



## VCU Division of Urology

### Message From the Chair

Colleagues and Alumni:

Welcome to the inaugural newsletter of the VCU Division of Urology. We hope you enjoy hearing about all of the exciting things that are happening in our division. Going forward we will keep you up to date on all of the developments within our division including research interests, publications, resident and faculty news, and philanthropy opportunities.

This is an exciting time for our division. We continue to provide the highest level of care to patients from central Virginia and across the mid-Atlantic region. Our minimally-invasive program continues to increase in volume and in complexity. VCU now has two state of the art DaVinci surgical robots and our surgeons are keeping both machines very busy. Last month, our division performed over 30 robotic cases for both adult and pediatric patients for both benign and malignant conditions. Along this line, Dr. Riccardo Autorino was recently hired to lead up the robotics program at the McGuire VA Medical Center. Dr. Autorino comes to VCU from Case Western University and has more than 300 publications on his prolific CV.



We have also been successful in the recruiting of a urogynecologist that will share time between our division and the department of OB/GYN. Dr. Lauren Siff will join us in August after graduating from a 3 year urogynecology fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic. Lauren is a Richmond native and a graduate of VCU School of Medicine.

Dr. Tony Herndon has developed the VCU Pediatric Urology program into a regionally recognized powerhouse. With the addition of Dr. John Edmondson and the staff of Children's Urology of Virginia to VCU, the pediatric experience is top in the state! We are also actively recruiting additional faculty in the areas of pediatric urology, oncology, and infertility.

Research in the division has always been a top priority. Dr. Adam Klausner was recently named as Vice-Chair for Translational Research in the department of surgery. He continues his ground breaking research in bladder function funded by a \$1.7 million grant from the National Institutes of Health.

Globally, our faculty and residents continue to represent VCU and the division of urology. Faculty and residents have represented us in many countries around the world including mission work in Belize and Vietnam.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lance Hampton".

Lance J. Hampton, MD, FACS  
Chairman of Urology, VCU Health  
Director of Robotic Surgery



## Class of 2017 Urology Residents

We are pleased to congratulate our Urology Residency class of 2017 graduates - Dr. Andrew Colhoun and Dr. Jay Sulek! Dr. Colhoun is currently seeing patients in private practice as well as continuing his research here at VCU one day a week. Dr. Sulek is completing a minimally invasive urology surgery fellowship at Indiana University.



Jay Sulek, MD



Andrew Colhoun, MD



## Research Updates

Research is an integral part of what we do here in urology at VCU Medical Center. These efforts are led by Dr. Adam Klausner, Dr. Georgi Guruli, and Dr. Andrew Colhoun in collaboration with Dr. John Speich from Bioengineering.

During academic year 2016 to 2017, the division had 29 abstracts accepted at 6 different regional, national, and international meetings that are authored by 5 different residents. Additionally we had 13 peer-reviewed publications with resident authors, 5 of which were resident first authors.



To read more about the work that we are doing, please visit [this link](#) and be sure to view the residents's research overview presentation. Contact Tina Hamlet with any questions.



## 2017-18 Interns

Welcome to our new interns for 2017 – 2018 – Dr. Dielle Meyer and Dr. Samuel Weprin. Dr. Meyer joins us from Mercer University and has an undergraduate degree in Biology from Georgia Institute of Technology. Dr. Meyer has a twin sister who is also pursuing a career as a urologist.

Dr. Weprin joins us from Temple University and has undergraduate degrees in Biology and Jewish Studies, as well as a graduate degree in Healthcare Administration. Dr. Weprin brings with him a great sense of humor and the ability to drop the perfectly timed and delivered joke to lighten our day. Welcome to both of you. We look forward to working with you over the next 5 years!



**Dr. Dielle Meyer**



**Dr. Samuel Weprin**



## Clinical & Translational Research

It is with great pleasure that we announce that Dr. [Adam Klausner](#), Professor with the Division of Urology, has agreed to serve as Associate Chair for Clinical & Translational Research within the VCU Department of Surgery.

Given his broad research portfolio including current NIH funding, he will be a great asset as we formalize the Surgery Office of Research, Biomedicine, Innovation, and Technology (ORBIT) which will provide Surgery researchers the infrastructure, support, and mentorship required to become a leading international surgical research department.

Congratulations, Dr. Klausner!



## New Faculty

It is with great pleasure that the division of urology extends a warm welcome to Dr. Lauren Siff and Dr. Riccardo Autorino.

Dr. Riccardo Autorino joined VCU in May 2017 as Clinical Associate Professor and as a full time attending urologist at the McGuire VA Medical Center. Dr. Autorino completed an advanced laparoscopy and robotics fellowship in 2014 at The Cleveland Clinic and urology residency in Naples, Italy.



Dr. Siff joins VCU in August 2017 with a dual appointment in Urology and Obstetrics and Gynecology. She recently finished a female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery fellowship at The Cleveland Clinic after completing her residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Tufts Medical Center.



## American Urological Association



Dr. [C.D. Anthony Herndon](#), Professor within the Division of Urology and Director of Pediatric Urology at the Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU, has been asked to present The State of the Art Lecture for the American Urological Association (AUA) meeting this coming Spring. Dr. Herndon's talk will be "Prenatal Urinary Tract Dilation: Role of Antibiotics and Imaging."

Founded in 1902, the American Urological Association aims to provide support through education, research, and health policy to promote and advance urological clinical care. Each year, at their annual conference, researchers and clinicians from across the Nation are asked to present breaking research and novel ideas as part of their State of the Art Lecture series. To learn more about AUA, [go here](#).

Congratulations, Dr. Herndon!



## Meet the Team



**Front row L to R:** Dr. Adam Klausner\*, Dr. Lance Hampton\*, Dr. Andrea Balthazar, Regina Foster PA, Jenna Brand PNP, Dr. Naveen Nandan, Dr. Mayer Grob\*

**Second row:** Dr. Andrew Colhoun, Dr. Uzoma Anele, Dr. Tyler Roseman\*, Dr. Andrew Tracey, Dr. Sarah Krzastek, Heather Hayden NP, Leigh Hamm PNP, Valre Welch PNP

**Third row:** Dr. Jay Sulek, Dr. Georgi Guruli\*, Dr. Randy Vince, Dr. Tony Herndon\*, Dr. Natalie Swavely, Dr. Marc Bell

**Missing:** Dr. John Edmondson\*

\*denotes faculty

