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Florida Urological Society

75th Anniversary Book

History of Urology in Florida:

Volume II

Preface
In 1998, for the 50th anniversary of the Florida Urological Society, the Society decided to publish a book called “History of Urology in Florida”. The book was given free to all members who came to the meeting and is now available for view on the FUS website.

For the 75th anniversary this year, we have opted to update that book with this one. It is meant to stand on its own yet supplement the work that preceded it. And again, it will be distributed to members who come to the annual meeting. After the meeting, the content will be made available on the FUS website.

It has been my honor to serve as the first Historian for the FUS these past six years, and it has been a pleasure to be editor-in-chief of this book. I want to thank Adam Ball for suggesting this book and for all of his guidance and assistance. I would also like to thank the contributors who were listed on the previous pages. None of this would have been possible without the incredible assistance of Monica Martin of WJ Weiser.

Lastly, I would like to thank my wife, Amy, without whose constant support I could not have completed this work.

Enjoy the book!

Michael A. Binder, MD
Editor-in-Chief, History of Urology in Florida, Volume II
FUS Historian
Lutz, Florida
Introduction

From dial-up and modems to wireless and Wi-Fi. From Road Atlas to Garmin to Google Maps. From Kodak slides to PowerPoint to live surgical presentations. This is just a tiny sampling of the major technological changes which have occurred from 1998-2023. The last 25 years of medicine and surgery have resulted in tremendous advances in technologies, diagnostic evaluations, and treatment pathways. Consider the progression from open radical nephrectomy to laparoscopic nephrectomy, to robotic partial nephrectomy at a macroscopic level, and the molecular and genetic diagnostic and treatment alternatives at a microscopic level.

I am honored to serve as the President of the Florida Urological Society (FUS) during its historic 75th Anniversary. With the dedicated help and advice of our society’s Historian, Dr. Michael Binder, we sought to update the book written 25 years ago, “History of Urology in Florida”. We have added a number of urologic residency and fellowship programs across our state. Our colleagues and fellow members have served as Presidents of several national urologic organizations. We have witnessed significant growth in the diversity of our membership. I am confident that the Florida Urological Society will remain a strong, nationally-recognized fellowship of surgeons, colleagues, researchers, mentors, and leaders into the 21st century and beyond. What will the next 25 years hold in store for us? We shall see in 2048 what will have been further added to this on-going and ever-changing story of the FUS!

Adam J. Ball, MD, FACS
FUS President
Port St. Lucie, FL
Contributors*

James E. Alver, MD, FACS
Brandon, FL

Adam J. Ball, MD, FACS
Port St. Lucie, FL

Michael A. Binder, MD
Lutz, FL

Vincent G. Bird, MD
Gainesville, FL

Gregory Broderick, MD
Jacksonville, FL

Rafael Carrion, MD
Tampa, FL

Nicole Eisenbrown, MD
Panama City, FL

Edward D. King, MD
Ocala, FL

Lawrence Hakim, MD
Weston, FL

Lou Moy, MD
Gainesville, FL

Alan Nieder, MD
Miami Beach, FL

Terrence Regan, MD
Flagler Beach, FL

Rolando Rivera, MD
Naples, FL

Thomas Stringer, MD
Gainesville, FL

Paul Young, MD
Jacksonville, FL

*Thank you for your contributions and your continued support of the Florida Urological Society.
Florida Urological Society
75th Anniversary Book

History of Urology in Florida:
Volume II

Past Presidents & Award Winners
FUS Past Presidents

Presidential year, president, annual meeting location

Current President
Adam J. Ball, MD, FACS
Orlando, FL

2021 - 2022
Lawrence S. Hakim, MD, FACS
Miami, FL

2020 - 2021
Jamin Brahmbhatt, MD, FACS
Orlando, FL

2019 - 2020
Vipul R. Patel, MD, FACS
Virtual Meeting

2018 - 2019
Kevin K. Lee, MD, FACS
Orlando, FL

2017 - 2018
Rafael E. Carrion, MD
Wesley Chapel, FL

2016 - 2017
Rolando Rivera, MD
Orlando, FL

2015 - 2016
Wade J. Sexton, MD
Amelia Island, FL

2014 - 2015
Paul R. Young, MD
Orlando, FL

2013 - 2014
Vincent G. Bird, MD
Miami Beach, FL

2012 - 2013
Michael A. Binder, MD
Lutz, FL

2011 - 2012
Terrence C. Regan, MD
Orlando, FL

2010 - 2011
Michael S. Grable, MD
Bonita Springs, FL

2009 - 2010
Michael J. Wehle, MD
Orlando, FL

2008 - 2009
Thurman J. Ross Jr., MD
Naples, FL

2007 - 2008
Robert C. Newman, MD
Lake Buena Vista, FL

2006 - 2007
Raymond J. Leveillee, MD, FRCS-G
Miami Beach, FL

2005 - 2006
Thomas F. Stringer, MD, FACS
Champions Gate, FL

2004 - 2005
Scott B. Sellinger, MD, FACS
Palm Beach, FL

2003 - 2004
Ronald D. Castellanos, MD
Naples, FL

2002 - 2003
Martin K. Dineen, MD, FACS*
Orlando, FL

2001 - 2002
Ruskin W. Brown, MD*
Orlando, FL

2000 - 2001
Zev Wajsman, MD
Bahamas

1999 - 2000
B. Thomas Brown, MD, MBA
St. Petersburg, FL

1998 - 1999
Edward Ackerman, MD*
Aventura, FL

1997 - 1998
Byron H. McCormick, MD*
Orlando, FL

1996 - 1997
Thomas J. Mawn, MD*
Tarpon Springs, FL

1995 - 1996
William P. Sawyer, MD
St. Petersburg, FL

1994 - 1995
James M. Porterfield Jr., MD
Amelia Island, FL

1993 - 1994
Hernan M. Carrion, MD
Miami, FL

1992 - 1993
James E. Kaelin, MD
Lake Buena Vista, FL

1991 - 1992
Raleigh W. Rollins, MD

1990 - 1991
John P. Scheuren, MD*
Tarpon Springs, FL

1989 - 1990
R. Dixon Walker III, MD

1988 - 1989
L. W. Dowlen Jr., MD

1987 - 1988
Manuel J. Coto, MD*

1986 - 1987
William R. Welch, MD

1985 - 1986
John D. Welch, MD

1984 - 1985
Michael P. Small, MD

1983 - 1984
David M. Drylie, MD*

1982 - 1983
Charles William Lewis Jr.*

*Deceased
FUS Past Presidents

Presidential year, president, annual meeting location

1981 - 1982
Thomas C. McLaughlin, MD*

1980 - 1981
John M. Harper, MD*

1979 - 1980
H.A.P. Leninger, MD

1978 - 1979
Woody N. York, MD*

1977 - 1978
Alvie C. McCully, MD

1976 - 1977
Raymond J. Fitzpatrick, MD*

1975 - 1976
R. Benjamin Moore, MD

1974 - 1975
John Rogers Browning, MD*

1973 - 1974
John I. Williams, MD*

1972 - 1973
Clark A. Whitehorn, MD*

1971 - 1972
Curtis W. Bowman, MD

1970 - 1971
Horace D. Atkinson*

1969 - 1970
Victor A. Politano, MD*

1968 - 1969
Miles W. Thomley, MD*

1967 - 1968
Carey Neilson Barry, MD*

1966 - 1967
Robert J. Webster, MD*

1965 - 1966
Robert J. Brown, MD

1964 - 1965
John T. Karaphillis, MD*

1963 - 1964
Truett H. Frazier, MD

1962 - 1963
Henry Carter Hardin Jr.*

1961 - 1962
William A. Van Nortwick, MD*

1960 - 1961
Henry L. Smith Jr., MD*

1959 - 1960
Edwin W. Brown, MD*

1958 - 1959
Melvin Morris Simmons, MD*

1957 - 1958
W. Dotson Wells, MD

1956 - 1957
Frank J. Pyle, MD

1955 - 1956
David W. Goddard, MD*

1954 - 1955
Linus W. Hewit, MD*

1953 - 1954
Frank M. Woods, MD*

1952 - 1953
George H. Putnam, MD

1952 - 1953
Lee Sharp, MD

1951 - 1952
Lee Sharp, MD

1950 - 1951
Alvin Mills, MD

1949 - 1950
Arthur F. Turner Jr., MD*

1948 - 1949
Milton M. Caplan, MD*

*Deceased
Hernan Carrion, MD

Dr. Hernan Carrion was Chief of Urology at Miami Children’s Hospital, starting in 1987. He was also a clinical associate professor at the University of Miami School of Medicine. A native of Peru and award-winning physician, Dr. Carrion kept close ties with the Peruvian medical community. He was contacted on behalf of a family for an evaluation at Miami Children’s Hospital. Since the arrival of the conjoined twins, Dr. Carrion had overseen their care, surgery and recovery. Dr. Carrion’s many clinical and academic honors include first prize in the Rousell Prize, Peru, sponsored by the Peruvian Academy of Surgeons, first prize in the Milton Coplan Pyloagram Exhibit sponsored by the Florida Urological Association, and first prize for a clinical exhibit selected by the American Urological Association. Dr. Carrion earned his undergraduate degree at San Marcos University, Lima, Peru, and his medical degree at the university’s San Fernando Medical College. He completed an internship at the National Institute of Cancer Arzobispo Loayza Hospital, Children’s Hospital, a residency in oncological surgery at the National Institute of Cancer, Lima, Peru, and residencies in urology at Roswell Park Memorial Hospital, Buffalo, N.Y., and at Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami. He is a former member of the Medical Board of Miami Children’s Hospital and has served on several hospital committees. Dr. Carrion is a founding member and past president of the Latin American Pediatric Urological Society. He is also former president of the Florida Urological Society, the Greater Miami Urological Society, and the American Confederation of Urology. He is an honorary member of many other professional societies in the United States and abroad. Dr. Carrion has contributed to numerous professional publications and textbooks over the years, and has been a visiting professor at universities in the United States, Central America, South America and Europe. (See the article on Hispanics in Florida Urology for more information about Dr. Carrion)
Mark S. Soloway, MD

Dr. Mark Soloway is Chief Emeritus at the University of Miami School of Medicine. He is recognized nationally and internationally for his contributions in urologic oncology. His research in bladder cancer (BC) began as a Clinical Associate at the National Cancer Institute. He used a carcinogen-induced animal model for urothelial carcinoma to identify the therapeutic efficacy of the newly discovered compound cisplatin (Cancer 1975). As a junior faculty member, Dr. Soloway was one of the first to administer this drug to BC patients and report on its efficacy (JU 1978). More than forty years later cisplatin is the most effective chemotherapeutic drug for BC.

During his residency he used this murine model to demonstrate that BC cells implanted on a cauterized urothelial surface suggesting that implantation is a factor in BC recurrences (Urology 1978). He, thus, advocated for the use of post TURBT intravesical chemotherapy. Subsequent clinical trials confirmed its benefit. To help minimize overtreatment of patients with low grade Ta BC, Dr. Soloway was the first to document the safety of active surveillance for patients with small, recurrent, low-grade, Ta BC (JU 2003). Dr. Soloway twice chaired an international multidisciplinary committee sponsored by the SIU and ICUD which published recommendations on all aspects of urothelial cancer.

Dr. Soloway’s most important contribution in prostate cancer (PC) was the popularization of the periprostatic nerve block to decrease pain during prostate biopsy (JU 2000). In 1984 Dr. Soloway was awarded the Gold Cystoscope Award. He delivered the SUO Whitmore Memorial Lecture in 2014. In 2015, he was awarded the St. Paul Medal by BAUS He has published over 550 articles in peer-reviewed journals primarily related to prostate, bladder, and kidney cancer. He remains in private practice in South Florida. (See the article on University of Miami for more information about Dr. Soloway)

Zev Wajsman, MD

Dr Wajsman was born in Poland. He graduated from Hebrew University Medical School in Jerusalem, Israel. He did his residency in Urology at Afula Medical Center in Israel. He completed a fellowship in Urologic Oncology at Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, NY. He was board certified by the Canadian Board of Urology. He was associate chief – Dept of urologic oncology at RPMI. He was a Professor of Urology at University of Florida. Currently, he is emeritus professor of Urology at University of Florida, Gainesville. His Honors include: Honorary member of Polish Urologic Society; President of Florida Urologic Society; and Golden Gator Lifetime Achievement Award from University of Florida.
2017

Jorge Lockhart, MD
A detailed biography of Dr. Lockhart appears in the article on Hispanics in Florida Urology, located in a later section in this book.

2018

Victor Politano, MD
An extensive biography of Dr. Politano appears in the first volume of History of Urology in Florida, available for reading on the Florida Urological Society website.

2019

Fernando Borges, MD
Dr. Borges attended medical school in his native country of Brazil. In 1968, he moved to the United States, where he completed his surgical and urological training at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Michigan. He is certified by the America Board of Urology and is also a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Borges was recruited to the St. Petersburg area by Drs..... Newman and Insoft, founders of one of the oldest and most prominent urological practices in the Bay area. Upon Dr. Borges’s arrival to the practice in 1973, along with practicing general urology, he began specializing in men’s erectile dysfunction and founded the Florida Impotency Center. Dr. Borges was a renowned surgeon worldwide specializing in penile prosthesis surgery.

2020

No award given due to canceled meeting caused by Covid pandemic
Thomas F. Stringer, MD

Thomas F. Stringer, MD is a Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Urology at the University of Florida (UF) in Gainesville and served as Interim Chair of the Department of Urology during the search for the latest chairman. He also serves as Associate Chairman of Philanthropy and Alumni Affairs. Dr. Stringer received his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and his medical degree from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. He completed his residency in surgery and urology at the UF College of Medicine in 1980.

Dr. Stringer is Past-President the AUA Southeastern Section (2009-2010) and the Florida Urological Society (2006-2007). He currently serves as Treasurer to AUA (9/14/2021-5/5/2025). He served on the AUA’s Finance, Bylaws and Investment Committees and was Chairman of the AUA Compensation Committee. He served as the Southeastern Section representative to the AUA Board of Directors (2014-2019). He is a past contributing author to the AUA’s Core Curriculum and was co-author of “The Complete Business Guide for a Successful Medical Practice”. Dr. Stringer has served as Director for the AUA Annual Meeting course on Physician Contract Negotiation for Employment and Ownership since 2012. In June of 2016, Dr. Stringer was honored with the 2016 UF Department of Urology Resident Teaching Award. He was awarded the AUA’s prestigious Presidential Citation in 2010. He writes and lectures nationally on the business of urology. He has been a member of the AUA since 1984.
Martin Dineen, MD

Dr. Martin Dineen earned his Bachelor of Science from the University of Notre Dame (1974) and his medical degree from Louisiana State University in Shreveport (1980). He completed his surgical internship and residency in urology at LSU before continuing on to a fellowship in the Department of Urologic Oncology at Roswell Park Memorial Institute. Upon moving to Ormond Beach, FL in 1987, he joined Atlantic Urological Associates (now Advanced Urology Institute) and began his urologic practice that would span 42 years.

A member of the American Urological Association (AUA) since 1990, Dr. Dineen was a leader in urologic health policy. He served for 17 years on the AUA Public Policy Council and for 15 years on the AUA Coding & Reimbursement Committee, in addition to serving on the Board of Directors from 2019-2023. The AUA Southeastern Section recognizes Dr. Dineen with the Gee-Dineen Socio-Economic session at each annual meeting. In 2016, he was awarded the AUA Distinguished Service Award for over two decades of outstanding leadership in Health Policy as well as humanitarian service in Haiti to eliminate the scourge of urogenital elephantiasis. Since October 2006, Dr. Dineen worked with fellow AUA members in Leogane, Haiti to perform over 2,000 hydrocele surgeries in a difficult and under-resourced environment. Dr. Dineen was recognized by his University of Notre Dame physician Alumni peers with the 2014 Dr. Tom Dooley Society Founders Award for his humanitarian efforts.

Dr. Dineen was very active in, and committed to, organized medicine and the support of Urology, serving as: President of the American Association of Clinical Urologists (AACU) (2015-2016); President of the Southeastern Section of the AUA (2008-2009); and President of the Florida Urological Society (2002-2003). He was also a founding member of the Board of Directors of the Urology Care Foundation since its inception in 2012, serving until 2016. Dr. Dineen was also an early proponent and pioneer of Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) development and the movement of inpatient urological services to the outpatient setting, founding one of the first ambulatory surgery centers in the nation.

Dr. Dineen held appointments as a clinical Assistant Professor of Urology at The University of South Florida School of Medicine in Tampa, FL, and as Associate Professor of Urology at The University of Florida Health Sciences Center in Gainesville, FL. He served as a peer review editor for the medical journal UROLOGY for over a decade, as well as for UROLOGY PRACTICE since its inception in 2014. Dr Dineen passed away in 2023.
Gregory A. Broderick
Dr. Gregory A. Broderick serves as a Consultant in the Department of Urology at Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida. He is a Professor of Urology, Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine and Program Director of the Urology Residency at Mayo Clinic Florida. Dr. Broderick has been a member of the Mayo Clinic Florida staff since 1998, and has served on Continuous Professional Development Committee, Graduate Medical Education Committee, Personnel Committee, and Academic Appointments and Promotions Committee. His practice is focused on Men’s Health, which includes: erectile dysfunction; Peyronie’s disease; urethral stricture disease; male stress incontinence; and BPH.

Dr. Broderick established the Urologic Residency in Jacksonville in 2000 and has served as Vice-Chair to the Graduate Education Committee at Mayo Clinic Florida. In recognition of his dedication to graduate education, he was honored by Jacksonville Business Magazine as an Innovator in Education and by Mayo Clinic Florida as Distinguished Educator of the Year, both in 2016. The Distinguished Educator Award is given to faculty demonstrating long-term excellence and leadership.

Dr. Broderick is an active member of the Florida Urologic Society, Southeastern Section AUA and the American Urological Association. He is a longstanding member and Fellow of the Sexual Medicine Society of North America (SMSNA). He is currently an Executive Committee member to SMSNA and the SMSNA Foundation. He has served as a co-author of AUA Clinical Guidelines for Priapism, Premature Ejaculation, and Erectile Dysfunction. He has served as Section Editor for AUA Core Curriculum (Priapism). He has served on the Sexual Health Function Council to AUA Foundation and Survivorship Committee to the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN, 2018-2021).

In February 2023, Dr. Broderick was elected Trustee of the American Board of Urology (ABU). His six-year term began on February 22, 2023. Dr. Broderick was nominated to the ABU by the Society of Academic Urologists. Founded in 1935, the ABU acts for the benefit of the public by establishing and maintaining standards of certification for urologists, working with certified urologists to achieve lifelong learning to insure the delivery of high quality, safe and ethical urologic care. Six urologic societies nominate to the ABU and sponsor its activities, including the American Urological Association, the American Association of Genitourinary Surgeons, the American Association of Clinical Urologists, the American College of Surgeons, the Society of Academic Urologists, and the Societies for Pediatric Urology.
Florida Presidents of the SESAUA (1998-2023)

2003-2004

B. Thomas Brown, MD

Dr. Brown was born in Beckley, West Virginia. He attended college at Johns Hopkins University and medical school at West Virginia University (1969-1973). He completed two years of surgical training at West Virginia University before his Urology Residency at the University of Miami (1975-1978). In addition to his medical training, Dr. Brown went on to earn an MBA at the University of South Florida in 1997.

Dr. Brown was appointed a Diplomat of the American Board of Urology in 1980 and practiced in Daytona Beach, Florida from 1978-2014. He led a distinguished career in administrative medicine and urology. Locally, he served as Chair for the Department of Urology at Halifax Medical Center, Chief of Surgery and President of Medical Staff at Florida Hospital, Ormond, and President of the Volusia County Medical Society. He was President of the American Cancer Society, Daytona Division in 1998 and Chair of the Florida Division from 2001-2003. He also served as President of the Independent Child Abuse Relief Enterprises (I-CARE), as a Delegate from Volusia County to the Florida Medical Association House of Delegates, and as Chair of the Volusia County Cooperative Health Group.

In 1990 he was appointed to the Executive Committee of the Florida Urological Society, and then served the organization as Chair of the By Laws Committee, Chair of the Membership Committee, Secretary, and then in 1999, as President. He was also elected to the Southeastern Section of the AUA as a Delegate from Florida in 1995 and after many years of dedicated service was elected President of the Southeastern Section of the AUA in 2003. Dr. Brown served on the Board of the AUA from 2007-2011 and was appointed to many AUA committees throughout his tenure. He also served on the board of the American Association of Clinical Urologists, and was President in 2011-2012. Dr. Brown served on the Board of UROPAC and was a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, serving as Chair for the Candidate Applications Committee from 1998-2010.

Dr. Brown was extremely active in his community outside of medicine. He appointed to the Board of Directors for the Ormond Memorial Art Museum, serving as President from 2018-2021, and the Board of Directors for the Daytona Beach Rotary Club, serving as President 2004-2005. He also served on the Board of Directors for the University Club and Tiger Bay of Volusia County, where he was President 1998-2000.
2009-2010

Thomas F. Stringer, MD
The Biography for Dr. Stringer can be found in the page for Lifetime Achievement Award winners

2013-2014

Raymond J. Leveillee, MD
Dr. Leveillee completed his residency in Urology at Brown University before commencing with an Endourology/Laparoscopy fellowship at the University of Minnesota in 1995. He rose to the rank of tenured professor at the University of Miami over a 20-year period. He held appointments in the Departments of Urology, Radiology, and Biomedical Engineering, with mentorship for fellows in the Endourology Society. He is considered a world leader in robotics, kidney and prostate cancer, obstructive uropathies, endourology and complex stone disease. A pioneer and outward thinker for his entire career, Dr. Leveillee has been afforded international acclaim, being given the distinction of induction into the Thai Urological Society under The Royal Patronage and receiving a medical degree “Ad Eundem” from the Royal College of Surgeons in Glasgow (Scotland). Dr. Leveillee was in the Inaugural class of the American Urological Association (AUA) Leadership program. He has served on numerous AUA committees including Practice Guidelines and is Past President of the Florida Urological Society. He has served on AUA Kidney and Adrenal Health Committee and was the Alternate Representative to the AUA Board of Directors for 5 years. Dr. Leveillee currently is the Director of the Bethesda Center for Advanced Robotics and Urologic Care (a post he has held since August 2015). He is an Emeritus Professor of Urology, Radiology and Biomedical Engineering at University of Miami. Most recently, he became affiliate Professor of Surgery/Urology at the Charles C. Schmidt College of Medicine at Florida Atlantic University.
Scott B. Sellinger, MD

Dr. Sellinger has been a partner at Southeastern Urological Center, now a division of Advanced Urology Institute, since 1991. He received his B.S. degree in Chemistry from Syracuse University and attended Medical School at the University of Florida in Gainesville. He completed his Urology residency at the University of Florida and has lived in Tallahassee for over 30 years. He was President of the Capital Medical Society in 2003 and served as President of the Florida Urological Society in 2005. In 2019, he served as President of the American Association of Clinical Urologists (AACU). In addition to his urology specific work, Dr. Sellinger has developed a special interest in risk management and prevention of medical errors and has lectured extensively on this subject matter. He is also interested in large group practice development and management. For several years, Dr. Sellinger has served on the board of Advanced Urology Institute (AUI), representing his care center in Tallahassee. In January 2021, he became the second President of AUI, now one of the largest independent urology practices in the United States. Dr. Sellinger currently chairs the Advanced Prostate Cancer (APC) Committee and oversees seven APC clinics within AUI. Since 2015, has also served on the Large Urology Group Practice Association (LUGPA) Board of Directors, where he currently serves as President-Elect (2024-2025). At LUGPA, he is proud to represent over 2300 Urologists by working to preserve and advance the independent practice of urology.
Florida Presidents of Other National Organizations

2005

Sexual Medicine Society of North America
Gregory A. Broderick, MD
A detailed biography of Dr. Broderick appears on page 16.

2014-2016

Sexual Medicine Society of North America
Lawrence S. Hakim, MD
Lawrence S. Hakim, MD, FACS, is Chairman of the Department of Urology and Director of the Center of Surgical Services at Cleveland Clinic Florida, in Weston, and Clinical Associate Professor of Surgery (Urology) at the Florida International University School of Medicine in Miami, Florida and Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Cleveland, OH.

Dr. Hakim is an internationally recognized leader in male and female sexual medicine and surgery, hypogonadism, male infertility, and prosthetics; the performance of complex penile implant surgeries; penile rehabilitation; the medical and surgical management of Peyronie’s disease, and the surgical management of male incontinence. He has given advanced surgical prosthetic training seminars throughout the world. He is also Director of the Men’s Health Center and the Postgraduate Fellowship Program in Sexual Medicine, Andrology, and Prosthetics at Cleveland Clinic Florida.

Dr. Hakim has served as primary or co-investigator on numerous clinical research trials and has published more than 60 original scientific articles, academic book chapters, and abstracts. He is the author of the best-selling book *The Couple’s Disease: Finding a Cure for Your Lost Love Life*. He has served on the Editorial Boards of numerous academic and peer-reviewed journals, including the *Journal of Sexual Medicine*, the *Journal of Men’s Health*, the *Journal of Robotic Surgery* and *Fertility Today* and as a reviewer for *Urology*, *the Journal of Urology*, *JSM* and *International Journal of Impotence Research*.

He earned his undergraduate degree in Biology from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in Troy, New York, where he also earned his master’s degree in Biology/Physiology. Dr. Hakim received a medical degree from the State University of New York Health Science Center at Brooklyn (SUNY Downstate Medical Center). His postgraduate training includes residencies in surgery and urology and a chief residency at SUNY Downstate Medical Center. He also completed his post-graduate fellowship in sexual medicine, infertility, andrology, and microsurgery at Boston University School of Medicine, in Massachusetts.
Dr. Hakim is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, a Diplomate of the American Board of Urology, and a member of the National Board of Medical Examiners and the American Urological Association. He is the Past-President of the Sexual Medicine Society of North America (SMSNA), Past-President of the Florida Urological Society, and Past-President of the Sexual Medicine Society of North America Foundation (SMSNA-Foundation). Dr. Hakim has served on the Board of Directors of numerous professional societies, including the International Society of Sexual Medicine (ISSM) and the Society of Urologic Prosthetic Surgeons (SUPS).

2017-2018

Society for Urologic Prosthetic Surgeons

Rafael Carrion, MD

Rafael Carrion was born in Lima, Peru. His family emigrated to The United States in the 1960s and settled in Miami, Florida. His father is a prominent urologist in Miami, who specializes in Andrology and provided mentorship throughout his education and training. Dr. Rafael Carrion received his B.S. and his MD degree at the University of Miami. After completing his residency in Surgery and Urology at the University of South Florida in Tampa, he completed a fellowship in Sexual Medicine and Neurourology at the University of California in San Francisco under the leadership of Dr. Tom Lue. After finishing his fellowship, Dr. Carrion returned to Tampa, Florida where he joined the faculty as an Assistant Professor at the University of South Florida College of Medicine. He is now a Professor and Chairman for the Department of Urology. He is on staff at Tampa General Hospital, Advent Health Tampa, the James A. Haley Veterans Administration Hospital, and H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center.

Dr. Carrion’s subspecialties are: sexual medicine; neurourology, and general urology. He is an active member in over 8 professional organizations, including the American Urological Association (AUA), Southeast Section of the AUA, Sexual Medicine Society of North America, and the Florida Urological Society. He has held and continues to hold important officer positions in several of these organizations.

He has also been the recipient to several awards including the “AUA young leadership award” and the Brantley Scott Award. He was President of the Society of Urologic Prosthetic Surgeons (2017-2018).

He has been very productive in his scientific research with more than 90 original peer reviewed published manuscripts. He has over 100 abstracts to his credit, which have been presented in local, regional, and international congresses. Dr. Carrion has also participated in surgical training symposiums both nationally and internationally. He has been involved in academic medicine since his training days. He is most proud of mentoring and training the next generation of urologists and has witnessed the graduation of more than 54 residents. He was program director for 8 years until transitioning to Chairman. He also runs a Sexual Medicine Fellowship, for which there are already 9 graduates.
Vipul Patel, MD, FACS completed his medical school education at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX. He then completed his residency and fellowship training at the University of Miami in Florida. Subsequently, Dr. Patel served as director of the Robotic Surgery Program at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, prior to joining Advent Health Celebration.

Dr. Patel is the medical director of the Global Robotics Institute at Advent Health Celebration and medical director of the Advent Health Cancer Institute Urologic Oncology Program. He is a professor of Urology at the University of Central Florida College of Medicine in Orlando, Florida, and a clinical associate professor of Urology at Nova Southeastern University, also in Orlando. He serves as an honorary professor at the University of Milan, Korea University, and Ricardo Palma University in Lima, Peru. He was recently made an honorary professor of the Russian Academy of Science.

He is the founder of the International Prostate Cancer Foundation (IPCF) and a founding member of the Society of Robotic Surgery. He is the editor emeritus of The Journal of Robotic Surgery and editor of the first-ever robotic urology textbook. Dr Patel was also named to the Stanford University/Elsevier Publishing top 2% of scientists in the world in 2021.

He leads one of the world’s most experienced robotic surgery teams and travels around the world to educate physicians. Dr. Patel is the most experienced robotic surgeon in the world and has personally performed over 17,000 robotic prostatectomies for the treatment of prostate cancer. Dr. Patel has developed techniques in robotic surgery to improve patient care and outcomes. His innovations have been recognized worldwide through publications, professorships and training courses. He has started robotic surgery programs or performed surgery throughout the United States and overseas, including India, China, England, Sweden, Belgium, Turkey, Australia and South Korea. He is a past president of the Florida Urologic Society, and past president and Executive Director of the Society of Robotic Surgery.
Residency Programs
University of Miami Urology Department Update: 1998 - 2023

By Bruce R. Kava, MD, MSCTI
Miami, Florida

The new millennium saw growth and many changes within the Urology Department at the University of Miami. Under the direction of Dr. Mark Soloway, the department recruited faculty members who were fellowship trained and offered expertise within numerous subspecialties of urology. This would become the blueprint for contemporary academic Urology departments. It also positioned the University of Miami Urology Department as a resource to manage complex urological problems throughout the region.

Dr. Soloway established a fellowship program in urologic oncology soon after his arrival in 1991, which continued throughout the 20 years of his chairmanship. During that time, more than 20 fellows from the US and foreign countries (Canada, Israel, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Egypt, England, and India) completed the program and made substantial contributions to the field of Urological Oncology.

Among his contributions to urologic care over this 20 year period included: the description of the periprostatic nerve block prior to transrectal ultrasound biopsies of the prostate in 2000; the first report of active surveillance for low grade Ta bladder cancer in 2003; many publications related to the safety and advocacy of active surveillance for low risk prostate cancer; and the use of transplantation techniques to minimize the morbidity of surgery for large kidney cancers and, in particular, for patients with vena cava tumor thrombosis. Several of the faculty, fellows, and residents and research fellows contributed to these advances in the care of our patients. These contributions included management strategies for high-risk urothelial cancer, and benchmark outcome measures related to radical cystectomy, total (radical) prostatectomy, and partial nephrectomy.

Dr. Soloway and the faculty hosted an annual conference entitled Challenging Cases in Urology, which was held in Miami or Orlando for about 10 years. The conference was comprised of actual cases presented by members of the UM faculty to a panel of international experts and the audience. This concept of case-based discussion has now become a mainstay in almost all conferences.

Dr Soloway recruited Vinata and Bal Lokeshwar, who extended the UM footprint into performing stellar basic science research. With a primary focus on unique tumor markers, elucidating tumor cell expression of various proteins and identifying receptors that were subject to manipulation of promoters and inhibitors of cell growth, the Lokeshwars received funding from the Department of Defense and National Institute of Health, to name just two. They trained many world-class researchers and were a fantastic resource to teach the Urology
residents about how to design, develop, and execute basic research projects.

**Clinical Faculty and Their Contributions**

On the clinical front, Angelo Gousse joined the faculty in 1999. Dr Gousse completed his fellowship under Dr Shlomo Raz in UCLA and came to the University of Miami where he distinguished himself within the field of Female Urology and Voiding Dysfunction. Dr Gousse was later appointed Residency Program Director, a position he held from 2002 to 2010. He developed a Fellowship in Female Urology, Voiding Dysfunction, and Reconstruction, and provided oversight of the Urodynamics laboratory and Neuro-urology programs for UM, and the Spinal Cord Unit at the VA Medical Center in Miami.

The late 1990s saw Dr Lawrence Hakim establish the first University-based sexual medicine program in South Florida. Dr Hakim became a highly influential figure within South Florida and within the Sexual Medicine Society of North America and International Society of Sexual Medicine. He left the University of Miami and joined the Cleveland Clinic in 2000, a place where he would subsequently become the Chief of the Urology.

In the meantime, Dr. Edward Gheiller was recruited from Wayne State for another Urologic Oncology position, to complement Dr. Soloway and Dr. Norman Block. Dr. Bruce Kava was subsequently recruited to UM at this time. He too had a strong background in Urologic Oncology, after completion of his fellowship at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York. Dr. Kava had also brought with him proficiency in a number of clinical areas, including survivorship, erectile dysfunction, prosthetics, and general urology. He became Chief of the Urology Service at the VA, when Dr. Gheiller left for private practice, in 2002. Dr. Murugesan Manoharan soon completed his fellowship in Urological Oncology with Dr Soloway and joined the faculty in 2005. Mano, as he was known, helped expand the Urologic Oncology Fellowship, and also developed a clinical outcomes database, recruiting a number of research staff to assist in data entry and analysis.

Dr. Alan Nieder joined the clinical faculty in the mid 2000s after completing an oncology fellowship with Drs..... Soloway and Manoharan. After several years at the University of Miami, Dr. Nieder joined Mt Sinai Medical Center in Miami, where he would later become the Chief of the Urology Service.

Two notable Urologists were recruited by UM during the early 2000s. Vincent Bird, a former Urology resident, came back from a minimally invasive fellowship at the University of Iowa. At a time that laparoscopic surgery was still evolving, he and Dr. Raymond Leveillee were influential in performing laparoscopic radical and partial nephrectomy, percutaneous and ureteroscopic stone and tumor treatments, pyeloplasty, and endoscopic endopyelotomy. Dr. Leveillee also developed a percutaneous renal tumor ablation program, as well as a basic science and engineering laboratory with the Department of Engineering at UM. His focus was on the basic science and clinical
outcomes associated with radiofrequency ablation for small renal masses. Dr. Leveillee also developed a fellowship in Laparo-endoscopic surgery and Endourology that was accredited by the Endourology Society.

Several other Urologists were recruited by the Department of Urology over the first few years of the new millennium. Tony Luongo, who trained at MD Anderson Cancer Institute, joined the faculty for several years before heading to Tufts Medical Center in Boston. Yvonne Koch specialized in Female Urology at UM and the VAMC before joining the Mount Sinai faculty in Miami Beach. Rick Boxer had been a health policy adviser to President Clinton and Secretary Hilary Clinton. He later became Professor of Urology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, where he has advanced the field of telemedicine. He has since been appointed by President Joseph Biden to the National Cancer Advisory Board.

Other notable faculty members included Charles (Chic) Lynne, who had been a faculty member since the 1980s. Dr. Lynne had a very broad armamentarium of surgical skills that crossed disciplines. He was a true advocate for the house staff, and he became the Director of the Residency Program when Dr Gousse left in 2010. Dr Lynne spearheaded an andrology laboratory at UM, that led to many advancements within the field of fertility. In collaboration with the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis, Chic joined forces with Nancy Brackett and, later, Emad Ibrahim. They developed a large portfolio of basic science and clinical research projects in which many house staff participated. It was through these collaborations, that the team developed and advanced the use of electroejaculation to promote fertility in patients with spinal cord injuries.

Changes within the University of Miami School of Medicine

The new millennium brought several changes to the University of Miami School of Medicine. The Lois Pope LIFE Center opened in 2000 and became the hub of the medical school’s neuroscience research efforts. One of these, The Miami Project to Cure Paralysis, is one of the largest centers in the world dedicated to the study of spinal cord injury.

In June 2001, former US Secretary of Health and Human Services, Donna Shalala, was appointed the fifth President of the University of Miami. It was under her leadership that the School of Medicine was renamed in honor of Florida businessman and philanthropist Leonard Miller. In 2004, the name of the medical center officially became the University of Miami, Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine. Dr. Pascal Goldschmidt became the Dean of the Miller School of Medicine in 2006, and in 2008 University of Miami launched the University of Miami Health System, a comprehensive network of University of Miami based health clinics and centers located in Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, and Collier Counties. The Sylvester Cancer Center of the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine became accredited by the National Cancer Institute in 2019. The current Dean of the Medical School is Dr Henri Ford.
Changes in Leadership

In 2010, Dr. Soloway stepped down as Chairman of the University of Miami Department of Urology. A search committee was formed. Dr. Kava became the Interim Chair. As it recovered from the economic recession of 2008-2010, UM Urology began to expand its footprint in South Florida. Outpatient clinics were opened in Broward and Palm Beach County, as well as in Kendall. Clinical volume in the Department of Urology expanded greatly and several new faculty members, including Jorge Caso, Ramgopal Satyanarayana, and Christopher Gomez were recruited.

In 2012, Dipen J Parekh became the Chairman of Urology, the Director of Robotic Surgery, and the Victor A. Politano Endowed Chair in Clinical Urology at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. Dr. Parekh had previously served as the Doctors Hospital at Renaissance Distinguished University Chair in Urology and Chief of Robotic Surgery and Urologic Oncology at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio from 2007-2012. He performed his residency training at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, and later completed a Urologic Oncology Fellowship at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Dr. Parekh also obtained a master’s in healthcare administration and has published extensive research within the realm of Urological Oncology. A notable article was a study that refuted the direct relationship of clamp-time to long term loss of renal function in patients undergoing partial nephrectomy. Additionally, he had been awarded an R01 grant from the National Institute of Health for a randomized clinical trial comparing Robotic vs. Open Cystectomy (RAZOR). In 2012, Dr Parekh was awarded the Gold Cystoscope Award. In 2023, he was awarded the Indian American Urological Association’s Sushruta Award for outstanding contributions to the field of medicine. Finally, Dr Parekh was selected to the American Association of Genitourinary Surgeons, a highly prestigious organization of leading academic urologists from around the world.

In the years since he has assumed the helm of the Urology Department, Dr. Parekh has remained extremely busy clinically, performing over 5000 robotic surgeries. He also has made several outstanding contributions to Urologic Oncology, including the publication of the Razor Trial, evaluation of the 4K score as a biomarker for prostate cancer detection, and prospective evaluation of High Intensity Focused Ultrasound (HIFU) on prostate cancer. In addition to maintaining his role as Chairman of the Department of Urology, Dr Parekh’s administrative and organizational prowess has afforded him the opportunity to become the Chief Operating Officer for the University of Miami Healthcare system, as well as the Executive Dean of Clinical Affairs for the Miller School of Medicine.

Over the last 10 years, under Dr Parekh’s leadership, the Urology Department has grown tremendously. He hired Dr. Robert (Bob) Marcovich, who would become Urology Residency Program Director. Later, Dr. Marcovich was joined by Dr. Hermendra Shah and Dr. Leslie Deane. The latter became Chief of the Urology Section at the VA Medical Center in 2020. As a result of their work, as well as the contributions from Dr. Satyanarayana, University of Miami Urology has a truly world-class, Endourology Society- accredited Endourology Program.
Dr. Mark Gonzalgo came to the University of Miami Department of Urology in 2013, after having served as the Director of the Urologic Oncology Fellowship Program at Johns Hopkins Hospital and later the Director of Robotic Assisted Urological Cancer Surgery and Physician Leader of Urological Cancer Care Program at Stanford University Medical Center. Dr. Gonzalgo became Vice Chair of Urology shortly after arriving here and subsequently became the Director of the Urologic Oncology Fellowship, in 2016. The Urologic Oncology Fellowship received accreditation from the Society of Urologic Oncology (SUO).

Dr. Parekh also recruited Dr. Sanoj Punnen and Dr. Chad Ritch from Urologic Oncology Fellowship programs at University of California at San Francisco and Vanderbilt University, respectively. Dr. Punnen helped set up a multidisciplinary, MRI-fusion biopsy program and has been highly influential in his studies on molecular and genomic biomarkers for prostate cancer, notably the 4K score. Dr. Punnen was awarded the Pap Corps Champions for Cancer Research Endowed Chair in Solid Tumor Research in 2019. Dr. Ritch became the Associate Director of UHealth International in 2018. Dr. Ritch has been extremely active on the NMIBC guidelines panel.

Dr. Ranjith Ramasamy was hired in 2015, after completing a NIH-sponsored fellowship in Reproductive Medicine and Surgery at Baylor College of Medicine. Dr Ramasamy established an accredited Sexual and Reproductive Medicine Fellowship, as well as a Male Fertility Preservation program at the Sylvester Cancer Center. In addition to his contributions within the use of testosterone replacement therapy and microscopic surgical techniques, Dr Ramasamy has made ground-breaking contributions to the study of regenerative therapies in sexual medicine, including shock wave therapy, stem cell therapy, and platelet rich plasma (PRP). In 2019, he was awarded a grant from the American Cancer Society, along with his research partner Himanshu Arora, PhD, to study Nitric Oxide-based immunotherapy in castrate resistant prostate cancer. In 2022, he was awarded an NIH RO1 to perform a RCT evaluating low-dose shock wave therapy and PRP. Finally, Dr Ramasamy was awarded the prestigious Gold Cystoscope Award from the American Urological Association in 2023.

The Urology Department at the University of Miami continues to grow and expand its footprint internationally. Under Dr Parekh, Drs..... Laura Martin, Raveen Syan, and Katherine Amin were recruited to establish a very rich program in Female Urology and Voiding Dysfunction. Dr. Nicholas Hauser was established a presence in Men’s Health, Male Incontinence and Voiding Disorders, as well as well as Reconstructive Urology. Finally, Bruno Nahar and Sanjaya Swain added to the complement of Urologic Oncologists and Thomas Masterson joined the faculty to augment Men’s Health and Reproductive Medicine.

In 2023, The Department of Urology became the Desai Sethi Urology Institute (DSUI), as a result of a generous gift from the Desai Sethi Family Foundation. The development of an Institute enhances the opportunities for producing new technologies and associated translational research, for expansion of clinical care, and to improve the post-graduate educational experience. Within several months of the Urology Department becoming an Institute of Urology, Dr Parekh, in conjunction with Co-Chairs, Drs.... Syan and Nahar, put on the First Annual Desai Sethi Urology Institute Urology on the Beach conference in January 2023. It was a well-attended event.
The Future of DSUI

Many changes are occurring as the DSUI moves forward. From the clinical side, the DSUI touts one of the largest prostate MRI fusion and biopsy programs in the state and is the home to the largest Urologic robotics programs in South Florida. University of Miami Urology has been awarded close to $12 million in funding since 2017, including over 375 peer-reviewed publications. Currently, the DSUI has Fellowship Programs in Endourology, Uro-oncology, Male Infertility and Reproductive Medicine, Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery, and Pediatrics. The Miami Andrology Research Program was recently launched, which represents a unique opportunity for women and under-represented medical students to gain research and training in andrology. A Men’s Health Fellowship is also planned for the near future.

Recently, the DSUI recruited Nima Sharifi, MD, from the Cleveland Clinic, to be the Scientific Director of the DSUI. Dr. Sharifi will bring members of his research group with him and recruit others, to build a translational science team of investigators focusing on bridging laboratory research on prostate, kidney and bladder cancers to human studies.

Stay tuned for much more from the DSUI in the next chapter of their history!

The author would like to thank Drs..... Charles Lynne, Mark Soloway, and Dipen Parekh for their contributions to the preparation of this manuscript.
Over the past 25 years, there has been great change and advancement at the University of Florida. In these next few paragraphs, I hope to elaborate on these great advancements in Urology for UF and the state of Florida.

In 1998, urology was a division of surgery at the University of Florida. Dr. Dixon Walker was chosen as the interim chief of the division. Though he had not served as chief, Dr. Walker held a number of leadership positions on the local, state and national levels. He was associate editor for the Journal of Urology in Pediatrics and was elected as president of the Florida Urological Society. His roles at Shands and the College of Medicine included being president of the Faculty Council, chief of staff, and medical director of the operating room. Though he was reluctant to take on the job, Dr. Walker proved to be a major stabilizing force for the division. As time progressed, he slowed down his practice and worked on a part-time basis. He held the position of interim chief until retirement. He served as mentor for many medical students, residents, fellows, and other faculty members. Near the end of his career, he was awarded the Pediatric Medal by The Society for Pediatric Urology and given the Golden Cane Award by the AUA.

In 1998, endourology evolved into a specialty, thanks to leaders like Dr. Birdwell Finlayson at UF. Along with radiologist Dr. Irwin “Dick” Hawkins, and his fellows, Dr. Finlayson developed tools to diagnose and treat kidney stones more effectively. As an example, UF was the first institution in the southeastern United States to perform percutaneous nephrolithotomy. As with many new techniques, there was a significant learning curve. Due to initial difficulties encountered in accessing the pelvo-calyceal system, the Hawkins-Hunter retrograde nephrostomy system was developed. The first procedures using this technique were done in the interventional radiology suite, often late at night with a resident or fellow running back and forth to the OR retrieving needed instruments.

Dr. Finlayson trained and was succeeded by Dr. Robert Newman. Dr. Newman was soon joined by Dr. Marc Cohen. Together, they expanded the endourology section to include diagnoses beyond stone disease, as well as bringing in the latest laparoscopic technology. In 1998, in partnership with the radiology department, Dr. Newman performed the first laparoscopic donor nephrectomy in Florida, and thereafter developed the largest such service in the southeastern United States.

As endourology grew as a specialty so did this service, eventually adding laparoscopic surgery. Laparoscopic nephrectomy was first done in the early 1990s. There was a steep
learning curve, but the procedure “caught on”.

When Dr. Dixon Walker retired in 2001, Dr. Newman, who held the Rudolf Acosta Professorship in Urology, took over as interim chief of the division and subsequently was named chief. While serving in this capacity, Dr. Newman held several other administrative positions in the College of Medicine, including medical director for the Surgical Subspecialties Clinics, director of billing compliance for the College of Medicine, and was a member of the Executive Fiscal Affairs Committee (EFAC). He also served as president of the Faculty Council, was a member of the Board of Directors of the Southeastern Section of the AUA, and was active in the Florida Urological Society, ultimately being elected to serve as president of this group. During this period, three new faculty members were added. First, the division was successful in enticing Dr. Marc Cohen to return to UF. When he returned, Dr. Cohen became the residency program director. In addition to his enthusiastic efforts in education, he led our program’s efforts in male infertility, erectile dysfunction, and played a major role in endourology. He successfully completed a master’s in education and was named president of the Society for University Chairs and Program Directors (SUCPD).

Not long afterwards, Dr. Chester Algood was recruited from a private practice in South Florida. Dr. Algood had an oncology fellowship at MD Anderson in Houston. An accomplished surgeon, he was committed to the best in patient care. To the division’s good fortune, he also had significant experience in female urology and urodynamics. Colleagues both inside and outside the institution consistently sought his advice. As of 2008, he was the only faculty member in urology to have been honored with the Resident’s Teaching Award on multiple occasions.

At this point, the division had three full-time faculty members: Drs...... Algood; Cohen; and Newman. These three individuals shared coverage at the VAMC Hospital. Fortunately for the division, some of our former residents (now in private practice) pitched in to help. Most notably were Dr. Jorge Leal from Merritt Island, Dr. Thomas Stringer from Inverness, and several partners from the Winter Park Urology group. In addition, Dr. Marc Blasser from Orange Park began to rotate at the VAMC Hospital on a regular basis. Dr. Blasser’s interest and expertise in erectile dysfunction and prosthetic surgery proved to be particularly helpful. The residents viewed the opportunity to work with urologists “in the trenches” as a very positive addition to the training program. Conversations about the practical day-to-day aspects of practicing urology were common-place and anticipated by the residents.

In 2004, two new faculty members were recruited to work at the Gainesville VAMC Hospital. Dr. Unyime Nseyo came from Richmond, Virginia. Dr. Nseyo’s research interests focused on photodynamic therapy for bladder tumors and greenlight laser prostatectomy. He was appointed chief of the VA Hospital urology service. About 2-3 months after his arrival, Dr. Ahmad Vafa joined the staff. Dr. Vafa trained at Case Western in Cleveland and then joined a large group of urologists in Akron, Ohio. His strengths in general urology were a welcome addition in the care of our growing population of VAMC patients. As time passed, his skills in teaching became evident. The residents twice honored him with the Resident’s
Teaching Award.

Faculty efforts during these years focused primarily on resident education and patient care. In addition to those in urology, faculty in other specialties played a significant role. Dr. Pat Abbitt initiated a monthly GU radiology conference attended by urology faculty and residents.

Although urology had been a division from its inception, we had always aspired to become a department. In 1999 this quest took a more aggressive approach. Dr. Zev Wajsman, a urology attending, contacted the Senior Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs and outlined the reasons we should become a department. Dr. Dixon Walker, as interim chief, approached Vice President and Dean Ken Berns, listing all of the medical schools that had departments of urology and all that had divisions. It was clear that almost all of the best schools had departments.

Dr. Craig Tisher, the Senior Associate Dean for Research, selected Dr. John McConnell, Chair of Urology at University of Texas Southwestern, as an outside consultant. Dr. McConnell came in late 2000 and for three days met with a number of individuals. He then wrote an extensive and incisive report outlining our strengths and weaknesses and all the reasons we should become a department.

Shortly after receiving that report, and with the announcement of Dr. Ted Copeland stepping down as surgery chair, the dean appointed two outside individuals to assess the department of surgery. These surgeons recommended to the dean to break urology out as a department. In 2003, the process began to bring this dream to fruition. This process was stewarded by Dr. Bob Newman, the division chief at that time. Approval was obtained at all levels and on July 1, 2005, urology became a department within the College of Medicine. After an extensive search, lasting over a year, Dr. Tisher selected Dr. Johannes Vieweg from Duke University to be the inaugural department chair, starting July 1, 2006.

The Department of Urology continued to build on the solid foundation of world-class experts that would provide a full-service offering, including robotics, minimally invasive surgery, GU oncology, male infertility, a urology quality and outcomes program, endourology, general urology, and translational research. Renowned urology clinicians, researchers, and educators were immediately attracted to the new department.

New research faculty members, including Drs. Sergei Kusmartsev, Zhen Su and Brian Cleaver began to collaborate with international institutions and gained state-awarded funding for their outstanding work in prostate cancer gene therapy research. Their research and innovations translated into the next generation of therapies to improve care for patients.

Dr. Philipp Dahm, a pioneer in the field of evidence-based medicine in urology and education, and Dr. Benjamin Canales, a leading scholar in kidney stone disease, soon joined UF urology to further boost our oncology and endourology sub-specialty offerings. In 2007, Dr. Charles Rosser was added to our expanding staff, bringing to the department his knowledge and expertise in urologic oncology. This was followed by Dr. Sijo Parekattil, an expert in robotic surgery, who performed the first robotic procedure at the newly established robotics division.
in 2007. Dr. Parekattil’s efforts were later augmented by the recruitment of Dr. Li-Ming Su, a nationally renowned robotics expert, from Johns Hopkins Brady Urological Institute. He would serve as chief of the robotics and minimally invasive surgery division. Dr. Scott Gilbert, a pioneer in urological cancer survivorship, as well as a fellowship-trained urologic oncologist from the University of Michigan, joined the now growing and thriving department. The department grew from six faculty members in 2006 to thirteen in 2008.

In 2008, the Department of Urology celebrated 50 years of urology at UF. Several events were held in Gainesville to commemorate the event. To cap off the weekend, a black-tie gala was held to honor our past and look toward our future. The UroGators Alumni Society was established in 2008. The UroGators foster mutual communication and collaboration, providing a way for urologists in the community to stay in touch with the department. The group hosts regular social events and fundraisers for fellows, students and advocates of the department. UroGators is currently led by Dr. Thomas Stringer.

The Department of Urology continued its growth by adding to our faculty Dr. Lou Moy, a fellowship trained female urologist. We were excited to bring this subspecialty to our department. Dr. Michael Binder, a community physician with a special interest in neuourology and urodynamics, joined our faculty. Our growth continued in research by adding Dr. Yehia Daaka, Vice Chair of Research for UF Urology. Joining Dr. Daaka was Dr. Zhongzhen Nie, a well-known urologic researcher.

The Department of Urology in 2009 was notified by the Urology Residency Review Committee (RRC) on behalf of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) that its residency program had been given approval to expand the residency program from 2 to 3 residents per academic year.

On November 24, 2009, Dr. Li-Ming Su and his team performed the first single port laparoscopic surgery within the Department of Urology, for a symptomatic 20 cm kidney cyst. Instead of using conventional laparoscopy, which requires 3-4 skin incisions, Dr. Su performed the surgery through a single 2.5 cm incision at the umbilicus, to minimize the number of skin incisions, as well as pain and scarring. The patient experienced minimal pain and was discharged the next day following surgery. Single port surgery has grown in popularity worldwide due to its minimally invasive nature and promise for “scarless” surgery. The technique of single port surgery and its efficacy were investigated by Drs..... Su and Parekattil in their research lab along with partnerships with instrumentation and device companies; and is being offered to patients for select urologic conditions.

Dr. Vincent Bird joined our faculty in 2010, bringing his expertise and knowledge in the areas of urinary stone disease, renal obstruction and renal cancer to our faculty.

In the spring of 2011, the University of Florida Prostate Disease Center (UFPDC) proposed state legislation that resulted in unanimous passage, by the Florida House of Representatives and the Florida Senate. Signed by Governor Scott, this new Florida Statute mandates the creation of a UFPDC Prostate Cancer Advisory Council to develop and implement an action plan to improve prostate cancer awareness, outreach, education and care. This plan and
subsequent progress towards accomplishing its objectives are reported annually to the Governor, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House.

In 2011, the Department of Urology was excited to welcome back as a faculty member, fellowship trained, reconstructive urologist, Dr. Lawrence L. Yeung, who completed his residency with the UF Department of Urology in 2009. Dr. Thomas Stringer joined the faculty in 2011 as the medical director of the urology clinic.

Dr. Benjamin Canales, Assistant Professor of Urology at UF, was one of two recipients of the 2011 “Rising Star in Urology Award” through the AUA Foundation and Astellas Pharma Global Development, Inc. This program, designed for young urology faculty, provided $150,000 of funding over the next four years to Dr. Canales and his research efforts. Over the last 6 years, ten surgeon-scientists have been selected to participate in the AUA Foundation Rising Star program and each of them are recognized as “up and coming” leaders in the field of urology.

The year 2012 saw the addition of the second pediatric urologist to the Department of Urology. Dr. Kirstan Meldrum joined our faculty. Dr. Meldrum was instrumental in building the program we have today.

In 2013, Dr. Vincent Bird accepted the position as Associate Program Director of the UF Urology Residency Program. In this role, he assisted the Residency Program Director, Dr. Philipp Dahm, and shortly thereafter became the Residency Program Director.

The year 2013 saw the addition of more faculty members to our department. Dr. Romano DeMarco joined our faculty as a pediatric urologist. Prior to joining the faculty at UF, Dr. DeMarco was the first chief of pediatric urology at Sanford Children's Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Welcomed to UF Urology as well was Dr. Paul Crispen and his specialties of urologic oncology, kidney cancer, bladder cancer, penile cancer, adrenalectomy, renal cell carcinoma, testicular cancer and robotic surgery.

Dr. Victoria Bird was added to our faculty in 2014. Dr. Lou Moy joined Dr. Vincent Bird as the Associate Program Director of the UF Urology Residency Program, as Dr. Vincent Bird assumed the role of Residency Program Director.

In 2014, the David M. Drylie Visiting Professor Lecture, began. It is a yearly function that is sponsored by the UroGators and is one of the highlights of the academic year. These weekends include events for the residents, as well as a lecture that attracts former residents and practicing physicians to attend.

As we entered 2015, many changes took place in the Department of Urology. Dr. Thomas Stringer was named interim department chairman and a nationwide search for a new department chairman began. During this period, growth did not stop. A new Urology Endo/MIS Fellowship Program was started, as we welcomed Dr. Brandon Otto. Dr. Michael Dennis joined the faculty as co-medical director of the UF Health Urology Clinic. Dr. Dennis, who
came from private practice, brought a wealth of knowledge to not only our patients, but to the faculty and residents as well.

In 2016 Dr. Lou Moy became the Residency Program Director while Dr. Vincent Bird became the Associate Program Director. On February 2, 2016, the UF College of Medicine and UF Health leaders announced the appointment of Dr. Li-Ming Su, as chair of the UF Department of Urology. He began his appointment as chair of the department of urology on March 1 and currently serves as the David A. Cofrin Professor of Urologic Oncology.

In April 2016, Dr. Saeed Khan received the University of Florida, College of Medicine, Lifetime Achievement Award, “In Recognition of An Extraordinary Academic Career of Leadership, Teaching, Research and Discovery. Your dedication and success has brought great honor and recognition to The College of Medicine and the University of Florida”. Dr. Khan, co-mentored two T32 fellows and he also mentored Dr. Benjamin Canales, who was the 2016 Golden Cystoscope Award recipient. The Golden Cystoscope Award is given annually to one urologist in the US who has distinguished himself by outstanding contributions to the profession accomplished within ten years of completing residency training. In addition to a cash honorarium, he received a gold-plated cystoscope at the annual AUA meeting. Dr. Canales was selected for this honor on the basis of his exemplary research initiatives in the pathogenesis of nephrolithiasis, which include the development of new animal models, and for the exploration of novel therapeutic approaches.

In 2016, UF Urology was excited to add as our newest faculty member Dr. Brandon Otto, our previous Endo/MIS Fellow. July 2016 welcomed the new Director of Health Care Administration, Michelle Van Leer, RN, MSN. Michelle was formally the UF Health Urology Clinic Manager and served as interim Department Administrator.

UF Urology was happy to welcome back Dr. James “JB” Mason, a former graduate of the UF Department of Urology Residency Program, who had completed a one-year fellowship in genitourinary reconstructive surgery at University of Iowa Healthcare.

Nine faculty members within the UF Health Academic Health Center were recognized for receiving endowed professorships or chairs during the sixth annual Celebrating Distinction ceremony. To commemorate the appointments, each faculty member received a chair made of solid maple, featuring engraved gold nameplates. Honored from the UF Department of Urology were Dr. Vincent G. Bird, David A. Cofrin Endowed Chair in Endourology and Dr. Li-Ming Su, David A. Cofrin Professor of Urologic Oncology.

Dr. Benjamin Canales was presented the Cook Urological Arthur Smith award, the award commonly known as the “Arthur”, in 2017, at the 35th World Congress of Endourology meeting held in Vancouver, Canada. With NIH funding, Dr. Canales created a hyperoxaluric animal model of bariatric surgery and is developing strategies for spot urinary testing and kidney stone prevention.
February 2018 saw the expansion of advanced practice providers (APPs) in our UF Health Urology Clinic. After receiving specific urology training, these APPs are now able to assist in providing continuity of care to a full spectrum of urology patients. They represent a cultural shift and transformation in urology patient care by having some autonomy, as well as on site urologist supervision in providing timely care of our patients.

In July 2018, UF Urology and our pediatric urology division welcomed Dr. Christopher E. Bayne, a graduate of Eastern Virginia Medical School, in Norfolk, Virginia. He completed his urology residency at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. Dr. Bayne recently completed his fellowship in pediatric urology at Children’s National Hospital in Washington, D.C. He became the Associate Program Director of the Urology Residency Training Program in 2019.

November 2018 saw the addition of Urologic Oncologist, Dr. Padriac O’Malley and Joint Assistant Professor, Dr. Joe Grajo. Dr. O’Malley completed his fellowship at Weill Cornell Medical College and New York Presbyterian Hospital. Dr. Grajo currently serves as the Assistant Professor & Chief, Abdominal Imaging, Vice Chair, Research, Associate Program Director, Diagnostic Radiology Residency Program, Program Director, Abdominal Imaging Fellowship and Director, MRI in the UF Department of Radiology.

December 2019 saw the retirement of Dr. Ahmad Z. Vafa. Dr. Vafa had been affiliated with the University of Florida since his hire as a new faculty member at the Malcom Randall VA Medical Center (VAMC) in 2004, where he served as the chief of urology. He was instrumental in establishing an outstanding urology clinic for our veterans, as well as organizing resident education and training. Dr. James (JB) Mason was named Acting Chief, Urology Section.

Adjunct Faculty, Dr. Michael Binder, retired in February 2020. Dr. Binder had been affiliated with the University of Florida since his hire as a new faculty member at the Malcom Randall VA Medical Center (VAMC) in January 2009.

In the Spring of 2020, Dr. Benjamin Canales agreed to serve as the Director of Urologic Research for the UF Department of Urology. Dr. Canales had already been fulfilling many duties regarding research oversight within the department.

Effective July 1, 2020, Dr. Lawrence L. Yeung was promoted to Medical Director of the UF Health Urology Clinic – Medical Plaza. In July 2020, UF Health Urology was ranked the No. 1 urology program in the state of Florida and No. 17 in the nation by U.S. News & World Report’s 2020-21 Best Hospitals survey, its highest ranking since the department’s inception in 1958.

In August 2020, UF Urology announced the appointment of Dr. Paul Crispen to the Pete and Carolyn Newsome Professorship in Urologic Oncology.
Profession and Chairman Li-Ming Su, MD, was elected Secretary General Elect for the Endourological Society in August 2020.

November 2020, Kevin Campbell, MD (UF Urology Class of 2020) officially signed on to return to UF Urology after completion of his fellowship training in male infertility and andrology at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX. He began his practice in July 2021.

JB Mason, MD (UF Urology Class of 2016) was named Chief of the Division of Urological Services at the Malcom Randall VA Medical Center in December 2020 after serving as interim chief for 2019.

Most recently, successful faculty recruitment in the areas of urologic oncology and focal therapy (Wayne Brisbane, MD – UCLA) and urogynecology (Veronica Demtchouk, MD – Beth Israel Deaconess) and general urology (Wen Xie, MD – Univ Maryland and Robert Donnell, MD – Med College of Wisconsin) has rounded out the clinical service lines, continuing the UF Urology tradition of a full-service urology residency training program.
University of South Florida History

By Rafael Carrion, MD
Tampa, Florida

In 1957, the hospitals involved with training of Urology residents in Tampa originally included the Tampa Municipal Hospital which is presently the Tampa General Hospital and St. Joseph's Hospital. Dr. Roy Finney who had trained at John's Hopkins came to Tampa in 1958 and the residency program was approved by the Joint Commission on Hospitals, the AMA, and the Board of Urology.

1958, Dr. Antonio Duany was the first urology resident. The residency program then became affiliated with the new James Haley VAMC in Tampa in 1973. At this time, the USF School of Medicine was established, and the residency training program became a formal part of the university. Dr. Roy Finney became the initial Chief of Urology. The program initially trained 1 resident per year.

In 1987 Dr. Jorge Lockhart, who trained at Duke and was a faculty member at the University of Miami, was recruited to become the new chairman of urology at the University of South Florida. The faculty serving this generation of the department included:

- Dr. Lester Persky (former chairman of Case-Western Reserve)
- Dr. Edgar Sanford (former resident from Duke)
- Dr. Ernesto Figuero joined as the pediatric urologist.
- Dr. Julio Powsang (former University of Miami resident) joined as the urological oncologist.

Milestones during this era included the formalization of the University of South Florida Medical School, the development of the James Haley VAMC as part of the residency rotation, and the creation of Moffitt Cancer Center. The pediatric rotation would transfer to Orlando. Resident complement went from two per year to three in 2011.

Dr. Jorge Lockhart would retire in October 2020. A total of 70 residents were trained under his reign as Chairman. There was a total of five core faculty at USF, five faculty at Moffit Cancer Center, and 4 at James Haley VAMC at this time.

Dr. Rafael Carrion (a former USF resident and fellow from UCSF) became interim Chairman and eventually the official Chairman. Dr. Lockhart remains active with the department as Professor emeritus. There are currently nine core faculty at USF, nine faculty at Moffit Cancer Center, and three full time faculty at James Haley VAMC.
Mayo Clinic –
Jacksonville History

By Paul Young, MD
Jacksonville, Florida

The Mayo Clinic Florida urology program started July 1, 2000. At that time the program was approved for 1 resident per year. The ACGME approved a complement increase to 2 residents per year effective in the 2012-13 academic year. A further increase to 3 residents per year was approved by the ACGME effective in the 2021-22 academic year.

The growth of the residency program has paralleled the growth of the institution in Jacksonville, Florida. The Mayo Clinic in Florida opened in 1986. At the time, it was the 1st expansion of the famed Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota outside of its home state. The efforts of long-time Mayo clinic patient J.E. Davis, coupled with the Mayo Clinic in Rochester’s interest in exploring expansion, led to the Florida campus being placed in Jacksonville. The Davis family, owners of Winn-Dixie supermarkets, had a long history in the grocery business and in the late 1960s Winn-Dixie was the most profitable company in the business. The Mayo Clinic Campus is built on 140 acres of land donated by the Davis family in Southeast Jacksonville near the intercoastal water way.

When the campus opened in 1986, there were 35 physicians and 145 support staff. The campus had one 5 story building for clinical activity. Saint Luke’s Hospital 10 miles up the road served as the site of hospital-based activity.

In February 2022, the Mayo Clinic Campus in Jacksonville, Florida has 1074 physicians, researchers, residents, and fellows. The campus has 8,314 employees. The hospital campus opened in April of 2008 with 6 floors and 214 beds. Two floors and 90 beds were added in 2012. A major expansion started in late 2022 and will bring the hospital to 13 floors with 428 beds. The structure is built to eventually accommodate 17 floors.

Prior to the formal start of the Urology residency program in 2000 there was residency activity on the Florida campus. Through the guidance of Dr. Panos Kelalis, chair of the urology department at the Jacksonville Campus in the 1990s and former chair of the Department of Urology at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester Minnesota, upper-level residents from the Rochester, Minnesota Urology program would rotate at the Jacksonville Campus. Later residents from Sao Paulo, Brazil would rotate on the Jacksonville Campus through an agreement between Dr. Kelalis and his good friend and prominent pediatric Urology colleague Dr. Sami Arap.

The residency program at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville has thrived under the direction of Dr. Gregory Broderick who has served as the program’s only program director to date. Dr. Todd Igel, who at the time was chairman of the Department of Urology, and Dr. Broderick were instrumental in orchestrating the programs expansion to two residents per year in 2012.
Cleveland Clinic – Florida History

By Lawrence Hakim, MD
Weston, Florida

Cleveland Clinic was at the forefront of modern medicine when it was first organized as a multi-specialty group practice in 1921. From a small outpatient clinic, it has grown to become the world’s first integrated international health system. With more than 65,000 caregivers worldwide, Cleveland Clinic has almost 6 million patient visits per year, at more than 200 locations.

In 1988, recognizing the opportunity to expand the integrated, academic group practice-based delivery system beyond Cleveland, Cleveland Clinic Florida (CCF) was established in Cypress Creek. In those early years, CCF utilized a small hospital near the beach in Fort Lauderdale and an office building a few miles away where clinic patients were seen. Cleveland Clinic Florida started with a few medical specialty and surgical departments including urology. Early members of the new Department of Urology included Dr. James Montie and Dr. Lee Jackson. In 1999, construction began on an integrated campus for Cleveland Clinic Florida. In 2001, Cleveland Clinic Florida moved from Cypress Creek to Weston, Florida as a unified campus. As one of the newest medical centers in the state of Florida, CCF quickly became one of the major tertiary multi-specialty referral centers in the region. Located in southwest Broward County, it is a fully integrated campus where currently more than 300 physicians practice over 35 different medical specialties.

The new millennium brought a leadership transition and continued expansion. At that time, Dr. Andrew Novick, the Chairman of the Glickman Urological & Kidney Institute, recruited Dr. Lawrence S. Hakim, MD FACS, from the University of Miami to help further develop and grow the Cleveland Clinic Florida Department of Urology. Dr. Hakim became the Chairman of the Department, as well as Director of the Center of Surgical Services at CCF. Dr. Hakim received his postgraduate training in surgery and urology at SUNY Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn. Dr. Hakim completed his post-graduate fellowship training in sexual medicine, infertility, andrology, and microsurgery at Boston University School of Medicine. Dr. Lawrence S. Hakim is an internationally recognized leader in sexual medicine and surgery, andrology and prosthetics. Dr. Hakim serves as the Director of the CCF Men’s Health Center and has given advanced surgical prosthetic training seminars throughout the world. As Director of the Postgraduate Fellowship Program in Sexual Medicine, Andrology, and Prosthetics at CCF, Dr. Hakim has helped train a number of Urologic Fellows that have gone on to prestigious academic and private practice settings both nationally and internationally. In 2016, Dr. Hakim was named the Center Director for the Surgical Specialties Institute (SSI) at CCF, which includes oversight of the departments of urology, gynecology, plastic surgery and otolaryngology. In 2019, Dr. Hakim became the inaugural recipient of the Craig M. Zinn...
Distinguished Chair in Men’s Health. Dr. Hakim is a Past-President of the Florida Urological Society, a Past-President of the Sexual Medicine Society of North America (SMSNA) and a Past-President and Founding member of the Sexual Medicine Society of North America Foundation (SMSNA-Foundation). Dr. Hakim has served on the Guidelines Committee of the American Urological Association (AUA), as well as the Board of Directors of numerous professional societies, including the Florida Urological Society, International Society of Sexual Medicine (ISSM), Sexual Medicine Society of North America (SMSNA) and the Society of Urologic Prosthetic Surgeons (SUPS). He has also authored or co-authored over 100 scientific articles and abstracts including multiple academic textbook chapters.

In 2004, Nicolas Muruve, MD, was recruited to the Department of Urology at CCF. Following his residency training, he completed a post-graduate research fellowship at Cleveland Clinic and a fellowship in renal transplant/renal-vascular under the mentorship of Dr. Andrew Novick at the Cleveland Clinic in Ohio. Prior to his appointment at Cleveland Clinic Florida, Dr. Muruve served as the Director of Renal Transplantation at the University of Missouri, Columbia. Dr. Muruve’s specialty interests include genitourinary oncology, adrenal tumors and renal transplantation. Dr. Muruve has served as co-principal investigator or co-investigator of numerous research trials and has contributed several chapters to medical textbooks and journals in his field. Dr. Muruve is a member of the American Society of Transplant Physicians, the American Urologic Association and the Canadian Urologic Association, among others. He received the Excellence in Health Education by a Physician award from the University of Missouri Health Sciences in two consecutive years. He currently serves as the Director of the Post-graduate Fellowship program in urologic oncology at CCF and serves on numerous CCF Committees as well as the Board of Directors of the Florida Urological Society.

In 2008, Dr. William Gans joined the urology staff at Cleveland Clinic Florida after spending years in private practice. Dr. Gans did his Urology residency at Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York, where he was awarded the Society of Male Reproductive Urology Travel Award, Pfizer Scholar in Urology Award, and Outstanding Resident Physician Award by the Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgery. Dr. Gans practices General Urology and has been active in the Cleveland Clinic, as well as external urologic organizations. In addition to his busy office practice, Dr. Gans was a facilitator for the Foundations in Healthcare Communication course for nine years for all staff physicians, fellows, residents and advanced clinical providers at CCF, among other committees. He was the Regional Patient Experience Champion for the Palm Beach Regional Sites followed by the Patient Experience Officer for the Center of Surgical Specialties. Dr. Gans has been a member of the Florida Urological Society since 2010 and served on the Executive Committee from 2013-2015. He served on the American Urologic Association National Medical Student Education Committee from 2014-2019. In 2022, Dr. Gans was appointed Medical Director of the CCF Tomsich Health and Medical Center in West Palm Beach.

Dr. Alok Shrivastava joined the Department of Urology at CCF in 2009, as Director of Robotic & Laparoscopic Urologic Surgery. Dr. Shrivastava completed his urology residency at the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, Michigan. He then went on to complete his post-graduate fellowship training in Robotic and Laparoscopic Urologic Surgery with Dr. Mani Menon at
Dr. Shrivastava’s interests include robotic radical prostatectomy with and without vein nerve sparing, robotic partial and radical nephrectomy, and robotic radical cystectomy, where he has helped pioneer many advanced surgical techniques. Dr. Shrivastava serves as a reviewer for Urology (Gold Journal) and for the Engineering in Urology Society. His academic awards include recipient of the Pfizer Scholar in Urology Award and the Gerald P. Murphy Scholar Award from the American Urological Association. He is an active member of numerous professional societies, including the Florida Urological Society, the American Urological Association, the Endo-urological Society, the Indian American Urological Association and the Engineering and Urology Society. Dr. Shrivastava currently serves as a co-Director of the Post-graduate Fellowship program in Urologic Oncology and Robotics at CCF.

In June of 2009, Richard J. Macchia, MD, FACS was appointed to the staff of the Department of Urology of the Glickman Urological and Kidney Institute at Cleveland Clinic Florida. From 1971-74, he completed his urology residency at SUNY Downstate in Brooklyn. He was subsequently awarded the F.C. Valentine Fellowship of the New York Academy of Medicine. That fellowship was served under Dr. Willet F. Whitmore, Jr. at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC) in New York City during 1975-76. He then joined the SUNY Downstate faculty. In 1982, Dr. Macchia was appointed Professor, Chairman, and ACGME Program Director of the Department of Urology at SUNY Downstate. As an early and vigorous proponent of fellowship training approximately 47 of his residents underwent fellowship training. Former residents are now internationally recognized leaders in urology at such prestigious institutions as Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland Clinic Florida, Weill Cornell, UCSF, Harvard, University of Florida and many others. Dr. Macchia has had numerous accolades and awards throughout his long and prestigious career. In May 2013 at its annual meeting, the American Urological Association presented him with one of its highest awards, the Distinguished Contribution Award, for his career long efforts on behalf of the education of students and urology residents. He served as the chairperson of the Section on Urology of the New York Academy of Medicine for many years and is a past-President of the New York Section of the American Urological Association. His memberships include the Society for Urologic Oncology, the Society of University Urologists, and the American Society of Clinical Oncology. He is a founding member of the Society of Urology Chairpersons and Program Directors. Dr. Macchia has lectured at numerous academic institutions and meetings in the US, Europe and Japan. He has also co-authored over 120 scientific articles and abstracts including 26 textbook chapters. Dr. Macchia is very proud of his United States military service and served as Captain, US Army Medical Corps Reserve during the Vietnam War era and from which he received an honorable discharge.

Dr. Barbara Ercole has been a staff urologist at CCF since 2011. Dr. Ercole did her residency training in urology at the University of Connecticut Health Sciences Center. Dr. Ercole pursued her passion for urologic oncology by completing a post-graduate fellowship in urologic oncology at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, where she also obtained a master’s degree. Dr. Ercole specializes in complex urologic oncologic surgery using a variety of approaches – open, laparoscopic, and robotic techniques. Dr.
Ercole currently serves as a co-Director of the Post-graduate Fellowship program in Urologic Oncology and Robotics at CCF.

Dr. Sneha Vaish started her career at Cleveland Clinic Florida as the head of the section of Female Urology and Pelvic Medicine Reconstruction in 2011. Dr. Vaish completed her urology residency at the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, Arizona. She, then, completed her post-graduate fellowship in female urology and pelvic medicine reconstruction at Metro Urology in the Twin Cities. Since joining CCF, Dr. Vaish has worked over the last decade to establish a Center of Excellence in Neuromodulation. Dr. Vaish has a clinical interest in treating both men and women with stress incontinence, overactive bladder, and neurogenic bladders, and women with pelvic organ prolapse. She also treats men with BPH by performing ThuLEP. She is an active member of the Florida Urologic Society, Society of Female Urology and Urodynamics, and Indian American Urologic Society.

Dr. Fernando J. Cabrera is a board-certified urologist and joined the staff at the Cleveland Clinic in Weston, Florida in 2015. Dr. Cabrera is from Puerto Rico. He completed his residency in urology at SUNY Downstate in Brooklyn. Dr. Cabrera then went on to complete a two-year post-graduate fellowship in endourology at Duke Medical Center, focusing on complex stone disease, robotics and laparoscopy. He is an active member of the American Urological Association (AUA), the Southeastern section of the AUA, the Endourological Society and the Florida Urological Society (FUS). Dr. Cabrera specializes in the treatment of complex stone disease and the minimally invasive treatment of urological malignancies including prostate, renal and bladder carcinoma. Additionally, he focuses on minimally invasive urologic reconstruction, including robotic ureteral repair for stricture disease. Dr. Cabrera has helped to pioneer the treatment of large gland BPH with robotic simple prostatectomy and laser enucleation techniques. His current research focuses on the application of prevention strategies for recurrent stone formers.

Dr. Leonard Kaufman is a board-certified Urologist and is fellowship-trained in Andrology and Male Infertility. He was in private practice in Palm Beach, Florida for more than 20 years before joining the Urology team at the CCF in September 2021. Before joining the Cleveland Clinic, Dr. Kaufman served as the Chief of Urology, Chief of Surgery, and the Vice President of the Medical Staff at JFK Hospital in Lake Worth, FL. He completed his general surgery and urology residencies at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Dr. Kaufman completed his Fellowship training in male infertility and andrology at the University of Illinois at Chicago. In addition, he earned a Health Care MBA from the University of Miami in 2019. Dr. Kaufman is a member of many professional and scientific societies including the American Society for Reproductive Medicine, the American Urological Association, and the American Society of Andrology.
In 2022, Dr. Jonathan Lackner joined the urology staff at CCF following a long career in private practice. He completed urology residency at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, in 1999. Dr. Lackner is a board-certified urologist with a focus on general urology, BPH and stone disease. Dr. Lackner is a member of many professional and scientific societies including the American Urological Association.

Since 2015, we have had 3 physician extenders join our staff. They assist in the OR and care for patients in the clinic and hospital. They have been an important addition to our staff and have improved the quality of care we can provide at CCF.

The expert urology staff at Cleveland Clinic Florida includes a broad range of both highly specialized and general board-certified urologists, advanced practice providers and urology specialty nurses, including many who completed post-graduate fellowship training to specialize in specific areas of urology and are respected as thought leaders in their fields both nationally and internationally. Our urology staff is both experienced and equipped to manage the complete range of adult male and female urologic conditions, including rare and complex cases, utilizing advanced technologies and robotic-assisted surgeries for many urologic conditions, and thus providing the highest level of care. The Cleveland Clinic is a world-renowned health system committed to being healthcare leaders both nationally and internationally. It is consistently ranked as among the best in Florida. Cleveland Clinic’s regional health system in Florida is a nonprofit, multi-specialty healthcare provider that integrates clinical and hospital care with research and education. Over the past few years, CCF has continued to grow beyond our flagship Weston campus, to include Cleveland Clinic Indian River Hospital and Cleveland Clinic Martin Health as well as numerous outpatient centers in Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River Counties. All of our physicians, advanced practice providers and specialty nurses focus on every patient’s complete physical and emotional needs. We are very fortunate to be able to collaborate with the hundreds of other Cleveland Clinic specialists across our multispecialty enterprise to provide outstanding patient care based upon the principles of cooperation, compassion and innovation.
Mount Sinai Urology History

By Alan Nieder, MD
Miami Beach, Florida

The Urology residency program at Mount Sinai Medical Center (MSMC) was initiated in 2011, in affiliation with the Columbia University Department of Urology in New York City and under the leadership of then Chairman Dr. Mitchell Benson. Led by Drs. Akshay Bhandari and Alan Nieder in Miami Beach, the urology residency quickly developed a reputation for high volume clinical training. After only seven years, the clinical volume and breadth of faculty experience provided the ability to expand to train two residents a year. Furthermore, MSMC has continued to grow its footprint with the opening of a large outpatient facility in Hialeah in 2017 and a new surgical tower in 2019. A new Cancer Center is currently being developed.

Under the current leadership of Columbia University Chairman James McKiernan, the MSMC Division of Urology has grown to 11 full time academic faculty members, all fellowship trained. The residency is fully accredited with zero citations. The residents rotate at MSMC and receive their Pediatric Urology training at Nicklaus Children’s Hospital. MSMC currently provides urologic care throughout Miami-Dade County, as well as in Key West. The residents benefit from a wide range of varying socioeconomic patient populations. Our graduates have all obtained highly sought-after fellowships and are currently working in both academic practices as well as private practices locally in Florida and in other states.
Florida Urological Society

75th Anniversary Book

History of Urology in Florida:

Volume II

FUS Updates
& History
History, Actions and Growth of the Florida Urological Society Over the Last 25 Years

By Vincent G. Bird, MD
Gainesville, FL

Florida urology has grown substantially over the years. It is hard to imagine that Florida had been the last state within the Southeastern Section of the American Urological Association to form a state society. Prior to 1948, Florida urologists had no society to represent them within the Southeastern Section of the American Urological Association. From its inception until 1997, the Florida Urological Society conducted its meetings in conjunction with the Florida Medical Association annual spring meeting. With a growing membership, including many active and experienced urologists, the Florida Urological Society set out on its own. The Florida Urological Society is now the largest state society in the Southeastern Section, as well as one of the largest state societies within the entire American Urological Association. That has all been possible because of many dedicated members who have served the Florida Urological Society so well over the years.

Many of its members have contributed to patient care, organizational aspects of the practice of urology, and the field of urology in highly substantial ways. The membership has continually focused on serving the needs of all Florida patients and urologists, including both community and academic programs. This has created dynamic annual meetings, drawing from the strengths of the many urologists, practices, and programs within the state. The Society also offers services that have practical value to the membership and has expanded educational programs and opportunities that not only allow for keeping our members up to date but assists with continuing medical education and the improvement of patient care. A great strength of the Florida Urological Society is that it has a large active and participating membership that continues to address and inform Florida urologists about important matters relating to the practice of urology in Florida.

Membership in the Florida Urological Society has grown substantially over the years. By 2003, the society already had 498 members. In 2023, membership stands at 547. In recent years, the Society has continued to focus on programs and policies to facilitate membership. Senior members are encouraged to participate and regularly add to our annual meeting with their experience, expertise, and advice for the younger members. The society offers honorary membership to those non-state physicians who have supported and served our society in educational and related capacities. Specific membership options also exist for young urologists and advanced practice providers.
At the time of the inception of the Florida Urological Society, there were no medical schools in Florida. However, great changes were soon to come. As Florida and the Florida Urological Society have grown, so have the number of academic programs in the State of Florida. The three pioneering academic programs (the University of Florida in Gainesville, the University of Miami, and the University of South Florida in Tampa) have been joined by the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, the Mount Sinai Medical Center in Miami Beach, the Cleveland Clinic in Weston, and most recently the University of Florida Jacksonville. Representatives of these institutions participate in the rotation of program directors for the annual educational meeting. Residents are encouraged to participate in Society resident events. The Mayo Clinic Jacksonville joined the rotation in 2006, The Cleveland Clinic in Weston in 2010, and Mount Sinai Miami Beach 2014. UF Jacksonville had their residents participate in the debates for the first time in 2022.

The addition of the new academic programs has increased the number of urology residents in training positions, as well as urologic subspecialty fellowship programs in our state, thus ensuring both current and future care for the residents of the state of Florida. Urology residents have long been an integral part of the Florida Urological Society. The Society continues to support inclusion of all urology resident programs, including the University of Puerto Rico, in the annual meeting. A popular session has been the time-honored Milton M. Coplan Pyelogram Hour. Milton M. Coplan, MD, of Miami, was elected the first president of the Florida Urological Society. The Pyelogram Hour is very much in the spirit of Dr. Coplan’s belief that the imaging was critical to urologic diagnosis and care. In this session, urology residents present challenging cases to one another with the inclusion of various modalities of urologic imaging to assist in diagnosis and management. The winner of the Pyelogram Hour receives the honor of holding “Wise Owl” trophy until the next annual meeting.

In recent years the society has offered a second resident program, named for a long time and esteemed member of our society, Dr. Victor Politano. The Victor Politano Resident Debates include residents from all the training programs. Current controversial clinical care topics are chosen. The residents are assigned to either support or oppose the topic. They then must use the available evidence and their oratory skills to make the best presentation and rebuttal. With rapid changes in the development of technologies and changes in medical care, the Society has enjoyed great success with this new program in providing the entire membership with perspectives on the latest ongoing controversies and challenges in the specialty.

The annual meeting also includes state of the art scientific programs, with presenters from both Florida and out of state. In addition to medical science and clinical care, the Florida Urological Society has been keenly aware of the importance of socioeconomic factors that affect urologists and their practice of urology. A socioeconomic session is included in every annual meeting.

I have had the opportunity to talk to some of the former presidents of the Florida Urological Society and would like to share some of their thoughts. Dr. Zev Wajsman, former University of Florida Urology Chair, recalls that in 2001 they organized the meeting to take place in
Bermuda, the first time the annual meeting was outside the United States. He also recalls during this very trying time that he and the board honored heroes who lost their lives on September 11. They also invited the family of a New York firefighter who had lost his life while trying to rescue the people from one of the towers, aiding and giving solace to the firefighter’s wife and children at a very difficult time. Dr. Thomas Stringer recalls dedicating his meeting to Dave Drylie, long time University of Florida Division Chief, as well Florida Urological Society and Southeastern Section president. The society invited his surviving family as guests to the entire event. It was at Champion’s Gate which was the first large resort property built in Orlando in more than 10 years. Dr. Rafael Carrion recalls the meeting in Tampa, where the annual dinner was held in the Florida Aquarium. Dr Lockhart, a longtime mentor to many and a great teacher was honored by the society with the lifetime achievement award. Dr. Carrion recalls the impact Dr. Lockhart had on those he trained. For the event, 32 prior urology residents, many from outside of Florida, returned to honor their great friend and teacher. Dr. Lockhart was named distinguished chairman, one of the highest honors given by the University of South Florida. He was chair for three decades. Dr. Kevin Lee, society in president in 2018, aptly summed up this role, and was quoted at the time when he said, “It is an honor and privilege to serve and represent the urologic community in Florida. We, as the Florida Urological Society, work to improve the quality of patient care in our state through scientific sessions and are true advocates for our patients in the state and in national arena regarding urological care.”

Since holding the annual meeting independent from the Florida Medical Association, the Society regularly sends assigned members to represent the Florida Urological Society at the annual meeting of the Florida Medical Association. This ensures that the voice of Florida urology is heard, as well as enabling a report to our board and membership items which impact our specialty in Florida. Many members of the Florida Urological Society have made great efforts serving in this capacity. Dr. T.J. Ross led this effort from 2004-2011. More recently, Dr. Ed King has been a longstanding Florida Urological Society representative to the Florida Medical Association and has played a key role in familiarizing the newer representatives with the Florida Medical Association process and procedure.

The Society also has created a Legislative/Government Policy Committee. In recent years, Dr. Ali Kasraeian of Jacksonville has put forth a tremendous effort in keeping the society apprised of bills going through the Florida legislature that impact the urologic practice. The Society also has a member present at Florida Medicare meetings. He helps to advise policy, as well as update and inform the Society membership of decisions that impact our practice and reimbursement. Dr. Ed Ackerman pioneered this effort, as the first representative from the Florida Urological Society. He paved the way for Dr. Martin Dineen, who gave years of service in this role, in addition to his role in health policy at both the state and national level. Dr. Dineen was succeeded in this role by Dr. Terrance Regan, the current representative. Dr. Regan, from Palm Coast, Florida and a long-time member of the Society, has given years of dedication to this effort and has greatly assisted the membership in understanding and staying apprised of Medicare-related issues. Dr. Regan is also the Florida Urological Society representative to the American Urological Association Public Policy Council. At the current
time, Dr. Rolando Rivera and Dr. Vincent Bird serve as Southeastern Section representatives to
the American Urological Association Public Policy Council. At the national level, the Florida
Urological Society supports American Urological Association advocacy efforts, annually
sending members to Washington, DC to speak with our state representatives about concerns
and needs for urology in Florida. Many members have made substantial contributions in
representing the interest of Florida Urologists in this role. Dr. Michael Grable gave great
time and effort both in important matters relating to ownership status of radiation treatment
facilities in Florida and has had significant input to the task force recommendations for prostate
screening. Dr. Sellinger, in addition to being past president of the Florida Urological Society,
has a special interest in risk management and prevention of medical errors. He has lectured
numerous times on this subject. He has also served on the LUGPA Board of Directors and as
its secretary. Dr. Dineen has also been a long-time supporter and participant in these efforts.
At the current time. Dr. Terrance Regan, Dr. Thomas Stringer, Dr. Ali Kasraien, Dr. Rolando
Rivera, and Dr. Vincent Bird are all regularly involved in these efforts and have gone to
visit our state congressmen and congresswomen, as well as state senators, to advocate on
behalf of Florida urology.

The Society has also recognized the critical importance of supporting and nurturing younger
members to become involved. The Society has developed programs that support travel for
Florida urology residents. Residents have continually participated in advocacy over the
years. These residents now accompany senior society members in the advocacy effort on an
annual basis. The Society recognizes the great importance of providing younger members
with experience and exposure so they will be prepared to advocate and support Florida
urology in future.

The Florida Urological Society has had the great fortune of having had as one its members
Dr. Martin Dineen. “Marty” served for 17 years on the American Urological Association
Public Policy Council and for 15 years on the AUA Coding & Reimbursement Committee.
He was always a strong advocate for his fellow urologists. For years both our Society and
others, including the Southeastern Section of the American Urological Association and the
American Urological Association, have relied upon him, calling upon him for presentations,
as a panelist for a large variety of socioeconomic issues, and as a representative for Urology.
His dedication, great rapport with others, knowledge, and experience were always highly
relevant and greatly valued by the membership. The Southeastern Section of the American
Urological Association has honored and recognized him by naming the socioeconomic
session the Gee-Dineen Socioeconomic session. Marty also provided numerous humanitarian
services for many years and has been recognized with the American Urological Association
Distinguished Service award for both his efforts in Health Policy and Humanitarian efforts.
Marty was a great friend, mentor, and colleague for so many in Florida and elsewhere. The
Florida Urological Society will always hold tremendous gratitude for this honored member.

As our state population grows and ages, tremendous pressures have been placed on the
urologic community within the state of Florida, in terms of being able to provide timely
quality care for all. Advanced practice providers (APPs), namely physician assistants and
nurse practitioners, work closely with urologists in this regard. As we are aware of their important role in the care of urological patients the Florida Urological Society has opened membership to both of these groups of practitioners. In addition, the Florida Urological Society has provided breakout academic and practice sessions at the annual meeting specifically dedicated to APP care. These sessions, developed and pioneered by Mary Mathe, R.N., Dr. Sijo Parrekatil, and Dr. Vincent Bird, have been very well received.

Since the 1980s, the digital revolution, including the internet, mobile devices, social networking, big data, and revolutionized workplaces, has impacted medicine and the specialty of urology in many ways. It has resulted in many changes in society that have taken place over the past twenty-five years. We are now well into this “digital era”. The Florida Urological Society recognized the importance of these developments and continues to pursue and refine use of these new technologies in ways that can benefit our membership. In addition to also providing state of the art audio-visual media at our annual meeting, the Society has further capitalized on these technologies by recording sessions that can then be archived and accessed for educational use. The Society has an active website that provides up-to-date information on meetings, awards that members have received, and other educational resources. The website serves as a continuous presence for the Society, as well as serving and supporting the membership in numerous ways. Dr. Jamin Brambhatt has made considerable effort in developing this website over recent years. The Society also now runs an on-line journal club, where members can present and discuss recent urologic literature that impacts their practice. Development of the on-line journal club took place under the leadership of Dr. Lawrence Hakim in 2021.

The strength of the FUS is in its membership. The Society has had the great fortune of contributions from many dedicated urologists from both private practice and academic centers. In acknowledgment of their contributions to patient care and urology in the State of Florida, the Florida Urological Society has initiated a lifetime achievement award, selected by the board, that honors one such individual who has given outstanding service and accomplishment spanning a career in urology. Each year at the annual meeting, an individual is selected. Nominations are made and voted on by the Florida Urological Society Program Chair and Board of Directors. These recipients are listed elsewhere in this book.

The FUS is a large living entity, comprised of urologists of all ages, backgrounds, and types of practice. The Society will continue to evolve over time as our needs change. The Society remains prepared to respond and adapt to the changes in our healthcare environment. Due to the resilience of its members, the Society has stayed united and strong through hurricanes and the COVID-19 pandemic. You may have already noticed the new logo. The Society is always looking for new members to serve in various roles, to keep the tradition of providing great urologic care in Florida a reality for our patients. In recent years, Dr. Rolando Rivera and Dr. David Thiel have headed the membership committee and have made numerous efforts to inform new urologists in Florida about the many benefits of membership in the Florida Urological Society.
Writing a historical sequel, even if it is simply chronological, is always a challenge. First, does it do service to the efforts of your predecessors? Secondly, does it properly connect to the past and capture and define the ongoing spirit of the organization and its members?

The last published effort entitled “History of Urology in Florida” covered the first 50 years of the Florida Urological Society from 1948 to 1998. The task at hand is to commemorate and document the following 25 years of Florida urology spanning from 1998 to 2023.

What has transpired in urology within the state of Florida in the last 25 years? Certainly, growth in the number of urologists has occurred which translates to greater Florida representation in the Southeastern Section of the American Urological Association (SESAUA). FUS membership has grown by nearly 18% in the last 20 years and currently counts 579 members. Because of proportional representation on the SESAUA board, the FUS now appoints 6 representatives to the SESAUA, which is more than any other state. Over the last 25 years, Florida presidents of the SESAUA have included B. Thomas Brown from Daytona Beach in 2003, Martin K. Dineen from Daytona Beach in 2008, Thomas F. Stringer from Inverness/Gainesville in 2009, Raymond John Leveillee from Hollywood in 2013, and Scott B. Sellinger from Tallahassee in 2018. In addition, Tom Stringer is currently serving the AUA in the third year of a five-year term as AUA Treasurer.

It is apparent that the FUS plays an important role in the SESAUA. The SESAUA also plays an important role in the AUA. The SES is the largest of eight sections and represents 20% of total section AUA membership in 2023 at 2,914. The next largest section is the Western section with 17% of total AUA section membership at 2,536. The SES geographical boundaries were established in 1931 and remain essentially unchanged with the exception that Cuba is no longer a member. Member states include Louisiana, Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida. Puerto Rico and Panama round out the SES membership. As one of the four largest sections, the SES is awarded an AUA presidential slot every 6 years as well as increased proportional representation on several standing committees, including Public Policy.
Besides growth in membership, how has the practice of urology changed? Certainly, physician payment and employment models have undergone drastic changes. The primary employment model was individual practice in 1998 and the majority of urologists were shareholders in their practices. In 2016, the share of U.S. physicians that owned their own practices dropped below 50% for the first time. According to 2021 AUA Census data, 62.8% of urologists were employed compared to 51% in 2015. Those numbers included 85% of urologists under the age of 40. Sole ownership has dwindled to 8.9% and only 25.6% were shareholders in a practice according to 2021 census data.

Hospital/physician relationships have also changed. Not only are hospitals and hospital systems physician employers (44% of physicians in 2018), they, along with corporate firms including private equity are physician practice owners (52.1% in 2021). The hospital employment numbers are driven by hospital efforts to capture market share, to increase bargaining power with payers and to position for value-based care. Additionally, the hospital/physician covenant has changed over the last several decades. The old covenant was that physicians would take care of patients, abide by the hospital bylaws and participate in governance. The hospital would, in turn, provide all the necessary resources at no cost to the physician. The traditional covenant no longer serves to bind physicians and hospitals. This is, in part, secondary to the economic reality of falling revenue and increased regulation, with margins squeezed on both sides. As a result, physician volunteerism is down with payment demands for ER coverage, committee work, and medical staff positions. There are cultural differences, as well, between a physician culture (Expert) and a hospital culture (Collective), including time perception, motivation and recognition.

Urological training and education have also changed the Florida landscape. In 1998, there were 3 urology residency training programs in the state, which included UF/Gainesville, USF and University of Miami. There are now 8 resident and fellow training programs with the addition of Mt. Sinai, Mayo Jacksonville, UF Jacksonville, Cleveland Clinic and UCF. In 2006, the AUA responded to the American Board of Urology concerns for in-practice re-certification surgical logs that reflected a significant contrast between actual practice and the training requirement for performance of a certain number of index cases. The AUA established a task force to examine the future of urologic resident training with the concept of considering two-tier training based on those post-training surgical logs. The conclusion of the task force at that time was that urologists all needed to be trained at the same level. The core curriculum, linking of surgical internship, and facilitated fellowship tracts, arose from the 2006 task force recommendations.
Lastly, what is the reality of the urologic workforce 75 years into the history of the FUS? Are we keeping up with urologic health care needs? The average age of a practicing urologist remains near the oldest of all medical and surgical specialties. Some of that I feel is reflective of how the broad range of urologic practice can be adjusted over time. General surgeons cannot slow down their surgical practice, urologists can. I think that adds to longevity. However, the disparity between outflow and inflow of urologists cannot be ignored. More urologists are retiring and leaving practice than entering a practice. That attrition as well as an aging population of boomers with increased urology specific health care needs accentuates the workforce shortage. And once we fall behind, it is hard to catch up. Can we simply train more residents? Expansion of training programs is an arduous process which is regulated by the Resident Review Committee as well as federal payers. Not meeting all patient clinical needs will result in erosion of urologic services including cannibalization by other surgical specialties. We have already experienced that in transplant and female urology.

Urology is a wonderful surgical specialty filled with some of the most selfless, innovative and entertaining individuals in all of medicine. That certainly applies to the historical and current members and leaders of the Florida Urological Society and Southeastern Section of the American Urological Association. Challenges persist and evolve. We can rely on the strength of individuals within the FUS and SESAUA, and the strength of our overall societies to adapt and grow. Salute to the next 25 years and more.
Socioeconomics in Florida Urology

By Terrence Regan, MD
Flagler Beach, Florida

In 1996, Dr. Martin Dineen and I were discussing the appropriate treatment for a patient. After some discussion, he grabbed me and brought me into the patient’s room and asked the patient about their out-of-pocket costs and their annual salary. Long before the term ‘financial toxicity’ was anywhere near our lexicon, Dr. Dineen had recognized the importance of participating in and in shaping health policy. He was a pioneer in advocating for changes in health policy so that urologists both in Florida and nationally would have the opportunity to provide the best possible care without bankrupting the patient or the health care system. It is due to the pioneering work of Dr. Dineen and others that the Florida Urological Society became involved in Health Policy.

Over the last twenty-five years, Medicare has become the predominate health care payer in the state of Florida. Currently, nearly a quarter of the population have Medicare as their primary insurer. Also, nearly all other insurers tie their reimbursement models to Medicare so that payment models and coverage for these insurers are based on Medicare policies.

In 1992, the Health Care Finance Administration, now called the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), introduced the Medicare Contractor Advisory Committee. Each state (subsequently this was changed to each region) would have representatives from different specialty societies, beneficiaries, and patient advocates meet with the medical director of the state’s (or region’s) Medicare intermediary, in this case First Coast Service Options (FCSO). These meetings were arranged to have stakeholder input on Local Medical Policy Determinations (LMPD), which were the precursors to Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs). These determinations are decisions on whether a particular service or item is covered and under what conditions (i.e., what are the diagnosis codes, required documentation, and limitations as to how often the code should be billed).

The Florida Urological Society’s first representative was Dr. Ed Ackerman, who was succeeded by Dr. Martin Dineen and then Dr. Terrence Regan. These representatives worked with the carrier on local coverage determinations on a multitude of issues related to urological care. For example, there were those regarding coverage for prostate cancer screening (this advocacy eventually led to federal legislation allowing PSA screening for Medicare patients), the Urolift procedure, Image Guided Radiation Therapy, Proton Beam Therapy, Biofeedback, and Urodynamics. These representatives were transformative in the process of developing local coverage determinations and had developed excellent working relationships with the FCSO’s medical directors. Dr. Dineen was so instrumental in working with FCSO
that he became a trusted resource to other states and regions. His council was so sought after that the American Urological Association developed a National Insurance Advisory Workgroup so that information from different CAC’s could be shared and subsequently lead to consistency of urological coverage throughout the United States.

In the last twenty-five years, two landmark Federal bills have been passed that led to transformational changes in the way health care is delivered. These legislative efforts affected changes in good, bad and unintended ways for how urological care is delivered in the state of Florida. The following discusses how these bills affected urological care and how the Florida Urological Society responded.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA): This legislation frequently labeled Obamacare was enacted in 2010 with the purpose of trying to extend affordable health insurance to an increasing number of Americans. Although a full discussion of the ACA is beyond the scope of this chapter, provisions that affected urologists and their patients included the following:

- Guaranteed issue preventing insurers from denying coverage to individuals due to pre-existing conditions. Prior to the enactment of this provision many patients with a history of nephrolithiasis struggled to find coverage. Urologists struggled to adequately treat these patients, as hospitals routinely denied outpatient treatment unless the patients pre-paid at usual and costumery rates, which were often extortionary high.

- Coverage of preventive and wellness services that were rated an A or B by the U.S. Preventative Services Task Force (USPSTF). Although certainly beneficial for some services, routine prostate cancer screening was given a D recommendation. The Florida Urological Society, utilizing its extensive resources of both academic and private urologists, aggressively responded to this legislation. FUS members with expertise in prostate cancer management and public health replied to the USPSTF (along with many national and other specialty societies) with formal letters and by lobbying Congress. The USPSTF eventually “upgraded” the recommendation to a C but not high enough to mandate coverage. The Florida Urology Society responded by continuing to actively lobby on both a state and federal level for prostate cancer screening coverage especially for those at high risk.

- The start of the CMS Innovation Center and the start of an attempt to transition Medicare payment from volume-based care to value based care.

The Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA). This legislation enacted in 2015 ushered in the era of attempts to transition to value-based care.

In repealing the unpopular sustainable growth rate (for which yearly severe cuts to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule were mandated by law but were postponed year on year by congressional action), Medicare would now attempt to control costs with the Merit-Based
Incentive Payment Systems (MIPS), Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs), Advanced Payment Models, and other value based models through the quality payment program. The FUS focused on educating its members regarding the details of these provisions and their numerous shortcomings.

Due to the availability of Federal funding, an overwhelming number of FUS members switched to Electronic Health Records (EHR). Although the proposed benefits from EHR systems were trumpeted by CMS, Industry, Health Policy gurus and their like, the resulting strain of increased documentation has led to physician burnout and increasing amounts of documentation of dubious merit.

On the state level the FUS has been an active participant in the Florida Medical Association and through a multitude of FUS representatives including Dr. Neal Dunn (now Congressman Dunn), Dr. Ed King, Dr. Mike Grable, the FUS has been able to help shape state legislation. There have been many accomplishments which include the following:

**Florida Tort Reform:**

An alarming rise in malpractice claims and an increasingly staggering amount of jury awards (especially for non-economic damages) in the late 1990’s and early 2000’s led to a call for tort reform. A competing set of initiatives from the Florida Medical Association and the Florida Bar led to both new legislation and voter directed constitutional amendments. In 2003, the Florida legislature capped the amount of non-economic damages at $500,000 (with some exceptions). The legislature also required mandatory medical errors CME for re-licensure, as well as mandatory reporting for sentinel events both to the state and, in some instances, to the patients themselves. FUS representatives were active in the FMA and helped push this legislation into law.

In response, the Florida Bar, through legislative and voter driven constitutional amendments, enacted a “three strike, you’re out” rule and gutted the peer-review process. A Florida physician who has three successful tort cases brought against him would now lose his license, while hospital and practices trying to monitor and improve patient care by peer-review have found those methods to be “discoverable”, leading most organizations to scrap or significantly overhaul those processes. The FUS lobbied and campaigned against these measures but were ultimately unsuccessful.

The cap on non-economic damages did lead to a stabilization of the medical malpractice market. The requirement for hospital safety plans and reporting of sentinel events in conjunction with the seminal publication *To Err is Human* by the Institute of Medicine in 2000 ushered in a new era of patient safety and outcomes research. However, in 2017 the Florida Supreme Court ruled that a cap on non-economic damages was unconstitutional. Not unsurprisingly, Florida is starting to see a new tort crisis. In 2023, Governor Ron Desantis has pledged to overhaul the Florida tort system.
**Radiation Services:**

In 2015 an attempt was made in the Florida legislature to limit the ability of providers in integrated care groups to provide ancillary services. Although the bill was primarily focused on limiting the ability of providers to offer radiation oncology services, it threatened the ability of practitioners to provide any ancillary services. Members of the FUS were primarily responsible in preventing this legislation from becoming law.

**Scope of Practice:**

A confluence of trends has made providing timely urological care to patients increasingly difficult. These include an aging work force, aging population, and intra-state migration. The recent American Urological Association Census puts the mean age of working urologist at 55 with over 30% of practicing urologists over the age of 65. The population of Medicare beneficiaries is expected to grow from 54 million to 80 million by 2030. Also, Florida continues to see a net positive immigration with a nearly 2% increase in population from 2021 to 2022, primarily from intra-state migration. The ability to provide care has increasingly fallen on the use of advanced practice providers (APPs). The FUS has advocated for a team concept in the care of patients with physicians at the head of the team. However, APPs have continued to lobby the state legislature for more autonomy. Currently, nurse practitioners are able to provide primary care without requiring physician supervision. The FUS continues to lobby strongly that APPs providing urological care do so under appropriate physician supervision.

The future directions of health care include the advancement of value-based care initiatives, big data, genomic based treatment, and artificial intelligence. Each of these issues will lead to changes in health care delivery and subsequent regulations. The FUS will continue to serve on the forefront in advocating for urologists to be able to deliver the best possible urological care.
Florida Urological Society
75th Anniversary Book

History of Urology in Florida:
Volume II

Diversity and Demographics in Florida Urology
African American Urologists

By Edward D. King, MD
Ocala, Florida

The history of practicing African American urologists in the US and the state of Florida is often poorly understood or unrecognized by most urologists. This history is also characterized by obstacles of entrenched racial discrimination in the practice of medicine. In October 1931, the roster of the American Urological Association noted that there were forty-four AUA member urologists residing in the southeastern states. Only thirteen resided in the state of Florida and none were African American. In many states, especially in the American South, Black physicians were not allowed to join state medical or specialties societies. They could often only work at predominantly Black hospitals and teaching institutions.

The segregated policy of “separate but equal” laws created and perpetuated poor health outcomes for blacks and other minority populations. Jacksonville, Florida, at the time was typical of most cities in the deep south. Until the 1950s, only two of seven hospitals in Jacksonville served African American patients. Duval County Hospital served both Black and White patients. As was the norm in the South, the wards were segregated by race and Black physicians were denied admitting privileges. Black physicians were allowed to practice at Brewster Hospital in Jacksonville, a 30-bed hospital for Black patients only. In 1943, the National Medical Association conducted a survey of 80 Black physicians practicing in the Southeastern US. Nearly all respondents reported isolation from professional contacts due to limited staff privileges at majority White hospitals. Many of the predominately Black hospitals were small, poorly equipped, and nearer the status of nursing homes. It is, therefore, understandable that few minority physicians chose to practice in southern states such as Florida at the time.

Organized medicine at the time was also largely segregated. Delegates to the American Medical Association (AMA) were limited to members of state and local medical societies. Because many societies in the South openly practiced racial exclusion, this effectively excluded most African Americans from the AMA. The first professional society of African American Physicians was the National Medical Association (NMA) founded in 1895. The Florida Medical Association (FMA) in 1950 became the first state medical society in the deep south to amend its bylaws to admit African American physicians. A requirement for membership in the FMA was membership in a county medical or state specialty society, such as the Florida Urological Society (FUS). Since an application of a minority physician could be rejected by county or specialty societies, this did little to increase the representation of Black physicians in the FMA. Hospitals often required physicians to be a member of a state or local medical society, or the AMA. Only after the Civil Rights Act of 1964 did the AMA incorporate in their bylaws a provision to expel state or local societies that persisted in racial discrimination.
In 1936, Dr. Richard Francis Jones was the first African American urologist to be board certified in the US. At the time he was only the sixth African American to ever be board certified in any specialty in the United States. Dr. Jones received his MD degree from Howard University School of Medicine and was appointed assistant professor of urology and gynecology at Freedmen’s Hospital (now Howard University Hospital). Dr. Jones depended on white urologists in the Baltimore – Washington D.C area for his urology training. At the time, the vast majority of Black physicians were graduates of the nation’s two majority Black medical schools, Howard University in Washington, DC and Meharry Medical School in Nashville, TN. Dr. Jones’ initial application for admission to the American Urological Association was rejected due to a “lack of endorsements” by other AUA member physicians. However, he was subsequently admitted after reapplication. In 1947, he started a urology residency training program at Howard University, where he served as chairman until 1970. The first professional association of Black urologists was the Urology Section of the National Medical Association (NMA). In addition to Dr. Jones, another notable president of NMA Urology Section was Dr. Cheryl Lee, current chairman of the Department of Urology at Ohio State University. Dr. Jones’ pioneering work was recognized by the founding of the R. Frank Jones Society of the AUA. This specialty society was incorporated in 1965 with the mission to increase the number of Black urologists and erase health care disparities in conditions such as prostate cancer mortality in African American men.

By the early 1950s, several white medical colleges in the South and in border states gradually began admitting black students. By the early 1960s, over half of all southern medical schools (14 out of 26) accepted black students. In 1952, the University of Miami School of Medicine was the first medical school to open in the state of Florida. The University of Florida College of Medicine opened in 1956 and graduated its first class in 1960. Milton M. Coplan, MD the first president of the FUS began a three-year urology residency program at the University of Miami in 1959. Dr. George Miller, Chief of the Division of Urology at UF-Shands also began a urology residency training program in Gainesville the same year. It was not until 1970 that the first two African American medical students graduated from UF. It was not until 1997 that UF’s first Black resident, Dr. Frank Glover, a graduate of both the Johns Hopkins University (JHU) School of Medicine and the JHU Bloomberg School of Public Health, would complete the UF urology residency training program.

In 1965, the year when the Civil Rights Act outlawed discrimination in government-funded health programs, that hospital wards were desegregated, and African American physicians were finally able to gain access to hospital medical staffs. The numbers of minority urologists slowly increased in the state beginning in the early 1980s, with most entering community practice. Precise accounting of the numbers of minority physicians practicing in the state of Florida at the time is not possible. Ironically, it was the National Medical Association that fought to remove references of race from physician directories. The American Medical Association has kept a directory of all physicians in the US since 1906. The Directory previously listed all African American physicians as “Colored” without a designation as to the race or ethnicity of the physician. This designation harmed Black physicians by making it hard or impossible to obtain liability insurance and business loans. It was finally dropped after years of vigorous lobbying by the NMA.
One of the first African American urologists to practice in the State of Florida was Dr. Alden Cockburn, a 1974 graduate of Tufts University School of Medicine. He trained at the Lahey Clinic and New York Presbyterian Hospital. Dr. Cockburn was one of the first black urologists to practice in the Tampa area, beginning in 1984. He was a clinical assistant professor of urology at the University of South Florida and a past president of the Hillsborough County Medical Society. He was soon followed by Dr. Eustus Nelson, a 1976 graduate of Howard University School of Medicine. Dr. Nelson completed his urology training at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and practiced in Sebring FL. Dr. Kenneth Bryant, a 1978 graduate of the UF College of Medicine, completed a urology residency at the San Antonio Uniformed Services – Brook Army Medical Center in 1984. He entered community practice in Pinellas County in 1986.

Early urologists practicing in North Florida include Dr. Joseph Camps and Dr. Reginald Allen. Dr. Camps received his medical degree from the University of Florida in 1982. He completed a urology residency at the University of North Carolina and a urologic oncology fellowship at MD Anderson Cancer Center. Dr. Camps has practiced in Tallahassee, FL since 1990. Dr. Allen completed medical school at the University of Wisconsin in 1983 and urology training at Southern Illinois University in 1988. He has held academic positions as an assistant professor of surgery at Meharry Medical College and at the University of Florida College of Medicine as an instructor at UF Shands Jacksonville. Dr. Bobbilynn Hawkins, a 1979 graduate of Georgetown Medical School, completed urology training at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and at Emory University. She was the sixth female urologist to be certified by the American Board of Urology and was the first female urologist in the United States Army, where she served for more than 30 years. Dr. Hawkins was later a professor in the Section of Urology and the Center for Biotechnology and Genomics at the Medical College of Georgia. She was also the director of Neurourology and Urodynamics at the Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center in Augusta, GA. She retired from community practice in Florida at the UF Health Leesburg Medical Center in 2022.

Dr. Abraham Woods, a 1981 graduate of the University of Alabama in Birmingham, completed a urology residency at Tulane Medical Center in 1987. Dr. Woods served in the United States Navy until 1989, when he joined the practice of Dr. Eustus Nelson in Sebring, FL. In 1994, he relocated to Orlando and established one of largest practices of African American urologists in Central Florida. His previous partners included Dr. Jean Joseph, current chairman of the department of urology at University of Rochester School of Medicine and one of only three African American urology program chairmen in the country. Another of Dr. Woods’ partners was Dr. Jaqueline Hamilton, a graduate of Howard University Medical School and a past president of the R. Frank Jones Urologic Society. She was the second black female to complete the Urology Residency Program at Howard University.

African American urologists in academic practice in Florida include Dr. Gregory Broderick, the first African American faculty member at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, who joined that organization in 1998. Dr. Broderick earned his MD from the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine. He completed a residency in urology at UCSF, followed by a fellowship at UC Davis in Neurourourology and Impotence. Dr. Broderick is a past president of the Sexual Medicine Society of North America and has served as a co-author of AUA
Clinical Guidelines for Priapism, Premature Ejaculation, and Erectile Dysfunction. Dr. Angelo Gousse joined the faculty of the Department of Urology at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine in 1998, after completing a pelvic floor and reconstructive medicine fellowship at UCLA. He completed a urology residency at Baylor College of Medicine after graduating from Yale University School of Medicine.

Over the past two decades, the demographics of the urology workforce in Florida have rapidly changed. There are now more women and physicians of color, especially of Southern Asian and Latin American descent, entering the field. All these physicians stand on the broad shoulders of pioneering urologists such as R. Frank Jones, as well as the physician-members of the National Medical Association, who trained early Black urologists and fought to open professional societies and hospital medical staffs to minority physicians. Unfortunately, African Americans remain underrepresented in the field of urology. According to 2021 AUA Census data, while the number of practicing female urologists rose to 10.9%, the number of Black urologists was relatively stagnant at 2.4%, well below the 12.1% of Americans who identify as African American. It is also unfortunate that the legacy of racial discrimination in the field of urology, and in medicine in general, continues to be felt today. This is evidenced by continued mistrust by some in the Black community toward organized medicine, and in the poor health outcomes for Black and other minority populations compared to the US population as a whole.
The presence of Hispanics in the Florida Urology landscape has been extensive and appears in its beginning in the 1960s, correlating with a migration of Urologists from Cuba and South America to this state, particularly to South Florida. Subsequently, many trainees of Hispanic descent made their way to the state. There are many notable physicians, and several of them started very successful practices in Tampa, Miami and Orlando. There are world renowned academic urologists who have trained and are currently training new urologists. However, I would like to highlight some of the remarkable standouts in the landscape of our specialty.

Dr. Jose Iglesias (1904-1979)

Inventor of Resectoscope
José Iglesias was born in Havana, Cuba, one of seven boys. The boys grew up in a tough love, military household: four of them became physicians; one a lawyer; one a pilot; and the last an engineer. José graduated from the University of Havana School of Medicine in 1928. He became interested in studying and researching prostate and bladder tumors, which led him to design the first Iglesias Resectoscope in 1945. This scope, which allowed one-handed resection of the prostate, is used by many urologists throughout the world.

When Castro came to power, Iglesias fought against the new regime and, after being a witness to the transportation of soviet missiles, was sentenced to 10 years in jail. During those years, he served inmates as jail physician for two years until he became ill and could no longer perform surgery. After 4 years of illness, he was released from jail and, in 1969, fled for the United States. When he arrived, even though he was weak and, in a wheelchair, his mind was sharp, and he craved work.

Though Iglesias was not expected to live, his health continued to improve, and he became affiliated with the New Jersey School of Medicine. He and colleagues began to modernize the traditional resectoscope with new features such as suctions and irrigation systems.

In 1972, Iglesias and Manuel Ray, a well-known Cuban engineer, provided the world with the prototype of the New Iglesias Resectoscope, presented at the American Urological Association meeting in Washington, DC, where he also met a German manufacturer who helped him produce his instrument.

José Iglesias died in 1979, remembered for his contributions and inventions including: the traditional resectoscope; the suction and continuous irrigation resectoscope; the stabilized loop; the suction resectoscope; the teaching attachment; the bladder pump evacuator; the antishock loop; and the hydraulic hemostasis machine.
Manuel Coto, MD

FUS President, 1987-1988

The first Hispanic President of the Florida Urological Society was Manuel Jose Coto (1935-2018), from 1987 to 1988. He was from Orlando, Florida. He was a leader in the Cuban-American community. A past president of the Orange County Medical Society, Dr. Coto practiced privately in Orlando for more than 30 years, then transitioned to a part-time role at the V.A. Hospital, where he worked until full retirement in 2014. His story is an immigrant story shared by so many in this country. Born in Guanabacoa, Cuba in 1935, and educated at the University of Havana, he was a practicing urologist when the Castro revolution upended Cuban society and his family was forced into exile. In January 1962, he put his wife, Norma, and infant son on a plane to Tampa, uncertain if he would ever be able to join them. The Castro government was forcing doctors to stay behind, and Dr. Coto had no hope of being released. To this day, he does not know precisely how his papers went through, but he was able to join his family several weeks later. His first job in the U.S. was as a resident physician in Plant City. After attending the University of Madrid for re-certification, he returned to Orlando, where he interned at Orange Memorial Hospital and was a resident until 1965. From there, he built a successful private practice, Mid-Florida Urological Associates, where he was a founding partner for three decades. His work at the V.A. was characterized by his love of Veterans and for his adopted country, of which he eventually became a proud citizen. In addition to his work as a physician, Dr. Coto was an advocate for Latinos and served his city and state. He was Chairman of the Orlando Mayor’s Hispanic Advisory Committee from 1983-84 and served on the Florida Board of Medicine from 2003 to 2006. He was also president of the Pan-American Medical Association from 1991-92. In 2012, the President of the Southeastern Section of the American Urological Association asked him to present a history of the Cuban presence in the organization dating to the pre-Castro years, when Cuba belonged to the AUA.
Dr. Hernan M. Carrion

FUS President, 1993-1994, and Co-inventor of Small-Carrion Penile Prosthesis

Dr. Carrion received his urology training at Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami, FL, finishing in 1973. Subsequently, he became a full-time faculty member of the Urological Department University of Miami. In 1974, for the first time in the history of the AUA annual meeting, two institutions of USA, Miami and Houston presented their experience using a penile prosthesis for the treatment of the patient with erectile dysfunction. During this meeting, Dr. Carrion received the first prize for the contribution from Miami.

His contributions to the Scientific, Humanitarian and Institutional activities related to the urological care for patients have been exemplary. He has presented and published in numerous urological meetings and journals, as well as contributed to four textbooks. He has been president of the Greater Miami Urological Society, the Florida Urological society, the American Confederation of Urology, the Latin American Pediatric Urological Society, the Association of Peruvian institutions of USA, and the Cedars Medical Association (twice). He has been chief of the department of surgery, chief of the urology division, and member of the board of directors at Cedar’s Medical Center in Miami.

He feels that his greatest honors during all these years have been to receive recognition from different institutions: “P.A.M.S.” for our dedication to improve the health of the people of Peru; from Florida Urological Society for “Significant Contributions to Florida Urology”; from SESAUA for outstanding contributions to the surgical advancement of Erectile Dysfunction and superior mentoring skills; from Peruvian Urological Society for permanent contributions to the society; and from the American Confederation of Urology. Coloplast presented him with a lifetime Achievement Award for outstanding contributions in the field of Prosthetic Urology. He has also received the F. Brantley Scott Award of Excellence. From the Sexual Medicine Society of USA, he received the distinguished service award in recognition of years of dedication and commitment to the field of sexual medicine. He received the Humanitarian Award from Child Assault Prevention (CAP). From the Florida Medical Association, he received “A Physician Who Cares” award. He was recognized during the celebration of the 100-year anniversary of the AUA Foundation, and he has been awarded countless awards internationally that are too numerous to list.
Dr. Jorge Lockhart

Former Chair of Urology at USF

Dr. Lockhart is a genitourinary oncologist at Moffitt and professor in the Department of Urology at the University of South Florida’s College of Medicine. Board certified in urology, Dr. Lockhart specializes in bladder cancer, urologic reconstruction, and urinary incontinence in both men and women. His research interests include reconstruction of the urinary tract following ablative surgery and urinary incontinence following radical surgery. A graduate of the University of Uruguay College of Medicine, Dr. Lockhart completed a residency in urologic surgery at Duke University Medical Center. He pursued advanced training at Duke through a fellowship in urologic reconstruction and urodynamics. Before coming to Moffitt, Dr. Lockhart was a professor of urology and pediatrics at the University of Miami (UM) School of Medicine and director of the Urodynamics Lab at UM and Jackson Memorial Hospital. Dr. Lockhart is a member of numerous national and international medical societies, including the American Association of Genitourinary Surgeons, Society of Pelvic Surgeons, and National Urologic Forum, as well as past president of the Confederation of American Urology. Dr. Lockhart is a frequent guest speaker and visiting professor around the world. His awards, merits, publications, and presentations are extensive. He mentored and was responsible for the formation and training of several generations of outstanding urologists, many of which practice in Florida.

The influence and contributions of Hispanics in Urology in Florida continues to expand. Dr. Rafael Carrion, who is the current Chair of Urology at University South Florida, and Dr. Rolando Rivera are the most recent Hispanic past presidents to the Florida Urological Society, continuing to add to the legacy of Hispanic urologists in Florida.
Women Urologists

By Nicole Eisenbrown, MD
Panama City, Florida

Urology, like medicine in general, has historically been a male dominated profession. Women, however, have made their way into all areas of medicine, but not all fields have incorporated women at the same pace. A 2015 report on physician compensation asked the following question: “Which specialties have the most female physicians?” Not surprisingly, urology was dead last with only 8% of urologists being female. Also not surprising, at the top were Ob/Gyn and Pediatrics, both above 50%. We are making strides, however. In 2015, women represented 8% of the urologic work force, but that has improved every year since then, with 2019 reaching 9.9% and, in 2020, we crossed the 10% threshold for the first time and achieved 10.4%. In 2021, we continued to grow to 10.9% of the urologic work force. 2022’s data has not been published at the time of this writing.

All indicators suggest this trend is likely to continue. Women, as of 2019, comprise the majority of medical students at 50.5% and women have a higher success rate in the match compared to their male counterparts, at 86% compared to males at 77%. We also now have more women going into traditionally male dominated fields than ever before, likely because the barrier has been broken. This is reflected by data from the AUA. In 2020, 30% of the medical students that matched in urology were women. They represented 27% of all urology residents and 16% of urology full-time faculty. As was stated by Dr Kang, who trained at the University of Florida and now practices in La Jolla, CA, “They (women) don’t mind being relatively rare, but few want to be the first and only woman”.

When did Florida join the modern era and start adding female urologists to our work force? The first female that we could find to be trained in the state of Florida is Brenda Kinard who matched at the University of South Florida in 1986 and graduated in 1991. She is one of nine women to date who have successfully completed training at the University of South Florida. Her successors include Michelle Swards (2012), Michelle Pacheco (2014), Kelly Johnson (2019), Ruth Strakosha (2019), Meghan Cooper (2020), Samantha Nelson (2021), Kathy Lue (2021) and Marilin Nicholson (2022). There are three additional women currently in training, two are in their intern year and one is in her PGY2 year.
The University of Florida has trained a total of 13 female urologists to date. Their first female was Dana Moody. She matched in 1993 and completed her training in 1998. She was followed by Erica Schalow (2001), Nicole Eisenbrown (2002), Katie Ballert (2006), Ngoc-Bich (Nikki) Le (2010), Diana Kang (2016), Katherine Corbyons (2014), Anja Zann (2017), Marla Wardenberg (2018), Julia Han (2019), Paula Domino (2020) and Jennifer Kuo (2021). The University of Florida also is proud to report that of the fifteen current residents, five (33%) are women, which is a program record.

Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful at obtaining data from the University of Miami to include in this report, but they too have trained many fine female urologists and continue to do so. We have newer residency programs in Florida, which are sure to attract more women to our state. The future looks bright for women in Urology in Florida.

References
Urologist Relocation to Florida

By James E Alver, MD, FACS
Brandon, Florida

As we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Florida Urological Society, it is time to reflect on how it grew from those 12 urologists who met at the Ponce De Leon Hotel in Saint Augustine in 1948 to the 546 members it has as of this writing. In doing so, we can gain insights to help meet the challenges of supplying urologists to serve the growing state of Florida. Throughout our history and into our future, welcoming relocating urologists is key.

For many reasons, the population of the state of Florida has increased dramatically over the years, which demands an increase in urologists to serve the community. People who wish to enjoy the outdoors all year round are drawn to Florida’s mild climate and sunshine. Florida has an affordable cost of living due to lower taxes and lack of state income tax, making it attractive to retirees on a budget and those wanting to stretch their dollar. There is a growing economy with numerous opportunities in the tech industry and other sectors like healthcare, tourism, manufacturing, and, most recently, finance. In addition, Florida has a vibrant culture with a diverse population. These factors combined to draw a large number of foreign and domestic migrants to the state of Florida and pose a challenge for meeting our healthcare needs in the future.

The population of the state of Florida is expected to increase 10% by 2030 to approximately 23.6 million people. 1,025 urologists are estimated to be needed by 2030 to serve the rising population, which is far more than Florida is projected to add from in-state training programs. Furthermore, Florida is on the cusp of a mass retirement of urologists, creating an additional challenge for reaching this goal. According to the AUA Census, the age of urologists is progressively increasing. The 2021 AUA census showed that 30.1% of all urologists were 65 years of age or older, and an additional 19.9% were between the ages of 55 and 64, with a median age of 55. That same census showed a likely retirement age of 69 for those currently in practice. This means that in 10 years, we can expect to see 30% of all urologists retire, with up to another 10% at or near retirement age. This would decrease the number of urologists working in the state of Florida by 287 urologists. During that same 10-year period, assuming the current rate of 15 urologists trained in the state of Florida and retained per year, we would only have 150 additional urologists by 2030. So, considering population growth and expected retirement, there would be a need for 205 additional urologists trained outside the state of Florida in the next 10 years. It is essential to plan for recruiting and welcoming new urologists now in order to meet the pressing needs of our growing communities. There is great hope and promise that we can meet these needs if we examine and learn from the expansion of the Florida urologic community in the past.
In 1948, at the founding of the Florida Urological Society, the population of the state of Florida was approximately 2.6 million. In the beginning, in 1931, 13 members of the Southeastern Branch of the AUA were from Florida. Five years later, in 1936, there were 18 member urologists and six Associates from Florida. Looking forward to today, as Florida’s population has increased to approximately 21.6 million, there are approximately 957 urologists in the state. In the past 75 years, we have faced a similar challenge of meeting a rapidly growing population’s demand for new urologists, and we have succeeded. The state of Florida has recruited, trained, and retained urologists by increasing the number of training programs across the state and by welcoming migrant physicians from foreign countries and other U.S. states.

The expansion of urologic practice in Florida began with the creation of new medical schools and residency programs. As of 1948, there were no medical schools in the state, with only one urology preceptorship in Jacksonville. The first medical school in Florida was the University of Miami School of Medicine, which was founded in 1952. This was followed by the University of Florida in 1956 and the University of South Florida in 1972. Of note, until the year 2000, there were only three urology residency programs in the state. Interestingly, two of them began prior to the opening of the medical school, with Miami’s program starting in 1948 and the University of South Florida’s in 1971. The Urology residency program at the University of Florida began in 1962. These combined programs produced only nine residents per year. Since then, three additional programs have opened in the state—Mayo Clinic Jacksonville in 2000, Mount Sinai in 2011, and University of Florida at Jacksonville in 2018—bringing the total number of urologists completing their residency in the state of Florida to 15 per year. Obviously, we did not add 957 urologists just by retaining the urologists trained in the state. Throughout our history, migration and relocation of practicing physicians has been a major driver of growth.

On December 31, 1958, with the overthrow of the Batista government in Cuba, there began a wave of refugees to the state of Florida that changed its demographics forever. In 1965, the Hart-Celler Act changed earlier immigration rules, which had favored Eastern Europe over the rest of the world, to allow the migration of trained workers from China and Latin America, regions which had just suffered political upheaval, including physicians who were recruited to practice in underserved areas. Another great wave of Cubans came in the 1980s during the Mariel boatlift. This massive migration diversified South Florida and opened the way for a third massive migration wave from South America and Central America. Unfortunately, there were many physicians who were unable to practice in the United States due to their lack of ability to produce documents of their training. These refugees and migrants were simultaneously a cause of overall population growth and a resource to supply additional urologists. However, before migrant physicians could practice in the United States, we needed to create a path to certification.
In the early 1960s, the University of Miami established a course called the “refresher course” to help certify Cuban refugee physicians. While the course was established for Cuban exiles, it was ultimately used to train thousands of foreign medical graduates (FMGs) from across Latin America who sought advanced training in modern American medicine. However, before FMGs could certify in the United States, they had to pass Florida’s licensing exam.

For many years, it was difficult for physicians from outside the United States and even other states to obtain a license in Florida. Florida had its own licensing exam, the Florida State Board Exam, that encompassed all aspects of medicine, including OB/GYN, Psychiatry, Internal Medicine, and Pediatrics. The exam had to be taken by everyone wishing to be licensed in the state. If a physician had been practicing a specialty for a significant period of time, this generalized exam would have been very difficult to pass, and it in fact had a low pass rate.

In 1974, that changed. Florida began accepting physicians from other countries and out of the state of Florida by endorsement of their license as long as they had taken a nationally recognized exam to practice medicine and be no more than 5 years out of residency. This change allowed FMGs to obtain residency programs within the United States and then practice in the state of Florida after certification or residency qualification. These modifications brought a new influx of physicians to the state of Florida from South America and the Caribbean. Among the physicians that relocated from South America are three former winners of the Florida Urological Society’s Lifetime Achievement Award, Dr. Hernan Carrion, Dr. Jorge Lockhart and Dr. Fernando Borges.

Like certification pathways created in the past, we have an opportunity to recruit and certify out-of-state urologists presently. In April 2017, the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact was formed, allowing physicians in some states to hold a medical license in many states. To prevent part-time practicing and “snowbird” physicians, Florida chose not to participate in that compact. This continues to make Florida one of the most difficult states to obtain a license to practice medicine. As we see increased demand for urologists with future population growth, Florida may need to reconsider our current licensure restrictions.

As new physicians became certified in the state of Florida, medical practices expanded across the state. Thanks to Florida’s friendly business environment and favorable demographics and economics, the state became a magnet for medical expansion. Notably, the Mayo Clinic started in Jacksonville in 1986, and the Cleveland Clinic expanded to Weston in 1988. This expansion brought a migration of physicians from all over the country, including urologists, to serve the growing and aging population. This trend has continued in recent years and drives current recruitment of urologists.
From 2019 to 2021, the number of urologists in the state increased from 907 to 957. Approximately 10% of urologists in the state of Florida retired in those years, which translates to 147 new urologists in that period. In general, 61% of residents traditionally stay within the area in which they completed their residency. That number is likely higher for the state of Florida, but the exact ratio is not known. The state of Florida graduated only 28 urologists in that time period, indicating a net in-migration of 119 urologists from outside of the state.

Migration of physicians and residency graduates from other U.S. states is currently a main source of new urologists in Florida. Across the United States, there are an expected 388 urology residency graduates per year. The challenge is recruiting those graduates to Florida from other states. Of note, 10% of all urology residents train within 20 miles of Manhattan. Another 5% train in Boston, Philadelphia, and Chicago. The entire state of Florida, the 3rd largest state, only trains 3.8% of residency graduates. As the population of Florida has increased due to the relocation of people from the colder northern areas, so has the number of urologists. They come seeking warmer weather and a more relaxed lifestyle.

The relocation of urologists to Florida from other parts of the United States and the world is driven by a variety of factors, including job opportunities, cost of living, and quality of life. Florida has a growing population, with a significant aging demographic. The state is also home to several world-renowned medical schools and research institutions, providing a rich environment for medical education and research. In summary, to continue the relocation of urologists to Florida from other parts of the US and the world, we must maintain job opportunities, quality of life, and a strong healthcare industry.

While it is extremely difficult to know for certain how many urologists have relocated to the state of Florida in the last 25 years, it is clearly upward of 500. Due to the increasing and aging population of the state, there is an obvious need for more urologists in the coming years than can be produced by graduating residents alone. This need will be met by the relocation of graduating or practicing urologists from other parts of the country, and the Florida Urological Society will enthusiastically welcome them.
Florida Urological Society
75th Anniversary Book

History of Urology in Florida:
Volume II

Photo Section
Photo Section

Featured in the Photo:
Dr. Vinny Bird
Dr. Adam Ball

Photo Credit:
Adam J. Ball, MD, FACS*

Year Taken:
2003/2004

*Favorite Memories:
Evenings with friends, and food and drink.
Featured in the Photo:
Rolando Rivera and Claudia Rivera at House of Blues

Photo Credit:
Rolando Rivera
Featured in the photo:
Sneha Vaish, Larry Hakim, Nick Muruve, Richard Macchia

Photo Credit:
Richard J Macchia, MD

Year Taken:
2022

Featured in the photo:
Larry Hakim, Richard Macchia

Photo Credit:
Richard J Macchia, MD

Year Taken:
2022
Photo Credit:
Tom Stringer*

*Favorite Memory:
Golf and tennis tournaments, the immersion of old and young urologists and their families.
Featured in the photo:
Mike Grable, Tom Stringer and Mike Wehle

Photo Credit:
Tom Stringer

Year Taken:
2014

Featured in the photo:
Dr. Norman Block

Photo Credit:
Adam J. Ball

Year Taken:
2004

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Dr. Charles Lynne

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Adam J. Ball

Year Taken:
2004
Featured in the photo:
Dr. Adam Ball,
Dr. Scott VanAppledorn,
Dr. Josh Randall

Photo Credit:
Adam J. Ball*

Year Taken:
2004

*Associated Memory:
Charlottesville Review Course

Featured in the photo:
Dr. Adam Ball, Cristina Ball,
Dr. Scott VanAppledorn,
Samantha VanAppledorn

Photo Credit:
Adam J. Ball*

Year Taken:
2002

*Associated Memory:
World Congress Endourology,
Genoa, Italy
Featured in the photo:
Dr. David Meinbach,
Dr. Josh Randall,
Dr. Adam Ball

Photo Credit:
Adam J. Ball*

Year Taken:
2003

*Associated Memory:
Miami

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Dr. Vip Patel,
Dr. Adam Ball,
Dr. Diego Rubinowicz

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Adam J. Ball*

Year Taken:
2001

*Associated Memory:
AUA 2001
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Dr. Adam Ball,  
Dr. Raymond Leveillee

Photo Credit:
Adam J. Ball*

Year Taken:
2001

*Associated Memory:
WCE 2001

Featured in the photo:
Dr. Josh Randall,  
Dr. Yekutiel Sandman,  
Dr. Adam Ball

Photo Credit:
Adam J. Ball*

Year Taken:
2004

*Associated Memory:
Urology Graduation Party
Featured in the photo:
Dr. Adam Ball

Photo Credit:
Adam J. Ball*

Year Taken:
2005

*Associated Memory:
Robotic Surgery

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Featured in the photo:
Dr. Adam Ball, Cristina Ball, Caroline Ball, Ethan Ball

Photo Credit:
Adam J. Ball*

Year Taken:
2023

*Associated Memory:
My son’s abstract at SESAUA 2023
Featured in the photo:
Joshua and Yekutiel Sandman

Photo Credit:
Yekutiel Sandman*

Year Taken:
2005

*Associated Memory:
Joshua and Yekutiel Sandman holding the Wise Owl that Yekutiel won in the Milton Copland Pyelogram Hour in 2005
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