

General News

Dr. Bruskewitz Provides Incontinence Surgery in Africa. Reginald Bruskewitz M.D. was recently in Kashakishi, Zambia performing fistula repair surgery on women with urinary incontinence at the St Paul's Mission Hospital. Child birth in underdeveloped countries is associated with high maternal and infant mortality. In addition, an all-too-common complication of labor and delivery is tissue damage resulting in incontinence.

Peggy Amend R.N. Retires After 26 Years. Dr. Reg Bruskewitz recalls that Peggy first worked in the Urology Ward of the old hospital, starting at 7 AM each day, but wasn't much of a morning person. She later transferred to the Urology Clinic, where she has worked for over twenty years. For several of those years, Peggy filled in as a "float" nurse while helping Dr. Bruskewitz with his research on Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia. "Peggy has been an outstanding nurse who worked for the love of it," said Dr. Bruskewitz. Peggy gave the following parting words: "I have always loved Urology and will miss it. I have known some of the patients and staff for many years, so it will be hard to leave them." The Department thanks Peggy for providing an extraordinary level of service and dedication since 1972.

Academic News

Schnoes Lecture Series Funded! Starting in 2009, Mr. Robert Schnoes has endowed a lecture series in the Department of Urology that will focus on the treatment of residual disease following urologic cancer procedures. Tentatively, the first Schnoes Lecturer will speak in early spring of 2009. Details are pending; please check our website. We are most grateful to the Schnoes family for the generous support of this perpetual series! This series dovetails nicely with the Uehling Lecture series, ongoing since 2001.

AUA Abstracts. This was a record year for American Urological Association abstracts submitted for the Annual Meeting in April of 2009. At last count, our Department submitted over thirty abstracts in subject areas including oncology, uro-radiology, stone disease, infertility, basic science and socioeconomics. We will track the progress and acceptance rate of these papers!

Stephen Nakada M.D. Named to ACS Board of Governors. Dr. Nakada will serve in this role with the American College of Surgeons for a three-year term, through the 2011 congress. He is a Surgical Specialty Governor representing the American Association of Genitourinary Surgeons (AAGUS) and the ACS fellows of Wisconsin.

Clinical News

Jason Gee M.D. and Colleagues Perform Tenth Robotic Cystectomy. Dr. Gee uses the Da Vinci surgical robot to remove cancerous bladders, through an opening smaller than the width of a paper clip, and replace them with a substitute neo-bladder that is surgically constructed from a segment of the patient's intestine. The robot offers several advantages for the patient over open surgery, including a dramatic reduction in blood loss, a smaller incision, and reduced post-operative pain. "In addition, this technology can extend a surgeon's abilities with better visualization for a nerve-sparing dissection that can preserve a patient's potency," says Dr. Gee. Bladder cancer is the tenth most common cancer among men and the eighth among women. Department of Urology physicians David Jarrard M.D., Reginald Bruskewitz M.D., and Sean Hedican M.D. also perform surgery using the UW Hospital and Clinics' robot.

Bruce Slaughenhaupt M.D. in New York Times. Dr. Slaughenhaupt was featured in an October 27, 2008, New York Times article about pediatric kidney stones. The article can be viewed at:

http://www.nytimes.com/2008/10/28/health/28kidn.html?_r=1&ref=health

Upcoming Events

- February 26 – Grand Rounds: Visiting Professor Michael Mitchell M.D., Children's Hospital of Wisconsin
- February 27 – Resident Laparoscopic Lab, 12:00 - 4:30 PM

See www.urology.wisc.edu for more information.

Send news items to hall@urology.wisc.edu