

63rd Annual Strauss Lecture



Dr. Michael J. Zinner

Zinner's lecture was entitled "*The Evolution of Health Care in America: Where did we come from? Where are we going?*"

The lecture spanned the history of health care in America over the past 100 years, including the beginning of hospital care, which was essentially "charitable care;" to schools of education combined with hospital care; to the beginnings of health insurance; the roots of pre-paid health plans (HMOs); the advent of Medicare and the more recent developments, including the "Massachusetts Experiment." Additionally, he examined the role of government in health care and the efforts to control cost, while keeping quality.

Dr. Zinner received his MD from University of Florida School of Medicine in Gainesville, FL and completed his surgical residency at The Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, MD. He began his career in academic surgery as an Assistant Professor of Surgery at Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn, NY. He then moved to Johns Hopkins and UCLA as Professor of Surgery. In 1994, he moved to Harvard Medical School as the Moseley Professor of Surgery. Dr. Zinner serves in the top leadership of national surgical societies and is a member of several prestigious editorial boards. In 2004, he established the Center for Surgery and Public Health, a collaboration between the Harvard Medical School and the Harvard School of Public Health, focused on healthcare, quality, safety and effectiveness and global surgical care. His current interests include these areas and the national debate on health care reform.

Dr. Alfred Strauss completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Washington before moving to Chicago for his medical training, where he remained for his entire medi-

The Department's 63rd Annual Alfred E. Strauss Endowed Lecture was held on Friday, October 12, 2012. This year's invited speaker was **Michael J. Zinner, MD**, Moseley Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School, the Surgeon-in-Chief at the Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH) and the Clinical Director of the Dana Farber/Brigham and Women's Cancer Center. Dr.

cal career. He was known as an innovator and was central to the founding of the University of Washington School of Medicine. His legacy to the Department of Surgery is the Strauss Lectureship which he and his family established for these reasons: 1) to invite speakers to the medical school representing the world's leading surgical educators; 2) to foster a bond of cooperation and friendship between University and community-based surgeons.

Dr. Strauss gave the first Strauss Lecture in October 1950; the first of the long list of distinguished speakers and timely topics. The Department is grateful for the on-going support of the Strauss Lectureship by Mr. John Friedlander, grandson of Alfred Strauss and Dr. John H. Strauss, nephew of Dr. Alfred Strauss.

Robert Sawin, MD, Professor, Chief, Pediatric Surgery & Surgeon in Chief at Seattle Children's Hospital

During an interview for my job as Surgeon-in-Chief at Children's, Carlos gave me some very important advice about leadership, responsibility, "power" and authority. He suggested that leaders could have power by way of their position, i.e. authoritative or hierarchical power. Alternatively, he proposed, a leader can have power through influence and relationships. He offered that the power of influence was more lasting and more effective. I have observed that he epitomizes that style of leadership, and have learned a great deal about effective leadership by watching him. He is a keen observer, a superb communicator, and an excellent motivator. I cannot imagine a better department chair.

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— DR. ROBERT SAWIN
