The air has a chill and the leaves have begun to turn here in Ann Arbor, a sure sign that it’s Fall and time for another edition of the Dingman Society News. I’m happy to be able to report, yet again, that the Section of Plastic Surgery has had an outstanding year. The News documents the achievements of our residents, faculty, and alumni and, after reading through this issue, I hope you agree that we have a lot to be proud of.

We continue to lead our peers in academic quality, productivity, and stature. Our faculty and residents now hold 9 NIH and 2 DoD grants, with total research expenditures exceeding $3 million for the first time this year. In the past year, our faculty and residents have published more than 50 peer-reviewed papers, given over 125 scientific presentations, and served as featured or keynote speakers on multiple occasions. Our faculty serve in leadership positions in all of our national organizations. Dr. Kozlow has the honor of being the resident representative to the RRC and he is also on the Board of Directors of ASPS. I could go on, you get the idea.

We also continue to enjoy the support of the finest alumni society anywhere. We had a spirited alumni evening during the ASPS meeting in Chicago last fall and this past June the Reed O. Dingman Society held another spectacular scientific meeting here in Ann Arbor. The turnout for both events was fantastic and we are all grateful for the ongoing support we receive. Just this past month, we had the honor of seeing Dr. Lou Argenta receive the MCAS Distinguished Alumni Award at a gala awards ceremony at the Michigan League. Among our peers in academic Plastic Surgery, it’s well known that our alumni can kick anybody’s butt.

This issue contains, as usual, articles about our graduating chiefs, our faculty promotions, this year’s Dingman and Grabb visiting professors, and updates from our faculty, residents, and alumni on their lives outside medicine. Please enjoy your reading and I very much look forward to seeing all of you at the annual Reed O. Dingman Society Dinner in Seattle on October 24th.

Warmest regards,

Bill

William M. Kuzon, M.D., Ph.D.
Reed O. Dingman Professor, Plastic Surgery
Section Head, Plastic Surgery

Dr. Louis Argenta was honored by the Medical Center Alumni Society as the 2009 recipient of the MCAS Distinguished Achievement Award. The MCAS Distinguished Achievement Award is given to an outstanding individual in recognition of exemplary achievement in medicine, with the achievement in some way advancing medical education, medical research or patient care. Dr. Argenta’s role in the development of negative-pressure wound therapy, his leadership of the Department of Plastic Surgery at Wake Forrest University, and his extensive philanthropic service in the developing world were among the many achievements in Plastic Surgery that were highlighted during a gala ceremony attended by the Dean of Medicine, distinguished alumni and faculty, and many members of Lou’s family. The list of recipients of the MCAS Distinguished Achievement award is a “who’s who” of American medicine and it’s fantastic to see Lou recognized in this way.

-Bill Kuzon, M.D., Ph.D.

In May of this year, Cozy Grabb hosted an elegant lunch at her Ann Arbor home for Plastic Surgery’s original travel club. The group included Bill Grabb, Hugh Thompson, Maurice Jurkiewicz, Mel Spira, Paul Weeks, JB Lynch, Jack Hoopes, and Ian Jackson. This group of elite Plastic Surgeons were not only powerhouses in their own right, but as a group they were instrumental in establishing the PSEF InService examination (by contrast, most of today’s travel clubs just, um,…travel). I was honored to be in attendance and to spend time with this group of surgeons who have contributed so much to our specialty. It was especially great for me to see their spirited “discussions” reflecting the passion they all still have for Plastic Surgery.

-Bill Kuzon, M.D., Ph.D.
After graduating from our training program this past summer, Dr. Michael Bernstein moved south to St. Louis, MO. The transition was effortless given the close proximity of his extended family. He had previously lived in the area completing the MD/PhD program at Washington University. He now works a few doors down as staff in the Division of Plastic Surgery at Saint Louis University. He is already doing some amazing cases in both the pediatric and adult populations. Dr. Bernstein is very satisfied with his experience and looks forward to his growing career. He spends most of his free time with his wife, Gina, and their three kids. He tries to bike as much as possible, and much like the anesthesiologist behind the curtain, he continues to enjoy perusing various websites on firearms and exotic automobiles. We wish the Professor and his family the best of luck!

After spending more than ten years in Ann Arbor, Emily has left Michigan and relocated to Portland, Oregon with her husband Brendan and her son Connor. The entire family is enjoying exploring their new city and reaping the benefits of being one hour from the Oregon coast, only a half hour from the Columbia River gorge and just fifteen minutes from several wineries! While Brendan is busy with his new joint academic position in pediatric cardiology with Kaiser and OHSU, Emily and Connor are truly enjoying some quality time together as she begins to set up her own practice.

Dr. Hu is currently office-sharing with another female plastic surgeon in her area who also has an interest in breast cancer reconstruction and education. Emily has already become involved in her community breast cancer awareness groups and fundraising activities. Current plans are for her to hold office hours two days per week and to have OR two days per week in the local hospital. Emily will also be covering hand and general plastics call for several area hospitals. She hopes to focus her practice on general plastics, breast cancer reconstruction and Mohs reconstruction.

Dr. Ian Lytle graduated in June 2010 and did not have far to move. Dr. Lytle has joined the Center for Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at St. Joseph Mercy in Ypsilanti, adding yet another top-notch clinical faculty member to our residency program as he joins Drs. Izenberg, Hing, Bell, and Sherick in practice. After taking a month off to relax, fish, and catch-up with family, Dr. Lytle started working and already has a busy schedule including cosmetic, general reconstruction, Mohs reconstruction, and facial trauma patients. Within the first couple of months, he has already found his clinic practice rapidly expanding. In addition to seeing patients at St. Joe’s in Ypsilanti, he also is working on expanding the Center for Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery service base to include Western Wayne County with an office in Canton, Michigan. He is also working on starting a clinic in the Oakwood system where is wife, Dr. Marija Grahovac, is an obstetrician/gynecologist.

Reflecting on his training at Michigan, Dr. Lytle stated “that the training I received from Michigan has really prepared me well for the variety of clinical cases that can show on your doorstep.” He highlighted his close relationship with Dr. David Brown and exposure to facial reconstruction following Mohs Surgery as one of the experiences most valuable to him in his practice. He is looking forward to working with the upcoming residents as both our 3rd and 5th year resident rotate over at “the Joe.” In his free time, Dr. Lytle continues to remain busy studying for his written boards in the upcoming weeks. Once this important task is completed, he is looking forward to spending time with his family and then, finally, buying a new car. Overall, Dr. Lytle has been doing well and we are all fortunate to have him stay in the area as part of our Michigan Plastic Surgery family.

For the 2009 Dingman Lecture, the Section of Plastic Surgery welcomed Dr. Michael Bentz from the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Dr. Bentz, the Chairman of the Division of Plastic Surgery at Wisconsin, shared an unorthodox, but insightful lecture entitled, “Physician Health in Plastic Surgery: Ten Tips to Lower Your Occupational Risks and Improve Your Personal Outcomes.” He explained how the talk had slowly grown out a recent personal health crisis that forced him to face his own mortality. After experiencing life as a patient and feeling the loss of control that only illness can induce, Dr. Bentz began thinking of all the ways our day-to-day choices affect our health and longevity as plastic surgeons. What began as a personal reflection became a collection of practical, yet powerful, principles to improve one’s mental and physical health. Simple choices like double-gloving to reduce the chance of needle-stick injury and avoiding headlights unless absolutely necessary to prevent neck strain blended with more difficult concepts like taking time for preventative medicine and personal wellness to describe a model for simply living better. The lecture was a call to reflection and to self-awareness of the ways in which we often neglect ourselves in the pursuit of helping others. We are grateful to Dr. Bentz for his insight and perspective and his willingness to share his personal experiences with us as the 2009 Dingman Lecturer.
Welcome Incoming Residents!

With each year comes a new class of residents to the University of Michigan Section of Plastic Surgery, representing the future leaders and innovators of the field. We would like to introduce you to this year’s incoming residents in plastic surgery. Please join us in giving them a warm welcome to our plastic surgery family.

Jennifer Waljee
Dr. Waljee is a native of Vinings, Georgia and spent her undergraduate years at the University of Michigan. After going back to Atlanta for medical school at Emory University, she returned to Ann Arbor for her General Surgery residency at the University of Michigan Hospital. During her General Surgery training years, Dr. Waljee discovered her interest in plastic surgery while authoring nationally acclaimed outcomes studies upon breast cancer reconstruction with Dr. Amy Alderman and Dr. Lisa Newman as her mentors as a part of the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program. After being chosen from a national pool of candidates for the Association of Women Surgeons’ Outstanding Resident Award as the chief resident of General Surgery last year, Dr. Waljee graduated from the General Surgery residency and joined the plastic surgery residency program. Dr. Waljee is a familiar rock of support with whom many of the residents within the section have trained as her junior residents during the past several years. Known by her fellow residents for her admirable patience and unflappable demeanor (in addition to her reliable surgical knowledge), Dr. Waljee enters our section already well established as a favorite of her fellow residents.

In her free time, Dr. Waljee enjoys reading, playing golf, traveling, and running. Dr. Waljee’s husband Akbar is an attending physician in the Department of Gastroenterology here at the University Hospital. They enjoy spending time together as a family with their young daughter, Elyse. The Section of Plastic Surgery is especially fortunate to have Dr. Jennifer Waljee join our ranks.

Matthew Chetta
The Section of Plastic Surgery welcomes Matt Chetta to the residency program. Although he is excited about moving to Michigan and enjoys the college town feel of Ann Arbor, Matt often reminisces about the beauty of his hometown of Clarkesville, Georgia, a small city nestled in the quiet foothills of the Great Smokey Mountains. An avid sportsman and outdoor enthusiast, he recalls countless hikes, climbs, and other excursions in “majestic God’s country.” In his youth he followed his father on numerous medical missions to Honduras, Russia, Peru, and Ukraine. There he helped with minor procedures and learned the importance of missionary medicine. He later attended Pensacola Christian College, where he studied violin and piano as a premed. During his time at the Medical College of Georgia, he worked in a pediatric operating room, where his interest for surgery developed. He currently plans to specialize in pediatric plastic surgery and expects that he will once again partake in medical missions in the future. After a long day at work you may find Matt sitting behind his piano, playing his own improvisations. He is equally adept as a concert violinist and we hope to someday have the privilege to hear him perform his favorite piece, Tchaikovsky’s Violin Concerto in D major.

Shoshana Woo
The Section is very pleased to welcome Shoshana Woo into our 2009 intern class. Of Vietnamese and Chinese descent, she was born and raised in the Washington, DC area. After winning the “personality plus” award in high school, she began building a professional resume almost too impressive to believe. She was Phi Beta Kappa and graduated Summa Cum Laude from Yale University. She was also awarded a Fulbright Scholarship, which took her to Vietnam to study child psychology and teach art to impoverished children. She then enrolled at Duke University for her medical school years before coming to join us in Ann Arbor. In between all of these academic successes, she has developed into an excellent tennis player and an avid snowboarder. Also, she will play in almost any game of ultimate frisbee she can. Although she does have close family that she visits in nearby Chicago, we are excited to have Shoshana as part of our U of M family as well.
**Departures**

**Retirement of Sarah Wiener**
In September 2009, the faculty, resident, and staff of the Section of Plastic Surgery bade farewell to Sarah Wiener as she headed off to a well-deserved retirement. Sarah joined Plastic Surgery as an administrative assistant in 1995 and has kept us all organized ever since. Her ability to decipher the arcane financial reports the University sends our way, the help she gave to our many visitors over the years, and most of all, her warm and gentle nature that affected us all will be truly missed. Sarah plans to travel and to spend more time with her husband, Sandy; we wish her all best and hope she comes back to visit often.

**Retirement of Paula Miska**
In September 2009, we were all both happy and sad as Paula Miska, NP retired from the Section of Plastic Surgery. Paula joined us on December 3rd 1984 and has been the keystone of our wound care program ever since. Paula’s expertise and compassionate care helped an enormous number of patients with chronic and complex wounds. She also helped train many, many students and residents along the way. We are sad that she won’t be at the clinic on a day to day basis any more. We are happy that she will now get a well deserved respite from the daily onslaught of dressings, debridements, Appligraft procedures, and all the VAC paperwork. We wish her all the best in retirement and look forward to seeing her visit us often.

**Retirement of Sharon Burgess**
With the July turnover of new residents brought the loss of one our favorite clinic clerks, Sharon Burgess. She retired from the University after 23 years; seven of which were spent in Plastic Surgery. Sharon held many positions while in plastic surgery including secretary to Drs. Riley Rees, Paul Cederna, and David Brown. Thereafter, she moved to Domino Farms where she worked the intake part of the clinic. Prior to Sharon’s retirement she worked in the clinic in the capacity of Check-In Clerk. Checking in patients is an extremely busy position but Sharon always gave 100% at work and went above and beyond the “call of duty.” Sharon loved working with the doctors. She claimed each has their own personality and required special attention. How do you suppose Burgess knew to manage doctors? Can you guess what Sharon’s position was prior to her employment at the University of Michigan? The position entailed the following:

- One must work well under pressure
- Required minimum supervision
- Protected life and property of citizens
- The ability to wrestle criminals to the ground
- Carried a snub nose 38 revolver in her purse.

Dr. Wilkins, Brown, and Kasten received recognition of their significant academic achievements in the past year. In September of this past year, Dr. Edwin Wilkins was promoted to Professor of Surgery. Promotion to Professor is the highest honor a University bestows on its faculty and Ed is richly deserving of this honor. He is an exemplary clinician, a leader for our specialty nationally, and a research scientist who has made significant contributions, particularly in the area of outcomes of breast reconstruction.

Dr. David Brown was promoted to Associate Professor, with tenure, in the Department of Surgery. Dave’s research in the area of functional tissue engineering has received wide attention and he has a well-deserved reputation as an outstanding teacher. Awarding of tenure is the University’s way of making a permanent commitment to one of its faculty members. This honor recognizes Dave’s past achievement and, more importantly, future potential as a national leader in Plastic Surgery.

On August 1, 2009, Dr. Steven Kasten became the Program Director for the Michigan Integrated Plastic Surgery Residency. Serving as Associate Program Director since 2002, Dr. Kasten has gained a well deserved reputation as a surgical educator. He serves on the U-M GME Internal Review Committee and has held important leadership positions in the ASE and in AACPS. We are all fortunate to have Steve at the helm for our residency program.

You guessed it! Sharon was a Deputy and worked for the Sheriff’s Department in Washtenaw County. That’s how Sharon did it. What does it say about doctors?

She lives in Saline with her three cats and is planning a vacation in Virginia Beach. Sharon in an interview said, “I love retirement…I am in control of my life.” Recently, she started her own internet marketing business. Other than a sore hip, she still continues to walk and swim.

**Transitions**

Dr. Edwin Wilkins

Dr. David Brown

Dr. Steve Kasten

You guessed it! Sharon was a Deputy and worked for the Sheriff’s Department in Washtenaw County. That’s how Sharon did it. What does it say about doctors?

She lives in Saline with her three cats and is planning a vacation in Virginia Beach. Sharon in an interview said, “I love retirement…I am in control of my life.” Recently, she started her own internet marketing business. Other than a sore hip, she still continues to walk and swim.

- Bill Kuzon, M.D., Ph.D.
The 2008-2009 academic year saw the continuation of our fine tradition of bringing distinguished visiting professors to speak before the Plastic Surgery Section at the University of Michigan. Dr. Peter Waters from Children’s Hospital in Boston visited us in September as the Integra Visiting Lecturer. He gave two terrific talks on managing brachial plexus injuries, one on shoulder surgery and another on indications for microsurgery, which attracted a wide audience of plastic surgeons, neurosurgeons, orthopedists, hand therapists, and students. Also in September, the Section hosted a trio of special visitors from Japan: Drs. Hiroyuki Kato from the Shinshu University School of Medicine, Tsuyoshi Murase from Osaka University, and Shukuki Koh from Nagoya University. Dr. Koh was the ASSH International Traveling Fellow for 2008-2009. They described their innovative use of 3D computer simulation to guide reconstruction of the upper extremity, as well as the Japanese experience treating Kienbock’s disease. In November, Dr. Thomas Mustoe, chief of plastic surgery at Northwestern University School of Medicine, shared with us his observations on treating chronic wounds and on managing problematic scarring. He served as our KCI Visiting Professor for 2008. December brought Dr. Scott Levin to the University of Michigan, as the Stryker Visiting Professor.

Then at Duke University as the chief of the Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, Dr. Levin first gave a wide-ranging talk about the history of what he terms “orthoplastic” surgery, emphasizing the critical value of reconstruction to the field of plastic surgery. He followed this with a lecture focused on the clinical use of osteoseptocutaneous fibula grafts. In May, we were honored to host Dr. Donato LaRossa from the University of Pennsylvania. He gave a pair of incredible talks: the first was a Grand Rounds focusing on his approach to individualizing cleft lip repair, a topic which he has extensive personal expertise in; in the second, Dr. LaRossa described his unique experiences treating conjoined twins at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. He also hosted a discussion of interesting cases with the residents. Most recently, Dr. Kai Liu from the renowned People’s 9th Hospital in China described for us his institution’s refinements in rhinoplasty when treating the Asian nose. Dr. Liu is the John D. Constable Traveling Fellow, sponsored by the AAPS. In sum, 2008-2009 was another great year for our visiting professor program. The Plastic Surgery Section was most fortunate to have experts from such varied areas within our specialty, and from such diverse parts of the globe, come visit us in Ann Arbor to share their knowledge and expertise.

-Keith Wolter MD, PhD.

12th annual William Grab Lecture

At the conclusion of the 2008-2009 academic year, we had the honor to welcome back Dr. Warren Garner, Associate Professor of Surgery at the University of Southern California in the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. Not only is Dr. Garner a distinguished plastic surgeon, but he formerly was the Director of the University of Michigan Trauma Burn Unit. He was responsible for training many of our current staff surgeons throughout the Department of Surgery. The staff in the Trauma Burn Unit were so pleased to have him back that they invited Dr. Garner to oversee morning rounds. This was an excellent teaching opportunity for those residents, nurses and staff on service and helped remind the current staff of Dr. Garner’s lessons that they may have forgotten.

Dr. Garner demonstrated his teaching ability with the residents through his participation in resident case presentations. He then took the podium himself for the 12th annual William Grab Lecture in Plastic Surgery, entitled “Remembering Our Professors: The Permanence and Learning of Wisdom.” This lecture was extremely enlightening and covered a wide range of ideas and people from.

Pete Carroll, the coach of the USC football team, (which always seems to beat U-M) to the professor whom the lecture was named after: William Grabb. This lecture captured the interest of residents and staff alike, as it covered some cutting edge surgical education research being done at USC. Similar surgery education topics are being investigated by some residents and attendings here at U-M as well. The entire day was enjoyed by all from junior and chief residents, to previous students and colleagues of Dr. Garner. He helped celebrate our 2009 graduating chief residents and was acknowledged for his accomplishments at U-M and beyond. Throughout the entire visiting professorship, it was apparent that Dr. Garner had gained the respect of all those who had worked with him and under him during his time at U-M. Furthermore, he continues to be a leader academically and clinically in plastic surgery. Dr. Garner will, in the words of the title of his talk, be “Remembered” for the “wisdom” he has passed on as an outstanding professor and colleague.

-Ben Levi, M.D.
THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The Plastic Surgery Section has continued its strong tradition of attracting international interest for its strengths both clinically and academically. To this end, we have had the privilege of hosting multiple visiting professors and international scholars throughout the year.

Dr. Kai Liu from Shanghai, China was named the John D. Constable International Traveling Fellow by the American Association of Plastic Surgeons in 2009. He has joined us to study in-vivo tissue engineering and peripheral nerve regeneration under Dr. David Brown. In August 2009, he gave an outstanding talk to our section regarding refinements in rhinoplasty in the Asian nose.

Dr. Takashi Oda, M.D., Ph.D has joined us for 12 months from Sapporo Medical University in Japan. He completed his medical and research training as well as orthopedic surgical training at Sapporo University, and has an interest hand transplantation, and elbow and shoulder reconstruction. His basic science interests include bone and mineral metabolism, and he has published extensively on the effect of granulocyte colony stimulating factor on bone resorption in murine models. At the University of Michigan, he has completed an economic analysis of hand transplantation, presented at the American Society for Surgery of the Hand annual meeting this year in San Francisco. Outside of the hospital, he is an avid rugby player.

Dr. Sandeep Sebastian has joined our section this year as an international scholar with his wife Aswathi and his 6 year old son Tanay. He has completed his medical training in both general surgery and plastic surgery in India, and now practices as an attending physician in Hand and Reconstructive Micorsurgery at the National University of Singapore. His research interests include the steroid effect on reperfusion injury, and the effect of suture technique on skeletal muscle laceration repair. Since his arrival, Dr. Sebastian has completed the Robert Wood Johnson Clinic Scholars Program Summer Course in health services research. In his free time, he enjoys travel, photography, computer hardware and imaging software.

In 2010, Dr. Ono from the Nippon Medical School as well as Dr. Lin from the Chang Gung Memorial Hospital in Taiwan will join us as international scholars studying hand surgery, and we look forward to working with these outstanding surgeons.

Overall, our educational mission is bright and vibrant, and we are delighted that our section continues to gain international recognition so that we may collaborate with such enthusiastic and talented scholars.

-Jennifer Waljee, M.D.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH/YEAR

PURPOSE:
1. To recognize outstanding full-time and part time support staff employees who embrace the Section of Plastic Surgery’s standards for excellence and innovation.
2. To reward those employees who show exemplary individual achievement, performance in their jobs and other related duties.
3. To acknowledge those whose efforts have inspired and supported the performance and achievement of others.

ADVANTAGES:
1. Provides a positive attitude toward work responsibilities, co-workers, and serves as a role model for others.
2. Commitment to quality in carrying out job responsibilities.
3. Creates a willingness to exercise leadership, take initiative, and carry out additional responsibilities beyond regular job assignments.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: David Brown, MD, Margaret Madigan, Jeffery Kozlow, MD, Chris Pannucci, MD, Patricia McKenzie, RN, Renee Chevrette, Nicole Haskett, Laura Simon, MA

EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR FOR 2008: Patricia McKenzie, RN and Renee Chevrette, Call Center

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH FOR 2009

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<tr>
<th>Month</th>
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<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>Paul S. Cederna, MD</td>
<td>Scherlyna Comer, Clinic Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Jodi Troise, Surgery Scheduling</td>
<td>Amy Holland, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Carrie Wickersham, Main Office</td>
<td>Trisha Goodridge, RN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Kris Sugg, MD</td>
<td>Aliu Oluseyi, MD</td>
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I was a bit skeptical of these ideas when they were first introduced, as were many of my colleagues. What has amazed us all is how quickly “Moments of Zen” and “Me Days” have become an important part of our routine in Plastic Surgery over the past 3 years.

The Moment of Zen (MOZ) occurs at the beginning of every conference. In a short presentation, we get to hear about something that one of us finds interesting or inspiring. The only rule: the topic cannot have a direct relation to Plastic Surgery. During the past year, we’ve had inspirational readings (The Giving Tree, read by Mike Bernstein), cross-cultural learning experiences (“What is a Yooper?” by Paul Cederna, and “History of the Mullet” by Kris Sugg), and important discussions on whether or not a popular hand gesture can be trademarked (by Steve Haase). On-time conference attendance has gone up 30% since MOZ began.*

(*unpublished data)

Me Day is an even rarer treat. On a person’s Me Day, they give a 30-minute talk on themselves. This has turned out to be an enlightening, fascinating (and sometimes quite emotional) conference. The topics shared have covered family history, hobbies, world travel, and other remarkable personal accomplishments. This past year, we heard from Mike Bernstein, Steve Haase (that’s him on the orange vinyl sofa), Jeff Kozlow, and Kevin Chung. (Kevin gets the award for most widely-traveled U-M scrubs.)

As we enter our fourth year of MOZs and Me Days, our skepticism has given way to anticipation. These personal presentations have helped us appreciate each other’s hidden talents, humor, skills, and history that would otherwise go unnoticed in a busy academic medical center. I, for one, hope these traditions continue for many years to come.

-Steve Haase, M.D.

Alumni Updates

Loree Kalliainen (1999) has had a fun year and is enjoying life in the St. Paul area. She has been named director of the hand surgery fellowship at the University of Minnesota, and she will become the Chief of Staff of Regions Hospital in January 2010. Last September, she and her husband Kevin spent a week driving a 600 cc 2-stroke 1977 Trabant for a microcar rally across the Pyrenees.

Ramin Behmand (2001) is the chief of the Division of Plastic Surgery at the John Muir Medical Center in Walnut Creek, California. He continues to spend his free time mountaineering. This past summer, he traveled to Russia and climbed to the summit of Mount Elbrus, the tallest peak on the European continent. He plans to climb in Argentina this fall and in Antarctica to ring in the New Year.

Greg Borschel (2005) recently relocated from Washington University in St. Louis, accepting a position at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Canada. His clinical interests include pediatric hand, nerve, and microsurgery. His research focuses on using tissue engineering and regenerative medicine to address peripheral nerve injuries. His wife, Tina, has accepted a position as Associate Program Director for the University of Toronto Department of Internal Medicine. Hockey and French classes have already begun for their children, Anjali (6) and Nikhil (4).

Catherine Curtin (2006) has had an exciting year. She has made the huge leap of entering the Bay area real estate market. She is still working at Stanford and keeps fit chasing her two active boys: Timmy and Tango. If current growth continues, they might make good additions to U-M defensive line when they grow up.

Salvatore Pacella (2007) is enjoying life in sunny San Diego. Being part of a multispecialty clinic has allowed him to get involved with many challenging reconstructive and trauma cases while developing a great practice in aesthetic surgery. With the training in his Atlanta fellowship, he is developing a niche in oculoplastic surgery. He has also been working diligently with the Aesthetic Society developing a core curriculum for ASAPS registered aesthetic fellowships. On a personal note, Dr. Pacella also recently took up the relaxing sport of surf paddleboarding, which he claims is a little easier on the knee than the old days of Michigan rugby.

Edwin Chang (2008) began his practice with Spokane Plastic Surgeons in the great state of Washington, specializing in general plastic and reconstructive surgery, cosmetic surgery, and hand surgery. This year he found time to travel to Australia, watch professional tennis at the Australian Open, and go scuba diving at the Great Barrier Reef. He then took another trip to the Galapagos Islands where he did some hiking, snorkeling, and sea-kayaking. With that out of his system, he is now dutifully studying for the boards.

-Steve Haase, M.D.

Alumni at dinner Feb 09 Santa Barbara CA

Loree Kalliainen on orange vinyl sofa

Dr. Kevin Chung

Alumni at dinner Feb 09 Santa Barbara CA

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-Steve Haase, M.D.
The 2008-2009 academic year bore familiar marks of distinction that is akin to celebrated tradition amongst the faculty of the University of Michigan Plastic Surgery Section. These accomplishments run the gamut from leadership in national organizations and visiting professorships to research and teaching awards. Some of the particulars follow below.

David Brown M.D.
Dr. Brown continues in his role as the medical director of the Plastic Surgery Ambulatory Care Unit and is on the image management committee of the University of Michigan Ambulatory Care Information System. He was mentor to Dr. Melissa Melvin who was awarded the Best Research Poster Award at the 2008 Moses Gunn Annual Research Conference hosted by the University of Michigan Department of Surgery. Dr. Brown for his dedication to resident education was fittingly awarded the 2009 Residents’ Faculty Didactic Teaching Award. He was invited as a visiting professor at the Shanghai 9th People’s Hospital in Shanghai, China and additionally was an invited speaker at the Michigan OT hand therapists Symposium. On the national stage, Dr. Brown is involved as a study section member of the Plastic Surgery Education Foundation Research Grants and was nominated to the research and grants committee of the Plastic Surgery Education Foundation (PSEF).

Steven Buchman M.D.
Dr. Buchman’s was deservedly recognized as a distinguished clinician and was named the clinician of the year at the University of Michigan Health System, he was also reselected amongst America’s Best Doctors, august eminences indeed for our section. His distinction extends to the national stage, Dr. Buchman was elected as president-elect of American Society of Maxillofacial Surgeons (ASMS) and was also selected as the ASMS visiting professor.

Paul Cederna M.D.
Dr. Cederna continues to do our section expressly proud with a bevy of academic honors, national leadership roles in the domain of plastic surgery and recognition of his eminent person by a mélange of professional entities. Dr. Cederna has proven to be a venerable influence on residents and students who work with him. He was mentor to Dr. Brent Egeland who won the American Society of Maxillofacial Surgeons Merck scholarship grant. Under Dr. Cederna’s tutelage Dr. Egeland was additionally awarded the Best Clinical Research Award at the 2009 American Association for Hand Surgery, American Society for Peripheral Nerve and American Society for Reconstructive Microsurgery annual meeting. At the 21st Annual Moses Gunn Research Conference hosted by the University of Michigan Department of Surgery, Dr. Cederna’s poster presentations were recognized as outstanding, they were presented by Kirsten Schroeder and Dr. Egeland. Additional marks of academic distinction were achieved at the 2009 annual meeting of the Plastic Surgery Research Council where he received the John F. Cripechair Basic Science Research Award and at the Annual Midwest Association of Plastic Surgeons where he won the second prize of the Best Scientific Research Paper category. In recognition of his immense contributions to resident education, Dr. Cederna was meritoriously awarded the University of Michigan Plastic Surgery Resident Clinical Teaching Award in 2008 and 2009 as well. Dr. Cederna’s trail of accolades include being named amongst the Best Doctors in America for two consecutive years, 2008-2009 and 2009-2010, listed amongst America’s Top Doctors for 2009, recognition in the 2008 Guide to America’s Top Plastic Surgeons. He is named amongst an elite list of professionals compiled by both Marquis and Biltmore Who’s Who, entities with the mission to highlight business and professional leaders with recognition of their outstanding achievements. He was also honored with a Patient’s Choice Award in 2009. Dr. Cederna’s plays a prominent role in leadership positions within the plastic surgery specialty, he is the president elect of the American Society for Peripheral Nerve and the president of Michigan Academy of Plastic Surgeons. He serves on the board of directors of the American Society for Plastic Surgeons and the Plastic Surgery Education Foundation. He is an oral board examiner for the American Board for Plastic Surgery.

Kevin Chung M.D., M.S.
Dr. Chung’s prolific academic profile did not relent in the past year, his scholarly endeavors were deservedly acknowledged. The American Society for Surgery of the Hand honored Dr. Chung with the Weiland Medal Award, a laurel meant to honor a hand-surgeon scientist with immense research contributions that have advanced the field of hand surgery. Our Dr. Chung is indeed the first recipient of this prestigious award. Dr. Chung’s authorship of the book, Operative Techniques: Hand and Wrist Surgery, 1st Edition, Saunders/Elsevier, Philadelphia, 2007, was duly acclaimed as honorable mention finalist in the 2008 PROSE Award for the Best Clinical Medicine Product by the Professional and Scholarly Publishing Division of the Association of American Publishers. In the venerable tradition of our section in mentoring residents and students and staff to excellence, Dr. Christi Cavaliere and Melissa Shauver won awards in the 2009 Plastic Surgery Education Foundation Scientific Essay Contests with outstanding direction from none other than Dr. Chung.

William Kuzon M.D., Ph. D.
We cannot celebrate the vast achievements of our Section without a well deserved nod to our Section Head Dr. Kuzon who continues to display excellent leadership and direction which certainly helps to sustain the stratospheric level of academic productivity and clinical distinction our section is recognized for.
In addition to the Herculean task of overseeing the Section of Plastic Surgery at the University of Michigan, Dr. Kuzon is fully involved in the specialty on the national stage. He is the president elect of the Plastic Surgery Education Foundation, his term begins in October 2009, he was elected to be a Director of the American Board of Plastic Surgery, he is currently vice-president of the American Association of Plastic Surgeons and this year he continues as historian of the Plastic Surgery Research Council. In 2008-2009 Dr. Kuzon served as the PSEF visiting professor. Dr. Kuzon is an embodiment of leadership by deed.

"Oluseyi Aliu, M.D."
As always, the faculty at the University of Michigan have accomplished a great deal in the hospital and outside of the hospital. Rather than boring the readers of this newsletter with an exhaustive list of academic accomplishments, national leadership positions, and “Wow are you great!” awards, I thought I would include a few of the lighter moments which have been highlighted by the faculty. I have included below the actual responses to my e-mail soliciting information for the Faculty News section of the Dingman Newsletter.

William M. Kuzon:
Outside of work:
1. Obtained my Private Pilot's license in April.
2. Completed 2 triathlons this summer.
3. Learned to play “Suite, Judy Blue Eyes” in open D tuning.
5. Drank a lot of wine in Montana, Pennsylvania, Michigan, and New York, and a lot of other places.
7. Watched a whole lot of YouTube.
8. Did not wreck a Porsche this year.
10. My children will still speak to me without lawyers present.

Unfortunately, this information was not entirely accurate and Dr. Kuzon sent along this correction: I mis-spoke. I learned to play “Suite, Judy Blue Eyes” in modal D, not open D. Modal tunings, invented by Bruce Palmer of Buffalo Springfield, drop the 3rd from a major chord. So, modal D drops the F# from the D chord (DADDAD or “dad dad” tuning). Open D would be DADF#AD, obviously.

I’m sure that, because of your extensive knowledge of both music theory and 60's folk/rock, you were confused by my original statement. Sorry.

Steve Haase:
Honestly, I can’t think of much. Kids are healthy, happy, and involved in an exponentially-increasing number of activities. I love my wife and my home.
1. Did not lose/gain weight this year.
2. Did not climb any mountains, nor develop any new disabilities as a result of illness or injury or hunting or fishing.
3. Did not run a marathon.
4. Did not really even run much.
5. Did not get fired.
6. Took the kids to Saugatuck. The dune ride was fun.
7. Saw Kenny Chesney in concert at Ford Field. Check out the photos on FaceBook.

Paul Cederna:
It was an exciting year in the Cederna household with many interesting, exciting, and educational things happening….oh wait……. it wasn’t exciting at all.

My Family:
1. Our daughter Paige finished her freshmen year at the University of Michigan, joined the ADPi sorority, and did not end up in jail or the ER during the year (unlike some other freshmen we know).
2. Our son Colin continues to play lacrosse and hockey.
3. We have added a fun family tradition of picking up trash on the golf course after each Michigan football home game as a fund raiser for Colin's hockey team….fun, fun, fun.
4. Jean has continued her work as Co-Director of the Hope Clinic in Ypsilanti, a free medical clinic. They provided medical care to over 15,000 patients last year alone.
5. Experienced no major sporting injuries.
7. Increased my typing speed from 5 to 8 words per minute.

Dave Brown:
I competed in 2 triathlons this summer.
I am doing research as a result of R01 and R21 grant funding.
My children are both doing well in school and are on travel sports teams.
I have received my instrument rating to accompany my pilot’s license.

Amy Alderman:
My husband, Mike is now happily employed at University of Michigan.

Steve Buchman
We have adopted little Bradyn Daniel Buchman who just had his second birthday on September 15th, 2009. I just became President-Elect of the ASMS, not sure if that is appropriate for your section!

Riley Rees:
The deer got their revenge this year. Shortly after preparing a gourmet venison meal for myself and my partners, I lost sight in my right eye. After extensive evaluations, the ophthamologists determined that I had developed toxoplasmosis in my right macula. The visual loss did not affect my surgical vision, only my shooting vision. I am now shooting left handed. There is irony in there somewhere.

-Paul Cederna, M.D.
Jeff Kozlow is currently serving as our administrative chief resident. He will be the new resident representative to the ASPS and PSEF for the upcoming year. He also continues to be the sole resident member of the Plastic Surgery Residency Review Committee.

Keith Wolter, his wife Jill, and big sister Fiona welcomed son Rhys James on April 23rd. Keith was awarded the Young Investigator Award at the Moses Gunn Surgical Forum for his work in head and neck oncology. Jill remains busy as an attending obstetric anesthesiologist at the University.

Andrew Zwyghuizen and his wife Carrie welcomed new baby, Evan Andrew, to their family on July 11th. Andrew also led the production of a video textbook of flap dissections published by the Hand Society.

Brent Egeland recently finished his time in the lab working toward building an electronic interface with peripheral nerve for control of prosthetics under the direction of Paul Cederna. In the past year he has authored, coauthored or presented over 35 abstracts locally and nationally, written or edited 6 book chapters and video chapters, and has multiple manuscripts published. His work received the top awards by ASPN, PSRC, MAPS and Moses Gunn. He has finished his tenure of managing the Roast production for the second year in a row. With the help of Andrew Zwyghuizen contributing greatly to the effort, the production really moved into a new HD video era. This year was said to be the “Best Ever.” Most importantly, Brent, wife Angela, and 2 year-old son Blake welcomed Maia Sofia into their family in November.

Laura Monson completed a year of research in Dr. Buchman’s lab studying distraction osteogenesis in a rat radiated mandible model. She presented her work at PSRC and will be presenting at ASPS this year.

Jennifer Waljee received the James Crudup Research Award at the Moses Gunn Surgical Forum for her work on outcomes in breast cancer and reconstruction. Her husband Akbar began his first year on faculty in the Department of Gastroenterology at UMHS.

Ben Levi has been involved with developing the State of Michigan Mass Casualty Plan. He had several papers published in PRS. He was awarded the National Institutes of Health, National Research Service Award/ F32 Individual Grant Award to work on isolating the human skeletal progenitor cell from human adipose derived stem cells. He also was the recipient of the National Institute of Health Loan Repayment Scholarship. He continues to be an avid long distance runner and was recently certified as an American Burn Association Course Instructor.

Chris Pannucci is currently doing research under the supervision of Dr. Wilkins, working on a multi-center study on venous thromboembolism in reconstructive surgery. He is also working toward a Master’s degree in Health and Healthcare Research. He

Anita Kulkarni presented her research in obesity and breast reconstruction at ASPS and the Dingman Society. She also contributed to the production of a video textbook of flap dissections published by the Hand Society. Her husband, Amol Rangnekar, started his fellowship in gastroenterology at the UMHS.

Adam Oppenheimer published his research on maternal reactions to cleft lip and palate children across the globe in the Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Journal. In his free time, he continues to develop his website, MyInterviewTrail.com.

Erika Sears was accepted into the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program. She recently had a paper accepted by the Journal of Hand Surgery. She also wrote a chapter in a flap textbook published by the Hand Society. Her husband, Victor, is finishing his last year at U-M law school and has been offered an associate attorney position at a Detroit law firm.

Oluseyi Aliu recently had a paper accepted to PRS on the Consumer Impact of the ASPS and ASAPS Educational Websites, and had a paper published in the Journal of Nutrition this year. Seyi also helped with production of a video textbook on flap dissections published by the Hand Society.

Rafael Díaz-Garcia helped to create and teach a surgical skills curriculum to Pain Fellows in the Department of Anesthesia. As a result, he was named an adjunct clinical instructor in the Department of Anesthesia.

Kristopher Sugg and his wife Sarah welcomed their new baby, Makena Addison, to their family on September 20th. Kris was also named employee of the month for April. He assisted in production of a video textbook on flap dissections published by the Hand Society. He presented his research on reconstruction of cheek defects at the Dingman Society Meeting

Frank Fang recently had a paper published in the Journal of Neurology.

Avi Giladi had publications in Surgery and Journal of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition. He also authored a book chapter in a critical care textbook and authored another chapter pending publication in a trauma textbook. Avi also participated in production of a video textbook published by the Hand Society.

Ted Kung published a paper in the Journal of Craniofacial Surgery. He also proposed to his girlfriend on August 18th, and she accepted. We look forward to welcoming Ashley to the plastic surgery family.

-Anita Kulkarni, Benjamin Levi & Erika Sears
As part of the 2009 graduation ceremonies and Dingman Society Scientific Meeting, we were honored to welcome two outstanding speakers. Dr. Warren Garner, Associate Professor of Surgery in the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Southern California School of Medicine, delivered the Grabb Lecture on Thursday, June 4, entitled “Remembering our Professors: The Permanence and Learning of Wisdom,” reflecting on his knowledge and experience in adult learning and in particular, educating residents. On the following day, Dr. Michael Bentz, Professor and Chairman for the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Wisconsin, presided, as the Dingman Visiting Professor, over the annual resident research presentations. He commented how impressed he was with both the quantity (this year there were over 20 presentations) and quality of the research being conducted by the University of Michigan residents and research fellows.

After the research presentations concluded, Dr. Bentz related his personal experience and thoughts on maintaining our own physical well being while busy with practice in the 21st annual Dingman Lecture, entitled “Physician Health in Plastic Surgery: Ten Tips to Lower Your Occupational Risks and Improve Your Personal Outcomes.” Both the Grabb Lecture and the Dingman Lecture were thoroughly enjoyed by all in attendance. We are privileged to have such distinguished and knowledgeable colleagues!

-Steven Kasten, M.D.

The Plastic Surgery Section, with support from colleagues from across the University of Michigan, holds an NIH Training grant in Burn, Trauma and Wound Healing Research. The grant, which is renewed for another 5 year period, has Cynthia Marcelo, Ph.D., as the PI and Program Director and William Kuzon, Jr., M.D., Ph.D. is the co-PI and co-Director. This grant supports the training of academic medical surgeons/scientists in basic and applied research related to trauma in muscle and bone, burn injuries, and wound healing and tissue engineering. Residents can train in health-related areas of investigation and outcome studies and can choose more fundamental research fields (tissue engineering, stem cell biology, cancer biology, and molecular and cell biology).

The grant supports two postdoctoral fellows per year, plus supplies, course work and travel allowances. One recent graduate of the program is Alero Fregene, M.D. a surgical resident from the Henry Ford Hospital program who elected to continue at the University of Michigan in Pathology residency after her 2 yr fellowship. Dr. Fregene trained with Steve Buchman, M.D. and Steve Goldstein, M.D. She studied mandibular distraction osteogenesis, a technique utilized in the pediatric population for treatment of mandibular hypoplasias.

Dr. Fregene was awarded a PSEF grant to support her work. The second graduating trainee is Brent Egeland, M.D., from our Plastic Surgery program. Dr. Egeland studied with Paul Cederna, M.D., and Melanie Urbancheck, Ph.D., and worked on bioengineering nerve and muscle for the construction and operation of artificial limbs. He has competed for and received funding to support his studies. With Dr. Cederna as mentor, he was awarded a Plastic Surgery Educational Foundation Grant, “Development of a Bioartifical Peripheral Nerve Implant for Chronic Recording and Stimulation” and the Frederick A. Coller Surgical Society, Surgical Research Fellowship.

Currently appointed to the training grant for two years are Benjamin Wei, M.D. and Eric Culbertson, M.D. Dr. Culbertson almost immediately was successful in obtaining an F32 fellowship from the NIH which overlapped with our T32 training grant so his training will be funded by the F32 for next 2 years. Dr. Culbertson’s success makes it possible for Chris Pannucci, M.D. to be appointed to the T32 grant as a fellow. Dr. Wei, who came to us from Henry Ford Hospital, in Detroit as a research fellow, is working with Drs. Paul Cederna and Melanie Urbancheck in the area of Bioartifical nerve implant. Dr. Culbertson is work with Dr. Michael Franz, M.D. in a study of fibroblast functional and phenotypic response to tensile force. Dr. Marcelo and Dr. Kuzon are second level mentors in this study. Dr. Chris Pannucci, MD, is mentored by Dr. Edwin Wilkins, M.D. His project, on which he is co-Investigator and Site Coordinator with Dr. Wilkins is entitled “Prevention of Venous Thrombo-embolism in Major Reconstructive Procedures” and is funded by Plastic Surgery Educational Foundation. Dr. Pannucci is also involved as site Coordinator in an outcomes study entitled “International Breast Reconstruction Outcomes Consortium II Pilot Study” which is funded by Michigan Institute for Clinical Health Research. He is the primary investigator and the mentor is Wendy Wahl, MD, Professor of Surgery, and Director of Trauma Burn Intensive Care Unit.

Amy Alderman MD MPH continues her health services research into the psychosocial, financial, and clinical outcomes aspects of breast reconstruction. Last year, she received a Robert Wood Johnson Physician Faculty Award in support of her work on the decision-making process for breast reconstruction. At present, her team is conducting field interviews of breast cancer patients and their significant others in Detroit and Los Angeles. In the past year, she authored over 10 papers in peer-reviewed journals, including Journal of the American Medical Association, Journal of Clinical Oncology, and Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. She has also been featured in the popular media, most recently Self magazine.
Alexis Donneys and Catherine Tchanque-Fossuo have joined Dr. Buchman’s Craniofacial Research Laboratory as research fellows for the next two years. They will focus on the application of therapeutic agents to optimize post-irradiated Distraction Osteogenesis (DO) in the mandible. Alexis is a graduate of Temple University School of Medicine, and has completed a preliminary year in general surgery at Loma Linda University Hospital, California. Catherine has completed three years of general surgery at Providence Hospital, Southfield, Michigan.

Aaron Farberg is currently a second year medical student and co-president of the Plastic Surgery Interest Group at UMMS. He joined the Buchman lab last year and has completed a summer research fellowship in the lab. He has contributed to various projects, and his current focus is on the “Angiogenic Effect of Deferoxamine on the Irradiated Mandible in Distraction Osteogenesis” – a project for which he recently received the 2009 American Society of Maxillofacial Surgeons Foundation Research Grant. He will be presenting a poster at the 2009 annual American Society of Plastic Surgery (ASPS) conference in Seattle.

Laura Monson has returned to her clinical duties as chief resident of the Plastic Surgery Service here at UM. She also completed a one year research fellowship in the lab in which time her focus involved the optimization of radiation dose for the DO model. This project was instrumental in developing a radiation dosage comparable to therapeutic doses in humans. She will be presenting her work at the 2009 ASPS annual meeting.

Alero Fregene has begun her first year in pathology residency here at U-M after completing a two-year fellowship in Dr. Buchman’s lab. Her work focused on developing and refining analyses of the DO regenerate, specifically immunochemistry, micro-Computer Tomography, histomorphometric and mechanical testing analyses. She was awarded the Plastic Surgery Research Council grant and presented her work on “Histomorphometric Assessment of Regenerate Cellularity and Bone Quality in Mandibular Distraction Osteogenesis Following Therapeutic Radiation” and the 2008 American Society of Maxillofacial Surgeons Foundation research grant for “Optimizing vascularity in the distraction regenerate following therapeutic radiation.”

Lin Jing is a third year general surgery resident at Henry Ford Hospital. She has completed a one year research fellowship in the lab. Her research focus involved incorporating vascularity analysis into an established distraction osteogenesis model. She was also awarded the 2008 American Society of Maxillofacial Surgeons Foundation research grant. She will also be presenting her work on “Radiomorphometric Quantitative Analysis of Vasculature in Rat Mandible Utilizing Microcomputer Tomography” at the 2009 ASPS annual meeting.

Sagar Deshpande, Aria Zehtabzadeh & Elizabeth Razdolsky are current undergraduate students here at UM, and have been assisting in all aspects of Dr. Buchman’s lab.

Dr. Buchman’s laboratory, which is funded by an NIH R01 Award, will present two abstracts and one poster at the 2009 annual American Society of Plastic Surgery.

Kevin Chung, MD, MS, continues to receive NIH funding for his work on rheumatoid hand arthroplasty. His R01 grant’s competitive renewal received an excellent score in its first submission and the data from the first grant has generated over ten papers. In addition to his competitive renewal, Dr. Chung has submitted an NIH grant as primary investigator for the 19-center WRIST distal radius fracture study; this will be the largest clinical trial in hand surgery history. This year, he published 25 total papers in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Journal of Hand Surgery, and Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery, among others. He co-edited the recently released textbook “Flap Reconstruction of the Upper Extremity: A Master Skills Publication” and is current editing two additional textbooks: a comprehensive textbook on brachial plexus surgery and an update of the Grabb and Smith textbook. He continues to serve as Deputy Editor for Journal of Hand Surgery and as the Section Editor for Outcomes Research for Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.

Steve Haase, MD, along with Dr. Kevin Chung, recently completed a PSEF-funded cost-utility analysis for lower extremity trauma. Using a robust economic analysis, they demonstrated that lower extremity salvage (reconstruction) offers improved quality of life and is associated with a long-term cost-savings. This work was presented at the 2009 American Association of Plastic Surgeons meeting and will soon be published. He will be involved in the multi-center WRIST trial as a co-investigator and is currently writing several book chapters.

Dr. Marcelo performs studies of keratinocyte biology along with Steve Feinberg, D.D.S., Ph.D. (PI). The Marcelo/Feinberg laboratories are NIH-funded, and are engaged in a number of epithelial cell projects. Dr. Marcelo and Dr. Feinberg from Oral Maxillofacial Surgery have developed a number of techniques to isolate small, adult “stem-like” cells from epidermis and mucosal tissue. The role of mTOR and other controllers of cell function are being studied in these cells. These patented methods are being expanded to develop methods for growing a number of epithelial tissues. The investigators have recently been awarded a Michigan Universities Commercialization Initiative (MUCI) grant to test the efficacy of these epithelial cells in burn wound healing. Dr. Marcelo, and Dr. Feinberg, in collaboration with colleagues from Chemistry and Engineering, are developing methods for non-invasive monitoring of cell device for wound healing funded by an R01 senior grant that has been recently been awarded a
Dr. Antonio Peramo is continuing his studies with Dr. Marcelo in the area of skin/device interactions and he has successfully competed for several small intramural grants to support these efforts.

Dennis Claflin, Ph.D., is collaborating with John Faulkner, Ph.D. (University of Michigan) and Malcolm Jackson, M.D. (University of Liverpool) on a new research project designed to determine the role of reactive oxygen species in the fatigue of skeletal muscle. The project entails simultaneous monitoring of force generation and oxidative activity during fatiguing contractions in both whole muscles and individual muscle cells. Novel aspects of the research include use of the extremely small lumbrical muscle from the forepaw of the mouse and real-time monitoring of intracellular oxidative activity using fluorescent probes.

Dr. Brown continues to make progress studying cardiac tissue engineering, the focus of his grant from the National Institutes of Health. Research Fellows who are assisting with the “Development of an In-Vivo Model of Vascularized Tissue”, are: Melissa Melvin, MD; Lin (Peter) Liu, MD; and Yang (Hope) Liu, MD.

Drs. Cederna and Urbanchek, continue their work on two federal grants funded by the Department of Defense. Dr. Cederna is the principle investigator for both grants, which share the purpose, “Bio-Integrating Structural and Neural-Prosthetic Materials.” A number of research fellows are contributing studies to these grants. They include Brent Egeland, MD; Benjamin Wei, MD; and Ziya Baghmanli, MD. Also, undergraduate students are making significant contributions to our research goals. They are Christopher Frost, Katie Ewing, BE; Yamini Jadcherla, and Kirsten Schroeder. Study results are well received at all national plastic surgery conferences. Chris Frost along with Drs Cederna and Kuzon attended the 1st meeting of the European Plastic Surgery Research Council in Hannover, Germany where Chris presented a brief summary of the Department of Defense work. Brent Egeland, MD; Katie Ewing, BE; Chris Frost, and Yamini Jadcherla each won awards for the excellence of their presentations at various venues during the year. Dr. Cederna holds positions as a journal editor for Annals of Plastic Surgery, Journal of Reconstructive Microsurgery, and Microsurgery.

Dr. Kuzon continues his basic research studying the “Biomechanical Pathogenesis of Ventral Hernia.” Along with Michael G Franz, MD; and Mel Urbanchek, PhD; research fellows Mazen S Harake, MD, and Joseph S Kouri, MA, induced incisional hernia formation in rat abdominal wall and subsequently implanted several biomaterials (especially acellularized myofascial seeded with fibroblasts) as alternative repair methods to the standard primary repair. Each of these fellows is presenting this translational work at numerous General and Plastic Surgery Conferences. Dr. Kuzon has several clinical outcomes projects which are ongoing. His clinical research team, composed of Joe Khouri (3rd year medical student at Wayne State), Brent Egeland MD, and Mazen Harake MD, have examined outcomes of vertical panniculectomy (to be presented ASPS this year), outcomes of reconstruction with the keystone flap (presented at PSRC), and on a modification of the McLaughlin technique for facial reanimation.

Edwin Wilkins MD MS has active research interests in breast reconstruction, venous thromboembolism, and telemedicine. He currently serves as the Chair of the PSEF’s Clinical Trials Network Committee. He is the primary investigator for the PSEF-funded Venous Thromboembolism Prevention (VTEP) study, a two year, multi-center trial examining the efficacy of low-molecular weight heparin for VTE prevention in 4000 plastic surgery patients. Additionally, he is the primary investigator for the University of Michigan’s International Breast Reconstruction Outcomes Consortium (IBROC) pilot study. Using the Breast-Q, the IBROC study will evaluate women’s decision making process and satisfaction with breast reconstruction after mastectomy. Based on preliminary data from IBROC and other studies, his group recently applied for grant funding from the National Cancer Institute to conduct a multi-center breast reconstruction outcomes study.
As has been a common theme over the past few years, there have been numerous changes in the University of Michigan Integrated Plastic Surgery Residency Program. Drs. Kuzon and Kasten have made it a point to make the curriculum and rotations a continuous “work-in-progress” in hopes of improving on an annual basis. One of the big changes is the transition away from the Trauma/Burn chief rotation. This year, the rotation has been reduced from 4 months during the PGY-4 year to 2, with plans for complete elimination by the 2010-11 scholastic year. Elimination of this “trauma chief” rotation has further allowed for fewer rotations on General Surgery and more rotations in Plastic Surgery. Everyone is very excited about this progress, save the senior residents that completed their PGY-4 year a couple of years too early...

Residents are also benefiting from spending time on Dermatology and Facial Plastics, for a different approach to some of the very similar problems we face on our home service.

Another big change has been the trialing of a new “night-float” system for senior resident call. Although the hand-email system established a few years back has done wonders for reducing our work hours, issues have arisen when occasionally a resident is up all night and has a full OR day the following morning. With more residents available in the call pool with the elimination of TBE as a chief, it has allowed more flexibility in establishing such a system. The system is still in its infancy and likely will need to get its kinks ironed out, but shows promise in its first few weeks. Overall, it shows the program’s commitment to ACGME guidelines and patient safety.

In continuation from last year’s newsletter, our physician assistant Lisa Spratke, PA-C has integrated herself well into the Michigan Plastic Surgery family. Over the past year, our work hours have been reduced significantly in part to having a full-time employee on the premises to deal with inpatient issues and prepare discharges. We’re happy she will remain as a part of our team for years to come. Our resident room remains the envy of all the surgical specialties and serves as a “home-away-from-home” during the rat race of the day. Our didactics have expanded from our weekly general conference to an additional hand conference on Monday evenings. The additional teaching has been well-received by the residents, particularly given the immense breadth of hand pathologies we see here at Michigan.

Finally, the residents continue to be a close-knit group, sharing time together inside and out of the hospital. We’ve seen the departure of our chief residents from last year and welcomed a new class of interns, yet the bond remains strong. All in all, we hope to keep the Michigan tradition alive and well...

-Rafael J. Diaz-Garcia, M.D
On June 4, 2009 we were honored to attend a celebration in honor of one of our faculty members, Dr. John Faulkner. Everyone knows that John has been an important part of Michigan Plastic Surgery beginning in the 1970’s when he initiated a collaboration with Bill Grabb and John Markley on muscle transplantation research. Ever since, John has been a colleague, mentor, and friend to many of our Plastic Surgery faculty and, especially, to our trainees who have passed through his laboratory. At the ceremony, John was honored as THE longest serving Professor at the University of Michigan, with over 49 years on the faculty. His many professional accomplishments were highlighted in remarks by UM President Mary Sue Coleman, Medical School Dean James Woolliscroft, Department of Physiology Chair Bishr Omary, and by students and colleagues from far and wide. John received a Lifetime Service Award from the University and a proclamation from the American Physiological Society honoring his career. Lloyd Carr presented John with an authentic UM football helmet in recognition of his devotion as a fan. The highlight of the day was John’s talk on his experiences as a Spitfire fighter pilot with the RCAF during World War II, an emotional and moving experience for everyone present. John is a special person to all of us and it was fantastic to see him honored in this way.
We would like to thank the following individuals for their generous support of the M. Haskell Newman Collegiate Professorship in Plastic Surgery.

Dr. Amy Alderman
Dr. and Mrs. Edwin N. Austin (Cheryl)
Mr. and Mrs. Essel Bailey (Menakka)
Dr. Ramin A. Behmand
Dr. Richard Beil, Jr. & Ms. Dana Burkley
Mr. James A. Bell
Mr. Daniel Chester & Ms. Joan Binkow
Dr. Gregory H. Borschel
Mr. and Mrs. David Boyd Smith (Susan)
Ms. Ann Boyd-Stewart & Mr. William Stewart
Dr. and Mrs. David L. Brown (Andrea)
Dr. and Mrs. Steven Buchman
Dr. John Castle
Dr. Christi M. Cavaliere
Mrs. Paul and Jean Cederna
Dr. Joseph C. Cerny (Patti)
Dr. and Mrs. William F. Chandler (Susan)
Dr. Edwin Y. Chang
Dr. and Mrs. George Chatas (Patricia)
Dr. Kevin C. Chung
Mr. and Dr. James W. Cook (Constance)
Dr. Diane D. Coxford
Dr. Catherine M. Curtin
Mr. and Mrs. Roderick K. Daane (Mary Ann)
Dr. Raymond Arthur Detter
Mr. Robert Donnellan (Ms. Margaret Spaly)
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Dove (Ann)
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Eisendrath (Julia)
Ms. Alisha Faciane
Dr. Grant R. Fairbanks
Dr. Thomas G. Fiala
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Finkel (Linda)
Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Fodero (Barbara)
Dr. and Mrs. Roger Friedman (Cheri)
Mrs. Cozette Grabb
Mrs. Ruth Granlieh
Dr. and Mrs. Steve Haase (Wendy)
Dr. and Mrs. Carl Hammerstrom (Lynne)
Ms. Jeanne Harrison and Mr. Paul Hysen
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy S. Harrison (Eliza C.)
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Hensinger (Barbara)
Dr. and Mrs. Peter N. Heydon (Henrietta)
Dr. and Mrs. Paul Izenberg (Karen)
Jamtaq Intnl/Dr. and Mrs. James E.C. Norris (Motoko)
Dr. Timothy A. Janiga
Dr. and Mrs. Sameer Jejurikar (Maria)
Mr. and Mrs. James Jensen (Wanda)
Dr. and Mrs. Francis P. Judge (Toos)
Dr. Loree K. Kallianen (Mr. Kevin Clemens)
Drs. Gloria and Robert Kerry
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Kinde (Susan)
Dr. and Mrs. William Kuzon (Linda)
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Long (Kathleen)
Dr. and Mrs. Malcolm Marks (Sharon)
Mr. and Mrs. William Martin (Sally)
Prof. and Mrs. Ernest McCarus (Adele)
Ms. Margaret McKinley & Mr. Dan Ketelaar
Mr. and Mrs. Larry McLean (JoAnn)
Mr. and Mrs. V. Bryan Medlock Jr. (Nancy)
Dr. and Mrs. Louis Meeks (Berneda)
Drs. Hattula Moholy-Nagy & Roger Schneggenburger
Ms. Patricia L. Morin
Mr. and Mrs. Brian N. Morin (Jacqueline)
Dr. M. Haskell Newman & Ms. Jan Barney Newman
Mr. Matthew Newman & Ms. Suzanna Lynch
Mr. Nicholas D. Newman
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Newman (Sharon)
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Oneal (Elizabeth)
Dr. Wayne Ozaki
Regent and Mrs. Philip H. Power (Kathy)
Dr. Riley Rees and Ms. Ellen Wagner
Dr. Samuel T. Rhee
Dr. and Mrs. Waldomar M. Roeser (Kay)
Dr. and Mrs. Ami Rosenthal (Prue)
Mr. and Mrs. James Rudolph (Adrienne)
Drs. Karen and Nathan Selden
Dr. Barry Shulkin and Ms. Patresha Mandel
Alice A. Simsar
Mr. and Mrs. Neil Stanfield (Barbara)
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Steedman (Juliane)
Mr. and Mrs. Allan Stillwagon (Marcia)
Dr. Donald R. Stout
Dr. Michael E. Sweet
Elizabeth C. Teeter Trust
Mr. and Dr. Jon Urbanchek (Melanie)
Dr. Craig Alan VanderKolk
Dr. Paul F. Vanek, Jr.
Ms. Kimberly Wagener
Dr. and Mrs. Michael Watanabe (Ellie)
Ambassador and Mrs. Ronald Weiser (Eileen)
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy White (Sally)
Drs. Robert and Marina Whitman
Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Willhite (Ann)
Drs. Edwin Wilkins and Julie Lowery