Last fall, another outstanding cancer specialist, E. Jason Abel, MD, joined the Department of Urology. After completing urology residency training at the University of Utah, Dr. Abel completed a urologic oncology fellowship at University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center where he received extensive training in the latest treatments for all urologic cancers, including high volumes of robotic surgeries and complex open cases.

Dr. Abel is a strong researcher whose focus will be on renal cancer, in collaboration with the University of Wisconsin’s talented team of physicians and scientists. “One of the great things about being at UW is having a multidisciplinary team of cancer experts at our fingertips,” says Dr. Abel. “Urology, radiology, radiation oncology, medical oncology and pathology all work cooperatively at the Carbone Cancer Center to identify and implement the most effective treatment for each patient.”

Dr. Abel joined forces with pharmacologist Shigeki Miyamoto, MD to study cellular growth pathways in renal cancer with the goal to further characterize the molecular biology involved in kidney cancer growth and metastasis, leading to new prognostic tests and development of new therapies.

Dr. Abel’s clinical research encompasses all stages of renal cancer. He is collaborating with genitourinary pathologists on localized kidney cancer to analyze malignant tissue micro-arrays and identify new prognostic factors for guiding treatment. For locally-advanced disease and metastatic disease, he’s studying neoadjuvant approaches, which involve shrinking tumors before surgery to improve outcomes. He was the lead author of a publication in *European Urology* titled “Primary Tumor Response to Targeted Agents in Patients with Metastatic Renal Cell Carcinoma.”

“Renal cancer is especially challenging because it does not present symptoms in early stages, and has few clear risk factors,” Dr. Abel explains. “In the past 10 years, there has been tremendous progress. Our understanding of the biology of kidney cancer has really grown. We have become very good at treating local disease—preserving kidney function while maintaining quality of life. In advanced cases, we must continue to be aggressive because of the progressive nature of the disease.”

As understanding of the tumor biology of kidney cancer has grown, so have options for treatment. “Minimally invasive nephron-sparing surgery, ablation and surveillance are all options which offer different benefits for selected patients,” explains Dr. Abel. “For small renal masses, robotic partial nephrectomy is moving toward becoming the gold standard because it improves quality of life. Other benefits of the robotic surgery include smaller incisions and shorter recovery time.”

Clinicians now have the ability to gain important information prior to surgery through biopsy and improved imaging. Consequently, some patients are spared surgery while more aggressive treatments are employed for others. Dr. Abel individualizes treatment for each patient, presenting options, so the patient can choose the best approach from his or her unique perspective. Tools for evaluating the risk of growth or recurrence have become more sophisticated, as have those for follow-up and ongoing management.

Dr. Abel is inspired by the progress achieved in recent years, and is driven by the opportunity to significantly improve outcomes for this difficult disease. “Even in patients with advanced metastatic cancer, there have been significant advances. A decade ago there were virtually no effective treatments. Now we have several options which extend life span but are not curative,” says Dr. Abel. “We still have a long way to go, and we are working hard to make new advances. It’s an exciting time to be working in kidney cancer.”
I hope this message finds all of our alumni and friends well. 2010 was another banner year for the department, with Dr. Dave Jarrard serving as the President of the Society of Basic Urologic Research, Dr. John Kryger serving as Wisconsin Urological Society Secretary/Treasurer, Dr. Dan Williams joining the Board of the Society for the Study of Male Reproduction, and Dr. Dave Uehling winning the prestigious Gold Cane Award from the American Urological Association (AUA). In addition, we have been delighted to have Drs. Downs and Abel on the staff, rounding out our Urologic Oncology Section quite nicely. I am delighted to announce Dr. Sara Best will be joining us this year, after completing a Laparoscopic/Endourology/Robotic fellowship at University of Texas Southwestern. Dr. Best will bring great energy and skill to the Endourology Section.

We finished 2010 with our 10th Uehling Lectures in October. Our keynote speaker, Dr. William Steers, gave three excellent and informative talks. This meeting marked great science, great attendance, and a superb program organized by Dr. Wade Bushman. At press time we will have completed our first Lescrenier Lectureship, with Dr. Hunter Wessells visiting us from the University of Washington. Dr. Wessells, an international expert on trauma and urethral reconstruction, provided a wealth of knowledge on these and other subjects. I am so delighted that we have three named lectureships, with the Schnoes and Lescrenier Lectureships joining the already popular Uehling Lectures. More on the Lescreniers in the fall issue of Wisconsin Urology.

The upcoming AUA meeting will be a busy event for the department with a strong abstract showing and many of our department faculty on the AUA Plenary. Our annual Alumni Reception will be, as always, Sunday night from 5:30-7:30 pm. Please join us so we can catch up! This year I plan to institute an alumni page to pass along your news in Wisconsin Urology. Look for a link to send news to our website soon. Moreover, in keeping with the electronic age, look for Wisconsin Urology on our department website in PDF format which can be easily downloaded.

As we head into our fourth year as a department, I’m delighted with the progress we have made. Our next goals are to reach out more, both academically and clinically. Academically, with the addition of Dr. Will Ricke, we’ve become stronger than ever as a collaborative research department. On the clinical side, we plan to offer visiting elective scholarships to fourth-year medical students and offer even stronger CME events and grand rounds for all area urologists. We have introduced an iPhone and Blackberry app for all referring providers. See our website for more on this exciting feature.

Have a great spring, and I hope to see you in Washington, D.C., Green Bay, or here in Madison!

STEPHEN Y. NAKADA, MD, FACS
CHAIRMAN AND THE UEHLING PROFESSOR OF UROLOGY

2011 RESIDENCY MATCH RESULTS

Jonathan M. Shiau, MD
University of California, San Diego

Jennifer E. Heckman, MD
Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia

SRI SIVALINGAM, MD

The Department of Urology is pleased to announce Sri Sivalingam, MD will be joining the department as our 2011-2013 Endourology Fellow. Dr. Sivalingam graduated from the University of Toronto with BS and MS degrees in Physiology. He went on to complete his medical degree at the University of Toronto and residency training in Urology at the University of Manitoba.

Dr. Sivalingam has distinguished himself as an exemplary teacher and has received many awards throughout his training. In 2009, Dr. Sivalingam received the resident teaching award and was nominated as resident of the year at the University of Manitoba.

Dr. Sivalingam has extensive research experience. In 2009 he was awarded the David Swartz Memorial Award, which is an award dedicated to honoring a urology resident who has shown the most research productivity. He has presented original research at local, regional, and national meetings.

We welcome Dr. Sivalingam to the Department of Urology.

STEPHEN Y. NAKADA, MD, FACS
CHAIRMAN AND THE UEHLING PROFESSOR OF UROLOGY
• **Annual UW Urology Alumni Reception**

The UW Urology Alumni Reception will take place on **Sunday, May 15, 2011 from 5:30-7:30pm** in the Cabin John Room at Grand Hyatt Washington. Please be sure to join us for this annual event. We enjoy catching up with everyone! Please call Nancy Hawkins at (608) 263-1358 for further details.

• **UW Faculty at the AUA**

**Kristina Penniston, PhD, RD** is faculty for the Educational Course “Nutrition Counseling for the Prevention of Urolithiasis,” Saturday, May 14, 2011, 10am-12pm. This course will review the different stone-forming mechanisms as they pertain to dietary management. Specifically, methods for prevention of different stone types by nutritional counseling will be presented.

**Stephen Nakada, MD** is the Educational Course Director for “Urolithiasis: Surgical Management, Percutaneous, Shock Wave Lithotripsy and Ureteroscopy,” Sunday, May 15, 2011, 3:30-5:30pm. Dr. Nakada’s course will offer the practicing urologist a comprehensive, case-based review of the surgical management of urolithiasis. Leading experts in the field of urology will present the latest techniques and innovations in percutaneous renal surgery, ureteroscopy and shock wave lithotripsy.

**Daniel Williams, IV, MD** is faculty for the Educational Course “Male Infertility/Hypogonadism for the Allied Health Professional,” Monday, May 16, 2011, 6-8am. This course is designed to acquaint the non-physician provider with the diagnosis and treatment of male infertility, including medical and surgical therapy as well as a summary of assisted reproductive techniques available. The course will also integrate treatment of the hypogonadal male in both the reproductive and aging male.

**Stephen Nakada, MD** will moderate the Poster Session “Kidney Cancer: Localized,” Monday, May 16, 2011, 3:30-5:30pm.

David Jarrard, MD will present “Highlights: Basic Research,” at the Plenary Session Wednesday, May 18, 2011 from 7:50-8:00am.

**Stephen Nakada, MD** will moderate the Panel Discussion “The Fantastic Voyage: Advantages in Robotic Surgery,” at the Plenary Session on Wednesday, May 18, 2011, 11:30am-12pm.

• **AUA Abstract Podium and Poster Presentations**

UW Urology faculty, staff and residents have 20 accepted abstracts for either podium or poster presentation at the 2011 AUA annual meeting. The abstract titles and authors are listed below:

**The Salt Shaker Provides Less Than 15% of Total Sodium Intake in Stone Formers: Food Strategies to Reduce Sodium Are Needed.** KL Penniston, KF Wojcieszowski, SY Nakada.

**Development of a Disease Specific Instrument to Measure Stone Formers’ Health-Related Quality of Life.** KL Penniston, SY Nakada.

**Dietary Oxalate: What’s Important and What Isn’t for Patients with Calcium Oxalate Stones?** KL Penniston, KF Wojcieszowski, SY Nakada.

**Insulin-like Growth Factor-2(IGF2) Loss of Imprinting Marks a Field Defect Within Human Prostates Containing Cancer.** S Bhusari, B Yang, W Huang, DF Jarrard.

**Androgen Deprivation Induces a Delayed Senescent Phenotype in Prostate Cancer.** JA Ewald, JA Desotelle, DR Church, T Laureilla, DF Jarrard.

**Sex Steroid Hormones Induce Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia in Adult Male Mice.** WA Ricke, T Nicholson, PC Marker, R Mayer, B Timms, R Wood, F vom Saal.

**Hydrodissection Utilizing an Iodinated Contrast Medium During Percutaneous Renal Cryoablation.** SR Patel, MG Lubner, JL Hinshaw, FT Lee, SY Nakada, SP Hedican.

**Automated Renal Stone Volume Measurement is More Reproducible than Manual Linear Size Measurement During Axial Imaging.** SR Patel, P Stanton, MG Lubner, MA Pozniak, SY Nakada, PJ Pickhardt.

**Teaching the History of Urology: Past, Present and Future.** SR Patel, SY Nakada.

**Hydroxyproline and Gelatin Diets Induce Long-Term Hyperoxaluria in the Porcine Model.** SR Patel, KL Penniston, L Iwicky, I Saeed, TD Crenshaw, SY Nakada.

**Skills-Based Laparoscopic Course Participation Leads to Practice Expansion as well as a Bridge to Robotic Surgery.** SR Patel, SP Hedican, JT Bischoff, SJ Shichman, RE Link, JS Wolf, SY Nakada.

**Infectious Complications Following Transrectal Prostate Biopsy at a Single Institution.** NW Moore, AJ Lepak, TD Moon.

**Impact of Immediate Repeat Transrectal Ultrasound-Guided (TRUS) Prostate Biopsy in Patients Considering Active Surveillance for Prostate Cancer.** A King, W Huang, T Laurilla, A Livermore, DF Jarrard.

**Microscopically Positive Vein Margins are Associated with Increased Local Recurrence and Metastatic Progression in PT3N0M0 Renal Cell Carcinoma Patients After Nephrectomy with Thrombectomy.** AJ Abel, A Carrasco, DE Zainfeld, et al.

**Early Primary Tumor Response is an Independent Predictor of Overall Survival in Patients with Metastatic RCC Undergoing Treatment with Sunitinib.** AJ Abel, S Culp, N Tannir, et al.

**Impact of Preoperative Renal Artery Embolization on Surgical Outcomes and Overall Survival (OS) in Patients with Renal Cell Carcinoma and IVC Thrombus.** AA Chan, EJ Abel, A Carrasco, et al.


**The Impact of Targeted Molecular Therapies on the Level of Renal Cell Carcinoma Vena Cava Tumor Thrombus.** NG Cost, SE Delacroix, JP Sleeper, P Smith, RF Youssef, BF Chapin, JA Karam, S Culp, EJ Abel, et al.

**Management of Recurrences Following Cryoaiblation or Radiofrequency ablation (RFA) of Renal Cortical Tumors.** JD Raman, CJ Donnally III, WB Shingleton, DM Kaplon, SY Nakada, et al.
Dr. Christopher Wood to be our Schnoes Lecturer this spring. We have invited Dr. Robert F. Schnoes to be an annual winter event. Dr. Hunter Wessells from the University of Washington Medical Center was our first Lescrenier Visiting Professor. Dr. Wessells is Professor and Chair of the Department of Urology at the University of Washington. He is a surgeon, researcher and expert on urogenital trauma and erectile dysfunction. His clinical interests cover a wide area of subjects in urology, ranging from acute injury management to sexual complications of diabetes.

**SAVE THE DATE**

*Please mark your calendars for these events!*

**2011 ROBERT F. SCHNOES LECTURE SERIES**

June 2, 2011

Our department will hold its annual Robert F. Schnoes Lecture Series this spring. We have invited Dr. Christopher Wood to be our Schnoes Lecturer. Dr. Wood is Professor and Deputy Department Chairman of the Department of Urology at University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Dr. Wood is a member of the Board of Directors, Medical Advisory Board, and Steering Committee of the Kidney Cancer Association. His major clinical focus is in the treatment of localized, locally advanced and metastatic renal cell carcinoma. Dr. Wood has an active, federally funded, basic science research program that is focused on the identification of abberant molecular pathways that are critical to renal cell carcinogenesis and cancer progression.

**2011 UEHLING LECTURES**

November 18, 2011

Eric A. Klein, MD from Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine is our 2011 Uehling Lecturer. Dr. Klein is Professor and Chairman of the Glickman Urological and Kidney Institute and Head of the Section of Urologic Oncology in the Department of Urology at Cleveland Clinic. Dr. Klein's clinical interests cover all aspects of urologic oncology including cancers of the prostate, bladder, testis, and kidney. Dr. Klein is also the editor of the journal *Urology*. Program and registration information will be forthcoming in the summer issue of *Wisconsin Urology*.

**David F. Jarrard, MD**, presided over a successful annual meeting of the Society of Basic Urologic Research in Atlanta, November 11-14, 2010. Dr. Jarrard also presented the keynote lecture. SBUR is a society of scientists whose expertise includes the study of urologic cancers (prostate, bladder, kidney, testis, penis), the biology of prostate growth, kidney and bladder function, autoimmune urologic diseases, infectious diseases, neuro-urologic diseases, male reproductive biology, infertility and erectile dysfunction.

**Dr. Tracy Downs** was selected as the Urologic Oncology Chair of the National Medical Association (NMA) in October 2010. The NMA is the oldest national medical association for African American Surgeons and Physicians. The R. Frank Jones Society is the Urology section of the NMA and Dr. Downs joins the 12-member executive board for a three-year term.

**Dr. Stephen Nakada** was elected to serve on the Urology Residency Review Committee. He will begin his six-year term on the RRC in May 2011.

**Emeritus Professor David Uehling, MD,** was awarded the 2011 American Urological Association (AUA) Gold Cane Award. This prestigious award is presented annually to a senior urologist distinguished by outstanding contributions to the profession.

**Urology clinic manager Sherry Siekert and nurse manager Jayne Sanders** were recognized by Herbert Johnson as part of the *Honor Your Caregivers* program at UW Hospital and Clinics. **Dr. Stephen Nakada** was recognized by June Treat, who included the message, "thanks to you, I am now cancer free," with her donation. Gifts received through this program support patient and family-centered programs and services at UWIC.

**Bruce Slaughenhoupt, MD,** was awarded one of the UW School of Medicine and Public Health Dean's Teaching Awards. This peer-selected award was established in 1992 to honor outstanding contributions in medical school education programs.
Introducing the Department of Urology's Newest Faculty Member: WILL RICKE, PHD

Bringing enthusiasm, new ideas, and an ambitious research agenda with him, Dr. Will Ricke is settling into his new life in Madison and his role as a scientist in the department. His major goals include further strengthening urologic research at the University of Wisconsin and training the next generation of scientists and clinician-scientists. Dr. Ricke comes to UW-Madison from the University of Rochester, where he held a faculty appointment. He completed a postdoctoral fellowship in prostate biology at the UC-San Francisco, and earned a PhD in endocrinology from the University of Missouri. Dr. Ricke’s current research efforts are focused on urogenital tract cancer, the role of endocrine disruptors in both cancer and benign disease, and lower urinary tract symptoms related to benign prostatic hyperplasia. He is the principal investigator on current National Cancer Institute and National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences initiatives and is presently submitting other applications.

With a laboratory in the Wisconsin Institutes for Medical Research building, Dr. Ricke and his team are making inroads into prostate stromal-epithelial interactions using a number of mouse models that replicate important aspects of human cancer in mice. A unique contribution of their work is the recent finding that testosterone activation of androgen receptors in stromal cells (supporting cells) appears to dictate whether prostate epithelial cells (cells that become the cancer) develop into carcinomas. This is unique, Dr. Ricke notes, because most studies focus on epithelial cells, not stromal cells. Dr. Ricke’s findings and potential application to men are strengthened by the fact that his lab utilizes human cells in their mouse models. He anticipates that this preclinical work will lead to clinical trials with future new therapeutics, and is developing clinical collaborations in this direction.

Other ongoing research in the Ricke lab is focused on a public health problem with potentially huge impact. The widespread use of bisphenol A (BPA) in our food packaging, food storage containers, and in such applications as tooth fillings, has caused concern as it is now known to contribute to prostate pathology. Due to its estrogen-like effects, BPA is thought to be involved in such health problems as early maturation and puberty, urine flow disorders, prostate enlargement, and prostate cancer. BPA is nearly ubiquitous in the environment and is found in the blood and urine of nearly all Americans. Our lifelong exposure to it, Dr. Ricke points out, begins during gestation. Dr. Ricke is well-suited to pursue this line of research with his expertise in hormone action in carcinogenesis and reproduction.

Dr. Ricke says he is excited by the opportunities that exist at the UW-Madison. He specifically notes access to clinical and translational collaborators within the Department of Urology and elsewhere in the School of Medicine & Public Health as strengths in his research agenda.

Joining Dr. Ricke in Wisconsin are his wife of 17 years and manager of his laboratory, Emily Ricke, and two young daughters. In addition to research, Dr. Ricke enjoys golf, fishing, mushroom hunting, softball, and is learning to play sheepshead (that’s a card game for those of you non-Midwesterners). He notes Badger sports as one of his favorite things about being in Wisconsin. Welcome to the department, Will!
The Department of Urology welcomes your donations throughout the year. To send a contribution in support of our research programs or as a tribute, please make your check payable to “Department of Urology” and mail it to:

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