# The 69th Annual Dr. Alfred A. Strauss Lecture & Harkins' Symposium



The 69th Annual Strauss Lecture was held Friday, October 2018 with invited lecturer Dr. Jonathan Woodson, MD. Dr. Woodson leads Boston University's University-wide Institute for Health System Innovation and Policy. He is a Larz Anderson Professor in Management and Professor of the Practice at the Questrom School of Business, and holds

joint appointments as Professor of Surgery at the School of Medicine and Professor of Health Law, Policy, and Management at the School of Public Health. His lecture topic was "Preparing Surgeons to Operate in a VUCA World (or Why Surgeons Should Embrace Chaos Theory)."

As Director of the Institute for Health System Innovation and Policy, Dr. Woodson focuses on expanding interdisciplinary health system research initiatives across Boston University, deepening connections between scholars, policy—makers, and corporations to address important national and global health care challenges, and advancing curricular activities at Questrom and across BU's schools and colleges.

From 2010–2016, Dr. Woodson served as Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs in the United States Department of Defense and was the principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense for all health and force health protection–related issues, and ensured the effective execution of the Department of Defense medical mission.

Prior to serving as Assistant Secretary of Defense, Dr. Woodson was Associate Dean for Students, Diversity and Multicultural Affairs and Professor of Surgery at Boston University School of Medicine. He received his Bachelor of Science in biomedical science from the City College of New York, his medical degree from New York University School of Medicine, and a Master's in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College. He is a Brigadier General in the US Army Reserves and has commanded units at all levels. Dr. Woodson has deployed in support of Operations Desert Shield/Storm, Operation Joint Guardian, Kosovo, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. He has received numerous military awards and citations including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal and the Order of Military Medical Merit.

The Strauss Lecture is supported by the Dr. Alfred A. Strauss Endowed Lectureship in Surgery, established by the estate of Mrs. Margery Friedlander, daughter of Dr. Strauss. Dr. Strauss was an honor graduate of UW in 1904 and a member of the committee which successfully advocated for the founding of the School of Medicine at UW in 1946. Dr. Strauss possessed a rare combination of skill, vison, and drive and the lectureship carries on the visons and traditions of this inspiring man. Preceding the Strauss Lecture was the Harkins Surgical Symposium for Resident Education. This one-day educational conference for regional surgical residents focuses on technical aspects of surgery with talks by local and national experts in their fields. Residents from the UW, University of British Columbia, Swedish Medical Center, Virginia Mason Medical Center, and Madigan Army Medical Center are all invited to attend this annual event, and Department of Surgery remains committed to providing this symposium free of charge to residents, fellows, and medical students.

Each year the Harkins Society recognizes the professional achievements and humanitarian services of one of its members, and this year's Distinguished Alumnus is Dr. **Sharmila Dissanaike**, The Peter C. Canizaro Chair and Professor of Surgery at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

Dr. Dissanaike was nominated by Dr. Giana Davidson, Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery, Section Chief, Emergency General Surgery, and selected unanimously by Harkins Society leadership. Dr. Dissanaike graduated from the Department of Surgery's surgical critical care and trauma fellowship in 2007 and has since gone on to a very successful career in trauma and burns. In addition, she carries active roles in the Verification Committee for the American Burn Association, and both the Committee on Trauma and the Ethics Committee for the American College of Surgeons. She has won numerous awards for her research endeavors, academic achievements, clinical expertise and resident mentorship



Left to right: Dr. Paul Ramsey, Mr. John Friedlander, Drs. Jonathan Woodson, John Strauss and Douglas Wood

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and education. Notably last year she was also awarded the Woman of Excellence award from the YWCA.

Dr. Dissanaike is an incredible example to all young surgeons and embodies this in her role as a surgeon educator. She states "we emphasize teamwork, collegiality, and an 'all for one and one for all' type of mentality" when discussing her resident and fellow trainees.

Learn more about our society and become a member at www. harkinssociety.org.

#### Harkins' Symposium Speakers (in lecture order)









Calhoun

Anderson

Dr. Nicole Zern, Assistant Professor, Division of General Surgery, "Updates in Staging and Treatment of Thyroid Cancer"

Dr. Kristine Calhoun, Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery, "Building a Lymphedema Management Program: Lessons Learned"

Dr. Ben Anderson, Professor, Division of General Surgery, "Breast Cancer Early Detection in Low and Middle Income Countries"

Dr. Teresa Kim, Assistant Professor, Division of General Surgery, "Updates in the Management of Soft Tissue Sarcoma"









**Pillarisetty** 

Park

Bernier

Susarla

Dr. Venu Pillarisetty, Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery, "Redefining Resectability of Pancreatic Cancer in the Era of Effective Systemic Therapy"

Dr. James Park, Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery, "Surgical Strategies for Colorectal Liver Metastases: Redefining Resectability"

Dr. Greta Bernier, Assistant Professor, Division of General Surgery, "Combined Hepatectomy with Colorectal Resection"

Dr. Srinivas Susarla, Assistant Professor, Division of Plastic Surgery, "Craniomaxillofacial Reconstruction in the Era of Virtual Surgery"









Quiroga

Hink

Dr. Elina Quiroga, Associate Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery, "Blunt Aortic Injury: Classification, Management, and Treatment"

Dr. John Rollo, Clinical Assistant Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery, "Trans-cervical Carotid Stenting: A New Modality with a Promising Future"

Dr. Tam Pham, Professor, Division of Trauma, Burn & Critical Care Surgery, "Triage Pathways for Regional Burn Care"

Dr. Ashley Hink, Trauma & Surgical Critical Care Fellow, "Ignoring No More—Preventing Firearm Injuries in Trauma Centers with a Public Health Approach"









Mock

Dissanaike

Williams

Bingham

Dr. Charlie Mock, Professor, Division of Trauma, Burn & Critical Care Surgery, "Strengthening Care for People with Surgical Diseases Globally"

Dr. Sharmila Dissanaike, The Peter C. Canizaro Chair and Professor of Surgery at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Harkins Distinguished Alumni Lecturer,

Dr. Estell Williams, Acting Assistant Professor, Division of General Surgery, "Achieving a Critical Mass: Diversity is Beneficial, Why Don't We Accept It?"

MAJ Jason Bingham, MD, General and Bariatric Surgeon, Madigan Army Medical Center Co-Founder, Behind the Knife LLC, "Social Media and the Science of Surgical Education"

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Dr. Rochelle Garcia, Professor, Department of Pathology, Adjunct Professor, Department of Gynecology, "What Do We Mean by Cancer? Do We Speak the Same Language?"

Dr. Andre Dick, Associate Professor, Division of Transplant Surgery, "Use of PHS Increased Risk Donors in Pediatric Solid Organ Transplantation"

#### **UPCOMING EVENT**

# 25TH ANNUAL HELEN AND JOHN SCHILLING LECTURE



Guest Lecturer:
Dr. Mary Hawn, Professor
of Surgery and Chair of the
Department of Surgery
at Stanford University

Friday, March 22, 2019 UW Tower Auditorium 4333 Brooklyn Ave. NE Seattle, WA 98105

# Diversity

### in the Department of Surgery



At the 69th Annual Harkins Symposium on October 12th, 2018, Dr. Estell Williams, Acting Assistant Professor, Division of General Surgery and Department of Surgery Diversity Council member, delivered an inspiring Diversity

Council update: "Achieving a Critical Mass: Diversity is Beneficial, Why Don't We Accept It?" This Synopsis highlights key points from the address and outlines ongoing initiatives within the Department of Surgery (DOS). We encourage all faculty with an interest in participating in the work being done please reach out to Diversity Council Chair, Dr. Jorge Reyes.

Under the guidance of the Chief Medical Officer's (CMO) office and the leadership of Drs. Carlos A. Pellegrini and David Flum, Professor, Division of General Surgery and Associate Chair for Research, UW Medicine has created a Healthcare Equity Blueprint in alliance with the University of Washington campus—wide UW Diversity Blueprint. These blueprints are used to guide ongoing efforts to promote diversity and inclusion in





our university community. As an overarching framework, this blueprint sets forth that, "The School of Medicine values diversity and inclusion and is committed to building and sustaining an academic community in which teachers, researchers and learners achieve the knowledge, skills and attitudes that value and embrace inclusiveness, equity and awareness as a way to unleash creativity and innovation." To further this mission, Dr. **Douglas Wood**, The Henry N. Harkins Professor and Chair of the Department of Surgery, charged the **Diversity Council with reviewing and evaluating the culture of** 

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