

Department of Urology

UB University at Buffalo The State University of New York

| MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2020 |

**Department
of Urology**

K. Kent Chevli, MD
Chairman
Teresa Danforth, MD
Program Director



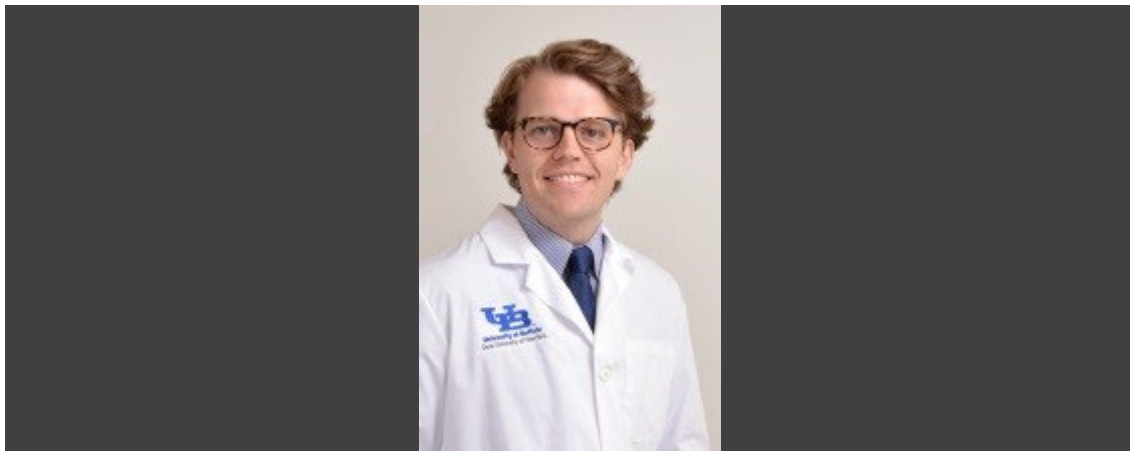
Message from the Chairman

K. Kent Chevli, MD



Thank you for reading our quarterly issue of the Department of Urology newsletter! As we learn to adjust our lives to a world changed by COVID-19, the education of our residents and care for our patients has remained our top priorities. Our resident graduation this year was held virtually. We also welcomed another faculty member to our department.

Congratulations, Graduates!



David J. Abramowitz, M.D.

Dr. Abramowitz received his MD degree from the Sackler Medical School. He completed one year of general surgery residency at the State University of New York at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and four years in the Urology Residency Program. Upon completion of his urology training, he will enter into a one-year fellowship in reconstructive urology at City of Hope Medical Center in Los Angeles, CA. Dr. Abramowitz has accepted a position with Western New York Urology and UBMD and will return to Buffalo after his fellowship. He is expected to be at ECMC and will work with the residents in reconstructive surgery.



Michael L. Ernst, M.D.

Dr. Ernst received his MD degree from the State University of New York at Stony Brook, School of Medicine. He completed one year of general surgery residency at the State University of New York at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and four years in the Urology Residency Program. Upon completion of his urology training, Dr. Ernst will enter into a two-year fellowship in Pediatric Urology at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio.



Jacquelyn Marie Gonka-Griffo, M.D.

Dr. Gonka-Griffo received her MD degree from the State University of New York at Stony Brook, School of Medicine. She completed one year of general surgery residency at the State University of New York at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and four years in the Urology Residency Program. Upon completion of her urology training, she will enter into a one year fellowship in female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery with Metro Urology in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Dr. Gonka-Griffo has accepted a position with Western New York Urology and will return to Buffalo upon completion of her fellowship. She is expected to be at Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital and will work with the residents in female pelvic reconstructive surgery.

2020 Graduation

Due to university restrictions regarding gatherings of a certain size, this year we honored our graduating residents virtually. On June 18th faculty, residents, and graduating residents' family members joined us for their virtual graduation.

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Zoom



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jacquelyngonka



Michael Ernst



Dave



Unmute



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Participants



More



Drs. Jacquelyn Gonka-Griffo, Michael Ernst and David Abramowitz (top to bottom) and their families joined in the graduation celebration, held June 18, 2020, honoring them.

Welcome, Dr. Jung



Please welcome Dr. Ichabod Jung. Dr. Jung has joined our team as the Urology Residency Research Director. As a board certified urologist with 20 years of experience, Dr. Jung's knowledge of real-world practice patterns and the importance of providing patients with high-quality cutting edge care in a community setting will allow him to skillfully guide our residents and medical students in meaningful research.

Dr. Jung completed his residency at the University of Rochester under Dr. Edward Messing, working closely with Dr. Jean Joseph, the department's current Chairman. Dr. Jung's work will focus on connecting residents and students with opportunities for research with community partners.

He will support residents in identifying and completing research projects with a goal of increased publications and exposure to research methods. Dr. Jung will also be mentoring residents during their monthly Research Conferences.

Welcome, Dr. Jung!

Faculty of the Year

During the graduation ceremony, the residents presented the annual Dr. Robert Huben Educator Award to Dr. Oussama Darwish in recognition of his dedication, commitment, and steadfast support of resident education in Urology.



Dr. David Abramowitz (left) and Dr. Michael Ernst (right) present the Dr. Robert Huben Educator Award to Dr. Oussama Darwish.

Dr. Badkhshan's Accomplishments

Whether it is teaching medical students or mentoring his junior residents, Dr. Shervin Badkhshan, a PGY-5 resident, is always willing to partake in the sharing of his medical knowledge. This past quarter has seen Dr. Badkhshan recognized for all of his efforts.

In May 2020, Dr. Badkhshan was selected as a nominee for the Resident Siegel Award. The annual awards are the foremost means for Jacobs School medical students to honor their professors, instructors and teaching assistants. One student said of Dr. Badkhshan, "I have always struggled with feeling out of place in the OR, however this was the first resident to ever

make me feel included." Another student stated, "I have never felt so motivated to pay it forward and become a resident like Dr. Badkhshan who takes medical students under his wing to make them feel included, welcomed and also teaches them everything to prepare them for residency."

Dr. Badkhshan has also matched at the [University of Texas Southwestern](#) in Dallas, Texas, his top choice for a fellowship. This fellowship is a Society of Genitourinary Reconstructive Surgeons (GURS) Fellowship in Urologic Trauma, Reconstruction, and Prosthetics. He will start the one year fellowship in July 2021 and finish June 2022.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Badkhshan in all of his accomplishments!



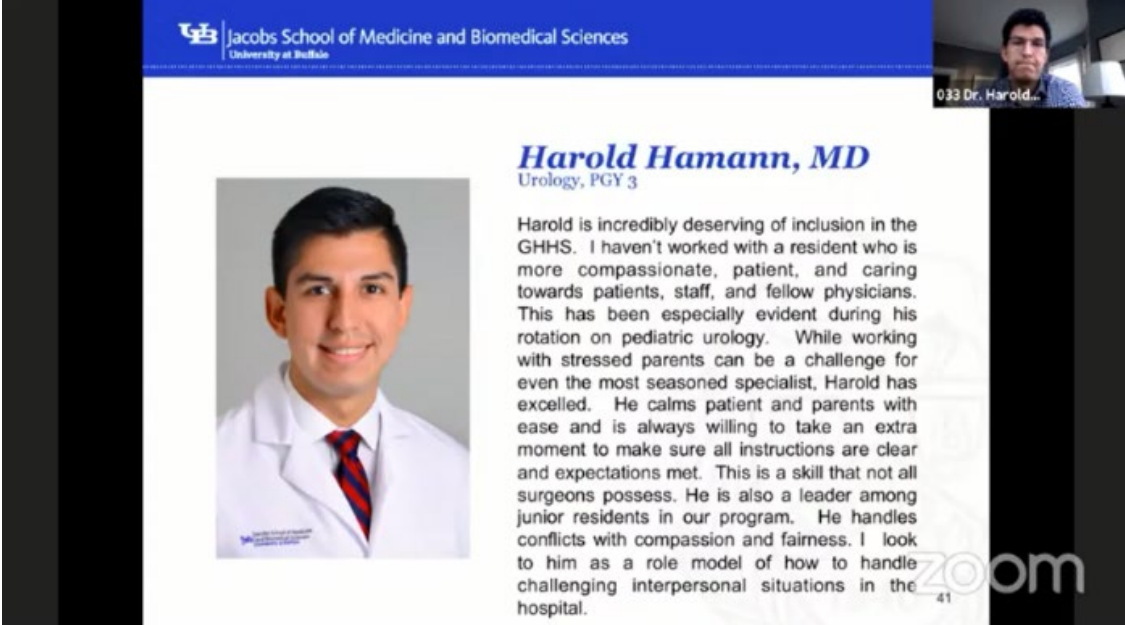
Gold Humanism Honor Society

On June 11th, the Jacobs School hosted its annual Gold Humanism Honor Society Induction Ceremony. The Gold Humanism Honor Society honors students and physicians for their commitment to providing excellent, compassionate care, as well as for their dedication to patients and families.

Among the 40 medical students, residents and faculty inducted into the class of 2020, the Department of Urology was represented by two of our residents; Dr. Shervin Badkhshan and

Dr. Harold Hamann.

Congratulations, Drs. Badkhshan and Hamann!



Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
University at Buffalo

Harold Hamann, MD
Urology, PGY 3

Harold is incredibly deserving of inclusion in the GHHS. I haven't worked with a resident who is more compassionate, patient, and caring towards patients, staff, and fellow physicians. This has been especially evident during his rotation on pediatric urology. While working with stressed parents can be a challenge for even the most seasoned specialist, Harold has excelled. He calms patient and parents with ease and is always willing to take an extra moment to make sure all instructions are clear and expectations met. This is a skill that not all surgeons possess. He is also a leader among junior residents in our program. He handles conflicts with compassion and fairness. I look to him as a role model of how to handle challenging interpersonal situations in the hospital.

033 Dr. Harold...

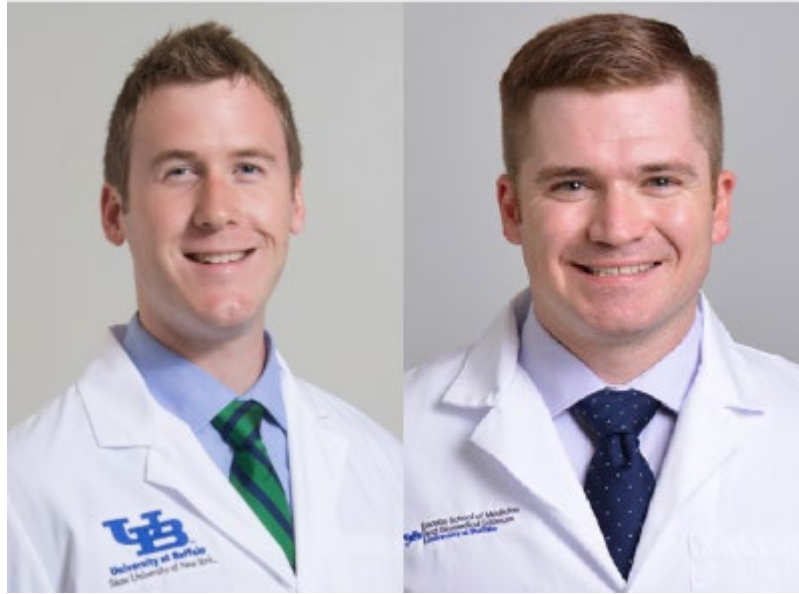
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Dr. Hamann during his recognition into the 2020 Gold Humanism Honor Society.

Urogami, Inc.

Drs. Tyler Maiers and Kyle Waisanen are co-founders of the urologic device design company Urogami, Inc. On May 28th, Urogami, Inc. was formally incorporated via the E-Law service at UB. On June 2nd, they had a meeting with one of the primary inventors of UroLift to discuss regulatory hurdles, who offered them advice and mentoring for their future endeavors.

Drs. Maiers and Waisanen were also invited by UB to participate in the National I-CORPS program, which, if accepted, comes with a \$50,000 grant for customer discovery and further device development. The plan is for Urogami, Inc. to apply for the upcoming winter session.



Dr. Tyler Maiers (left) and Dr. Kyle Waisanen (right) are co-founders of the urologic device design company Urogami, Inc.

New Virtual Urology Elective

On June 2nd, urology programs from several institutions launched the first ever virtual elective for medical students.

The goal of this elective is to engage medical students who have an interest in urology through a virtual environment, allowing for interaction with residents and faculty, access to didactic lectures from sources across the country, as well as participate in group learning activities such as journal club and grand rounds conferences.

Each week students are focused on learning specific areas of urology. The expectation is that the students will use the resources given to them for self-guided learning for each week's topics. In addition to conferences and self-guided learning, students will be working with faculty and residents to do case-based learning and review of surgical videos. Students will be presenting a topic at one of the University at Buffalo Department of Urology grand rounds lectures.

Case-based learning and review of surgical video sessions were held by both faculty and

residents. Those who participated in the first month of rotation were faculty member Drs. Danforth, Lillie, Rutkowski and Lillie. Residents who participated include Drs. Abramowitz, Ermolovich, Gonka-Griffo and Maiers.



Dr. Teresa Danforth hosts medical students on Zoom during a review of surgical videos on Incontinence Procedures on June 3, 2020.

ECMC Skills Lab

During incoming residents week, Drs. Patrick Vecellio, Eric Chevli and Matthew Peterson participated in the ECMC surgical skills lab to assist in their preparation for the start of their residency.



Resident's Post-Graduation Get-Together



Drs. Abramowitz, Ernst and Gonka-Griffo's celebrating their graduation.



PGY-4 residents Drs. Daniel Wang, Nicole Alavi-Dunn and Harold Hamann.



PGY-3 residents Drs. Kyle Waisanen, Nicole Belko and Michael Shapiro.



PGY-2 residents Drs. Jacob Rubin, Rohan Shah and Adam Russon.

Dr. Michael Ernst is Next Chair of AUA Residents and Fellows Committee

The full published article on the Jacobs School site can be read here:

[Ernst is Next Chair of AUA Resident, Fellow Committee](#)

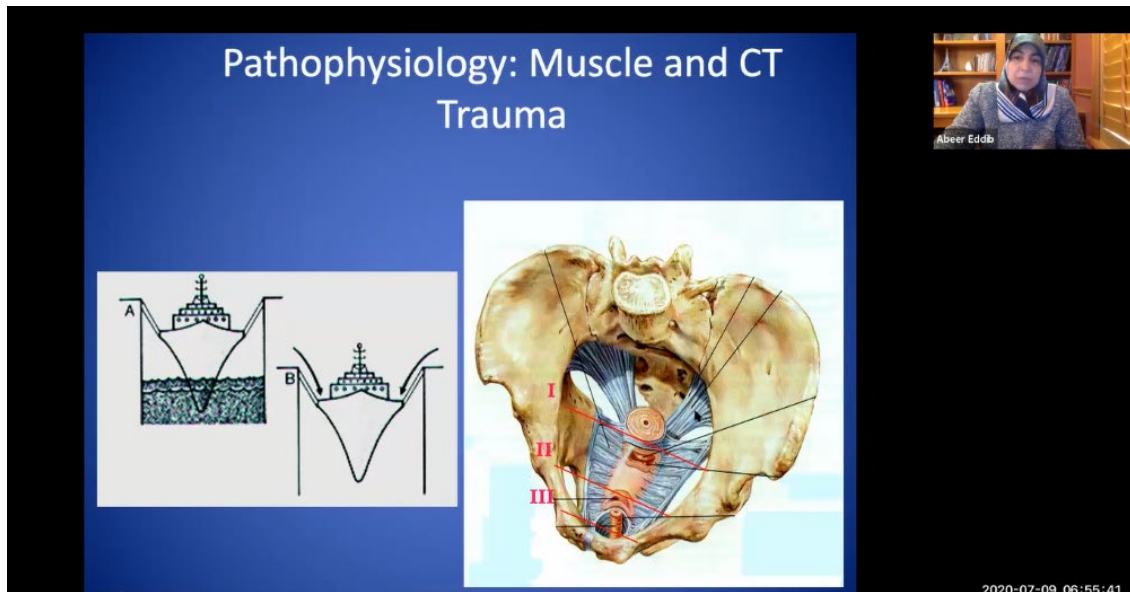


Dr. Michael Ernst

Department of Urology Visiting Professors

Dr. Basem Goueli, Associate Chief of Hematology/Medical Oncology, Clinical Associate Professor, and Director of GLCC Hematology/Medical Oncology of the Department of Medicine at the Jacobs School, presented "Laying Waste to Your Preconceived Notions about Cancer " at the Department of Urology Basic Science Conference on Tuesday, June 23rd.

Dr. Abeer Eddib, a physician specializing in Urogynecology at Western New York Urology Associates, presented "Evaluation and Treatment of Pelvic Organ Prolapse" at the Department of Urology Grand Rounds on Thursday, July 9th.



Dr. Eddib gives her presentation at Grand Rounds via Zoom.

Scholarly Activity

Awards and Recognition

Shervin Badkhshan, MD: Awarded Society of Urodynamics, Female Pelvic Medicine & Urogenital Reconstruction Rodney Appell Traveling Preceptorship. Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tenn. May 2020.

Michael Ernst, MD: Named the next chair of the American Urological Association (AUA) Residents and Fellows Committee. May 2020.

Shervin Badkhshan, MD: Nominated for Resident Siegel Award through the University at Buffalo. May 2020.

Shervin Badkhshan, MD: Inducted into the Gold Humanism Honor Society Resident Chapter. May 2020.

Harold Hamann, MD: Inducted into the Gold Humanism Honor Society Resident Chapter. May 2020.

Journal Articles

Russell B. Hawkins, MD; Steven L. Raymond, MD; [Harold C. Hamann, MD](#); Janice A. Taylor, MD; Moiz M. Mustafa, MD; Saleem Islam, MD, MPH; Shawn D. Larson, MD. [Outcomes After Prehospital Endotracheal Intubation in Suburban/Rural Pediatric Trauma](#). Journal of Surgical Research, May 2020, Volume 249, Pages 138–144.

If you have any news that you'd like to contribute to the next issue of the newsletter, please email them to Steve Crowe at scrowe2@buffalo.edu.

