

POST-OP



Providing University-Level Cosmetic Surgery *Offering the Latest Therapies and Techniques For Restoring Youth, Health, and Beauty*

In this issue . . .

Introducing Our
New Plastic Surgeon

Preventing and Treating
Deep Vein Thrombosis

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Opening in January

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Plus More!



Preoperative planning of blepharoplasty (eyelid rejuvenation) procedure.

Our Plastic and Cosmetic Surgery Center in East Setauket distinguishes itself among the most advanced centers providing both surgical and non-surgical cosmetic services. We continue to expand our services, in keeping with our mission of excellence and our affiliation with the region's only academic medical center.

Through our comprehensive expertise in the latest cosmetic procedures, our physicians are helping people improve their appearance and enhance their self-image. Our patients not only gain the confidence that comes with feeling good about the way they look, they are also confident in knowing that we are committed to changing lives for the better.

We offer the entire spectrum of aesthetic procedures, including non-invasive, minimally invasive, moderately invasive, and full surgical treatments.

Cosmetic therapies and procedures can help bring out the best in people, generating positive self-esteem that can improve many aspects of their life.

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2nd Annual Meeting of the Minds
Symposium on Heart Disease
See page 5 for details.

Dr. Todd K. Rosengart Appointed Interim Chairman of Surgery

*Our Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery
Assumes New Leadership Role*

In July, with reorganization of the medical school, Todd K. Rosengart, MD, professor of surgery and chief of cardiothoracic surgery, was appointed interim chairman (chief) of surgery. He follows John J. Ricotta, MD, who, after serving as our chairman for 11 years, has left Stony Brook to head the surgery department at Washington Medical Center, in Washington, DC.

Dr. Rosengart joined our faculty in 2006. A nationally recognized leader in cardiac surgery, he came to Stony Brook from Northwestern

University's School of Medicine in Chicago, where he was professor of surgery and chief of cardiothoracic surgery at its affiliated hospitals of Evanston Northwestern Healthcare.

The recipient of numerous honors and awards for excellence as both a clinician and scientist, Dr. Rosengart is a cardiothoracic surgeon with active research interests in cardiac surgery. Since joining our faculty, he has served as co-director of the Stony Brook University Heart Center, and will continue to do so.

"Our goal is to see the Department of Surgery continue to grow and provide the most sophisticated care available for both adults and children with a wide variety of problems requiring surgery," says Dr. Rosengart. "With an added emphasis on resident and medical student education and on clinical and translational research initiatives, we will further seek to distinguish ourselves through academic excellence."

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Providing University-Level Cosmetic Surgery

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In fact, even minor or subtle changes in appearance can be beneficial—whether it is a matter of having more confidence in their ability to interact with other people in their personal life; helping to enhance the impression they make in professional and career situations; or simply feeling better about themselves overall by retaining or regaining a youthful look.

All of our cosmetic surgeons are specially trained and board certified in plastic surgery, and have years of experience in the highly specialized field of cosmetic surgery and related services.

Our background and knowledge, coupled with the extraordinary resources that our affiliation with Stony Brook University brings to our practice, mean that our patients can depend on us to safely and successfully achieve their desired cosmetic results.

The privacy and safety of Stony Brook’s state-of-the-art Ambulatory Surgery Center where we perform cosmetic surgery make our services all the more attractive.

Alexander B. Dagum, MD, associate professor of surgery and chief of plastic and reconstructive surgery, emphasizes that our surgeons are able to provide university-level cosmetic surgery with the privacy and safety of Stony Brook’s state-of-the-art ambulatory center.

Our cosmetic surgery services include breast augmentation, abdominoplasty (tummy tuck), liposuction, blepharoplasty (eyelid rejuvenation), brow lift, face lift, and rhinoplasty (nose reshaping), among other procedures.

Non-surgical procedures are performed at our East Setauket office, including Botox, Juvéderm, Radiesse, and Restylane injections, fat injections, facial peels, laser hair removal, laser vein therapy, and laser skin rejuvenation, among several other procedures.



Dr. Sami U. Khan

Sami U. Khan, MD, assistant professor of surgery, directs our cosmetic surgery program. Board certified in plastic surgery and general surgery, he received his training in plastic surgery at the renowned Mayo Clinic, and subsequently pursued additional fellowship training in cosmetic surgery of the face and body and breast reconstruction.

Dr. Khan explains our program’s patient-centered approach: “The patient comes first. Listening to each patient’s desires allows us to develop an individualized approach in order to achieve his or her goals. With our

comprehensive understanding of the aging process, our surgeons are able to restore and enhance the patients’ natural beauty, thus helping them to look as good on the outside as they feel on the inside.”

He cautions individuals interested in cosmetic surgery to validate the credentials of the surgeon they select. “When considering cosmetic surgery, the most important decision is choosing the right surgeon,” he says. “In today’s market, there are many practitioners who advertise themselves as cosmetic surgeons after taking ‘weekend’ courses in various treatments.”

“Patients must be informed about who is treating them,” emphasizes Dr. Khan. “Patients must make sure their surgeon is a fully trained board-certified plastic surgeon. Members of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons have pursued a minimum of six years of surgical training, including a dedicated plastic surgery residency.”



Our Ambulatory Surgery Center on the campus of Stony Brook University Medical Center is fully accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations—ensuring the highest standards of safety and care—and provides a comfortable setting where our specialists perform a range of cosmetic surgery procedures.

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THE LATEST THERAPIES AND TECHNIQUES

Our Plastic and Cosmetic Surgery Center offers the entire spectrum of aesthetic procedures including non-invasive, minimally invasive, moderately invasive, and full surgical treatments, so we are able to select treatments that will provide the maximal benefit to our patients.

All of our plastic surgeons have pursued additional fellowship training in various plastic surgery subspecialties, allowing them to access a wealth of knowledge and experience in the evaluation and treatment of our patients.

Our affiliation with Stony Brook University Medical Center allows our surgeons access to research opportunities aimed at advancing technology and developing future cosmetic treatments.

The Plastic and Cosmetic Surgery Center is fully staffed and includes an esthetician who offers facials, microdermabrasion, waxing, and chemical peels that are performed in the comfort of our soothing esthetician room. She also offers full skin analysis and skin care plans.

Our staff includes a certified physician's assistant with experience in cosmetic surgery, who works closely

with all of our physicians, and who provides injectable cosmetic therapies.

For consultations/appointments with our cosmetic surgery specialists, please call (631) 444-4666.

The Stony Brook Plastic and Cosmetic Surgery Center—located at 24 Research Way, Suite 100, in East Setauket, NY—provides the latest surgical and non-surgical cosmetic services and vein treatments, as well as aesthetic services, including facials, chemical peels, microdermabrasion, and other procedures.

Our cosmetic services include:

- Botox/Juvéderm/Radiesse/Restylane
- Breast augmentation
- Breast lift
- Eyelid rejuvenation
- Face & forehead lift
- Fat injections
- Hair transplantation
- Laser hair removal
- Liposuction
- Microdermabrasion
- Nose reshaping
- Spider & varicose vein treatments
- Total body contouring
- Tummy tuck
- *Plus more*



Introducing Dr. Mark A. Gelfand *Our New Plastic Surgeon*

We are very pleased to introduce Mark A. Gelfand, MD, who has joined our Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery as assistant professor of surgery. He comes to Stony Brook from the University of California at Los Angeles, where he completed a two-year fellowship program in plastic surgery.

Board certified in surgery, Dr. Gelfand's practice at Stony Brook will include general reconstructive and aesthetic surgery; breast reconstruction after cancer; treatment of facial fractures; management of complex and chronic wounds; and treatment of hand and wrist disorders, including fractures, tendon injuries, and nerve injuries.

Dr. Gelfand received his medical doctorate from SUNY Upstate Medical University in 2000. He completed his residency training in general surgery here at Stony Brook University Medical Center.

In 2006, Dr. Gelfand completed fellowship training in hand surgery at Stony Brook's Department of Orthopedics, and then went to UCLA for his fellowship training in plastic surgery.

For consultations/appointments with Dr. Gelfand, please call (631) 444-4666.

We are very pleased to announce the opening of

OUR NEW SMITHTOWN OFFICE General Surgery Consultations

240 Middle Country Road
Smithtown, NY

For consultations/appointments, please call (631) 444-4545.



Dr. Todd K. Rosengart Appointed Interim Chairman of Surgery

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Recently, Dr. Rosengart was selected for inclusion in the Castle Connolly Guide, *America's Top Doctors*; featured in the Castle Connolly Guide, *Top Doctors: New York Metro Area* (previously featured in the Castle Connolly Guide, *Best Doctors in Chicago*); selected for inclusion in the Consumers' Research Council of America *Guide to America's Top Surgeons*; listed in Marquis *Who's Who in America*; and listed

in the Millennium Edition of *Who's Who in Medicine and Healthcare*.

Dr. Rosengart received his medical doctorate from Northwestern University in 1983. He was in the prestigious Medical Honors Program there. He completed his residency training at New York University (NYU Medical Center; 1989), and his fellowship training in cardiothoracic surgery at New York Hospital (1991).



Dr. Todd K. Rosengart

Before joining the faculty at Northwestern University in 1999, Dr. Rosengart was an associate professor of cardiothoracic surgery at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University, and associate attending cardiothoracic surgeon at New York Presbyterian Hospital, where he performed the world's first open-heart gene therapy.

He also served as a medical staff fellow from 1985 to 1987 in the Surgery Branch of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, and as an honorary senior registrar in pediatric cardiac surgery at the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children in London, England.

Dr. Rosengart is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and the American College of Cardiology, and a member of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons and the American Association of Thoracic Surgery.

He has served on the Executive Leadership Committee for the American Heart Association (AHA) Cardiovascular Surgery and Anesthesia Council, among other professional societies and committees. He was a founding member of the national 21st Century Cardiac Surgical Society.

An active academic surgeon, Dr. Rosengart has authored over 100 publications, and is an NIH-funded researcher. He has recently been asked to chair the AHA's Region I Bioengineering and Biotechnology Study Group for research grant selections (see page 10 for details), and has previously served on NIH study sections.

Dr. Rosengart serves on the editorial board of the *Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*, and as a manuscript reviewer for journals such as the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Circulation*, and *Annals of Thoracic Surgery*. He has been a contributing editor to *Seminars in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery* and *CT Digest*, among other scholarly medical publications.

Selected Recent Publications*

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Nedzelski JM, **Schessel DA**, Pfeleiderer A, Kassel EE, Rowed DW. Conservative management of acoustic neuromas. *Neurosurg Clin N Am* 2008;19:207-16.

Qurashi S, Mynarcik DC, **McNurlan MA**, Ahn H, Ferris R, Gelato MC. Importance of the high molecular weight isoform of adiponectin in improved insulin sensitivity with rosiglitazone treatment in HIV disease. *Clin Sci (Lond)* 2008;115:197-202.

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Zarrilli GM, Liu J, **Bilfinger TV**, Moore WH, Vacirca J, Baram D. Fat-containing pleural mass due to spillage of an ovarian dermoid cyst. *J Broncholo* 2008;15:264-7.

* The names of faculty authors appear in boldface.

Cardiac Care Achievements

*Heart Center Receives Top Ranking
And Hospital's Chest Pain Center
Accreditation Is Renewed*

Cardiac services provided by Stony Brook University Heart Center are found to be in the top tier with those of the nation's top academic medical centers, according to recent data from the University HealthSystem Consortium (UHC), an alliance of about 90% of the nation's non-profit academic medical centers.

For the 12-month period ending in March 2008, the Heart Center was ranked third out of 96 academic medical centers for the lowest overall cardiac mortality; fifth out of 95 hospitals for the lowest mortality following percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI; angioplasty); and tenth out of 96 hospitals for the lowest mortality following acute myocardial infarction.

In the category of mortality for patients with heart failure, the Heart Center ranked fifth out of 96 hospitals.

Stony Brook University Heart Center has a 98.5% success rate in coronary artery bypass surgery, higher than the New York State average.

"By combining the highest quality care with the newest technology in an academic environment, Stony Brook cardiologists are able to accurately diagnose cardiovascular disease and treat it with the latest evidence-based therapies," says David L. Brown, MD, professor of medicine and chief of cardiovascular medicine, who is co-director of the Heart Center. "The UHC data confirms that this approach improves survival."

Commenting on our top ranking, Todd K. Rosengart, MD, professor and interim chairman of surgery and chief of cardiothoracic surgery, who with Dr. Brown co-directs the Heart Center, says: "The national top status of our cardiac care program reflects not only the high caliber of our surgeons, but that of the cardiac team as a whole. The care that our nurses and nurse practitioners deliver at 2 am is important as what we do in the operating room—and we have the best team around."

CHEST PAIN CENTER REACCREDITED

Stony Brook University Medical Center has received full reaccreditation as a chest pain center by the Society of Chest Pain Centers (SCPC). Stony Brook was the first hospital on Long Island to receive national accreditation in 2005, and is one of six in New York State to be accredited as a chest pain center.

The SCPC certification has helped improve patient survival and quality of life, as indicated in Stony Brook University Medical Center's emergence as one of the nation's best for cardiac services.



MEETING OF THE MINDS

Advances in Therapy in Cardiovascular Disease

June 4-5, 2009

**Guerny's Inn, Spa and Conference Center
Montauk, NY**

The second annual Meeting of the Minds symposium brings together leaders in the field of cardiovascular medicine to discuss and debate issues through the prism of quantifiable outcomes and evidence-based medicine. Focusing on the latest clinical research, speakers will raise critical questions that provoke serious thought—all with the goal of improving patient care.

The symposium is designed for clinical and interventional cardiologists, cardiac surgeons, internists, and other healthcare professionals with a special interest in the field of cardiovascular disease.

Co-sponsored by Stony Brook University School of Medicine and University Hospital Auxiliary, accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians. This educational activity is designated for a maximum of 13 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)[™].

Program Directors

David L. Brown, MD, and Todd K. Rosengart, MD
Co-Directors, Stony Brook Heart Center

Session Topics

Coronary artery disease
Defining risk
Ablation therapy for arrhythmias
Treatment options for aortic stenosis
Heart failure
Treatment approaches to mitral regurgitation
Genomics in the future of cardiovascular medicine

For more information, please call the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery at (631) 444-1820.



Stony Brook University Medical Center is the only chest pain center on Long Island accredited by the Society of Chest Pain Centers.

Hospitals accredited by the SCPC have been shown to perform better in the heart attack core measures established by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services as compared to non-accredited hospitals, according to a national study

reported in the July issue of the *American Journal of Cardiology*.

Established in 1998, the SCPC is a non-profit international society that bridges cardiology, emergency medicine, surgery, and other professions focused upon improving care for patients with acute coronary syndromes and acute heart failure.

Thoracic Surgery Program Earns Continued Approval From National Cancer Institute For Performing Clinical Trials

We are very pleased to report the recent success of our thoracic surgery program in gaining continued approval status from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) for our clinical trials of experimental lung cancer treatments. The renewal of our program's approved status is the result of our demonstrated compliance with stringent NCI guidelines for the conduct of clinical trials and study data validity.

The Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery has been an active member of the American College of Surgeons Oncology Group (ACOSOG) since 1999, enabling our thoracic surgeons to participate in multi-center clinical trials of thoracic surgery for the treatment of lung cancer and other cancers in the chest. These trials gained NCI approval in 2002.

Our NCI-approved clinical trials of lung cancer treatments continue to provide patients with the only available access to these trials in Suffolk County.

Our new approved status is based on the routine audit of the Clinical Trials Monitoring Branch of the NCI's Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program. The approval granted Stony Brook is effective for three years—the longest period for which the NCI gives approval.

“The lung cancer study group is leading the way in clinical research for the Department of Surgery with this laudable NCI-approved status,” says Todd K. Rosengart, MD, professor and interim chairman of surgery and chief of cardiothoracic surgery. “Reacquiring this status is a testament to the lung cancer team of specialists and their meeting the stringent NCI criteria.”

Thomas V. Bilfinger, MD, ScD, professor of surgery, director of thoracic surgery, and co-director of the Stony Brook Lung Cancer Evaluation Center (LCEC), explains: “The NCI status is confirmation that our practice model is correct in that we integrate surgery with radiology, radiation oncology, and all our oncology services. We plan to include additional clinical trials for lung cancer that offer our patients hope during various stages of disease.”

LUNG CANCER EVALUATION CENTER

Our thoracic surgeons play an active role in the LCEC, which provides comprehensive care for people who have x-ray test results with abnormalities that may indicate the presence of lung cancer, and for those who have a known diagnosis of lung cancer.

The LCEC uses a multidisciplinary team approach involving different medical specialties because this approach is the best way to take care of our patients, and to give them all the benefits of Stony Brook University Medical Center.

Stony Brook's LCEC provides comprehensive programs to diagnose and treat patients with lung cancer, including NCI-approved clinical trials.

During each evaluation, our team of specialists works closely together to develop a treatment plan, which minimizes any inconvenience to our patients, and also maximizes the quality of care they receive here.

Patients treated at Stony Brook can participate in ongoing protocols in every phase of diagnosis and treatment, including NCI-approved national studies through ACOSOG.

At Stony Brook, we are committed to providing the most sophisticated, compassionate care available today for the management of lung cancer, and we offer patients with lung cancer both established and experimental treatment options.

For consultations/appointments with our thoracic surgery specialists, please call (631) 444-1820.

Among the NCI-approved ACOSOG trials currently underway at Stony Brook are:

1. Surgery with or without internal radiation therapy in treating patients with stage I non-small cell lung cancer [to determine how well surgery and internal radiation therapy work together compared to surgery alone in treating patients with stage I non-small cell lung cancer].

2. Radiofrequency ablation in treating patients with stage I non-small cell lung cancer [to determine the overall two-year survival rate after radiofrequency ablation of lung nodules in high-risk patients with stage IA non-small cell lung cancer].

Trauma Service Ranked in Nation's Top 4% By Federal Healthcare Research Agency

New Report Recognizes Our Success

In October, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality—the nation's lead federal agency for research on healthcare quality, costs, outcomes, and patient safety—issued a new report entitled “Survival Measurement and Reporting Trial for Trauma (SMARTT)” that puts our trauma service in the top 4% of trauma centers nationwide, with the lowest mortality for victims of injury.

The SMARTT study uses the American College of Surgeons (ACS) national population-based trauma registry to set goals to improve patient outcomes.

Stony Brook's trauma service was cited with the highest recognition of being a “very high-quality hospital” in the SMARTT report, with the lowest mortality of any hospital in the United States in treating pedestrian trauma.

Stony Brook was also cited as second in the nation for saving the victims of “very high-risk trauma.”

As the only Level 1 trauma center in Suffolk County, Stony Brook University Medical Center receives the most critically injured patients from all points of Suffolk County, and from every community and Level 2 trauma hospital in our region.

Some of the more prominent cases that were treated by the Stony Brook University Medical Center trauma team include Victoria Ruvolo, whose face was badly injured when a group of teens threw a frozen turkey out their car window while passing her on the roadway; Arsenio Matias, whose hands were amputated and reattached following a tragic factory accident; and, construction worker Mike Norton, who was shot through the heart with a staple gun while on the job.

“Our Level 1 trauma center has a dedicated team of staff that treats multiply injured patients throughout their entire recovery,” says Marc J. Shapiro, MD, professor of surgery and anesthesiology, and chief of general surgery, trauma, surgical critical care, and burns. “This team of trained professionals and para-professionals strives to return every patient to full function.”

“We also place a high priority on performance improvement and research, so this report quantifies the significance of our efforts. We enact drills, we meet weekly, and we start the discharge planning process the day our patients arrive in the hospital. This is a positive approach to recovery, and we engage family members in the process, treating them as we would treat our own.”

Funded by the Agency for Healthcare and Research Quality, which is the health services research arm of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the goal of SMARTT is to inform governmental and other agencies of policies and practice that improve the quality of trauma care.

Recognition ceremony honoring Stony Brook's multi-specialty trauma team for their outstanding achievement detailed in the SMARTT study outcomes report.



DEPARTMENT OF MEDIA RELATIONS

As the only Level 1 trauma center serving the 1.5 million citizens of Suffolk County, Stony Brook University Medical Center receives the sickest of the sick or injured, and is prepared to handle any form of injury or multiple injuries that arrive at its doorstep.

ABOUT THE SMARTT REPORT & METHODOLOGY

The SMARTT outcomes report is based on the National Trauma Data Bank. The NTDB contains outcomes data on nearly three million patients from nearly 80% of Level 1 and 70% of Level 2 trauma centers in the United States.

Stony Brook University Medical Center consistently provides data to the NTDB, and is one of approximately 125 centers selected to receive an annual report on risk-adjusted mortality and performance and, therefore, was compared to that of other centers included in the study.

The research consortium had access to encrypted hospital identifiers and study investigators, and the ACS was blinded to the identity of each hospital in the report.

The ACS was responsible for sending out the report cards, but did not view the content of individual hospital report cards.

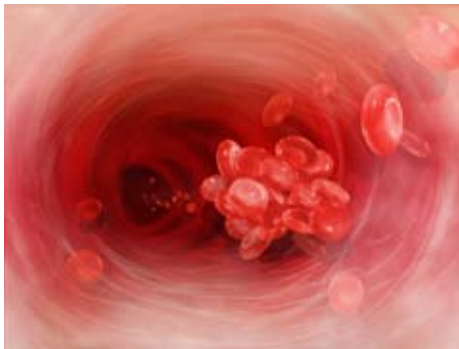
All patients with trauma diagnoses are included with the exception of 1) patients younger than 1 year of age; 2) patients dead on arrival; 3) patients without age, gender, or outcome information; 4) patients transferred out to another hospital. Patients admitted with burns, late effects of injuries, or traumatic complications were excluded from the report.

Preventing and Treating Deep Vein Thrombosis

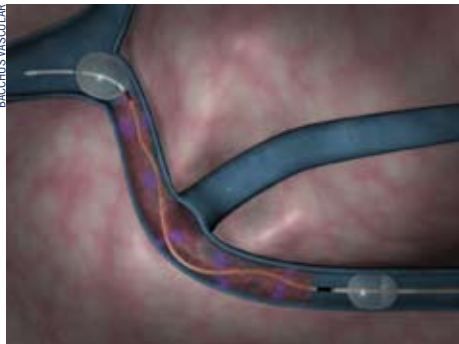
*Directing New Initiatives,
Using New Ideas*

Deep vein thrombosis (DVT) is a common and serious medical condition that affects about two million people in the United States. It occurs when a blood clot partially or completely blocks blood flow in a vein, usually in the lower legs. Risk factors include trauma, cancer, advanced age, hospitalization, surgery, and any event that keeps people off their feet for long periods.

Symptoms of DVT include pain, swelling, tenderness, or redness of the leg. However, as many as half of all episodes produce minimal symptoms, or are completely “silent.” Dangers include clots breaking off and migrating to the lungs, leading to life-threatening pulmonary embolism (PE).



Red blood cells clumped together form a blood clot (thrombus) that can block blood flow in the body's deep veins, and cause potentially life-threatening DVT.



The use of mechanical thrombolytic devices allows removal of clot through a combination of mechanical and pharmacologic thrombolysis.

The U.S. Surgeon General has just issued a “Call to Action” to prevent DVT that leads to 300,000 deaths per year from pulmonary embolism.

The mainstay therapy for DVT has been anticoagulation for many years. Anticoagulation helps prevent propagation of thrombus (blood clots) and decrease the risk of pulmonary embolus, but has little effect on the long-term complications.

Long-term complications of DVT include chronic leg pain, swelling, and skin changes. The signs and symptoms are described as **post-thrombotic syndrome**. In its advanced stage, patients may develop venous leg ulcers (open sores). These complications cause significant physical and emotional distress, as well as a financial burden on our society.

This past July, the American College of Chest Physicians released new evidence-based clinical guidelines for the prevention and treatment of DVT and PE. These guidelines recommend that early thrombus removal be offered to patients with extensive proximal acute DVT who are good candidates.

In September, the U.S. Surgeon General, Rear Admiral Steven K. Galson, MD, MPH, issued an official “Call to Action”—only the seventh issued in the past 11 years from the Office of the Surgeon General—to reduce the number of cases of DVT and PE in the United States.

This “Call to Action” includes the need to create evidence-based practices for DVT/PE prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. Hospitals and physicians are required to develop DVT protocols to prevent and treat DVT/PE.

LEADING THE WAY TO BETTER CARE

Our Division of Vascular Surgery has been leading the efforts at Stony Brook University Medical Center to prevent and treat DVT/PE. A multi-specialty DVT team has been formed to create a hospital-wide program for patient assessment and DVT prophylaxis.

The goal of this team is to dramatically reduce the incidence of hospital-acquired DVT, and to provide the most advanced treatment options to patients with DVT.

At Stony Brook, patients with DVT are treated by our vascular team, and offered a minimally invasive procedure. Use of thrombolytics (clot-disrupting drugs) with the combination of mechanical thrombolytic devices, such as the Trellis-8 or Angiojet device, allows us to mechanically disrupt and remove the clot.

These medical devices decrease the treatment time and the amount of thrombolytics used, thus decreasing the bleeding risk and hospital stay. In about two-thirds of patients, the procedure can be performed in a single setting with the patient going home the next day.

Early treatment with removal of clot helps reduce the risk of recurrent thrombosis, and reduces the risk of vein valve damage. This results in prevention of the long-term complications of post-thrombotic syndrome.

Our vascular team has been following patients treated with thrombolysis over the last 5 years to evaluate the mid-term results.

Antonios P. Gasparis, MD, assistant professor of surgery and director of the Stony Brook Vein Center, presented our findings at the 2007 annual meeting of the American Venous Forum, and the paper reporting them has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Vascular Surgery*.

Our data demonstrate that good early clinical results after pharmaco-mechanical thrombolysis can be sustained on longer follow-up, and may prevent the development of advanced post-thrombotic syndrome.

For consultations/appointments with our vein specialists, please call (631) 444-VEIN (8346).

Update on Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery Division

*Faculty Development Initiative,
Retirement of Founding Chief &
Appointment of Acting Chief*

The Department of Surgery is very pleased to announce the **full-time appointment of Ghassan J. Samara, MD, to the Division of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery.**



Dr. Ghassan J. Samara

Dr. Samara has had over ten years of direct otolaryngology experience, as an assistant professor of surgery at Stony Brook University Medical Center, and as the section chief of otolaryngology at the Northport Veterans Affairs Medical Center. There, he has been involved in all aspects of head and neck surgery, including thyroidectomy and parathyroidectomy.

Dr. Samara performed the first balloon sinuplasty in Suffolk County, and was part of the surgical team that performed the County's first endoscopic pituitary surgery.

Dr. Samara earned his MD at the University of Miami, and then went on to the University of California at Los Angeles, where he trained in the general surgery residency and also served as a research fellow. He completed his otolaryngology-head and neck surgery residency at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center in New York.

Dr. Samara has been selected for the Best Doctors in America® List since 2005. An active researcher as well as clinician, he has re-



Dr. David A. Schessel

ceived research funding through the National Institutes of Health and Veterans Affairs Medical Center Research Career Development Awards.

Dr. Samara looks forward to expanding his clinical practice at Stony Brook University Medical Center, and to continuing his research into head and neck cancer carcinogenesis.

Dr. Samara joins **David A. Schessel, MD, PhD**, associate professor of surgery, who joined our faculty in 2007 to lead our program in neurotology and cochlear implant surgery, and who is **acting chief of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery.**

Dr. Schessel received his MD and his PhD in neuroscience at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. He received his residency training at Albert Einstein, and completed a fellowship in neurotology at the University of Toronto. He is board certified in both neurotology and otolaryngology, and is as a national authority on auditory neurosensory deficits.



Dr. Elliot Regenbogen

Elliot Regenbogen, MD, joins our faculty on January 1, 2009, as an assistant professor of surgery with a focus on laryngology. He has been practicing general otolaryngology in Westchester County, and serving as chairman of the otolaryngology department at Northern Westchester Hospital.

Board certified in otolaryngology, Dr. Regenbogen obtained his MD from Albert Einstein College of Medicine, where he subsequently completed his residency training. We look forward to welcoming Dr. Regenbogen to our staff in the new year, when he will bring **his expertise in laryngology** to complement the strengths of our existing faculty.

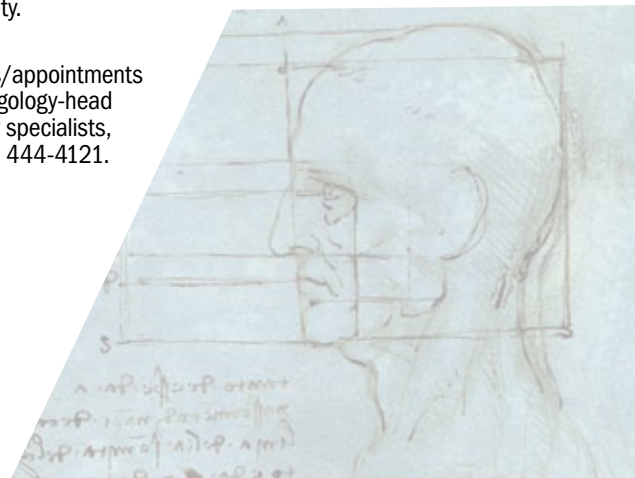
For consultations/appointments with our otolaryngology-head and neck surgery specialists, please call (631) 444-4121.



Dr. Arnold E. Katz

Finally, we regretfully announce the **retirement of Arnold E. Katz, MD**, professor of surgery and founding chief of the Division of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, from his full-time faculty position after nearly 20 years of service to the institution.

Dr. Katz will continue as a member of our voluntary faculty, in which role he plans to contribute to the re-establishment of our otolaryngology residency program, and on a part-time basis, he will also contribute as a practicing physician to the ENT program at the Northport VA Medical Center.



DIVISION BRIEFS

Cardiothoracic Surgery

Dr. Thomas V. Bilfinger, professor of surgery and director of thoracic surgery, has been appointed **editor-in-chief** of the *American Journal of Case Reports* (formerly, *Case Reports and Clinical Practice Review*), an international, peer-reviewed scientific journal that publishes case reports related to clinical practice.

Dr. Bilfinger in June lectured locally to Suffolk County emergency room personnel on the **signs and early management of acute aortic dissections**.

Dr. Bilfinger gave two presentations in May at the American Thoracic Society's International Conference, held in Toronto, ON, Canada:

Pulmonary function testing after percutaneous transthoracic therapy [authors: Baram D, Moore WH, Bilfinger TV].

Relationship of airway obstruction to the upper-lobe predilection of lung cancer in smokers [authors: Baram D, Bilfinger TV].

Dr. Bilfinger was recognized as **Attending of the Year** for his teaching excellence by the 2008 graduating class of Stony Brook's School of Medicine.

Dr. Todd K. Rosengart, professor and interim chairman of surgery and chief of cardiothoracic surgery, was again selected for inclusion in the "Best Doctors" listing of *New York Magazine* (June 16, 2008), representing the **top 2% of physicians** in the New York Metropolitan area.

Dr. Rosengart in October was invited to serve as the chairperson of the **American Heart Association's Region I Bioengineering and Biotechnology Study Group** for the 2009 peer-review year.

He will be responsible for guiding and directing the peer-review committee in the review of affiliate career development and project support applications.

Dr. Rosengart was chosen to lead this AHA study group because of his research experience and scientific expertise, plus the contributions he has made to the National Brain Study Group. The AHA Region I comprises states associated with its Founders Affiliate (ie, CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, RI, and VT) and its Great Rivers Affiliate (ie, DE, KY, OH, PA, and WV).

Colon and Rectal Surgery

Dr. Roberto Bergamaschi, professor of surgery and chief of colon and rectal surgery, is a co-author of the new report of the **world's first double-blind randomized controlled trial to study laparoscopic sigmoid resection (LSR)**, compared with open sigmoid resection (OSR), for symptomatic diverticulitis of the sigmoid colon.

This study tested the hypothesis that LSR is associated with decreased postoperative complication rates as compared with OSR. The authors of the study concluded that LSR is associated with a **15.4% reduction in major complication rates, less pain, improved quality of life, and shorter hospitalization** at the cost of a longer operating time.

The landmark report, titled "Laparoscopic Sigmoid Resection for Diverticulitis Decreases Major Morbidity Rates: A Randomized Control Trial; Short-term Results of the Sigma Trial," appears in the January 2009 issue of the *Annals of Surgery*.

Dr. Bergamaschi in December started a joint effort of the Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery and the Division of Gastroenterology to perform **laparoscopic-assisted snare colonoscopy** for removing difficult polyps in the operating room.

Dr. Bergamaschi in November gave a lecture titled "Colorectal Surgery: Where Are We Now and Where Are We Going?" at the Keystone Chapter American College of Surgeons Annual Scientific Meeting, held in Harrisburg, PA.

Dr. Marvin L. Corman, professor of surgery, in November presided at the quarterly meeting of the New York Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons at "Interesting Case Night," held at the Friars Club in Manhattan. Twelve residents presented, representing the teaching programs in Long Island and Manhattan. Stony Brook had the single largest group of presenters of any program, including Drs. David Hong, Salim Amrani, Marco Gonzalez, Michael Lieb, and Brett Phillips.

In September, Dr. Corman was the keynote speaker at the Biennial Congress of the International Society of University Colon and Rectal Surgeons, held in San Diego, CA. He delivered the **Khubchandani oration**, titled "The Surgeon and the Daughters of Mnemosyne and Zeus." In addition, Dr. Corman chaired a panel on **avoiding the pitfalls of laparoscopic surgery**.

Dr. William B. Smithy, assistant professor of surgery, in May received the **Alpha Omega Alpha Volunteer Faculty Award** presented by the student members of the Stony Brook chapter of the Alpha Omega Alpha

(AOA) Honor Medical Society—the national honor society for medical students, residents, scientists, and physicians. This award is given "to a community physician who contributes with distinction to the education and training of clinical students."

General Surgery, Trauma, Surgical Critical Care, and Burns

Dr. Louis T. Merriam has been promoted to **associate professor** of surgery.

Dr. Marc J. Shapiro, professor of surgery and anesthesiology, and chief of general surgery, trauma, surgical critical care, and burns, is pleased to report that our trauma registrar, **Emily C. Huang, MS**, just received recognition as the 2008 **top trauma registrar** by the New York Chapter of the American Trauma Society.

Dr. Steven Sandoval, assistant professor of surgery, has been appointed **medical director of the Burn Center**.

Dr. James A. Vosswinkel, assistant professor of surgery, has been appointed **medical director of the Surgical Intensive Care Unit**.

"Each brings to his appointment extensive knowledge, experience, and a history of extended commitments to the success and improvements of these units," says departmental chairman, Dr. Todd K. Rosengart.

Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery

Dr. David A. Schessel, associate professor of surgery and acting chief of otolaryngology-head and surgery, in October served as a panel member at the Stony Brook **Cochlear Implant Forum** sponsored by the Cochlear Corporation. Dr. Schessel

performs the only cochlear implant surgery in Suffolk County, providing this high-tech treatment of profound deafness.

Over 150 people, both patients and professionals, attended the forum, which was designed to educate the community about our implant program and to promote referrals. Featured presentations addressed topics such as **what a cochlear implant is and how it works, candidacy criteria, and pediatric considerations.**

Presenters included Dr. Schessel, along with Stony Brook audiologists, Mary Bradley, AuD, Melissa Hoffmann, AuD, and Jay Levenberg, MS.

Pediatric Surgery

Dr. Thomas K. Lee, associate professor of surgery and chief of pediatric surgery, was selected for inclusion in the “Best Doctors” listing of *New York Magazine* (June 16, 2008), representing the **top 2% of physicians** in the New York Metropolitan area.

Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Dr. Alexander B. Dagum, associate professor of surgery and chief of plastic and reconstructive surgery, was again selected for inclusion in the “Best Doctors” listing of *New York Magazine* (June 16, 2008), representing the **top 2% of physicians** in the New York Metropolitan area.

Dr. Dagum in June at the Federation of European Societies for Surgery of the Hand Congress, held in Lausanne, Switzerland, presented a study titled “**Injectable Clostridium Collageanse in Dupuytren’s Contracture: Clinical Success in the Elderly Population**” [authors: Dagum AB, Hurst LC, Badalamente MA].

Dr. Dagum served as co-director of the **10th Annual Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Center Symposium**, held in April at Stony Brook. Next year’s symposium—which offers **3 CME credits**—will be held on March 2, 2009. For more information, please call (631) 444-8167/-9265.

Dr. Dagum was also honored this year by selection for inclusion in the new editions of Marquis *Who’s Who in America* and Marquis *Who’s Who in the World*.

Dr. Sami U. Khan, assistant professor of surgery and director of cosmetic surgery, in November at the annual meeting of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons, held in Chicago, IL, had a poster presentation of a study conducted with Stony Brook colleagues, titled “**Outcomes of Abdominoplasty Performed in an Office-Based Surgical Setting**” [authors: Melendez MM, Beasley M, Dagum AB, Khan SU].

Surgical Oncology

Dr. Brian J. O’Hea, associate professor of surgery, chief of surgical oncology, and director of the Carol M. Baldwin Breast Care Center, was again selected for inclusion in the “Best Doctors” listing of *New York Magazine* (June 16, 2008), representing the **top 2% of physicians** in the New York Metropolitan area.

Dr. Colette R.J. Pameijer, assistant professor of surgery, in July was **featured in a *Newsday* article on melanoma**, and warned against the **dark side of the sun.**

The article focused on a newly published study that blames a combination of excessive sun exposure and the possible overuse of tanning salons, especially by women,



Dr. Colette R.J. Pameijer

for the rise in number of melanoma cancer cases.

Dr. Pameijer emphasized that **no other form of cancer has increased so dramatically**—with “a 600% change [in rate] between 1950 and now.”

Dr. Kevin T. Watkins, assistant professor of surgery, has been appointed **chief of upper gastrointestinal and general oncologic surgery.** As part of the development of a comprehensive surgical program for treating upper GI malignancies and other disorders, Dr. Watkins plans to continue to expand his efforts in laparoscopic pancreatic surgery, and to expand the role of minimally invasive surgery for complex GI tumors, including robotic surgery. He expects to recruit additional faculty with expertise in the surgical treatment of hepatobiliary disease in developing this program.

Dr. Watkins will be joined by Dr. Pameijer, whose area of expertise include therapies for melanoma and other skin and soft tissue tumors, as well as regional therapies for advanced cancers.

Vascular Surgery

Dr. Antonios P. Gasparis, assistant professor of surgery and director of the Stony Brook Vein Center, in September served on the faculty of the International Symposium on Vascular Diseases, held in Ferrara, Italy, and he gave four presentations:

Endovenous treatment of chronic venous obstruction.

Live case presentations on chronic venous disease [authors: Gasparis AP, Meissner M, Tassiopoulos AK, Labropoulos N].

Pharmacomechanical thrombolysis for acute DVT.

Ultrasound-guided venous procedures.

Last summer, Dr. Gasparis presented two studies, conducted with Stony Brook colleagues and others, at the annual meeting of the European Venous Forum, held in Barcelona, Spain:

Imaging and management of acute and chronic venous disease [authors: Gasparis AP, Kontothanasis D, Labropoulos N].

Progression of chronic venous disease in post-thrombotic limbs is more rapid when compared to primary [authors: Gasparis AP, Labropoulos N, Pefanis D, Leon LR Jr, Psalms SB, Tassiopoulos AK]—third-place **prize winner for best scientific presentation.**

Dr. Gasparis is the principal investigator of a new industry-sponsored **clinical trial of a new clot-dissolving drug for venous thromboembolism** (see page 8 for article on deep vein thrombosis). This trial is a phase 3 randomized, double blind, parallel-group study of the efficacy and safety of oral dabigatran etexilate (Pradax), a promising oral direct thrombin inhibitor that specifically and reversibly inhibits thrombin, the key enzyme for blood clot formation.

Patients interested in participating in this clinical trial should call Dr. Gasparis’ office at (631) 444-2040.

Dr. Nicos Labropoulos, professor of surgery and director of the Non-Invasive Vascular Laboratory, was **co-chairman of the International Symposium on Vascular Diseases**, held in Ferrara, Italy. This three-day gathering of vascular specialists was the first annual meeting of the International Vascular Foundation, which has been established for the study, prevention, and therapy of vascular diseases.

At this symposium, Dr. Labropoulos gave presentations on the anatomy of an ultrasound image; effect of exercise on atherosclerotic disease; evaluation of aorta and its major branches; and follow-up of carotid interventions.

Dr. Apostolos K. Tassiopoulos has been promoted to **associate professor** of surgery and is now serving

as **interim chief of vascular surgery**. Dr. Tassiopoulos completed his medical doctorate in 1989 at Aristotle University Medical School in Greece, and then served as a general medical officer in the Hellenic Air Force before emigrating to the United States.

Dr. Tassiopoulos served as a post-doctoral fellow in cardiovascular surgery at Baylor College of Medicine, and then completed his residency at SUNY Upstate Medical University and his vascular surgery fellowship training at Loyola University Medical Center.

Together with his colleagues in the vascular surgery division, Dr. Tassiopoulos continues to build a strong clinical practice involving all aspects of general vascular surgical and endovascular procedures.



Dr. Apostolos K. Tassiopoulos

Since Dr. Tassiopoulos joined the Department of Surgery at Stony Brook in 2006, he has been actively involved with medical education, helping to launch the surgical simulation lab. He has served and will continue to serve as program director for the vascular residency program.

Dr. Tassiopoulos is the principal investigator for a number of clinical studies, including a multi-center trial sponsored by the National Institutes for Health. He has been a contributing author for numerous peer-reviewed publications and book chapters.

In September, Dr. Tassiopoulos served on the faculty of the International Symposium on Vascular Diseases, held in Ferrara, Italy, and he gave three podium presentations in areas of his expertise: **“Cryoplasty and Cutting Balloon Angioplasty: Current Indications”**; **“IVC Filters”**; and **“Ultrasound-Guided Endovascular Interventions.”**



Our departmental picnic in September, held at South Haven County Park in Brookhaven, NY, was a great success—and a lot of fun for one and all, from the kids' arts-and-crafts table to the barbeque to the baseball game between faculty and residents.



Grand Rounds Program Offers CME Credit

Our Surgical Grand Rounds program offers continuing medical education (CME) credit through the School of Medicine of Stony Brook University. This activity is designated for a maximum of 1 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™.

The weekly Surgical Grand Rounds lectures are generally held on Thursday morning, from 8:00 to 9:00 am, in the Health Sciences Center (level 3, lecture hall 6).

Topics cover the full range of current surgical concerns, focusing on clinical issues of interest to practicing physicians and surgeons. Featured speakers include distinguished visiting professors from the nation's top universities and medical centers.

For more information, please call (631) 444-7875.

Using Surgical Simulation Of Laparoscopic Colorectal Surgery *Training the Surgeons of the Future*



Dr. Roberto Bergamaschi (center) demonstrating laparoscopic technique with the colorectal surgery simulator in our Clinical Skills Center.

The operating room is not the best classroom for developing some of the new surgical skills that general and colorectal surgeons must now have. With the new mandate from the American College of Surgeons on the fundamentals of laparoscopic skills, there has been more emphasis than ever on surgical simulation.

Roberto Bergamaschi, MD, PhD, professor of surgery and chief of colon and rectal surgery, works closely with our surgical residents on surgical simulation using the hybrid colorectal surgery simulator called ProMIS LC.

Our third- and fourth-year general surgery residents and our colorectal surgery residents (fellows) are trained and tested on the laparoscopic skills required for sigmoid resection for cancer. Stony Brook's state-of-the-art Clinical Skills Center, which houses an operating room with availability of external cameras and microphones, is the ideal classroom for this laparoscopic training.

The hybrid simulation model we use for training residents is well designed for the purpose of laparoscopic simulation, because it offers tactile feedback on a physical colorectal model with the same instruments used in the actual operating room, and because its objective evaluation cameras track the instruments in 3D space.

All residents undergo a number of educational interventions, which include the viewing of a video of the standardized procedural skills for laparoscopic sigmoid resection performed by an expert. The residents also are familiarized with the ergonomic position of the hybrid colorectal surgery simulator by observing and viewing a video of a laparo-

scopic sigmoid resection performed by an expert using the ProMIS surgical simulator.

Before the training begins, the participants perform a baseline laparoscopic sigmoid resection according to the same standardized procedural steps using a disposable physical model in the hybrid colorectal surgery simulator.

The residents then proceed to training following the same procedural steps on the same simulator until established proficiency levels are achieved. In this way, the residents eventually perform a final laparoscopic sigmoid resection in accord with the same procedural steps using the same physical model in the same simulator.

Simulated Laparoscopic Sigmoidectomy Training: Responsiveness Of Surgery Residents

This study involving our surgery residents (n = 8) was recently conducted by our faculty to evaluate the responsiveness of residents to simulated laparoscopic sigmoidectomy training using the ProMIS surgical simulator, which was found to significantly decrease operating time and anastomotic leak rate for all residents [authors: Essani R, Scriven R, McLarty A, Merriam L, Ahn H, Bergamaschi R].

ALUMNI NEWS

The alumni of our residency program in general surgery distinguish themselves as physicians and surgeons. They are leaders in their specialty fields, here and abroad, and their successful practices represent our success. Indeed, our alumni reflect our commitment to excellence in education through their own excellence, as demonstrated in their careers following their training at Stony Brook.

2008 Graduating Residents

	Name	Career Direction
GENERAL SURGERY	Michelle Azu, MD	Breast surgery fellowship at Memorial-Sloan Kettering, New York, NY
	Celso Dias, MD	Vascular surgery fellowship at Stony Brook U
	Paul Impellizzeri, MD	Vascular surgery fellowship at Englewood Hospital & Medical Center, Englewood, NJ
	Fady Kaldas, MD	Transplantation fellowship at U of California at Los Angeles
	Sepehr Sajjad, MD	Hand surgery fellowship at Yale U, New Haven, CT
	Khaled Salhab, MD	Cardiothoracic surgery fellowship at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN
OTOLARYNGOLOGY	Joshua Rosenthal, MD	Private practice in Huntington, NY
COLORECTAL SURGERY	Marissa Ranire-Maguire, MD	Preparation for board certification
VASCULAR SURGERY	José Pagan, MD	Private practice (Manati Medical Center) and academic position (University Hospital at San Juan) in Puerto Rico
CRITICAL CARE	Joshua Levin, MD	Colorectal surgery fellowship at U of Texas-Houston
	Denis Tereb, MD	Director of acute care surgery at Bridgeport Hospital in Bridgeport, CT, with faculty appointment at Yale U

Dr. Alessandro Ferrero ('76), a vascular and thoracic surgeon in private practice in Winter Park, FL, is currently preparing for recertification next year with the American Board of Thoracic Surgery. Minimally invasive chest surgery (ie, video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery) is a new focus of his practice.

Dr. Andreas G. Tzakis ('83), chief of the Division of Liver and Gastro-Intestinal Surgery and co-director of the Division of Transplantation at the University of Miami, has been honored by the establishment of the **Andreas Tzakis Chair in Transplant Surgery**. Fund-raising for the chair began in 1999, and by last year had succeeded in attracting a total of \$2.1 million to fully endow it. This endowment guarantees that Dr. Tzakis' distinguished transplant program has the resources to continue his commitment to improving transplant education and research and, thus, to improving the lives of transplant patients.

Dr. Richard J. Ricca ('85) currently is practicing general and vascular surgery at Southampton Hospital on Long Island, and writes that his "three kids are doing great."

Dr. Aaron H. Chevinsky ('88), chief of surgical oncology at Morristown Memorial Hospital in Morristown, NJ, in November was again honored by inclusion in *New Jersey Monthly's* list of "Top Doctors in New Jersey." In October, at the annual meeting of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) held in San Francisco, CA, he received a **Cancer Liaison Physician Outstanding Professional Award**, presented by the ACS Commission on Cancer, for his efforts as a physician champion for the commission; this award is designed to recognize individuals who go above and beyond the regular scope of their duties. Also at the meeting of the Commission on Cancer, Dr. Chevinsky gave a presentation titled "The Multidisciplinary Approach to Cancer Care: Implementation of a Multidisciplinary Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic Tumor Treatment Team."

Dr. Richard W. Golub ('90) has been appointed chief of surgery at Doctors Hospital of Sarasota, a 168-bed acute and general care facility serving Florida's Sarasota and Manatee counties. Dr. Golub specializes in colon and rectal surgery, as well as general surgery, performing both laparoscopic and traditional surgi-

cal procedures. He was recently honored by inclusion in the latest editions of two Castle Connolly Guides, *America's Top Doctors* and *America's Top Doctor's for Cancer*.

Dr. Mark A. Gelfand ('05) completed his two fellowships in hand surgery and plastic surgery, and has returned to Stony Brook to join our faculty; see page 3.

Dr. Frank P. Lunati, Jr. ('05) is practicing general surgery in Port Jefferson, NY.

Dr. Kristen M. Rezak ('07) is pursuing further residency training in plastic surgery at the Cleveland Clinic Florida, in Weston, FL.

Dr. Michelle Azu ('08), who post-graduation earned her board certification in surgery, is now at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, NY, where she is pursuing fellowship training in breast surgery. The abstract of her study, "What Is an Adequate Margin for Breast Conserving Surgery (BCS)? Surgeon Attitudes and Correlates," has been accepted for poster presentation at the Society of Surgical Oncology's Annual Cancer Symposium, to be held in March 2009, in Phoenix, AZ.

alum info and submissions

To submit alumni news online and to find current mailing addresses of our alumni, please visit the Department's website at www.uhmc.sunysb.edu/surgery. Please send your e-mail address—for inclusion in the Alumni Directory—to Jonathan.Cohen@StonyBrook.edu.

Dr. Fabio Giron Appointed Professor Emeritus Returns to Contribute to Education Programs

Fabio Giron, MD, PhD, founding chief of our Division of Vascular Surgery, has been appointed professor emeritus of surgery. Retiring from our full-time faculty in 2001 after 24 years of distinguished service, Dr. Giron returned this fall to contribute as a voluntary consultant to our education programs for both medical students and surgical residents.



Dr. Giron is now participating in our weekly vascular conference and our weekly morbidity and mortality conference, to which he is contributing his knowledge and experience. He will also present lectures on vascular disease and management to third-year medical students doing their general surgery clerkship.

Dr. Giron originally joined our faculty in 1977 as professor of surgery and chief of vascular surgery at the VA Medical Center in Northport. From 1978 until his retirement, he also served as chief of vascular surgery at University Hospital.

Born in Sanlucar de Barrameda, Spain, Dr. Giron received his MD with honors (*premio extraordinario*) in 1954 from the University of Valladolid. In 1960, he completed his surgical training in Madrid, after which

he served on the surgical faculty of the University of Madrid for four years.

In 1964, Dr. Giron came to the United States. From then until 1970, he pursued research at Tufts-New England Medical Center Hospital in Boston for two years, and then further clinical training in vascular surgery at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York for two years. Subsequently, he served for two years as a member of the surgical faculty of Tufts University, from which he received his PhD in 1970.

That year, Dr. Giron moved to New York to join the surgical faculty of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, and to serve as chief of vascular surgery at the VA Medical Center in the Bronx. He then came to Stony Brook in 1977.

Highly respected by his peers, Dr. Giron distinguished himself as one of the “Doctors of Excellence” featured in several editions of the Castle Connolly Guide, *Top Doctors: New York Metro Area*.

OUR ELECTRONIC PHYSICIAN DIRECTORY

The Department provides a physician directory as part of its website—please visit us at the following address to find information about our individual surgeons (see sample below), as well as our programs in patient care, education, research, and community service:

www.uhmc.sunysb.edu/surgery



Dr. Roberto Bergamaschi

MD: University of Milan (1980; Italy).

PhD: University of Bergen (1996; Norway; field, Colorectal Cancer).

Residency Training: General Surgery, Hautepierre University Hospital, Strasbourg, France (1984-86); Trauma Surgery, Central Middlesex Hospital, London, England (1986); General Surgery, Kirkenes Hospital, Kirkenes, Norway (1987-88); Orthopedic Surgery, University Kyst-hospitalet i Hagavik, Hagavik, Norway (1988-90); Trauma and General Surgery, Haukeland University Hospital, Bergen, Norway (1991); General Surgery (Chief Resident), Angers University Hospital, Angers, France (1992-93).

Board Certification: General Surgery and Gastrointestinal Surgery, [Norwegian Medical Association](#) (Norway); General Surgery, National Medical Council (France); General Surgery, [National Board of Health](#) (Denmark); Emergency Surgery, Bologna University School of Medicine (Italy).

Specialties: Laparoscopic and conventional surgery for colon and rectal cancer, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, diverticulitis, and rectal prolapse; treatment of anorectal abscess, fistula, fissure, rectocele, hemorrhoids, obstructed defecation, and fecal incontinence; colonoscopy; laparoscopic surgery for gallbladder, appendix, or spleen removal, gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD; chronic severe heartburn), achalasia (severe swallowing difficulty), incisional/ventral hernia, and groin hernia.

Additional: Chief of Colon and Rectal Surgery; fellow, American College of Surgeons ([FACS](#)); fellow, American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons ([FASCRS](#)); fellow, Royal College of Surgeons ([FRCS](#)); associate editor, [Diseases of the Colon & Rectum](#); see [selected publications](#) ([click here](#) for online abstracts/full text of journal articles via National Library of Medicine); see [curriculum vitae](#).

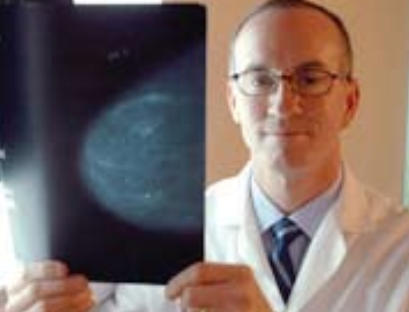
Honors: Gold Medal (for first laparoscopic colectomy), University of Vilnius School of Medicine, Vilnius, Lithuania (1996); Osaka City Gold Medal, Osaka, Japan (2002).

Languages Spoken: English, French, Italian, German, Norwegian.

Consultations/Appointments: 631-444-4545 or 631-638-1000.

10 New Operating Rooms Open

November saw the opening of ten new operating rooms at Stony Brook University Medical Center, bringing the total number of ORs here to 24. The new ORs are ideally situated adjacent to the emergency department and on the same floor as radiology, increasing overall efficiency and the speed in which we can treat trauma patients. The realization of this opening is a tribute to the vision and hard work Stony Brook's OR team.



Please visit the Department of Surgery website at www.uhmc.sunysb.edu/surgery



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UNIVERSITY
Physicians**

www.StonyBrookPhysicians.com

Stony Brook Surgical Associates

BREAST CARE

(631) 638-1000 (tel)
(631) 444-6348 (fax)
Martyn W. Burk, MD, PhD
Patricia A. Farrelly, MD
Louis T. Merriam, MD
Brian J. O'Hea, MD
Colette R.J. Pameijer, MD

BURN CARE

(631) 444-4545 (tel)
(631) 444-6176 (fax)
Steven Sandoval, MD
Marc J. Shapiro, MD

CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY

(631) 444-1820 (tel)
(631) 444-8963 (fax)
Thomas V. Bilfinger, MD, ScD
Allison J. McLarty, MD
Todd K. Rosengart, MD
Frank C. Seifert, MD

COLON AND RECTAL SURGERY

(631) 638-1000 (tel)
(631) 444-6348 (fax)
Roberto Bergamaschi, MD
Marvin L. Corman, MD

(631) 444-4545 (tel)
(631) 444-6348 (fax)
Roberto Bergamaschi, MD
William B. Smithy, MD

GENERAL/GASTROINTESTINAL SURGERY

(631) 444-4545 (tel)
(631) 444-6176 (fax)
Roberto Bergamaschi, MD
Juan R. Madariaga, MD, PhD
Louis T. Merriam, MD
Michael F. Paccione, MD
Steven Sandoval, MD
Marc J. Shapiro, MD
James A. Vosswinkel, MD
Kevin T. Watkins, MD

OTOLARYNGOLOGY-HEAD AND NECK SURGERY (ENT)

(631) 444-4121 (tel)
(631) 444-4189 (fax)
Elliot Regenbogen, MD
Ghassan J. Samara, MD
David A. Schessel, MD, PhD

PEDIATRIC SURGERY

(631) 444-4545 (tel)
(631) 444-8824 (fax)
Thomas K. Lee, MD
Richard J. Scriven, MD

PLASTIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY

(631) 444-4666 (tel)
(631) 444-4610 (fax)
Duc T. Bui, MD
Alexander B. Dagum, MD
Mark A. Gelfand, MD
Steven M. Katz, MD
Sami U. Khan, MD

PODIATRIC SURGERY

(631) 444-4545 (tel)
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