The past year has proven to be yet another strong year for the Department of Surgery. Each division within the department has experienced many accomplishments and growth both clinically and academically.

In January of 2019, Atrium Health and Navicent Health officially signed the definitive agreement for a strategic combination. As a result of this strategic combination, Navicent Health will be a hub for Atrium Health for central and south Georgia, enhancing Macon-Bibb County’s position as one of Georgia’s leading centers for healthcare. This combination will keep the physician community strong and enable patients to access advanced medical services locally. It will also allow Atrium Health to expand its world-class services and economic benefit to central and south Georgia and beyond.

In April, the Medical Center Navicent Health was recognized as a top Georgia hospital and as one of the best hospitals in the nation by Newsweek. The Medical Center ranked second in the state and is the only top performer in central Georgia. Nationally, the Medical Center ranked 110 in the entire United States. This is a testament to the entire medical staff and thousands of employees with great support and leadership from our Board.

Trauma continues to be a strong focus in our department. In April of 2019, our trauma center had another successful verification visit from the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma. The Medical Center received full verification for another three years as a Level I trauma center with no deficiencies. With regard to trauma research, residents and faculty have had several publications and presentations over the last three years. The trauma department continues to be a strong supporter of the Georgia Research Institute for Trauma (GRIT) study group. In conjunction with GRIT, we published state wide results evaluating the Georgia trauma system using the American College of Surgeons Needs Based Assessment of Trauma Systems (NBATS) tool and Georgia trauma center readiness costs. It has been a good year for trauma research funding as the department received a $109,000 grant for a prospective randomized trial comparing absorbable versus metal plates in patients with rib fractures and a $200,000 grant utilizing thromboelastography (TEG) in the evaluation of the trauma patient.

Surgical faculty continue to be strong leaders throughout our organization. Our faculty serves as chairs or co-chairs of multiple committees which include Graduate Medical Education, Harm Meso Committee, Mortality Meso Committee, and Critical Care Committee. Recently, our hospital created a new department recognizing adult critical care as its own department. One of our surgical critical care faculty, Dr. Amy Christie, has been named the first chair.

Finally, in February of 2019, the Beverly Knight Olsen Children’s Hospital officially opened. This is a state of the art 160,000 square foot facility that will allow our pediatric patient care services to be housed under one roof with an emergency room, surgery center and imaging department designed specifically for pediatric patients. This fulfills the vision of 23 pediatric physicians who signed a letter of support establishing a children’s hospital at the Medical Center in 1987. Many thanks to those visionary physicians and their leadership.
The Residency in Surgery had its start under its founding Chair, Milford B. Hatcher, M.D., in 1958. Internationally famous for arrhythmia surgery, Will C. Sealy, M.D. succeeded him in 1984. In 1991, Martin L. Dalton, M.D. followed Dr. Sealy as Professor and Chair. The academic growth of the department continued with important clinical programs in trauma and critical care and surgical research. The Residency grew from two to four resident positions. Don K. Nakayama, M.D., a pediatric surgeon, was named the Milford B. Hatcher Professor and Chair of the Department of Surgery in 2007. Dr. Dennis W. Ashley was named the Milford B. Hatcher Professor and Chair of the Department of Surgery July 1, 2014. In 2017, a 5th resident position was added. The program is fully accredited by the Residency Review Committee in Surgery of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education. Residents regularly finish with more than 1,200 operations during the five year training program with extensive experience in all areas of general surgery. Residents enter fellowships in all major surgical specialties. The Surgery Department also has a third year medical student clerkship providing a broad experience in trauma, vascular, general and pediatric surgery.

Mercer University School of Medicine

The Mercer University School of Medicine (MUSM) was organized in 1982, part of a thirteen-year effort by city and community groups, the Bibb County Medical Society, and the Georgia State Legislature to educate physicians and other health professionals to meet the primary and ancillary healthcare needs of rural and medically underserved areas of Georgia. A second four-year school was opened in 2008 in Savannah, and another clinical training site in Columbus, Georgia, in 2012. The full four year MD program is offered on the Macon and Savannah campuses. The third and fourth year program are additionally offered on the Columbus campus. The Medical Center, Navicent Health is the primary clinical site at which third and fourth year MUSM students in Macon complete their clinical training.

Other degree programs offered at MUSM include the Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences, Master of Science in Preclinical Sciences and a Master’s of Family Practice. The Class of 2022 M.D. Program had 1132 applicants, 281 interviewed with 122 matriculated.

More than 60 percent of Mercer M.D. graduates currently practice in the state of Georgia. Of those, more than 80 percent are practicing in rural or medically underserved areas of Georgia.
Atrium Health and Navicent Health form Strategic combination to serve communities in Central and South Georgia

The Medical Center, Navicent Health (MCNH) has a 100-year history of serving the central and South Georgia regions. At 637 beds, it is the second largest hospital in the state. MCNH was ranked second in the state in this year’s ranking by Newsweek and is the only top performer in central Georgia. Nationally, MCNH ranked 110th in the entire U.S. Ten of Navicent’s treatments for adult conditions were recognized, including: Cardiology; Diabetes & Endocrinology; Gastroenterology; Gynecology & Obstetrics; Memory Care & Geriatrics; Neurology & Neurosurgery; Radiation Oncology; Traumatology; Orthopedics & spine surgery; and Urology. It is verified by the American College of Surgeons as a Level 1 Trauma Center, with more than 3,000 trauma admissions. Annually MCNH supports residency training programs in family practice, general surgery, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology and pediatrics. Specialty fellowships in surgical critical care, orthopedic traumatology, infectious disease, palliative care, and geriatrics are also available. MCNH’s graduate medical education programs have more than 100 trainees.

Navicent Health was incorporated on November 17, 1994, as a nonprofit corporation whose primary purpose is to coordinate MCNH and other affiliated entities in their mission of providing a comprehensive continuum of high quality, reasonably priced healthcare services to the region. Navicent Health has 830 beds for medical, surgical, rehabilitation and hospice purposes. The health system includes The Medical Center, Navicent Health, Beverly Knight Olson Children’s Hospital, Navicent Health, Navicent Health Baldwin and Medical Center of Peach County, Navicent Health (both rural critical access hospitals), Rehabilitation Hospital, Navicent Health, Pine Pointe, Navicent Health (provides palliative and hospice care in homes and in its facility), Carlyle Place, Navicent Health (continuing care retirement community), and Navicent Health Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Navicent Health.

On February 8, 2018, it was announced that Navicent Health would merge with healthcare giant Atrium Health. “Navicent Health has a shared mission with Atrium Health to continuously improve healthcare in this region,” said Dr. Ninfa M. Saunders, FACHE, president and CEO of Navicent Health. “This is the first major partnership of its type in the Southeast region and ensures a Macon-based institution will continue to be the leading driver of healthcare in central Georgia and beyond, while continuing to elevate the care that is provided locally. This will also give us access to Atrium Health’s wide array of award-winning, proven successes and best practices in healthcare delivery that we can deploy in our service areas. Our ability to provide high level services to improve the health of communities is only possible with support from our community, physicians, employees and partners. We are excited to find a partner that shares in our vision for the future of health.” In December 2018, Atrium Health and Navicent Health signed a definitive agreement to finalize their strategic combination, which became effective January 1, 2019.

Navicent Health will continue its role as a teaching hospital maintaining its partnerships with the Mercer University School of Medicine, Middle Georgia State University, Wesleyan College, Central Georgia Technical College, Georgia College and State University.

Atrium Health is one of the nation’s leading and most innovative healthcare organizations. Atrium is a not-for-profit providing care across North and South Carolina. Navicent Health felt that it was imperative to partner with a like-minded organization who shares our vision and values. Combining our organizations will allow us to reach more patients, families, teammates and partners now and for generations to come.
FACULTY

**Dennis W. Ashley, M.D., F.A.C.S.**
Milford B. Hatcher Professor & Chair
Director of Trauma
Residency: The Medical Center, Navicent Health
Fellowships: Trauma Surgery, Grady Hospital, Atlanta; Surgical Critical Care, University of Pittsburgh

**Hany Atalah**
Assistant Professor Robotic Surgery
Director of Robotic Surgery
Residency: University of Alexandria, Egypt
Fellowship: General & Pediatric Surgery, University of Alexandria, Egypt

**Macram M. Ayoub, M.D., F.A.C.S.**
Professor and Vice-Chair
Residencies: Medical College of Ohio; The Medical Center, Navicent Health

**Douglas Brewer, M.D.**
Clinical Professor of Surgery
Residency: University of Louisville
Fellowships: Research, University of Sydney, Australia
Colorectal Surgery, Lahey Clinic

**Daniel S. Chan, M.D.**
Assistant Professor
Associate Chair, Georgia Orthopaedic Trauma Institute
Residency: University of Texas Southwestern
Fellowships: AO International Fellowship, Tubingen, Germany; Orthopaedic Trauma, Florida Orthopaedic Institute

**Jason Chapman, M.D., F.A.C.S.**
Assistant Professor
Residency: The Medical Center, Navicent Health
Fellowship: Vascular Surgery, University of Tennessee, Medical Center in Knoxville, Tennessee

**Amy B. Christie, M.D., F.A.C.S.**
Assistant Professor
Chair, Adult Critical Care
Director, Surgical Critical Care Fellowship
Residency: The Medical Center, Navicent Health
Fellowship: Surgical Critical Care, The Medical Center, Navicent Health
D. Benjamin Christie, III, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Assistant Professor
Program Director, General Surgery Residency
Associate Director, Trauma Services
Residency: The Medical Center, Navicent Health
Fellowship: Surgical Critical Care, The Medical Center, Navicent Health

Arnold Conforti, M.D.
Assistant Professor
Residency: Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte, North Carolina
Fellowship: Surgical Oncology, John Wayne Cancer Institute

Vincent Culpepper, M.D.
Assistant Professor
Residency: Medical Center, Navicent Health

Paul S. Dale, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Professor
Chief of Surgical Oncology
Vice Dean of Translational Research
Residency: The Medical Center, Navicent Health
Fellowship: Surgical Oncology, John Wayne Cancer Institute

Jarrod E. Dumpe, M.D.
Assistant Professor
Residency: Medical College of Georgia
Fellowship: Trauma, Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte, North Carolina

Joshua Glenn, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Assistant Professor
Chief, Pediatric Surgery
Residency: Medical University of South Carolina
Fellowship: Pediatric Surgery, Vanderbilt University

Michael D. Honaker, M.D.
Assistant Professor
Residency: Carolinas Medical Center
Fellowship: Colorectal Surgery, William Beaumont Hospital
Michael L. Klyachkin, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Associate Professor
Residency: University of Kentucky Medical Center, Lexington
Fellowship: Vascular Surgery, University of Stony Brook Medical Center

Eric Long, M.D.
Assistant Professor
Residency: The Medical Center, Navicent Health
Fellowships: NIH Research, Vanderbilt University Medical Center;
Surgical Critical Care, The Medical Center, Navicent Health

J. William (Billy) Mix, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Assistant Professor
Residency: The Medical Center, Navicent Health
Fellowship: Vascular Surgery, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Robert J. Parel, II, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Assistant Professor
Residency: Ochsner Clinic

Joe Sam Robinson, Jr., M.D., F.A.C.S.
Professor
Chief, Neurosurgery
Residencies: Emory University and Northwestern University
Fellowship: Neurosurgery, Memorial-Sloan Kettering

William B. Schroder, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Associate Professor
Residency: New York University School of Medicine
Fellowship: Vascular Surgery, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey

Issam J. Shaker, M.D., F.A.C.S., F.A.A.P.
Professor
Residency: Vanderbilt University Affiliated Hospitals
Fellowship: Cardiothoracic Surgery, The Johns Hopkins Hospital
FACULTY

Sara Strebe-Behrens, M.D.
Residency: University of Texas-Southwestern
Fellowship: Orthopedic Trauma, The Shock Trauma Center

William (Kim) Thompson, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Associate Professor
Associate Chair, Clinical Education
Residency: University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

Joseph M. Van De Water, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Professor (Emeritus); Assistant Dean for Research, MUSM
Residency: UCLA
Fellowships: Critical Care/Surgical Research, Harvard Medical School;
Cardiac Surgery, Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles

Danny M. Vaughn, M.D.
Assistant Professor
Medical Director, Bariatric & Metabolic Institute
Residency: The Medical Center, Navicent Health
Fellowship: Minimally Invasive Surgery, St Luke’s Hospital, Kansas City, Mo.

Zhongbiao Wang, M.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Director Surgical Laboratories
Residency: Fujian Provincial People’s Hospital, China
Fellowships: Huashan Hospital Shanghai Medical University, Cardiology
Ph.D.: Shanghai Medical University, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Lawrence X. Webb, M.D.
Professor (Orthopaedics)
Chair, Georgia Orthopaedic Trauma Institute
Residency: North Carolina Baptist Hospital
Fellowship: Science of Polytrauma, Harborview Hospital
Dr. Dalton was born in Columbus, Georgia, and grew up in Eufala, Alabama. He received a BS degree from Auburn University in 1953 and MD from the University of Alabama School of Medicine in Birmingham in 1957. In 1956, he married Alice Read Ligon in Nashville, Tennessee. His surgical residency was accomplished at the University of Mississippi Medical Center as was his fellowship in thoracic and cardiovascular surgery. It was during this time as the chief thoracic fellow that he became part of surgical history as he was one of the surgeons on the team that performed the first successful human lung transplant on June 11, 1963. Upon completion of his fellowship training, he entered the US Army and for two years was Chief of the Thoracic Section of the Department of Surgery at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research in Washington, D.C. Following military service, he began the private practice of thoracic and cardiovascular surgery in Lubbock, Texas. From 1973 to 1983, he was Clinical Professor and Chief of the Division of Thoracic Surgery at the Texas Tech University School of Medicine.

In 1983, he returned to the University of Mississippi as Professor of Surgery under James D. Hardy and served in that capacity until 1991 when he became Professor and Chairman of the Department of Surgery of Mercer University School of Medicine and the Chief of Surgery and Program Director of the surgery residency program at the Medical Center of Central Georgia (now Navicent Health) in Macon, Georgia.

In September of 2005, Dalton was appointed Dean of Mercer University School of Medicine and continued to serve as Chair of Surgery until June 30, 2007. He retired as Dean June 30, 2008, and completed a Sabbatical December 31, 2008, during which time he authored the *History of the Mercer University School of Medicine*.

Dr. Dalton has been a member of the American Surgical Association, the Southern Surgical Association, the American Association for Thoracic Surgery, the Society of Thoracic Surgeons, the International Surgical Society, the Society for Vascular Surgery, and the Southeastern Surgical Congress. He served six years as a Governor-at-Large for Georgia at the American College of Surgeons. He is a past president of the Mississippi Chapter of the American College of Surgeons, the Jackson, Mississippi, Surgical Society, the Lubbock, Texas, Surgical Society, the Georgia Surgical Society, the Georgia Chapter of the American College of Surgeons, and the Atlanta Vascular Society. He was a member of the James D. Hardy Surgical Society and a founding member of the Will C. Sealy Surgical Society.

Dr. Dalton has trained hundreds of residents that are practicing not only across the United States but around the world. He authored 150 publications in peer-reviewed journals, six books and four book chapters. The establishment of the trauma service at Navicent Health was one of his proudest achievements, and the Martin L. Dalton Fellowship in Critical Care bears his name.

Dr. Dalton passed away on June 22, 2018, in Macon, Georgia.
In 2019, Navicent Health added the Dr. Martin Dalton Excellence in Science Award to the list of distinguished awards recognizing our physicians. This award was named after Dr. Martin Dalton who participated in the first lung transplant with Dr. James D. Hardy in Mississippi in 1963. Dr. Dalton was a giant in surgery and brought that high level of quality and training to Macon in 1991.

Dr. Dudley Benjamin Christie, III, received this inaugural award on April 30, 2019.

Dr. Christie graduated from Mercer University School of Medicine in 2004. This was followed by a general surgery residency at the Medical Center Navicent Health. During this residency he developed an interest in critical care which led to him being selected as the first fellow at our newly approved surgical critical care fellowship program at Navicent. Due to his outstanding performance, he was asked to join the Dept. of Surgery as an Assistant Professor of Surgery, Mercer University School of Medicine and the Medical Center Navicent Health. In 2014, he became the Associate Director of Trauma Surgery and the Program Director for the General Surgery Residency. Dr. Christie has continued to excel in his short time as an academic surgeon. He already has over 30 publications and approximately 30 presentations that include local, state, and national meetings. Most recently, he was an invited speaker at the Harvard Chest Wall Trauma Symposium due to his research on surgical rib plating in the trauma patient. He has also been an invited speaker at the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma meeting due to his research on ultrasound and trauma resuscitation in the critical care unit. He has also been recognized as a leader in the state as he serves as the treasurer and secretary of the Georgia Society of the American College of Surgeons and the vice-chair of research for the Georgia Committee on Trauma. He is the Governor’s appointee for the Georgia Composite Medical Board and, most notably, has been named to the American Board of Surgery as an associate examiner which means he gives the national oral exam for surgeons to become board certified. He has served the Medical Center well administratively and academically. Some of these appointments include Chairman of the Graduate Medical Education Committee, Chairman of the Problem Based Learning and Improvement Program, Assistant Program Director of Surgical Critical Care Fellowship, Co-Chair of the Harm-Meso Committee, and member of the Utilization Management Committee, Robotic Surgery Steering Committee, and Critical Care Committee.

Dr. Christie has only been a faculty member for 8 years. On a personal note, Dr. Christie has an outstanding bedside manner and is well respected not only by all the staff but his patients as well. He has a tremendous passion for learning and making all those around him better. This is exemplified by him winning the Outstanding Surgical Faculty award for the last four years. It is hard to believe that there could be any time left in his career for humanitarianism, but he and Dr. Heather Nolan actually started a program to help people in need of surgery called the Surgery for People in Need program. This is a volunteer program that provides outpatient surgery for patients in need that are working but have lost their insurance. This is all done on his own time. Dr. Christie has incredible drive and talent and is an extension of Dr. Dalton’s legacy.

Pictures above:
(Top) Dr. Benjie Christie
(Middle) Dr. Benjie Christie and Mrs. Alice Dalton
(Bottom) Dr. Christie with Dr. Dalton’s daughters Lucy and Jenny
Hypertrophic Pyloric Stenosis  This 10 week old baby girl was admitted for vomiting, dehydration and failure to thrive. She weighed only 7lb, 11 oz. Dr. Haun discovered that the pyloric muscle (the special channel between the stomach and the first part of the small intestines) was much larger than it should be. The pathway between the two organs was limited to a trickle. Although this condition is generally found by week 4-6 after birth, diagnosis is usually delayed in the area in which Dr. Haun practices. Dr. Haun took the baby to surgery and within 6 hours, the baby began taking small amounts of breast milk. She stayed in the hospital about 1 week and then was ready for discharge home. She is doing great. Happy baby, happy doc.
The Hauns broke out their matching outfits for the Baptist Medical Centre 60th Anniversary celebration.

(Left to right) Heidi and her friend Dr. Isabella are styling in two different materials for the occasion. William rocks the full “up-and-down” with matching hat, smock, kurilaani, and leather boots (kurifa). Trey opted to mix things up with some snazzy shorts. KJ also chose to break the mold with a stylish hat.

The Itsy-Bitsy Potato. In northern Ghana folks boil them and eat them lightly salted or peel and fry them. Despite their size they taste more like American potatoes than yams. When in season, the Hauns cook them with cabbage, sauté them in butter, fry them as tiny French fries and even mash them to make creamed potatoes. Yum!

Trey turns 12!

Heidi learning the language with a little bit of help from KJ.
Heidi often provides post-church service consultations. She can save them a trip to the hospital if the problem isn’t serious or convince them to come if it is! (Left) Heidi with her young patient whose broken arm has healed after falling from a shea nut tree. (Right) Heidi is examining a baby who was stung by some insect in his arm.

A woman in her mid-thirties came with a large tumor of her left breast. The mass was so large that the woman wore a cloth like a sling to help manage its weight. There were no external wounds. She also had enlarged lymph nodes in the axilla. She had no difficulty breathing and her lungs sounded clear with good air entry. She had no signs of distant metastatic disease. Dr. Haun performed an ultrasound and found that inside were areas of solid mass and pockets of fluid. Clinically, the tumor appeared to be a Phyllodes tumor or cystosarcoma phyllodes. These tumors grow very rapidly with some benign and others malignant. Either way, the only treatment Dr. Haun could offer was a mastectomy. The top left picture is the pre-op view. The mass filled a 5-liter bucket. The picture to the top right shows the mass with necrosis and fluid inside. The bottom left picture shows the post-operative skin closure. After a few days of pain, the patient was able to walk upright, free from the burden of the mass which had been weighing her down. Unfortunately, the pathology came back as a malignant form of cystosarcoma phyllodes.
Anita Watson Matherley, NP-C, has served as our trauma nurse practitioner for the past ten years. Earlier this year she and her husband Steve made the decision to move to Prince of Wales Island, Alaska, to work at the only clinic on the island and to start a church.

Prince of Wales Island is one of the islands of the Alexander Archipelago in the Alaska Panhandle. It is the fourth largest island in the United States. It is 135 miles long and 45 miles wide (slightly larger that the state of Delaware) located just a three-hour ferry ride from Ketchikan, Alaska. Approximately 3000 people live on the island. The Tongass National Forest covers most of the island with the temperature ranging between 20 to 65 degrees. It is also the homeland of the indigenous Kaigani Haida people who migrated there in the late 18th century. The primary industry has changed since the late 1800’s when rich deposits of gold were found on the island. Later, the logging industry harvested trees from the temperate rain forest. Due to the decline in the timber industry, the island shifted their focus to commercial fishing, which remains the primary economic force today.

Anita will be working at the PeaceHealth Medical Group Prince of Wales which opened in 2010 to provide primary-care services, opportunities for telemedicine and space for visiting specialists to meet with patients. The clinic is staffed by a full-time family medicine physician, a full-time acute care nurse practitioner (Anita), and a registered nurse with imaging and laboratory capabilities onsite. Steve plans to start a church in their home after getting settled.

Trauma Services held a tea in her honor March 11th to celebrate her many achievements here and to send her forth with our well wishes. Anita’s research on multimodal pain management in acute care surgery is just one of her many accomplishments. Although this goodbye is bittersweet, we feel confident that Anita will take on this new challenge with gusto and represent us well.
The 2018–2019 academic year provided the largest graduating class that the department of Surgery has had to date, however this alone, is not why they will be recognized or remembered. This year’s graduates demonstrated pure enthusiasm and magnetic spirits. They were excellent leaders, self reliant, and they demonstrated a voracious appetite for self improvement. These residents developed into surgeons, did it the right way, and will be fine additions to the anatomy of our tree of training.

The roots of our program run deep, are expansive and firmly anchor the trunk of our current faculty and staff. Sown and cultivated by legends in the annuals of surgery, Dr Will C. Sealy and Dr Martin L. Dalton, our tree of training, influence and mentorship now has generated graduates practicing in virtually every specialty, all over the United States and internationally.

Each graduating class is unique. They will have various personalities, backgrounds, and compositions of interests. While different in many ways, they will now, and forever, have a common career origin. With the exit of this year’s graduating class, another strong branch sprouts from the departments tree of training as five new surgeons follow their callings and seek their own space and light in professional practice. We will miss them but will be pleased to see all that they can accomplish.
Residents in Surgery 2018-2019

PGY 5’s

Trine Engebretsen
Crystal Fancher
Madison Lashley
Alicia Register
Justin Vaughan

PGY 4’s

Andrew Drahos
Chris Jean-Louis
Alex Sapp
Tony Scott

PGY 3’s

Matthew Barnes
Raviteja Devalla
Hannah Nemec
Timothy Nowack
James Parker

PGY 2’s

Blake Bowden
Eric Forney
Casey Hawes
Carmen Lee
Bill Wallace

PGY 1’s

Lindsey Bridges
Obi Ekeledo
Josh Ferenczy
Allison Lord
Tyler Solomon
RESIDENCY IN GENERAL SURGERY
WELCOMES NEW PGY 1’S

Paul Cartwright, M.D. graduated from the Trinity School of Medicine in March 2018. A native of Chicago, he attended DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana, where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in the field of Biology. After graduation, he spent a year at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana, Illinois, as a preliminary resident in general surgery.

During his residency, he continued to demonstrate qualities characterizing a knowledgeable and compassionate physician. In fact, his program director stated that, “Paul is a true team player and consistently does his best to care for patients and help the team wherever he can. The patients and staff have praised his communication style.”

Allison Cauthen will graduate from the Mercer University School of Medicine (MUSM) in May. A native of Albany, she attended Valdosta State University where she received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology.

At the age of 12, she assisted the local small town self-employed veterinarian in surgically removing a lipoma from her own dog, a golden retriever. Her father’s occupation in anesthesia allowed her the opportunity to shadow in the operating room at an early age, which sparked her love with general surgery.

She has volunteered with the SPIN program for almost three years now, participated in several research projects in the Surgery Department and was published in the journal, The American Surgeon.

Cory Nonnemacher will graduate from the Florida State University College of Medicine in May. Born in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, he attended Florida State University in Tallahassee where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences and Economics.

During his first year of medical school, Cory served as the Executive Vice President of Relay for Life at FSU where he managed a team of over 50 students to help organize this event throughout the year, and they raised over $315,000 for the American Cancer Society.

Outside of medicine, his interests includes reading behavioral economic articles, which is a branch of economics that investigates why individuals and firms make specific decisions. This has interested him since undergrad when he studied behavioral economics and worked in a behavioral economics lab.

John “Philip” Shillinglaw will graduate from the University of South Carolina School of Medicine in May. Born in Charleston, South Carolina, he attended the College of Charleston where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology.

Philip is an active team member in the community and enjoys working in the free medical clinic providing healthcare to those who are uninsured, and he especially enjoys volunteering and working with children diagnosed with autism and intellectual disabilities.

His special needs sister played a huge role in his journey to discover his potential in the field of medicine, which inspired him to always surpass previous limitations and boundaries.

Alexandra “Alex” Thomson will graduate from the Mercer University School of Medicine in May. A native of Savannah, she attended the University of Georgia where she received her undergraduate degree in Bachelor of Business Administration and her graduate degree in Public Health-Health Policy and Management.

Alex participated in three medical mission trips to Latin America where she provided healthcare, medicine and supplies to underserved rural populations. She also provided healthcare information at Savannah’s Forsyth Farmer’s Market and led healthy eating and cooking classes for an impoverished population at the Moses Jackson Advancement Center.
Trine Linn Engebretsen M.D., was born in Miami, Florida. She majored in Biology at University of Miami. She then earned a Master’s Degree in Biomedical Sciences at Barry University. She completed medical school at FIU Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine. Upon completion of residency, Trine will begin a one year fellowship in Abdominal Transplant Surgery at Ochsner Medical Center in New Orleans, Louisiana. Trine and her husband, Ryan, have been married for 10 years and have two children: Andersen, age 7, and Owen, age 3.

Crystal Elizabeth Fancher, M.D., was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. She attended the University of California, Davis where she majored in Genetics and graduated with honors. She then received a Masters Degree in Physiology from the University of Cincinnati. She went on to earn her Medical Degree from the Medical University of South Carolina. Upon completion of residency, Crystal will begin a one year Breast Surgical Oncology Fellowship at the University of Southern California.

Madison Guest Lashley, M.D., Madison Lashley was born in Bellaire, Texas. She graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a Bachelor of Arts in Plan II Honors and a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology. She earned her Medical Degree from the University of Texas at Houston. Upon completion of residency, Madison and her husband Dexter will move to Hampton, Virginia, where she will join the 633d Medical Group at Langley Air Force Base as a general surgeon.

Alicia R. Register, M.D., is a native of Fayetteville, Georgia. She received a B.S. degree in Biology and Psychology from the University of Georgia and then attended the Medical College of Georgia for her Doctor of Medicine. There she participated in research with the neurosurgical department and worked as a teaching assistant in the anatomy lab. Dr. Register then began her residency at Navicent in 2013, where she has volunteered with the Macon Volunteer Clinic SPIN program as well as participated in the Stop The Bleed campaign. Upon completion of residency, Dr. Register, her husband Jeremy, and their son Candler will move to Cordele, Georgia, to practice general surgery at Crisp Regional.

Justin G. Vaughan, M.D., Justin Vaughan is from Fordyce, Arkansas. He obtained his B.S. in Biology from Southern Methodist University, and then went on to medical school at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. Following graduation, he will begin a one year fellowship in Surgical Critical Care at Duke University.
This program is the result of a community partnership between the Macon Volunteer Clinic and the Medical Center Navicent Health. It is the first of its kind in the state of Georgia and provides free out-patient surgeries to active Macon Volunteer Clinic patients. Since the SPIN program’s inception in December 2013, 30 outpatient surgeries have been performed. These services include simple cysts excisions, hernia repairs, and cholecystectomies just to name a few. On December 9, 2018, this collaboration provided out-patient surgery for 5 patients.

SPIN volunteers arrived for their respective roles beginning as early as 6:45 am (the SPIN leadership team, scrub tech/OR/pre-op team are the first to arrive.) The next group of volunteers arrive around 7:30 am (medical students and general volunteers) with the final group arriving around 8am (PACU/post-op team). Volunteers included NH employees many of whom cross trained to expand their skillset to meet the surgical needs of the medically underserved patients at the Macon Volunteer Clinic.

Dr. Benjie Christie and the Navicent SPIN Team received the “Healthcare Hero” award in April of 2019 to recognize their volunteer service. The SPIN program is one of a handful of similar programs across the nation that offers free or reduced cost surgeries to those in need and the only program of its kind in the state of Georgia.
The American College of Surgeons (ACS) developed a program for new surgeons who have completed residency and are entering into the practice of general surgery. The Mastery in General Surgery Program, formerly known as the Transition to Practice program supports the transition to independent practice in general surgery. Goals include:

- Building autonomy, decision-making, and clinical skills
- Developing experience in practice management, leadership, and quality improvement
- Learning the business of medicine
- Launching a career in general surgery

In July of 2013, The Medical Center, Navicent Health in conjunction with the Mercer University School of Medicine became only 1 of 11 programs in the nation to offer this program. We partnered with Dr. William Pannell and Dr. Vince Culpepper and Crisp Regional Hospital. Our program along with the University of Tennessee were the only two programs that had transition to practice associates that first year. Dr. Heidi Haun, featured in this report, was the first associate and is now practicing in Ghana.

In 2019, Dr. Vince Culpepper, Crisp Regional, will transition out of the program with two new sites located in south Georgia will offer Junior Associate positions available for the 2019-2020 academic year.

**Mercer/Navicent Hawkinsville Campus**

**Taylor Regional Hospital, Hawkinsville, Georgia**

Program Chief
Dennis Ashley, MD, FACS

Robert C. Campbell, MD, Senior Associate, obtained his undergraduate degree from Emory University in Atlanta receiving his medical degree from the Mercer University School of Medicine. He went on to complete his residency at Memorial University Medical Center in Savannah, Georgia. He remains active in the United States Army Reserve with the rank of Colonel and commands the 3297th U.S. Army Hospital. He has a special interest in breast surgery and breast cancer prevention. He is affiliated with Taylor Regional Hospital.

**Mercer/Navicent Albany Campus**

**Albany Surgical, Albany, Georgia**

Program Chief
Dennis Ashley, MD, FACS

J. Price Corr, Jr., MD, FACS, Senior Associate, is a graduate of the University of Georgia and the Medical College of Georgia School of Medicine. He completed a residency in general surgery at the Medical College of Georgia and returned home to Albany, Georgia, to practice in 1982. He was a founding partner of Albany Surgical, P.C. in 1986 and is affiliated with Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital.

For more information go to: [https://www.facs.org/education/program/masterygs](https://www.facs.org/education/program/masterygs)
The past year has been busy for Pediatric Surgery, most notably with the opening of the Beverly Knight Olson Children’s Hospital (BKOCH). The 160,000 square foot of expansion and renovation was completed which allowed the combination of all pediatric inpatient service in one structure. Highlights include:

- Development of Pediatric Surgery Center with four state of the art operating rooms with 4K Olympus laparoscopy and OR integration which provides the most advanced operating suites to pediatric surgical patients in middle and south Georgia. All surgical cases have been transitioned from the Center for Ambulatory Surgery and adult main OR to BKOCH

- Additional 12 NICU beds to bring the total to 62. The NICU space has been expanded exponentially and relocated to BKOCH

- Relocation and expansion of the Pediatric Emergency Room. ER has 7 exam rooms, 2 trauma bays, and 10 observation rooms. This provides a bright, child-centered environment.

- Radiology center with separate CT, MRI, General x-ray and US

We have welcomed two new team members, Mary Ann Johnson, RNC, and Tiarva Burke, practice assistant. Mary Ann transferred to pediatric surgery from CHOPS. She brings almost 30 years of pediatric experience. Tiarva joined Navicent Health from Rivers Edge where she has experience in patient registration and customer service.

In January of this year, Dr. Joshua Glenn participated in the Region 5 EMS Pediatric Trauma Symposium. The symposium was sponsored by the Regional Trauma Advisory Committee (RTAC) and Beverly Knight Olson Children’s Hospital (BKOCH), as well as other organizations. Dr. Glenn presented “Pediatric Trauma Systems and Trauma Destination Criteria”.

Drs. Glenn, Pitt and Shaker combined perform over 1500 surgeries annually and have seen a steady increase over the past several years. We hope to see continued increase in volume as we expand our coverage to middle and south Georgia. Plans are in the works to open two new satellite offices in May. Dr. Glenn will have a clinic in Albany every 4th Friday beginning May 24th. Dr. Pitt will have an offsite clinic in Locust Grove beginning May 21st and continuing every 3rd Wednesday.

Dr. Joshua Glenn, Director of Pediatric Surgery, and Dr. James Parker, General Surgery Resident, (pictured left) are seen performing the first operation in the new Beverly Knight Olson Children’s Hospital Navicent Health. A painting of the photo was commissioned by Dr. Parker and presented to Dr. Glenn.
Maturity and improvement describe the Medical Center’s 2018 trauma program. In 2018 our patient volume was the same as 2017 (over 3,500). Our trauma performance improvement and patient safety (PIPS) process has progressed to monitor > 45 different areas of care related to timeliness, patient outcomes, and compliance with trauma evidenced-based care guidelines. As part of our PIPS process, we continue to focus on data quality to better reflect the complexity of our trauma patients.

Since 2016, the trauma team has focused on decreasing the incidence of pulmonary embolism (PE) and deep vein thrombosis (DVT) through consistent ordering/administration of venous thromboembolism (VTE) chemoprophylaxis. In 2016, 4 patients developed a PE per calendar quarter. With new guidelines about VTE Chemoprophylaxis for Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Weight Based VTE guidelines (adults > 90 kg) along with continuous monitoring and data validation, trauma VTE prophylaxis use has increased from 71% in 2016 to 80% in 2018 while the incidence of PE has dropped to 1 per calendar quarter.

In 2018, we revised resuscitation roles during our trauma team activations with the inclusion of emergency physician supervision of airway management. We continue to monitor massive transfusion protocol (MTP) use and timeliness of administration. In 2019, we continue our work with state performance improvement (PI) initiatives related to acute kidney injury (AKI) and treatment of ventilator associated pneumonia (VAP). While the incidence of AKI remains the same, we have achieved 75% VAP decrease!

Our bedside and administrative teams were recognized at our April 2019 American College of Surgeons (ACS) reverification survey. There were no deficiencies found out of 297 trauma standards reviewed! Trauma program strengths recognized included Dr. Ashley’s leadership in the trauma system at the regional, state and national levels, my participation within the trauma system at the regional and state levels, our PIPS program (especially the Peer Review process and MTP monitoring), hospital financial support, nursing trauma education and the revised ED/EMS communication process. A few opportunities for improvement (OFI) were recognized, and we have already started to work on them. MCNH’s trauma program is now re-verified by the American College of Surgeons until April 2022!
The annual Friends of Nursing Gala was held May 10, 2019, at the Anderson Conference Center. This gala is dedicated to recognizing our nurses for the remarkable work they do every day. There were over 150 nominations in 2019. Our Trauma Performance Improvement Coordinator, Josephine Fabico-Dulin, RN, won the 2019 Clinical Support Services Award. This award honors a nurse who serves in a clinical support role and has made significant accomplishments.

WHAT MAKES THIS NURSE EXCEPTIONAL?

If you know Josephine “Jo-C”, then you know that she is a special nurse. There is just something about her spirit that sets her apart and inspires everyone around her to do better. Jo-C has 29 years of service in the nursing profession with 21 years of service as a trauma nurse. She has served as the nursing educator for the Emergency Department and has been recognized by their leadership as a seasoned nurse with tremendous knowledge and experience combined with wisdom that is much needed in a fast moving, chaotic and difficult environment. She currently serves as the performance improvement coordinator which is one of the key roles for our trauma center verification as many of the requirements are tied directly to performance improvement. Without a strong coordinator, trauma center verification cannot be achieved. This was a new role for Jo-C as she had to not only use her talents as an educator in our department but needed to learn the nuances of evaluating complex clinical care and work to provide guidelines, protocols and solutions to improve deficiencies. Jo-C has impressed everyone with her ability to learn how to review clinical care and develop guidelines. One example was her first attempt at a complex guideline involving reversal of anticoagulation in the trauma patient. This involved a literature search as well as finding and reviewing guidelines from other facilities. While developing this guideline, she displayed outstanding research and writing skills that are commiserate with the level of a Doctorate of Nursing. She has taken on more complex assignments and continues to grow and improve each day.

Another example demonstrates a totally different skill set. This involves her ability to work with surgeons in multiple different specialties. Jo-C’s job is to point out areas that need improvement and follow outcomes. This can be a difficult task when working with surgeons. Jo-C has that special talent of being able to present difficult topics with regard to areas of improvement to the attending surgeons and residents in a way that brings people together to improve patient care. This is always done in a professional manner that allows individuals to see their weaknesses and areas for improvement while providing encouragement and solutions for success. She has developed a culture of teamwork in our department that everyone feels like they can come to her and discuss areas that need improvement without worrying about retaliation.

“She has earned my highest respect, and she is one of the most talented nurses I have had the privilege to work with. Her faith in Jesus Christ inspires me to be a better human being every day,” said Dr. Dennis Ashley.
Georgia’s General Assembly invited trauma physicians and clinicians to the state capitol on Wednesday, February 13. Representatives of The Medical Center, Navicent Health were pleased to join trauma professionals from around the state to raise awareness about traumatic injury and to participate in the first ever injury prevention showcase.

Hundreds of physicians, nurses, paramedics, and injury prevention professionals spent the day talking to legislators about Georgia’s trauma system. Dr. Dennis Ashley welcomed participants to a special luncheon featuring stories of trauma survivors from across the state including Macon native Brooklyn Rouse, Kimiko Cheeley and Kathleen McKinney provided participants with information on the Trauma Survivors Network and Navicent’s Fall Prevention initiatives.

The Injury Prevention Showcase, held in the capitol building, featured the efforts of Georgia’s designated trauma centers and our partners in prevention to reduce the burden of injury. This special event was made possible by a grant from the American College of Surgeons and the collaboration of the Georgia Trauma Foundation, the Georgia Trauma Commission and the Georgia Committee on Trauma.
Central Georgia Region 5 EMS Pediatric Trauma Symposium

The Region 5 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Advisory Council, the Regional Trauma Advisory Committee (RTAC), and the Central Georgia EMS for Children (EMSC) Advisory Council hosted the first annual Central Georgia Region 5 EMS Pediatric Trauma Symposium on January 25, 2019. Hosted by Central Georgia Technical College, the symposium focused on critical physiology, injuries, and interventions to help EMS practitioners provide the absolute best treatment possible for the injured child. The conference focused on key issues affecting pediatric trauma patients including child abuse recognition and reporting, concussions, and management of sports related TBI, safe transport of pediatric patients, and spinal motion restriction. Additionally, seventeen local children assisted with skills stations. Primary presenter’s included Dr. Dennis Ashley, Dr. Andrew Bozeman, Paramedic Kristal Smith, Dr. Yameika Head, Dr. Matthew Astin, and Dr. Joshua Glenn. While the conference was designed primarily with the needs of the EMS practitioner in mind, emergency medical responders, nurses, respiratory therapist, physicians and many others who provide emergent care to children were also in attendance. Trauma Services Navicent Health and Beverly Knight Olson Children’s Hospital, Navicent Health were proud to work with the EMS community, area hospitals, and other regional stakeholders to help make this event successful.

HELPING TO ASSURE GEORGIA’S FUTURE...ONE CHILD AT A TIME
UNCONTROLLED BLEEDING IS THE NUMBER ONE CAUSE OF PREVENTABLE DEATH FROM TRAUMA.

The Stop the Bleed campaign represents a call to action for every person to learn the basics about how to respond to uncontrolled bleeding and to put those lessons into use when placed in a position to help. From August 28th to September 7th, nearly 900 employees across the Navicent Health System participated in the Stop the Bleed Blitz. The roll-out consisted of a training module available through Care Learning and drop-in skill sessions. The training Blitz was proceed-ed by a Stop the bleed Kick-off celebration that featured testimonials from Twiggs County High School English teacher Constance Long and School Nurse Ashley Herndon. In the fall of 2017, they worked together to utilize their School Re-sponse Program training and a Bleeding Control Kit to stop the bleeding when a student altercation resulted in severe bleeding from a puncture wound to the chest and a lacerated arm. Participants also heard from Trauma Survivor Rick Crompton who was injured in a motorcycle collision on March 31, 2018. Rick was reunited with his on-scene caregiver, Injury Prevention Coordinator Kristal Smith, who applied a tourniquet to his severely injured leg while awaiting the arrival of an ambulance.
To celebrate National Trauma Awareness Month and National Trauma Survivors Day, the nationally-verified Level I trauma center at The Medical Center, Navient Health hosted a Trauma Survivors Social to reunite caregivers with trauma survivors and their families in order to celebrate their recovery and to provide support in the ongoing recovery process. Attendees were welcomed by Dr. Dennis Ashley, Trauma Medical Director, and Ms. Kimiko Cheeley, Trauma Survivors Network (TSN) Coordinator and trauma survivor. Our very special guests, Brooklyn Rouse, Chloe Fowler, and Corrie Young, shared their stories of adversity, victory, and recovery.
Navicent Baldwin - Rural Trauma Team Development Course (RTTDC)

Trauma Services Navicent Health partnered with members of the Region 5 Regional Trauma Advisory Committee to provide an RTTDC course to our teammates at Navicent Baldwin. RTTDC emphasizes a team approach to the initial assessment, resuscitation and transfer of the trauma patient in a systematized, concise manner. The course includes skills stations specific to the host facility’s needs and a number of team performance scenarios. The course was developed by the Rural Trauma Committee of the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma. RTTDC is based on the concept that in most situations, rural facilities can form a trauma team consisting of at least three core members. Participants included individuals who are involved in the care of the injured patient across the care continuum, including physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, respiratory therapist, prehospital personnel, and local fire department personnel.
The Division of Colo-rectal Surgery and Surgical Oncology is pleased to present the following report for the 2018-2019 academic year. Our division consists of 2 colo-rectal surgeons, Drs. Brewer and Honaker, two surgical oncologists, Drs. Dale and Conforti, and one plastic surgeon, Dr. Freeman. The majority of each of these surgeon’s practices are focused on the diagnosis, treatment and follow-up of malignant disease. Our practice is located in the Peyton Anderson Cancer Center (PACC) allowing us to employ a comprehensive team approach to cancer care. Each of our surgeons participate in weekly multi-disciplinary conferences ensuring the most up to date care for our cancer patients. Over the past year, our surgical specialists have implemented two exciting new programs at the PACC advancing cancer care in central Georgia. The first is the ZOFT intraoperative radiation therapy program for breast cancer patients with early stage breast cancer undergoing breast conservative therapy. This program allows select patients to reduce their radiation therapy from 6 weeks in the post-operative setting to a single dose delivered in the operating room at the time of their segmental mastectomy. This program was pioneered with our Radiation Colleagues and we have already treated over 16 patients with this cutting edge technology. These patients are being followed closely on a registry trial which also promotes investigator initiated research in the division.

Another exciting program that we are introducing at the Peyton Anderson Cancer Center is the newly developed Commission on Cancer National Accreditation Program for Rectal Cancer. This program is developing national standards for the treatment of rectal cancer throughout the United States. In order to become a part of this program, it requires a dedicated team approach to the treatment of rectal cancer. Under the guidance of Dr. Drew Honaker, we have started our application and with the support of our radiologists, pathologists, medical oncology, and radiation oncology partners will become one of the first cancer centers to be accredited in the nation.

During this past year, we also introduced our genetic screening program in our office. Our Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Nikki Gibbs, has taken on this program due to her interest in oncology and genetics. In conjunction with Dr. William Butler, Chair of OB/GYN and a board certified Geneticist, this program is going very well offering genetic counselling to our breast and colo-rectal cancer patients. As this program grows we will engage the services of the Levine Cancer Center Telegenetics program to offer a more extensive service to patients throughout central Georgia.

**Appointments and Personal Achievements:**

**Dr. Paul Dale:**
Director, Navicent/Atrium Oncology Service Line
Inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society

**Dr. Drew Honaker**
Fellow of the American Society of Colorectal Surgery
Fellow of the American College of Surgeons
Director: Rectal Cancer Program

**Dr. Doug Brewer**
Chair: Culture of Safety Committee
Ex Officio Department of Surgery member of Medical Executive Committee

**Dr. Arnold Conforti**
COC Cancer Center Physician Liaison
Surgical Critical Care Services at Navicent Health continues its commitment to clinical outcomes research, quality improvement initiatives for ICU protocol development, and providing administrative leadership for transitioning to dedicated intensivist staffing in Navicent’s Adult Critical Care Units. We continue to onboard excellent intensivist faculty to support this multidisciplinary department.

In the academic year of 2018-19, Dr. Amy Christie, transitioned from Associate Program Director to Program Director of the Surgical Critical Care (SCC) fellowship and we also welcomed a new faculty member in Dr. Christopher Franklin. As the SCC fellowship grows, our focus turns to continued fellow recruitment efforts and critical care outcomes research. Additionally, one of our graduating SCC fellows, Dr. Ashley Jones, will be joining the Navicent Surgery Department as core faculty. We look forward to Dr. Jones’ contributions to both resident and fellow education!

2019 Graduating Surgical Critical Care Fellows

Ashley J Jones, M.D., will complete her surgical critical care fellowship in July. She received her undergraduate degree in Biochemistry from Mercer University. She went on to receive her medical degree from the Mercer University School of Medicine in 2013. She completed her general surgery residency at the Greenville Health System/University of South Carolina School of Medicine in June of 2018.

Upon completion of her fellowship, Ashley will be joining Navicent as a full-time surgery attending. We welcome her, her husband Brian, and sons, Jaxon and Colton, to our team.

Andrew D. Kastello, M.D., FACS, will complete his surgical critical care fellowship in July. He received his Bachelor’s degree from St. Mary’s College of Maryland and his medical degree from St. George’s University School of Medicine. He completed his residency at the St. Joseph Mercy-Oakland Medical Center/Wayne State University in 2010. He began general surgical practice in 2010 in rural Tennesse. He made the move to Augusta in 2015 and was invited to join the burn surgery group at Joseph M. Still Burn Center in 2015.

Upon completion of his fellowship, Andy plans to do acute care surgery.

Robotic Surgery

At Navicent, we have 2 robots the SI (3rd generation robot) and the XI which is the latest (4th generation robot). We continue to be leaders in middle Georgia as we offer multi-subspecialties such as general surgery, colorectal, thoracic, pediatric, benign Gyn, Gyn oncology, urology, bariatric and surgical oncology-hepatobiliary.

For the last 3 years, we have incorporated robotic surgery training in the general surgery residency program. All of our general surgery residents graduate with a robotic certification. Most recently, we implemented the same training in the OB/Gyn residency program, and this year we will have the first 2 OB/Gyn residents obtaining the robotic certification.
May 2019 will mark 6 years that Bariatric & Metabolic Institute, Navicent Health (BMI, NH) has been helping patients improve their health and change their lives through weight loss surgery. Our surgeons, Dr. Danny Vaughn and Dr. Robert Parel have stayed busy over the last year, performing over 180 bariatric surgeries, our biggest year of surgeries to date! In June 2018, The Medical Center, Navicent Health earned MBSAQIP Accreditation for maintaining the highest standards in all aspects of care for the bariatric surgery patient. This national accreditation shows the dedication of BMI, NH surgeons and staff to offering high quality care. The data obtained through this accreditation allows the staff to review and improve care through quality performance initiatives.

As Medical Center, Navicent Health continues to grow and expand with the addition of the Beverly Knight Olson Children’s Hospital, BMI, NH is also expanding and developing an Adolescent Bariatric Surgery program. This program will help morbidly obese adolescents lose weight and learn healthy lifestyle changes. The program is being developed in conjunction with pediatricians and Dr. Joshua Glenn (right), pediatric surgeon, and will utilize BKOCH, NH for adolescent patient care postoperatively. This program will allow for continued growth of BMI, NH and for improvement in the health and wellbeing of Georgia citizens. Because of the location of BMI, NH, the capacity to impact the health of citizens of Georgia extends far beyond our local area and surrounding counties and extends throughout the state.
In Honor of Our 2019 Graduating SCC Fellows

SCC Fellows’ Grand Rounds
Thursday, June 6, 2019

Ashley J. Jones, M.D.
“Fresh Cadaver Lab: Enhancing Operative Surgical Education”

Andrew D. Kastello, M.D., FACS
“Extra-Corporeal Membrane Oxygenation in the Adult Intensive Care Unit”

L to R (back row): Trine Engebretsen, MD, Madison Lashley, MD, Alicia Register, MD
L to R (front row): Justin Vaughan, MD, Crystal Fancher, MD

In Honor of Our 2019 Graduating Chief Residents

Chief Residents’ Grand Rounds
Thursday, June 13, 2019

Trine Linn Engebretsen, M.D.
“Through The Looking Glass: A New View for Optimizing

Crystal E. Fancher M.D.
“Breast Intentions: An Overview of Oncoplastic Breast Surgery”

Madison Griffin Lashley, M.D.
“Thoughtful Mullings of a Chief Surgery Resident”

Alicia R. Register, M.D.
“Crawford Long: The Humble Beginnings of Surgical Anesthesia”

Justin G. Vaughan, M.D.
“Robotics and Surgical Resident Education”
2018 Chief Resident and Fellow Graduation

“Life Lessons from a Surgeons Perspective”

**Earl N. Mullis, MD, FACS**  A native of Macon, Dr. Mullis is a graduate of the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy, earned his medical degree from Mercer University School of Medicine, and was named to the Alpha Omega Alpha medical honor society.

Dr. Mullis completed his general surgery training at The Medical Center of Central Georgia and also completed rotations in surgical oncology at Roswell Park Memorial Institute in Buffalo, New York, and pediatric surgery at Baptist Hospital in Jacksonville, Florida.

Dr. Mullis joined Macon Surgical Associates in 1995 and serves as an Assistant Professor of Surgery at the Mercer University School of Medicine. He has been named Clinical Instructor of the Year by Mercer medical students as well as receiving the Dr. Macram Ayoub Resident Teaching award on three occasions by the Navicent Health general surgery residents.

**Ahkeel Ikadon Hasani Allen, M.D.,** was born in Kingston, Jamaica, and immigrated to West Palm Beach, Florida, during elementary school. He attended Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida, for both undergraduate and graduate education earning a Bachelor of Arts in Biological Sciences and a Doctorate in Medicine. Upon completion of residency, he will pursue additional fellowship training in Breast Surgical Oncology at the University of Miami/Jackson Health System in Miami, Florida. He plans to practice general surgery with special emphasis on diseases of the breast. Ahkeel will be joined by his wife, Geordache, son, Ahkeel Jr., and daughter, Arryah. They are looking forward to returning to South Florida.

**Phillip P. Rideout, M.D.,** was born in Atlanta, Georgia. He majored in Biological Sciences at Clemson University and graduated with honors. He completed medical school at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, South Carolina. Upon completion of his general surgery residency, he will be going to Knoxville, Tennessee, for a two year fellowship in Vascular Surgery at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. Phillip and his wife, Magen have three boys: Bennett, age 6, Hampton, age 3, and Fischer, age 2. Go Tigers!
2018 Chief Resident Graduation
EVENTS

28th Annual Will C. Sealy Surgical Society Trauma Symposium

“Complex Trauma Management”
November 8, 2018

David V. Feliciano, MD, FACS received his medical degree in 1970 from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. He completed training in general surgery at the Mayo Clinic, in trauma at Wayne State University, and in vascular surgery at Baylor College of Medicine and was a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy Medical Corps. After serving as the Battersby Professor of Surgery and Chief of the Division of General Surgery at Indiana University from 2013-2017, he is now a Clinical Professor of Surgery at the University of Maryland and an attending surgeon at The Shock Trauma Center/University of Maryland Medical Center, Baltimore. Also, he is a Clinical Professor of Surgery, Mercer University School of Medicine, Macon, Georgia, and Adjunct Professor of Surgery, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, Maryland, Dr. Feliciano is a general surgeon with strong interests in endocrine surgery, surgical oncology, and trauma. His research interests are use of ultrasound in truncal trauma; damage control celiotomy; and effect of metabolic state on outcome from vascular injuries. He has over 565 articles/chapters/books submitted or in press, serves as Associate Editor of The American Surgeon, and serves on the Editorial Boards of The Journal of Trauma and The American Journal of Surgery. He is co-editor of the textbook TRAUMA (1st edition, 1988; 2nd edition 1991; 3rd edition, 1996; 4th edition, 2000; 5th edition, 2004; 6th edition, 2008; 7th edition, 2013; 8th Edition, 2017). He is a member of 25 surgical or medical organizations including the American Surgical Association, Southern Surgical Association, American Association for the Surgery of Trauma, etc. Before his recent move to the University of Maryland, he was previously one of Atlanta’s “Top Doctors” (2005, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012) and one of Indianapolis’ Top Doctors (2015-2016).

Jonathan Morrison, MB ChB, PhD, FRCS is an Assistant Professor of Surgery at the University of Maryland in Baltimore. He originally trained in the UK as a General and Vascular Surgeon and has an active research interest in trauma resuscitation and hemorrhage control. Dr. Morrison is originally from Glasgow in the West of Scotland. He graduated from Edinburgh University Medical School in 2004 and has largely undertaken his General and Vascular training in the West of Scotland. He has had the opportunity to travel with his training and has also worked in New Zealand and South Africa. Furthermore, in his capacity as a British Army Reservist, he has been deployed to both Iraq and Afghanistan on several occasions. Dr. Morrison has a substantial research interest, having undertaken a PhD in Endovascular Hemorrhage control. Following his completion of training in August 2017, he has joined the team at the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, at the University of Maryland in Baltimore as an academic Trauma and Vascular Surgeon. His desire is to see the extension of existing endovascular techniques into mainstream trauma practice.

D. Benjamin Christie, III, MD, FACS received his bachelor’s degree from the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia, and medical degree from Mercer University School of Medicine in Macon, Georgia. He completed a general surgery residency followed by a surgical critical care fellowship at The Medical Center, Navicent Health and Mercer University School of Medicine. Dr. Christie is an Assistant Professor of Surgery at Mercer University School of Medicine and Director of the General Surgery Residency program and Associate Director of Trauma at the Medical Center Navicent Health. Dr. Christie is a member of numerous medical societies including the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma, Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma, Association of Program Directors in Surgery, and the Society of Critical Care Medicine. He is currently the Vice-Chair of Research of the American College of Surgeons Georgia Committee on Trauma and serves as an Associate Examiner for the American Board of Surgery.
Complex Trauma Management

“Thoracic Outlet Injuries” Dr. Feliciano
Objectives:
1. Define thoracic outlet and explain complexity of wounds in this area
2. Describe operative exposures for thoracic outlet wounds
3. Review operative management of great vessel injuries in the thoracic outlet

“Abdominal Vascular Injuries” Dr. Feliciano
Objectives:
1. Define 5 locations of abdominal vascular injuries
2. Describe operative exposures and management in 5 areas
3. Review outcomes for repair and ligation of abdominal vascular injuries

“Resuscitative Endovascular Balloon Occlusion of the Aorta: Good, Bad or Ugly” Dr. Morrison
Objectives:
1. Understand the epidemiology of trauma death and the importance of hemorrhage control
2. Understand the physiological effects of aortic occlusion and the differing methods of achieving occlusion
3. Understand the principle of Resuscitative Endovascular Balloon Occlusion of the Aorta and the potential application in torso hemorrhage

“The Role of Endovascular Embolization in Solid Organ Injury: When and Where?” Dr. Morrison
Objectives:
1. Understand what is meant by endovascular embolization, the principle and agents available for use
2. Understand the similarities and differences between the liver, kidney and spleen with respect to blood supply and the tolerance to ischemia
3. Discuss the factors that influence patient selection for intervention in liver, spleen and kidney injuries

“Penetrating Abdominal Trauma: The Authentication of Reality vs Myths, Controversies and Surgical Folklore” Dr. Christie
Objectives:
1. Understand contemporary management of penetrating trans-pelvic and penetrating trans-pelvic and penetrating rectal injuries
2. Discuss damage control laparotomy/open abdomen and closure strategies
3. Discuss auto transfusions and intraoperative blood salvage in the setting of trauma
Cadaver labs provide real life like experiences where medical professionals can advance their understanding of human anatomy and physiology in addition to enhancing their practical skills by exploring and working on human specimens.

On November 9th, the Georgia Trauma Commission sponsored a trauma skills Cadaver Lab at the Central Georgia Technical College. The 4th and 5th year general surgery residents were given the unique opportunity to work with several of our own surgeons as well as renowned trauma surgeon Dr. David Feliciano. Emergency room thoracotomy and emergent exposure of the subclavian artery and vein were the focus of the two-hour session. After the early morning session for the residents, the lab was opened up to other healthcare workers. The trauma skills teaching team included several of our own physicians and trauma staff.
Milton B. Hatcher, M.D., spent his entire life in Middle Georgia except for his medical education and his military service. He strongly felt that since Macon was the geographic center of Georgia, it should have a complete medical community, including a medical school. He married Marion Brown Campbell in 1942. They had two children Milford Jr. and Kathleen.

He graduated from the Medical College of Georgia in 1935, 1st in class. After he completed his residency, he joined the Army from 1941-1946. In 1943, he participated in the experimental use of penicillin at Halloran Hospital—associated with Champ Lyons.

In 1946, he resumed practice as a general surgeon in Macon, Georgia. He worked very hard to promote the General Surgery Residency and to form the medical school. He founded the surgery residency at the Macon Hospital (now MCNH) in 1961 and was the surgery program director from its inception until the first full-time director was hired in 1972. In 1969, he proposed the first resolution to the Bibb County Medical Society to establish a medical school at Mercer University in Macon, Georgia.

Dr. Hatcher was himself a great surgeon. He was fearless of any task and accomplished enough for several lifetimes. He was an innovator, a leader, a surgeon’s surgeon, a teacher and a humanitarian.

“Leading through Crisis: UMC’s Response to 1 October”

Jay E. Coates, Jr., D.O., FACOS, FACS, graduated with a bachelor’s degree in Biology from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, before earning his doctorate from the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences, in Des Moines, IA. He completed a surgical residency through Michigan State University at Garden City Osteopathic Hospital in Garden City, MI. He completed a trauma fellowship through the University of Nevada School of Medicine at the UMC Trauma Center in Las Vegas. He also completed a fellowship in trauma and critical care through the University of Pennsylvania at The Trauma Center at Penn in Philadelphia, PA. He joined the staff of Burn & Reconstructive Centers of America in 2018.
46th ANNUAL DAY OF SURGERY

“Clinical Practice Standardization: How can we achieve this?”

Joe Sharma, MD, FACS, FACE
Associate Professor,
Division of General & Gastrointestinal Surgery
Emory University School of Medicine
Director, Thyroid & Endocrine Surgery
Emory University Hospital

PGY4 Practice Based Learning and Improvement Project
Opioid Use, A Time of Crisis

Anthony Scott, MD
“From Origins to Opioid Crisis”

Alexander Sapp, MD
“Opioid Alternatives and Their Use”

Andrew Drahos, MD
“Status Report: Our Opioid Use Over Time”

Chris Jean-Louis, DO
“What’s Next? A Work in Progress”
Kay Lucia, MSN, MBA, RN, Director of Risk Management at the The Medical Center, Navicent Health presented the lecture “Medical Legal Pitfalls” at the Thursday Grand Rounds June 21, 2018.

Eric Long, M.D., Assistant Professor of Surgery, Mercer University School of Medicine, The Medical Center, Navicent Health presented the lecture “TEG Update” at the Thursday Grand Rounds June 28, 2018

Yameika Head, M.D., Assistant Professor, Mercer University School of Medicine, Medical Director, Crescent House, and Program Director, Pediatric Residency, The Medical Center Navicent Health presented “Sexual Abuse: Guide for the Surgeon” at the Thursday Grand Rounds July 12, 2018.

Richard Ackermann, M.D., Professor of Surgery, Mercer University School of Medicine and Vice-Chair, Department of Surgery at The Medical Center, Navicent Health presented the lecture “Potentially Inappropriate Medications in Older Adults” at the Thursday Grand Rounds July 26, 2018

Rachana Tyagi, M.D., Associate Professor, Mercer University School of Medicine and Pediatric Neurosurgeon at The Medical Center, Navicent Health presented the lecture “Pediatric Neurosurgical Trauma” at the Thursday Grand Rounds August 9, 2018.

John William Mix, M.D., Associate Professor, Mercer University School of Medicine and Vascular Surgeon at The Medical Center, Navicent Health presented the lecture “Current Management of Abdominal and Descending Thoracic Aortic Aneurysm” at the Thursday Grand Rounds August 23, 2018.

Erskine James M.D., Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine and Cardiology, Mercer University School of Medicine and Medical Director of the Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit at The Medical Center, Navicent Health presented the lecture “Cardiac Perioperative Evaluation and Management in Non-cardiac Surgery: A Review of the Guidelines” at the Thursday Grand Rounds September 13, 2018.
Andrew Honaker, M.D., Associate Professor of Surgery, Associate Chair, Clinical Education, Mercer University School of Medicine, Associate Program Director, General Surgery Residency Program, The Medical Center, Navicent Health presented the lecture “Rectal Cancer: Past, Current, and Future” at the Thursday Grand Rounds September 20, 2018.

Robert J. Cerfolio, M.D., Professor of Surgery and Chief Division of Thoracic Surgery at the New York University Langone Medical Center presented the lecture “Measuring Efficiency, Quality and Work Life Balance in Thoracic Surgery” at the Thursday Grand Rounds September 27, 2018.

Paul Dale, M.D., Professor, Chief of Surgical Oncology and Vice Dean of Translational Research at the Mercer University School of Medicine, and Medical Director of the Navicent Health Physician Group at Navicent Health presented the lecture “What’s New in Breast Cancer Treatment” at the Thursday Grand Rounds October 25, 2018.

Marcus Evans, M.D., Medical Director of Radiology at The Medical Center, Navicent Health presented the lecture “Imaging of Spinal Trauma” at the Thursday Grand Rounds November 15, 2018.

Joe Sam Robinson, M.D., Professor of Neurosurgery, Mercer University School of Medicine and Clinical Professor, Georgia Regents University presented the lecture “Healthcare Resource Allocation in a Time of Crisis” at the Thursday Grand Rounds December 14, 2018.

Richard Ackermann, M.D., Professor of Surgery, Mercer University School of Medicine and Vice-Chair, Department of Surgery at The Medical Center, Navicent Health presented the lecture “Potentially Inappropriate Medications in Older Adults-Part 2” at the Thursday Grand Rounds January 10, 2019.

Jay Coates M.D., FACE, Medical Director, Joseph M. Still Burn Center at Doctor’s Hospital, President, Joseph M. Still Burn Center presented the lecture “Updates in Burn Care” at the Thursday Grand Rounds January 24, 2019.
**GRAND ROUNDS**

**Dudley B. Christie, III, M.D.,** Assistant Professor of Surgery, Mercer University School of Medicine, The Medical Center, Navicent Health presented the lecture “American Board Exam Updates?” at the Thursday Grand Rounds February 14, 2019.

**Patrice Walker, M.D.,** presented the lecture “Maternal Morbidity/Mortality Crisis Across America” at the Thursday Grand Rounds February 21, 2019.

**William Thompson, M.D.,** Associate Professor of Surgery, Associate Chair, Clinical Education, Mercer University School of Medicine, Associate Program Director, General Surgery Residency Program, The Medical Center, Navicent Health presented the lecture “Multi-Disciplinary Diagnosis and Treatment of UGI Bleed” at the Thursday Grand Rounds February 28, 2019.


**S. Linsey Lonergan** (left), Vice President and Deputy General Counsel, Navicent Health, Inc., and **Jim Rush** (right), Corporate Compliance, a The Medical Center Navicent Health presented the lecture “Key Laws that Apply to Physicians and Contraction 101” at the Thursday Grand Rounds March 21, 2019.

**Lawrence X. Webb, M.D.,** Professor, Chief, Georgia Orthopaedic Trauma Institute, presented the lecture “CRISPR Update with a Special Revelation” at the Thursday Grand Rounds March 28, 2019.

**Eric Long, M.D.,** Assistant Professor of Surgery, Mercer University School of Medicine, The Medical Center, Navicent Health presented the lecture “Whole Blood Resuscitation: Where Are We?” at the Thursday Grand Rounds April 25, 2019.

**N. Allen Stokes, M.D. NRP,** Medical Director, Navicent EMS, Medical Director, Macon-Bibb Fire Department, Trauma Liaison, Emergency Center, Department of Emergency Medicine, The Medical Center, Navicent Health presented “Advanced Airway and Peri-intubation Management in the Acute Trauma Patient” at the Thursday Grand Rounds May 23, 2019.
Honors and Awards

Dr. Benjie Christie (left) Dr. Casey Hawes (right), and the Navicent SPIN Team received the “Healthcare Hero” award in April of 2019 to recognize their volunteer service.

Dudley Benjamin Christie, III, MD, FACS, received the first inaugural Dr. Martin Dalton Excellence in Science Award April 30, 2019. The award was presented by Dr. Ninfa Saunders, Navicent Health CEO, and Dr. Kim Johnston. (Left to right: Dr. Tom Oliver, Dr. Kim Johnston, Dr. Benjie Christie, and Dr. Ninfa Saunders)

During the 2018 American College of Surgeons Convocation, Fellowship was conferred on five of our general surgery resident alumni and three Mercer University School of Medicine alumni.
Top row (left to right): Stephanie Pannell, M.D., Kristin Collier, M.D., Homer Keadle, M.D.
Bottom row (left to right): Heidi Haun, M.D., Tracy Nolan, M.D., and Cecil Brown, M.D.

Crystal Fancher, M.D., received first place for best clinical paper in the Georgia Society of American College of Surgeons resident paper competition August 17, 2018. She went on to represent the state of Georgia at the Region IV paper competition in Charlotte, NC. Her talk was entitled “Do Isolated Traumatic Subarachnoid Hemorrhages Require Transfer? A Retrospective Review of the Inpatient Care Required for Them at a Level I Trauma Center Over a 3-Year Period.”

Benjie Christie, M.D., received the “Outstanding Surgery Faculty” award at the 2018 Mercer University School of Medicine Honors Banquet April 26, 2018. He was selected by the Mercer University School of Medicine Class of 2018.

William M. Thompson, M.D., FACS, received the Dr. Macram M. Ayoub Resident Teaching Award Faculty of the Year 2017-2018 Award at the Annual Graduation Banquet June 9, 2018.

Virginia “Ginny” Land, Office Coordinator (left), and Anna Broadnax, Department Secretary (right), were pinned as Health Equity Champions and asked to participate in the Round Table Discussions at Navicent.
Ahkeel Allen, M.D. and Phillip Rideout, M.D., received the Physician Warrior Poet Award 2017-2018 at the Annual Graduation Banquet June 9, 2018.

Madison Lashley, M.D., received the 2017-2018 Trauma Resident of the Year Award at the Annual Graduation Banquet June 9, 2018.

Casey Hawes, M.D., received the 2017-2018 Intern of the Year Award at the Annual Graduation Banquet June 9, 2018.

Ahkeel Allen, M.D. and Phillip Rideout, M.D., received the Resident of the Year Award 2017-2018 at the Annual Graduation Banquet June 9, 2018.

James Parker, M.D., received the Scholastic Achievement Award for Highest In-Training Exam Score for the 2017-2018 academic year at the Annual Graduation Banquet June 9, 2018.

Crystal Fancher, M.D., received the Sealy-Dalton Award for the Most Improved In-Training Exam Score 2018 at the Annual Graduation Banquet June 9, 2018.

Hannah Nemec, M.D., received the 2017-2018 Achievement Award in the Core Competency of Interpersonal and Communication Skills, Professionalism & Systems-Based Practice at the Annual Graduation Banquet June 9, 2018.

Justin Vaughan, M.D., received the 2017-2018 Achievement Award in the Core Competencies of Patient Care, Medical Knowledge, Practice-Based Learning & Improvement at the Annual Graduation Banquet June 9, 2018.

Ahkeel Allen, M.D., received the 2018 Robotic & Minimally Invasive Award at the Annual Graduation Banquet June 9, 2018.

Drs. Dennis Ashley and Lowell Clark pose with Dr. Sam Shaker outside the pediatric operating room named in his honor.

Dennis Ashley, M.D., was honored for 30 years of service May 10, 2019 at the Friends of Nursing Gala.
Publications


Rhoades K, Smith B, Honaker MD. Neoadjuvant Capecitabine Results in Similar Total Lymph Node Harvests as 5-Flourouracil but an Increased Number of Lymph Nodes Containing Adenocarcinoma on Resection. Am Surg. 2018; 84:e222-224.


Presentations


TJ Johns, MSN, RN-BC, CPHQ. Trauma Program Informatics. Georgia College and State University DNP Nursing Informatics Course. Milledgeville, Georgia. February 2019.
Presentations

K Rhoades, BE Smith, MD Honaker. Neoadjuvant Capecitabine Results in Similar Total Lymph Node Harvest as 5-Flourouracil but an Increased Number of Lymph Nodes Containing Adenocarcinoma Upon Resection. Southeastern Surgical Congress. Tampa Bay, Florida. February 12, 2019.


Work, Fun and Family
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Acknowledgements

Virginia Land, Editor for the Annual Report and Administrative Coordinator for the Department of Surgery and Trauma Services, Irma Miranda, Residency Coordinator, and Anna Broadnax, Department Secretary provide invaluable administrative support.

Mercer University School of Medicine:
Jean Sumner, M.D., Dean

Medical Center Navicent Health:
Dr. Ninfa M. Saunders, President & CEO
Mr. Elbert McQueen, Senior Vice President
Susan Harris, Senior VP/Chief Operating Officer
Dr. Tom Oliver, COO Navicent Health Enterprise
Dr. Patrice Walker, Deputy Chief Medical Officer
Chris Wilde, Chief Financial Officer
Tracey Blalock, Chief Nursing Executive, Navicent Health
Dawn Cole, Chief Nursing Officer

Front: Dr. Amy Christie, Dr. Eric Long, Dr. Macram Ayoub, Dr. Robert Parel
Back: Dr. Dudley Christie, Dr. Dennis Ashley, Dr. Danny Vaughn, Dr. William Thompson