



ANNUAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM



Friday, June 13th, 2025

7:30 am - 2:00 pm

**University of Tennessee Health Science Center
SAC Schreier Auditorium & OD Larry Dining Hall
800 Madison Avenue | Memphis, TN 38103**

HWSS ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

JUNE 13, 2025



- 7:30 am** **Registration & Continental Breakfast**
- 7:50 am** **Continuing Medical Education Disclosures**
Victor Carrozza, Director, CME
- 8:00 am** **Opening Remarks**
Dr. Olivia DeLozier, Class of 2020
- 8:05 am** **Welcome & Introduction of Distinguished Visiting Professor**
David Shibata, MD, FACS, FASCRS
Harwell Wilson Alumni Endowed Chair in Surgery | Professor & Chair
UTHSC Department of Surgery
- 2025 Harwell Wilson Surgical Society Distinguished Visiting Professor**
Kelly K. Hunt, MD, FACS, FSSO
Professor and Chair, Department of Breast Surgical Oncology
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
- 9:15 am** **Break** (SAC OD Larry Dining Hall)
- 9:30 am** **Research Session 1: Basic Science**
Moderator: Dr. Kashif Saleem – Class of 2015
- 10:30 am** **Break** (SAC OD Larry Dining Hall)
- 10:45 am** **Research Session 2: Clinical Science**
Moderator: Dr. Renee Levesque – Class of 2020
- 12:00 pm** **Lunch** (SAC OD Larry Dining Hall)
- 12:45 pm** **Quick Shot Poster Presentation Session**
Moderator: Dr. Ian Solsky
- 1:15 pm** **Break** (SAC OD Larry Dining Hall)
- 1:30 pm** **Introduction of Invited Alumni Speaker - Paxton Dickson, MD, Class of 2009**

Matthew Steliga, MD, FACS, Class of 2006
Professor, Division of Thoracic Surgery,
University of Arkansas for Medical Services
- 2:00 pm** **Closing Remarks**
Paxton Dickson, MD, Class of 2009
- 2:05 pm** **Business Meeting** (Members Only)

Kelly K. Hunt, MD, FACS, FSSO
Olla Stribling Distinguished Chair for Cancer Research
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center



Dr. Hunt is Professor and Chair of the Department of Breast Surgical Oncology at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. She holds the Olla Stribling Distinguished Chair for Cancer Research. She has joint appointments as a Professor in Experimental Radiation Oncology and Professor in the Department of Surgical Oncology.

Dr. Hunt's work focuses on finding more effective therapeutics for patients with breast cancer and soft tissue sarcomas. Her translational research investigations focus on developing novel treatment strategies involving agents that target cell cycle regulation. One of the KeyHunt lab's significant projects was the identification of low molecular weight cyclin E as an important prognostic marker of breast cancer. Ongoing studies are investigating the underlying mechanisms of resistance to standard of care therapeutics and metastasis for estrogen receptor-positive breast cancer. The

team has also identified a novel combination treatment strategy using cell cycle checkpoint defects in soft tissue sarcoma. Dr. Hunt has to her credit more than 700 peer-reviewed publications, 69 book chapters, and eight books. As an international leader in breast cancer research, she has directed major clinical trials whose results have changed the standard of care treatment for many patients with breast cancer.

Dr. Hunt served as the Chair of the Breast Committee for the American College of Surgeons Oncology Group (ACOSOG) and Vice Chair of the Breast Committee for the Alliance in Clinical Trials in Oncology. She also served as Program Director of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Cancer Research Program and Vice Chair of the ACS Cancer Surgery Standards Program. She is the Immediate Past President of the Society of Surgical Oncology, Past President of the American Radium Society, and Recorder of the American Surgical Association. Her contributions to the field of oncology and translational research have been recognized through numerous awards and accolades, including: Faculty Achievement Award in Clinical Research from MD Anderson, a Texas Business Women's Award and induction into the Greater Houston Women's Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame, America's Top Doctors, the John Mendelsohn Award for Faculty Leadership and OncLive 2024 Giants of Cancer Care. She was elected as a fellow of the American Academy for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

Matthew Steliga, MD, FACS,
Professor, Division of Thoracic Surgery,
University of Arkansas for Medical Services



Dr. Matthew Steliga is a native of Wisconsin who completed Undergraduate and Graduate studies at Northwestern University and Medical School at the Medical College of Wisconsin. He completed his Surgery Residency here at UTHSC in 2006 before heading to Houston for fellowships in Cardiothoracic Surgery at the Texas Heart Institute and Thoracic Surgery at the MD Anderson Cancer Center. He has been a faculty member in Thoracic Surgery at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences since 2009. He is a Professor of Surgery, the division Chief of Thoracic Surgery, and holds the Kent Westbrook Endowed Chair in Surgical Oncology. He has served several roles at UAMS, including clerkship director and associate program director for the surgery residency. He is currently the surgeon-in-chief and surgical director of UAMS operating rooms. His group's research has involved the delivery of smoking cessation in the context of cancer care, the cost-effectiveness of management of obstructing esophageal cancer, and the assessment of circulating tumor DNA in lung cancer. He has served numerous roles in national and international organizations, including serving as a Board Examiner for the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, a committee chair for the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer, and the President of the Arkansas Chapter of the American College of Surgeons.

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PRESENTERS

Session 1: Basic Science

Moderator: Kashif Saleem, MD

1. Epigenetic Reprogramming and Non-Homologous Chromosomal Contact in Chemotherapy-Resistant Favorable-Histology Wilms Tumor
Presenter: Andrew Fleming, MD
2. Proteomics-based analysis of Wilms tumor patient-derived xenografts identifies critical components of tumor microenvironment
Presenter: Daniel Gehle, MD
3. Prenatal Esophageal Lengthening by Distraction Enterogenesis in a Fetal Lamb Model of Long Gap Esophageal Atresia
Presenter: Jessica Pollack, MD
4. Dual Targeting of Oncogenic Microtubules and Mitochondria in PDAC
Presenter: Mike Sprinrad, MD

Session 2: Clinical Science

Moderator: Renee Levesque, MD

1. Cross-sectional multinational study evaluating the social determinants of health in patients seeking elective surgical care
Presenter: Jennifer Schadt, MD
2. A Pediatric-focused Hospital-based Violence Intervention Program Improves Educational and Juvenile Court Outcomes in Violently Injured Pediatric Trauma Patients
Presenter: Kevin Lang, MD
3. Patterns and Outcomes of Surgical Management for Primary Colorectal Lymphoma: An Analysis of the National Cancer Data Base (NCDB)
Presenter: Julia Pedo Freitas, MD
4. Feasibility of Same Day Mastectomy Discharge in a Safety Net Hospital in Memphis, TN
Presenter: Linnea Cripe, MD
5. Stoma Track: A Comprehensive Smartphone Application to Track Ostomy Output, Medication Adherence, and Fluid Intake to Prevent Readmission Due to Dehydration
Presenter: Michael Wright, MD

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PRESENTERS

Session 3: Quick Shot Poster Presentation

Moderator: Ian Solsky, MD

1. Seal The Bleed or Wait to Proceed? Resuscitation and Early vs. Delayed Timing for Thoracic Endovascular Aortic Repair in Blunt Thoracic Aortic Injury
Presenter: Ladd Caballero, MD
2. Universal risk stratification in stage I-III cutaneous melanoma using 31-gene expression profiling: a prospective single-center study
Presenter: Daniel Gehle, MD
3. Accessibility of and engagement with videos of colorectal cancer surgery patients' treatment experiences: a multi-platform analysis comparing videos produced by patients and medical institutions
Presenter: Austin Jernigan, MD
4. Breaking Protocol: Should Destructive Colon Injuries Be Managed Differently in a Balanced Blood Product Resuscitation Era?
Presenter: Kevin Lang, MD
5. Are Medicare-Certified Ambulatory Surgery Centers Prepared for Mandatory Reporting of Patients' Experiences?: an Analysis of Voluntary Adopters of the OAS CAHPS Survey
Presenter: Sloane Smith, MD
6. Opportunities and Challenges in Using Smartphone Sensor Data to Capture Surgeon Behavior and Wellbeing: A Qualitative Analysis of Surgical Residents' Perspectives
Presenter: Joseph Tarquine, MD



CONGRATULATIONS!!
2025 GRADUATES



Left to Right:

Devanshi Patel, MD, Aubrey Schachter, MD, Floyd Wilks Jr, MD, Megan Lehrman, MD,
Joseph Slaughter, MD, Maria Knaus, MD, Michael Wright, MD, Maddison Porter, MD

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GRADUATING RESIDENTS

Maria Knaus, MD	Aubrey Schachter, MD
Megan Lehrman, MD	Joseph Slaughter, MD
Devanshi Patel, MD	Floyd Wilks, MD
Maddison Porter, MD	Michael Wright, MD

GRADUATING FELLOWS

Peter Ali, MD (Vascular Surgery)	Joel Braverman, MD (Surgical Critical Care)
Tejas Chincholi, MD (Transplantation Surgery)	Angelle Hogan, MD (Vascular Surgery)
Brian Hosfield, MD (Pediatric Surgery)	William Hudson, MD (Surgical Critical Care)
Benjamin Lehrman, MD (Surgical Critical Care)	Chelsea Olson, MD (Complex General Surgery Oncology)

Rohith Srinivas, MD (Transplantation Surgery)

NEW FACULTY

Kendra Black, MD
Danielle Gotlieb Sen, MD
Saunders Lin, MD
Brett Mettler, MD
Victoria Schlanser, MD

DISTINGUISHED VISITING PROFESSOR

Kelly K. Hunt, MD, FACS, FSSO

ALUMNI VISITING PROFESSOR

Matthew Steliga, MD, FACS

Black Tie Event

PEABODY HOTEL | Forrest & Venetian Rooms| 118 S. 2nd Street



AMA Credit Designation: The University of Tennessee College of Medicine (UTCOM) designates this live activity for a maximum of 4.25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Continuing Education for Non-Physicians: The UTCOM will issue Certificates of Participation to non-physicians for participating in this activity and designates it for CEUs using the national standard that 1 hour of educational instruction is awarded .1 CEU.

Accreditation: The UTCOM is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.



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