

# Surgery Residents and Alumni

## Dr. Aaron Jensen Receives the ACS 2011 Resident Award for Exemplary Teaching



Aaron Jensen, MD

Dr. Aaron Jensen received the 2011 American College of Surgeons (ACS) Resident Award for Exemplary Teaching at the ACS Clinical Congress in San Francisco on October 26, 2011. This award is meant to recognize teaching excellence and to further emphasize teaching as an important area of a resident's daily life. The recipient is selected by the Committee on Resident Education, based on evidence of teaching excellence. The award carries with it a \$1,500 stipend as well as an invitation to attend the Clinical Congress as a guest of the ACS.

Collected comments in support of Dr. Jensen's nomination for this award:

"Dr. Jensen is one of the most self-motivated residents I have ever seen. ...He is and will be a clinical star and an academic star in Surgical Education.

"Clinically, Aaron has superior clinical judgment, both in and out of the OR, and has a sophisticated understanding of disease and treatment options. He has outstanding critical evaluation and analytic skills at an advanced level. His

organizational skills and leadership of his team are extraordinary...

"He leads by example and is a true 'servant-leader.'

"He has a wonderful personality with a dry wit and a wry, pleasant sense of humor.

"Aaron is thoughtful and caring with patients and their families with a wonderful bedside manner and is an outstanding teacher to junior residents. Under Aaron's leadership you just know that everything will be taken care of and if there's a problem you'll know about it at the right time with all the necessary data and a synthesized plan."

We are fortunate to have residents of this caliber in our program. The Department of Surgery expresses its highest congratulations to Dr. Aaron Jensen on his receipt of this award.



## Michael Florence, MD Receives 2011 Distinguished Alumnus Award



Michael Florence, MD

In recognition of his surgical expertise, professionalism and leadership, Michael Florence, MD is the recipient of the 2011 University of Washington Department of Surgery's Distinguished Alumnus Award presented September 23rd at the annual Harkins' Society Dinner. Dr. Florence is the 14th alumnus to receive this award which was first awarded in 1997.

Dr. Florence was born in Atlanta, Georgia and received his undergraduate education from Washington and Lee University. He attended medical school at Emory University and then moved to the Pacific Northwest to train as a resident in UW Department of Surgery. After completing his residency in General Surgery in 1980 he took a position as an Acting Instructor in the Department of Surgery at the Public Health Hospital. He then moved into private practice at Providence Medical Center where he played an active role training UW surgery residents for many years. He remains active in residency training in his current position at Swedish Medical Center.

His University of Washington roots run deep. In addition to his regular clinical activities, including participating in trauma call, he was a member of the promotion committee for the Department of Surgery and was President of the Harkins Society (1990-91). Most recently he has been involved with the UW through The Surgical Care and Outcomes Assessment Program (SCOAP), which is a major project within the Department's Surgical Outcomes Resource Center (SORCE). He was one of the SCOAP founders and is currently chairman of SCOAP's advisory board. He is also the present Chair of the Surgical Quality Improvement Committee at Swedish Medical Center and will be their next Department of Surgery Chair beginning January 2012.

He has been involved professionally at the local, state and national levels. He is a member of the Seattle Surgical Society, the Washington State Chapter of the American College of Surgeons, for which he was secretary for several years and eventually became its President, the North Pacific Surgical Association and the Pacific Coast Surgical Association. He also served as the Washington State Chapter's Governor to the College.

Dr. Florence is one of the most respected and admired surgeons in the state of Washington. Other surgeons not only seek out his advice but go to him as a patient. The surgical profession is better because of Dr. Florence. All these attributes reflect well on the mission and values of our department and what we want all of our graduates to embody as they launch their careers. Congratulations to Dr. Florence.

**Former UW Training Resident Karen Guice, MD, MPP, Appointed to Prestigious Health Affairs Position**



Karen Guice, MD, MPP

The University of Washington Department of Surgery congratulates Karen Guice MD, MPP, on her appointment to the new Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs. Dr. Guice trained in UW Department of Surgery's general surgery residency program from June 1977 - June 1982 and brings over thirty years of medical experience, to include surgical, instructional and health policy to the Department of Defense (DoD).

Dr. Guice will serve as the principal staff advisor and assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, and will participate and be responsible for the execution of the Department's medical mission to provide health services and support to members of the armed forces, their family members, and others entitled to DoD health care.

Dr. Guice will also serve as the Principal Deputy Director, TRICARE

Management Activity. In these two roles, she will assist in the development of strategies and priorities to achieve the health mission of the Military Health System, and participate fully in formulating, developing, overseeing and advocating the policies of the Secretary of Defense.

Previously, Dr. Guice served as the Executive Director of the Federal Recovery Coordination Program, a joint program of the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs. She graduated from the University of New Mexico School of Medicine and completed her general surgery training at the University of Washington. She has been a funded investigator for over 10 years, receiving grants from the National Institute of Health and the Emergency Medical Services for Children Program.

