Tuesday, October 14, 2014
11-157 PWB 7:30 A.M. - 8:30 A.M.

HONORS & AWARDS

Staff Award – Jonathan Berger, PA-C
Nominated for Mission - Clinical Excellence and Compassionate Patient Care

Patients first, professionalism and excellent patient care – just a few of the affirmations his colleagues used to describe why Jon Berger should receive the September employee recognition award.

“I cannot recall a single week, Jon did not have a new innovative idea on how we could improve our protocols and ways we take care of patients – he is constantly looking to improve things,” says Dr. Eitan Podgaetz who nominated Jon for this award.

With a focus on postoperative care Jon Berger, has been a member of the thoracic and foregut surgery division since November 2010. His position began as a pilot position for physician assistants in surgical specialties, a program which has since been replicated in other programs including, colorectal and ENT.
Jon plays a critical role in resident education by sharing his knowledge and expertise. Dr. Jennifer Witt, a PGY-4 resident in the department of surgery also nominated Jon and emphasizes that the residents and thoracic team look to him for guidance and his expertise. “He is thorough, kind, thoughtful and astute in all his patient interactions, as well as his interactions with residents rotating through the service and providers on other services,” says Dr. Witt.

Jon’s publications include as first author – “Measuring what we value: quantifying the impact of the physician extender in surgical care” and second author “Transdiaphragmatic therapeutic pneumoperitonuem – 7 years’ experience.”

At home Jon is busy with his three daughters two 5-year old twins Anabelle and Lilah and 1-year old Clara. He and his wife enjoy frequent trips to their cabin in central MN where they enjoy boating, tubing, fishing and playing on the beach with their family. He also enjoys woodworking and building furniture for their cabin on the lake.

Dr. Podgaetz expresses why Jon is such an asset to the Thoracic Surgery team:

“Jon is an outstanding PA. He has become an essential part of our service, where I am convinced the patients are the ones who benefit the most. It’s time for him to get some official recognition for the devotion, commitment and just plain exceptional everyday job he does.”

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**RECOGNITION PROGRAM**

Do you see someone working hard in your area and contributing to the department’s success by fulfilling our mission, vision and values? If so, take a moment to [nominate](#) this person for an Employee Recognition Award.

Completed [nomination forms](#) should be sent to [Michelle Lunden](mailto:micelle.lunden@umn.edu).

The Department of Surgery Update is sent to department faculty, fellows, residents, and staff. To submit an item for publication in Update, send the information to [surgupdt@umn.edu](mailto:surgupdt@umn.edu).

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