

Department of Urology

**UB** University at Buffalo The State University of New York

| THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 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! It has been an eventful and also stressful last few months. With the current COVID-19 pandemic, all of our lives have drastically changed and we all have a new "normal" way of life for the time being. I hope you are all staying safe and taking advantage of the time with your families and loved ones.

## Message from the Program Director

Teresa L. Danforth, MD



Greetings seems to be an awkward way to start a message to everyone, however, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, I can say I am at least trying to stay positive. I hope at the time of our next newsletter, I am able to write a message about how we are in a very different place: the "new normal".

This has been and will continue to be a challenging year for all of those who work in the medical field as we adapt to new and novel ways to treat and access our patients in the safest manner possible. We have a unique role in medical education to teach and train medical students and residents. This poses yet another challenge as we must provide the best education to our learners under less than ideal circumstances: limited exposure to acute patient care, clinics, and particularly a significant decrease in case volume. This certainly has created anxiety amongst all of those involved in medical education. Believe me when I say, nobody has this even close to figured out.

Fortunately, we have a fantastic group of urologists who recognized very early that we not only need to provide for our own learners locally, but we have the ability to provide education nationally with so many experts willing to share their passions and knowledge with the rest of the urology

community. For those of you who have participated in the UCSF lecture series or the Upstate Urology Teaching Collaborative, I'm sure you can attest to the quality of these lecture series and the immense amount of work that has been put into creating these resources. These are exciting opportunities to be able to collaborate and potentially create a more consistent urology curriculum throughout the country.

As we look forward to the future, we will be slowly increasing our surgical and clinical volumes. We will adapt to our new restrictions and requirements and be introducing our residents to a whole new world of medicine as we know it. I think we all realize that changes will be made globally on how we provide care. We will also learn about the impact the COVID-19 crisis has made on our current patients' outcomes not only for oncology but also stones, voiding dysfunction, reconstruction, andrology, etc. We will also learn how resilient we are as a medical community and recognize and appreciate the incredible sacrifice we have been asked to make as physicians.

I know many have argued (even myself at times) that "this is what we signed up for", but honestly, this is not what any of us imagined we signed up for. We will look toward each other for guidance and support. This is a time we will never forget and will shape many of our careers and lives for years to come.

Don't mistake me for a Yankees fan, but in the words of the late, great Yogi Berra:

"The future ain't what it used to be!"

## In Memoriam

Please join us as we mourn the loss of two prominent urologists in the Western New York region. We'd like to celebrate their lives and all of their accomplishments. Our sincerest condolences go out to their families.



**Dr. Datta Wagle**

A strong contributor to the AUA, its Northeastern Section and the urology community as a whole, Dr. Wagle served many positions during his long career in urology. He not only served as AUA President from 2010-2011, but also sat on the Board of Directors for the AUA and the Foundation for many years. He also served as Chair of the AUA's Compensation Committee, and as a member of many other AUA Committees, including Education and Research, Health Policy, Practice Guidelines, Peer Review and Industry Relations.

He was a Past President of the Northeastern Section of the AUA, the New York State Urological Society, the Buffalo Urological Society and the American Association of Clinical Urologists.

Dr. Wagle was honored with numerous awards for his work, including the Northeastern Section of the AUA's Distinguished Service Award in 1999, the Dr. G.M. Phadke Memorial Oration Award from the Annual Conference of the Urological Society of India in 2000, and the St. Joseph Hospital Foundation's Caritas Award for community service in 2001.

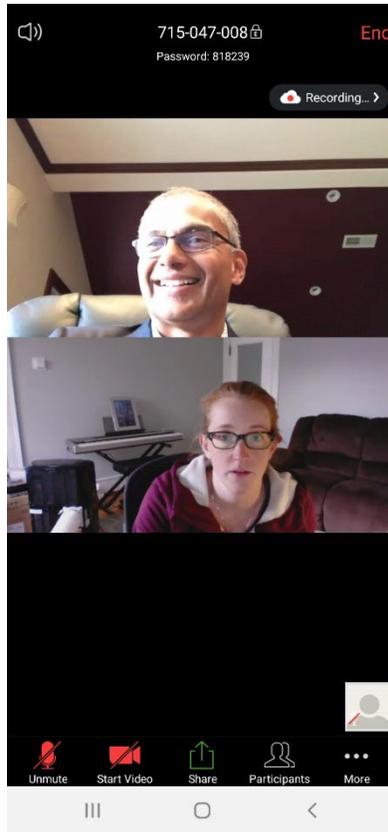


**Dr. John M. Hodson**

Dr. Hodson, a retired urologist, died Jan. 14 at his residence in Getzville. He was 92. Dr. Hodson was an associate cancer researcher in urology at Roswell Park Cancer Institute from 1961 to 1965. He was featured in a 1963 Buffalo Evening News article as one of two researchers awarded a \$91,000 federal grant for a cancer study. In March 1966, Dr. Hodson was one of four specialists to head the staff of the new hemodialysis department at Deaconess Hospital. He was clinical instructor in urology and a member of the admissions committee at UB Medical School. After his retirement, Dr. Hodson ran the Urology Clinic at Buffalo General for several years.

## Staying Connected

During the current COVID-19 pandemic, it is important that we are all maintaining social distancing. Our residents are no different. Even though they are on the front lines and put themselves at risk on a daily basis, they still need their education. Starting at the end of March, all resident conferences have been held virtually on Zoom. It is a way for residents and faculty attending to see each other during a time they wouldn't normally be in contact.



Drs. Chevli and Danforth speak to the residents via Zoom conference call.

During the month of April, the Albany Medical Center, SUNY Upstate, University of Rochester, University at Buffalo and Queens's University all participated in the Upstate Urology Teaching Collaborative. This collaboration was a way for all of the universities to connect with each other while continuing to educate.

On April 22nd, Dr. Danforth was the speaker. Her topic was Female Incontinence: Evaluation and Management. Dr. Danforth had a large turnout for her lecture as 72 people attended her teaching session.

On April 29th, Dr. Kevin Pranicoff spoke on the topic of Male Genital Trauma. 67 people attended his teaching session.

## I-Corps Meeting

Drs. Tyler Maiers and Kyle Waisanen attended their first I-Corps meeting February 20th, which was also the I-Corps Kickoff session. Their team name is "Urogami" and their slogan is, "The art of providing medical device solutions for urologic problems." Urogami's team members include, Drs. Maiers and Waisanen, along with Peter Natalzia.

The I-Corps program is an initiative developed by the [National Science Foundation \(NSF\)](#) that teaches researchers and innovators how to evaluate a technology or idea for the marketplace. An important goal of the I-Corps program is to encourage technical entrepreneurship and teach teams how to think about commercialization. In this program, teams will get out of the laboratory/university and engage in conversations with a variety of people connected to the development and use of the technology, product or service.



Tyler Maiers PGY-4, Martin Casstevens (Executive Director of NSF I-Corps UB),  
Kyle Waisanen PGY-2, Peter Natalzia MS-2 Jacobs School of Medicine and  
Biomedical Sciences

## First Annual Resident Debate

On February 13th, five of our residents participated in the first ever resident debate at Grand Rounds.

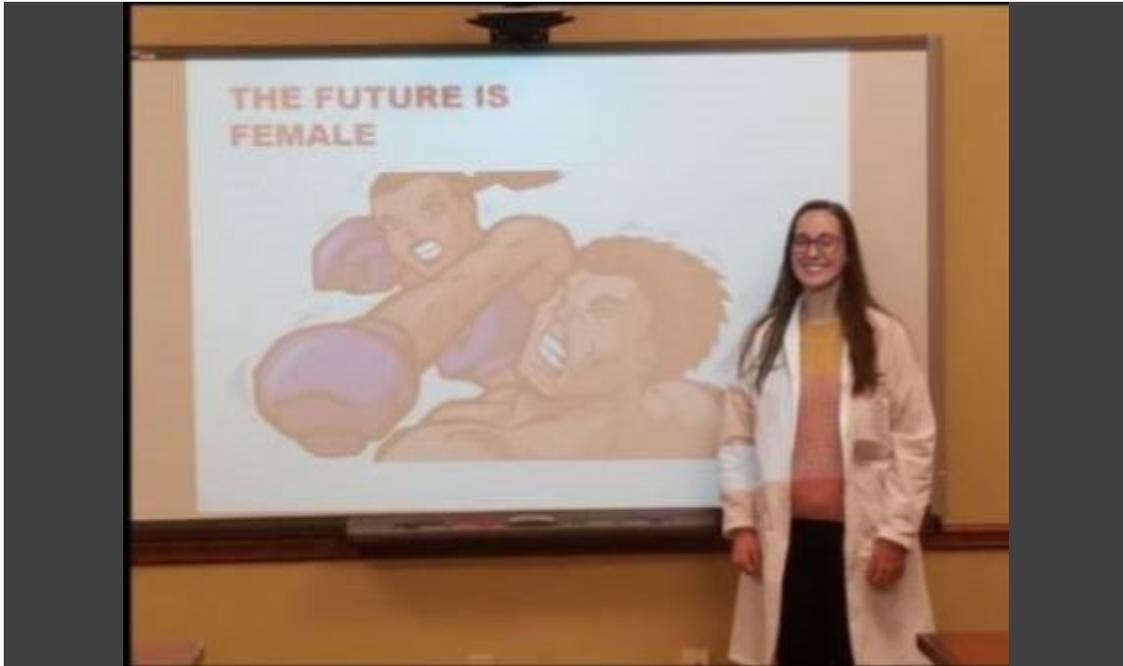
In the first debate, Dr. Abramowitz argued for Cytoreductive surgery in a patient with Oligometastatic RCC, while Dr. Ernst argued against.

The second debate was a three-way debate about Stage 1 NSGCT. Dr. Waisanen argued for surveillance, Dr. Belko argued for chemotherapy and Dr. Shapiro argued for surgery.

Those in attendance were impressed with the way each of the residents argued their points and displayed the knowledge they've gained in the program.



Drs. Ernst, Abramowitz, Shapiro, Belko and Waisanen pose next to the first slide of the "1st Annual University at Buffalo Resident Debates."



Dr. Belko poses next to her debate-winning slide, "The Future is Female."



Dr. Abramowitz presents his rebuttal to Dr. Ernst during the first debate.

## Wellness Events

On March 4th, Drs. Ermolovich, Hamann, Maiers, Belko, Ernst and Abramowitz all participated in trivia night at Coles on Elmwood. They represented the Department of Urology well with their combined knowledge!



## Department of Urology Post-Holiday Get-Together

On February 6th, the Department of Urology held a post-holiday get-together at Resurgence Brewing Company on Chicago Street. 31 people attended, which included faculty, residents and their families. The evening was a time to celebrate the holidays, catch up with friends and co-workers, and have a fun night after the busy holiday season.



## **Department of Urology Grand Rounds Presentations by Visiting Professors**

Dr. Ramkishan Narayanan from Kaiser Permanente Medical Group (TPMG), Inc. in Santa Clara, CA presented "Challenges in Muscle-Invasive Bladder Cancer: Neoadjuvant

Immunotherapy and Extent of Pelvic Lymphadenectomy" at the Department of Urology Grand Rounds on Thursday, March 12th.

Dr. Narayanan is a former medical student and urology resident of Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. His presentation drew a large attendance.

Thank you, Dr. Narayanan!



(Above) Dr. Narayanan and Dr. Chevli pose with the residents.

(Below) Drs. Griswold, Darwish, Narayanan, Chevli, Rutkowski and Chazen pose for a photo after Grand Rounds.



## People in the News

### Awards and Recognition

Tyler Maiers, MD; Kyle Waisanen, MD: Named as members of the National Science Foundation Innovation Corps Program. February 2020.

### Journal Articles

Michael Ernst, MD; Michael Shapiro, MD. [See One, Do One, but How Do We Teach One?](#) AUA News Magazine, Volume 25 | Issue 4. February 2020.

### Abstracts

Jacquelyn Gonka-Griffo, MD; Teresa L. Danforth, MD. Do Rates Of Macroplastique Reinjection Among Patients With Or Without Midurethral Slings Differ? Society of Urodynamics, Female Pelvic Medicine & Urogenital Reconstruction. Scottsdale, AZ. February 25–29, 2020.

Jacquelyn Gonka-Griffo, MD; Jordan Levine; Teresa L. Danforth, MD. Exposure To Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery (FPMRS) Among American Urology Residents. Society of Urodynamics, Female Pelvic Medicine & Urogenital Reconstruction. Scottsdale, AZ. February 25–29, 2020.

David Abramowitz, MD; Alexandra Rogers. Getting Patients With OAB Adequately Treated – Attrition Rates and Third Line Therapies In A Contemporary Practice. Society of Urodynamics, Female Pelvic Medicine & Urogenital Reconstruction. Scottsdale, AZ. February 25–29, 2020.

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](mailto:scrowe2@buffalo.edu).

