Dr. Fray Marshall Honored with Endowed Chair

The Emory University School of Medicine’s Department of Urology has established an endowed chair to honor Fray F. Marshall, MD. To date, 85 people—most of them grateful patients—have contributed to the fund. Fray Marshall is the Ada Lee and Pete Correll Professor of Urology and Chair of Emory University School of Medicine’s Department of Urology. “We have many new initiatives and plans that are possible because of the vision of Dr. Marshall, truly a giant not only in Urology but in medicine,” said Chad Ritenour, MD, Emory Department of Urology associate professor and interim chair.

The Fray F. Marshall Chair in Urology will be devoted to research. According to Marshall, combining the research efforts of diverse scientists with practicing clinicians is required for improved and innovative medical treatments in the future, and this chair will help ensure that legacy. Among the contributors is Chuck Warren, who credits Marshall with saving his life and who now serves as chair of the Department of Urology Board of Advisors. “Naming a research chair in honor of Fray Marshall is such an appropriate tribute to his career,” he said.

“When Fray was named chairman of Emory Urology, his goal was to lead the department to be one of the nation’s most respected urology departments, and he succeeded in record time. In fact, three out of four medical school graduates applying for a urology residency apply to Emory. This translates to more than 400 applicants a year for only three available spots.”

An academic chair is the most prestigious of named academic positions. Such chairs recognize extraordinary achievements and leadership and help recruit and retain top-level clinicians, teachers, and researchers who have done work of marked importance, often on a national or international level.

On March 13, 2011, at Cherokee Town and Country Club, 125 colleagues, former patients, friends, and family members attended an event to honor Marshall and celebrate the endowment. The evening included remarks by those who work most closely with Marshall and a formal presentation of the chair by Dean Lawley.

Fray is currently on medical leave. To wish him well, post a comment at http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/fraymarshall

Emory Urology Patient: Jon Strebe

In 2006, Jon Strebe was 29 years old and one year into his marriage with his wife Donna when diagnosed with testicular cancer. Living in Savannah, Jon’s treatment options were limited so he turned to his sister, who was in the process of completing her medical residency in Dallas, Texas, for guidance. His sister knew that Jon wanted a comprehensive medical facility within a reasonable distance from his home on the coast of Georgia. She discussed the situation with her colleagues in Dallas and then referred Jon to Dr. Chad Ritenour. Jon took his sister’s advice and called Dr. Ritenour immediately. Upon speaking with Dr. Ritenour, Jon and Donna jumped into the car for the five-hour ride from Savannah to Emory. Donna described their arrival by saying, “Chad calmed our fears as soon as we met him. While Jon’s condition was serious, he helped us to feel at ease about what we faced in the days ahead.” Dr. Ritenour determined that Jon needed immediate surgery. The next day, Jon underwent a complicated but successful surgery to remove the cancer.

Five years later, Jon is cancer free and grateful for his care provided by Dr. Ritenour. Jon said, “The five year mark was a big hurdle for me to cross. From day one, Chad has treated us like old friends from grade school. He truly serves his patients and cares so deeply— but not just about us but about our entire family.”

After successful cancer treatment and another procedure to improve fertility, Jon and Donna have three beautiful and healthy children. Jon said, “Chad is such a tremendous asset to Emory. He builds trust through his care and advice. In addition he is an expert surgeon and very knowledgeable in his field of Urology. This whole process has been tough in so many ways but it was probably the toughest on Donna. Chad helped in so many ways to calm her fears.”

Prostate Cancer Awareness

Did you know? Other than skin cancer, prostate cancer is the most common cancer in American men. The latest American Cancer Society statistics on prostate cancer in the United States are:
- Over 200,000 new cases of prostate cancer were diagnosed in 2010.
- 1 in 6 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer during his lifetime.
- Prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in American men, behind only lung cancer.

The good news! If caught early, the five-year survival rate for prostate cancer is almost 100%. More than 2 million men in the United States are prostate cancer survivors.

- Age, race, family history, diet, exercise, and obesity all play a factor in your chances of developing prostate cancer. These are important factors to discuss with your urologist.
- If you are a male and over 50 years old (or know someone who is), schedule a prostate screening with us today! It’s easy and could save your life!

Research News

As an international leader in urological research, our faculty invests significant amounts of time and resources researching many aspects of urological disease and care. Below is a list of some of our most recent work:

Uro-oncology

Dr. John Petros: Study of the murine leukemia retroviruses, which may be a newly recognized cause of prostate cancer; study of mitochondrial DNA mutations in prostate tumorigenesis; prostate cancer bone metastasis biology and testing; study; pilot study to develop an immunomass (test) to determine if carcinoma antigens exist in blood serum (to determine if a patient has kidney cancer). Biomarkers of prostate cancer progression and recurrence.

Dr. Viraj Master: Works on the effect of the ‘host’ meaning the whole patient, in a holistic fashion, interested in the effects of education, diet, exercise and especially inflammation on urological diseases, with particular emphasis on cancer. He has published over 100 papers and book chapters on these and other research topics. He is internationally recognized for this work and is on the American Cancer Society Prostate Cancer Guidelines Panel and World Health Organization International Consultation on Urologic Disease Kidney Cancer Panel. He is a co-investigator on several NIH RO1 grants and recently received a pilot grant to look at the effect of a video intervention to assess and then improve patient understanding of commonly used prostate cancer terminologies.

Dr. Daqing Wu: Basic science research on genetic and molecular mechanisms that affect prostate cancer’s progress in patients and may provide for new treatment.

Dr. Muta Issa: Optimizing management of post-prostatectomy urinary incontinence (Journal of the American Medical Association JAMA 2011)
- The association of diabetes mellitus and prostate cancer (Prostate Cancer and Prostate Disease 2011)
- Optimizing the number of biopsy cores for the diagnosis of prostate cancer (Urology 2011)

Dr. Peter Nieh: Study of positron emission tomography (PET) scans to identify earlier higher risk patients with PSA recurrence; sponsored study monitoring botulinum toxin injections with prostate brachytherapy, tracking urinary symptoms and PSA; sponsored study of a prospective kidney cancer drug with patients with Clear Cell RCC.

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Comings and Goings

In-Corning Faculty and Nurse Practitioner

- Wayland Hsiao, MD-Wayland joins us from Cornell University Weill Medical College where he was a fellow in Male Reproductive Medicine and Microsurgery. He will be working primarily in Men’s Health and Male Fertility. Wayland is an alumnus of the Emory Urology Residency Program and is married with two children.

- Hadley Wyre, MD-Hadley joins us from the Emory Urology Residency Program where he won the Williams Cowherd Award recognizing the resident with the most compassion and care in 2010. Hadley will be working primarily in trauma and reconstructive surgery at Grady Hospital. He is married to Kristen Raye and they live in Decatur.

- Daniel Cantor, MD-Dan joins us from Fox Chase Cancer Center where he was a fellow in urologic oncology. At Emory, he will work primarily with oncology patients with a focus on bladder cancer. Dan is an alumnus of the residency program at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and is married with two children.

- Jennifer Behunin, NP-Jennifer comes to us after spending ten years as a nurse practitioner caring for women with pelvic cancer at Southeastern Gynecologic Oncology here in the Atlanta area. She obtained her nursing degree from the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, SC followed by a master’s degree at Purdue University. She lives in Gwinnett County with her husband and daughter. Jennifer will be working in the continence center with Dr. Galloway as well as assisting Dr. Wyre.

In-Corning Residents and Pediatric Fellow

- New resident Andrew Michigan, MD-Medical School-Emory University School of Medicine & Undergraduate-Emory University.

- New resident Paymon Nourparvar, MD-Medical School-Medical College of Georgia & Undergraduate-Georgia Tech (He is married to Lauren who is a RN at Piedmont Hospital on the Nephrology Service.)

- New resident Aaron David Weiss, MD-Medical School-Emory University School of Medicine & Undergraduate-University of Michigan – Ann Arbor.

- New VA resident Edgardo Javier Reyes-Aponte, MD-Medical School-University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine & Undergraduate-University of Puerto Rico (He is a gold medalist in Olympic snatch and grab weight lifting).

- Fellow Laura G. Stansell, MD-Residency Program-University of Kentucky School of Medicine, Medical School-Texas Tech & Undergraduate-Texas A & M (She is engaged to architect William Merriman. Their wedding is planned for this fall.)

- New resident Casey Marcus Leong, MD-Medical School-Wayne State & undergraduate-University of Colorado at Boulder.

Graduating Residents and Pediatric Fellows

- Resident Yasmin I. Bootwala, MD has accepted a Fellowship at UT MD Anderson Cancer Center Fellowship in Urinary Tract and Pelvic Reconstruction.

- Resident Bradley David Figler, MD has accepted a Fellowship at the University of Washington in Trauma and Reconstructive Surgery. He is engaged to Dr. Charlie Wong, who is doing her residency in Pediatrics at the University of Washington.

- Resident Hadley Whitney Wyre, MD will be joining our faculty on the Clinical Tract and will be primarily working down at Grady Memorial Hospital with Dr. K. Jeff Carney in Trauma and Reconstruction. He is married to Kristin Raye who just graduated from UGA with a degree in Psychology.

- Fellow Scott P. Cuda, MD, a Major in the US Army, will be practicing in Washington State at Madigan Army Medical Center.

- Fellow Jonathan Frank Kalivasvaart, MD will be joining a practice in Spokane, Washington.

Dr. John Pattaras hosts the Society of Black Engineers.

Dr. John Pattaras, Director of Minimally Invasive Surgery, and some of our resident physicians met with 14 high school students from the Black Society of Engineers which is a part of the Georgia Black Chapter of the NSBE. After a one-hour lecture, the students were given the opportunity to sit at the console of the Emory da Vinci robot, which is used for minimally invasive surgery at Emory Hospital, and discover (in test mode) how it moves and operates during live surgery. John and the residents also took time to answer questions about urology and about working in the medical field at Emory.

Supporting Emory Urology

The Department of Urology at Emory School of Medicine is an international leader in urologic care, instruction, and research. Every dollar of support from grateful patients and friends of the department makes a difference in our ability to deliver the very best to our patients, residents, and community.

Ways to support the department:

- Urology Excellence Fund-Support the day-to-day operation of the department with a gift to our general fund.

- Residency Program Support Fund-Support our resident physicians and the next generation of urologists with a gift.

- Faculty Scholars Fund-Support our esteemed faculty and their respective teaching and research programs within the department.

If you would like to make a special gift to one of our four clinical centers (Uro-Oncology, The Stone Center, Men’s Health, or The Continence Center) or to our research program, please contact James Owen at the number below.

For more information or to give, please contact James Owen, Director of Development, Department of Urology at 404.778.5429 or james.p.owen@emory.edu

If you are over 70% years old and required to take a distribution from your IRA, you can give up to $100,000 (prior to Dec. 31) tax-free to Emory Urology.