

September 2009

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#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Anatomical Review**
- **Featured Faculty**
- **Resident Alumni**
- **Current Residents News**
- **SOSA**
- **Community Events**
- **Surgery News**

## From the Chairman

**Keith O'Malley, M.D., FACS**



We are already well into the new academic year and the one thing you can count on is change. Dr. Marc Rosen moved to Tennessee in August to join a private practice group there. He and his family are settling in and are busy exploring their new surroundings in Nashville.

We were successful in recruiting our graduating chief resident, Roy Sandau, D.O. who began in July. (more about Dr. Sandau on page 2)

Dr. John D'Emilia is working with Kennedy and their new affiliate, the University of Pennsylvania, to expand their Surgical Oncology Program.

The Bariatric Program continues to mature under the direction of Dr. Louis Balsama. Kennedy is expected to obtain a "Center of Excellence" designation from the American College of Surgeons' within the next six months. Dr. Balsama continues to refine his capabilities in other as-

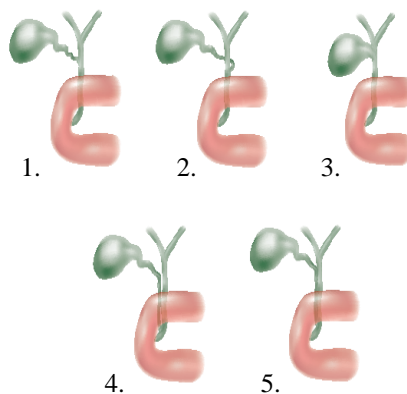
pects of laparoscopic surgery such as splenectomies and nissen fundoplicatons as well.

Finally, just when the program's graduates thought it might be safe to visit, Dr. Richard Liszewski has returned from his retirement! Rich has agreed to return on a limited basis, limiting his practice to thyroid and parathyroid surgery. In addition to providing his superb skills that area, he will also be mentoring Dr. Sandau with an eye to the future.

## Anatomical Review

By John Cooper, D.O., FACOS

### CYSTIC DUCT VARIATIONS



Cystic duct variations are important for the surgeon to understand in order to help avoid accidental division of the common bile or hepatic duct. Such complications can lead to significant morbidity. The incidence of ductal injury after laparoscopic cholecystectomy is 0.3% to 0.85%.

(Adapted from Sabiston)

1. Normal cystic duct anatomy (50-75%)
2. Meandering cystic duct (5%)
3. Short/Absent cystic duct
4. Long/parallel cystic duct
5. Inseparate/fused cystic duct (25% most common anomaly)



Roy Sandau, D.O.  
Assistant Professor

*“Surgeons must  
be careful. When  
they take the  
knife, underneath  
their fine incisions,  
stirs the Culprit —  
Life!”*

*Emily Dickinson*

## Featured Faculty: Roy Sandau, D.O.

The Department of Surgery is proud to announce that “one of our own” Roy Sandau, D.O. joined the group in July 2009.

Dr. Sandau went to medical school at UMDNJ-SOM and completed his internship and residency training here. During his residency he received a number of award including the Frederick G. Meoli, Junior and Senior Paper Award and the Elmer

Grimes Award presented from the Foundation at Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center.

Dr. Sandau is trained in all aspects of general surgery with special interest in breast, thyroid and parathyroid surgery. He also has a special expertise in gastrointestinal endoscopy and the laparoscopic treatment of gastroesophageal reflux disease, disease of the

colon, hernias and weight loss.

Dr. Sandau sees patients at the University Doctors’ Washington Township Medical Office Building on Mondays and Thursdays and at the University Doctors’ Pavilion in Stratford on Wednesdays.

## SOSA

(Student Osteopathic Surgery Association)



### New Board Members

The 2009-2010 SOSA Board Members are:

Marc Ponzio, President  
Erica Patel, Vice President  
Nicholas Kitsopoulos, Secretary  
Maximilian Bekhit, Treasurer  
Ammar Karim, Community Service Coordinator  
Kay Yoon Flannery, National Liaison Officer  
Nidhi Shah, Fund Raising Coordinator  
Amit Bojoani, First Year Vice President  
Leona Chang, First Year Representative  
John Cooper, D.O., Faculty Mentor

### Fall Festival

The Third Annual Fall Festival which is sponsored by the UMDNJ-SOM Alumni Association and SOSA is scheduled to take place on October 9, 2009 in the Multi Purpose Room and will feature a number of booths and events for faculty, students and their families. This event provides an opportunity for current students to interact and socialize with faculty and alumni of the school.

### SOSA Essay Contest

SOSA is again sponsoring a student essay contest. The winner of contest will receive a check for \$500.00. The topic this year is: “Discuss what you consider to be one of the most pivotal

advances in surgical medical science in the 20th century and how it has impacted current surgical practices.”

The essay should be at least 500 words and include a bibliography. All entries should be e-mailed to:

[gugliema@gmail.com](mailto:gugliema@gmail.com).

The names of the students will be removed from the essays before they are distributed to the Faculty Committee for review and voting. The deadline for submission is October 9, 2009.

# Resident Alumni - Charles Heller, D.O. (graduated 2006)

Charles “Chuck” Heller graduated from UMDNJ-SOM General Surgery Residency Program in June 2006. He was granted an NIH fellowship at the National Cancer Institute in Immunotherapy and Surgical Oncology.

While at NCI, Dr. Heller participated in analytical techniques for the quantification of angiogenesis and lymphoangiogenesis, Angiogenesis workshop and NCI’s Angiogenesis Core Facility Foundation for the Advance Education in the Sciences.

He also is first author of a book

chapter to be published this fall entitled, Current and Emerging Therapies, Chapter 15, “Isolated Hepatic Perfusion,” 3rd Edition, ed. P.A. Clavein. He has coauthored on several publications and was an invited speaker at the NCI Surgery Branch Research Seminar Series.

Currently, Chuck is in private practice at Hawthorne Medical Associates In Dartmouth, Massachusetts. It is part of the Partners Healthcare Network and an affiliate of MGH and Brigham and Women’s Hospital. Dr. Heller is a general surgeon and surgical

oncologist for the greater new Bedford area operating out of St. Luke’s Hospital which is a 420 bed community hospital.

On a personal note, Chuck and his wife, Anjana have two children: a son Jay, 3 years old and a daughter, Avni, 4 months old.

Anjana is a Cooper University Hospital trained pediatrician. She is joining a local practice with two other pediatricians.

## Our Residents



Hang Dang, DO



Carlos Molina, DO



Mark Salcone, DO



Linda Szczurek, DO

We are completing the first quarter of the year under the leadership of our new chief residents: Hang Dang, D.O., Carlos Molina, D.O., Mark Salcone, D.O. and Linda Szczurek, D.O.

Linda and Mark attended the Tuft’s Health Care Institute Residency Rotation on “Practicing Medicine in a Changing Health Care Environment,” on August 17-20, 2009 in Watertown, Massachusetts. This program provided valuable

Presentations on practicing surgery in our current economic environment. Residents from programs all over the country were in attendance.

We would also like to introduce our incoming PGY I surgery trackers:

Max Benenanti, D.O. from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine.

James Buwen, D.O. from Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

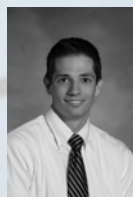
Devin Flaherty, D.O., from the University of North Texas Health Science Center– Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Meg Merriam, D.O. from Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences.

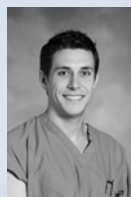
And, Rosemarie Robledo, D.O. From UMDNJ-SOM



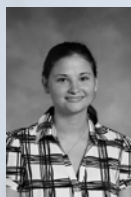
Max Benenati, DO



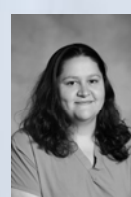
James Buwen, DO



Devin Flaherty, DO



Meg Merriam DO



Rosemarie Robledo, DO

# Surgery News



Dr. D'Emilia participated in a panel of experts in breast care sponsored by Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center. The discussion covered current best practices and took place on Wednesday, September 30, 2009. The conference was attended by primary care providers, nursing staff and residents.

## Dr. Liszewski is Back!

The Department is happy to announce that Dr. Richard Liszewski is returning to work! Dr. Liszewski will see thyroid and parathyroid patients in the Stratford office on Wednesdays. You can call the office at (856) 566-2700 to schedule an appointment.



Dr. Keith O'Malley sat for recertification in Surgical Critical Care in October 2009. There are only approximately 1,300 surgeons in the Country with this credential!

After 20+ years, we are missing Dr. Louis Gallo's infectious humor and sparkling personality. The lucky son-of-a-gun is now enjoying his retirement in sunny Florida. He asked that his exact location not be disclosed. A sincere thanks to Lou for all the contributions he made during the course of his career. He will always be remembered and respected as a "surgeon's surgeon." "Right, Doc?"



# Community Events



Dr. Louis Balsama continues to present monthly information sessions to the community on Bariatric Surgery and weight loss

options. The upcoming sessions are scheduled for:

Monday, October 26, 2009

November 16, 2009

December 14, 2009.

The sessions take place at 6:30 p.m. and will take place in the Kennedy Healthrex Building on Egg Harbor Road in Sewell, New Jersey.

Dr. Vincent DiGiovanni will participate in the Kennedy Family Health Services Fair on October 22, 2009. The fair will take place at 1 Somerdale Square in Somerdale, NJ from 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Dr. DiGiovanni will be doing vein screenings.



## Questions?

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