



WLA SPOTLIGHT

A Report on Woodruff Leadership Academy Fellows

Summer 2012 – Volume XIII

Congratulations to the following WLA fellows who were named “Top Doctors” in the June 2012 edition of *Atlanta Magazine*:

Javed Butler (WLA 2011)
Seth Force (WLA 2008)
Sheryl Gabram-Mendola (WLA 2008)
Jonathan Glass (WLA 2008)
Michael Johns III (WLA 2007)
Fadlo Khuri (WLA 2003)
Chris Larsen (WLA 2003)
Janice Lea (WLA 2012)
Michael Lindsay (WLA 2006)
Ruth O’Regan (WLA 2009)
Andrew Smith (WLA 2009)
Laurence Sperling (WLA 2008)

Accomplishments, Appointments, Awards...

Javed Butler (WLA 2011) has been selected to serve as a faculty counselor to the Emory University Investment Committee, a standing committee of the Board of Trustees. This role engages faculty members in university governance through their participation on a Board committee as well as through attending some other board-related programs and events and comes with a three-year term.

Lance Waller (WLA 2003) was awarded a Distinguished Achievement Medal for contributions to environmental statistics from the Statistics in the Environment Section of the American Statistical Association.

Sandra Franklin (WLA 2011) has been asked to serve on the search committee for the Vice Provost and Director of Emory University Libraries.

As part of the new entity-based CEO structure Emory Healthcare, **Mary Beth Allen (WLA 2004)** is EUH VP of Human Resources and **Dan Owens (WLA 2006)** is EUHM VP of Operations. Each of the operating units has restructured its executive team to ensure the strategic objectives of our organizations are met.

Joyce Doyle (WLA 2006) won our highest teaching award given over all sites - The Juha P. Kokko Award 2012.



Robert Taylor (WLA 2007) won the Silver Pear Mentoring award for Research Faculty.

Wendy Armstrong (WLA 2011) won the Nannette K. Wenger Service – Associate Professor award.

Nadine Kaslow (WLA 2004) received the honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Pepperdine University. She also addressed the graduates receiving degrees in psychology at Pepperdine's afternoon ceremony on May 19.

Kimberly Manning (WLA 2011) received the Evangeline T. Papageorge Distinguished Faculty Award at the School of Medicine graduation. It is the highest honor in teaching the School of Medicine can bestow.

Wendy Armstrong (WLA 2011) and **Allen Dollar (WLA 2011)** received the Golden Apple Teaching Award from the Department of Medicine for their respective hospital sites.

Sarah Freeman (WLA 2005) received the Emory University Scholar/Teacher Award at the main University Commencement event. This award is chosen by the Emory University President from nominations by the deans on behalf of the United Methodist Church Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

The Georgia Research Alliance (GRA) named **Gary Miller (WLA 2005)** a 2012 Distinguished Investigator. The GRA has named only six Distinguished Investigators in its 22 year history. GRA's distinguished investigator program supports scientists who are considered rising stars in their fields of study. The research award encourages universities to retain outstanding talent and invest in the infrastructure and technology needed to advance research toward commercialization.

Dubois Bowman (WLA 2007) has been selected as a fellow of the American Statistical Association. Bowman's research focuses on the development of statistical methods for the analysis of functional brain imaging data to reveal distributed patterns of task-related changes in activity and to identify functional connections related to conditions such as substance abuse, mental illness, and decision-making in health and social justice.

Jeff Nicholas (WLA 2005) was appointment as Grady Health System Trauma Director and Director of the Marcus Trauma Center. Dual boarded in General Surgery and Surgical Critical Care, Jeff was successful in implementing the Donation after Cardiac Death program at Grady last year and played a key role in the multidisciplinary development of the Massive Transfusion Protocol at Grady.



Vince Dollard (WLA 2011) was appointed Associate Vice President of Health Sciences Communications. He is responsible for media relations, issues management, research communications, publications, web development, special events, and internal communications within health sciences. Before joining the Robert W. Woodruff Health Sciences communications team, Dollard served as Director of Communications in Emory's Winship Cancer Institute, a role he held since 2000.

Gary Teal (WLA Dean) was honored for 25 years of service at Emory.

Mimi Newell (WLA 2009) was promoted to associate professor of radiology for her dedication and active participation in all three missions of clinical, research and educational excellence.

Jennifer Zreloff (WLA 2007) is serving as one of two physicians in the new program The Emory Clinic and the division of general medicine, in partnership with Aetna, launched. Emory Patient-Centered Primary Care (PCPC) is a pilot program to test a new "medical home" model of care.

Kathy Griendling (WLA 2008) was appointed assistant dean for faculty development in the medical school. She is also vice chair for faculty development in her department.

Erica Brownfield (WLA 2003) was appointed assistant dean for medical education. She is vice chair for education and an associate professor in the Department of Medicine.

Andy Smith (WLA 2009) has been named medical director of health sciences development and alumni relations. In this added role, Andy will serve as a liaison between development staff and health sciences faculty in fundraising efforts. "This new position is part of an ongoing effort to enlist and empower our faculty in recognizing potential donors and fostering philanthropic relationships," says **Maggi McKay (WLA 2003)**, VP for health sciences development.

Dan Brat, Beth Buffalo, Pamela Hoppie, Maeve Howett, Jim McKay, and Jason Stein (WLA 2010) are the "Maxx Axx" team that envisioned and developed the concept to help retain the "best and brightest" in medicine, nursing, public health, and Yerkes. Their proposal culminated in a new faculty award created to facilitate the recruitment or retention and encourage the research of "rising stars."

Keith Delman (WLA 2011) is now General Surgery Residency Program Director. He had been Associate Program Director since 2006.



Pam Cospoer (WLA 2011) co-authored a chapter titled “Developing a Career Advancement Program for Frontline nurses” along with Oldham, K, Wilson, M, and Banister, G. that was published in May, 2011, in Gullatte, M. 2nd Ed., Nursing management principles and practice.

Marilyn Margolis (WLA 2005) accepted the position of Chief Nursing Officer at Emory Johns Creek Hospital. Marilyn has served as Interim CNO since March 8, 2011 and is an experienced and well-respected nurse executive and has worked with Emory for the last 30 years. She recently served as the Director of Nursing Operations at Emory University Hospital.

Rick Gitomer (WLA 2004) relinquished his position as Chief Quality Officer of EUHM and took on a new position as the Clinical Integration Network (CIN) Chief Quality Officer & Director of CIN Clinical Support Services.

Patrick Hammond (WLA 2004), Chief Market Services Officer of EHC, will now **also** serve as CIN Executive Director.

The Department of Medicine announced the formation of the Division of Hospital Medicine as its tenth division. **Alan Wang (WLA 2009)**, who helped start the Hospital Medicine program, has ably led the section for the last four years and has done a tremendous job. He has assumed the position of division director and will oversee the 110 faculty who cover nine Emory locations.

Fellows in the News...

U.S. News & World Report

July 2011

The results of its first-ever Best Diets rankings evaluating some of the country’s most popular diets were announced. **Larry Sperling (WLA 2008)**, served on a panel of 22 health experts selected by U.S. News to help develop the results of its first-ever Best Diets rankings evaluating some of the country’s most popular diets. The panel reviewed information about 20 well-known diets, from Atkins to Zone, and rated each one on specific measures such as safety, easiness to follow and nutritional completeness. Weight Watchers ranked first in the Weight Loss category.

News-Medical.net | [Progesterone could fight against neuroblastoma](#)

July 14, 2011

The first author in the team of researchers is Fahim Atif, PhD, instructor in emergency medicine, with senior author Donald G. Stein, PhD, Asa G. Candler professor of emergency medicine and director of Emory's Department of Emergency Medicine Brain Research Laboratory. **Daniel Brat (WLA 2010)**, professor of pathology and laboratory medicine in Emory School of Medicine was a collaborator on the research team.



Atlanta Journal-Constitution | [Palliative care programs rare in Georgia, study finds](#)

July 21, 2011

"Palliative care is about living -- about living better every day for as many days as we have," said **Tammie Quest (WLA 2008)**, chief of the Emory Center for Palliative Care.

Huffington Post Blog | [Why pets have ESP when it comes to health crises](#)

July 22, 2011

Carol Witcher's dog, Floyd Henry, was able to detect his owner's breast cancer, which was then confirmed as malignant by **Sheryl Gabram-Mendola (WLA 2008)**, a breast surgical oncologist at Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University.

Atlanta Business Chronicle Paid subscription only | [Cancer clinical trial](#)

July 22, 2011

Researchers at Winship Cancer Institute are testing whether a combination of two anti-cancer agents can stop the growth of a hard-to-treat form of breast cancer. "Right now there aren't effective treatments for triple-negative besides chemotherapy," said **Ruth O'Regan, MD (WLA 2009)**, associate professor of hematology and medical oncology at Emory University School of Medicine.

Washington Post | [Hospitals make palliative care a priority to improve patients' quality of life](#)

July 25, 2011

"A decade ago, we thought of the emergency department as a way station," says **Tammie Quest, MD (WLA 2008)**, an associate professor of emergency medicine at Emory University School of Medicine who is also board-certified in hospice and palliative medicine.

ABC News | [Olympian Jeret 'Speedy' Peterson carried traumas to his death, experts say](#)

July 27, 2011

"When you've had trauma in the past, like the loss of a sibling or sexual abuse in your history, those things are always part of your life story, and other stresses can bring them to the foreground, while good times can push them to the background," said **Nadine Kaslow (WLA 2004)**, chief psychologist and professor in the department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Emory University.

US News and World Report | [Prenatal omega-3 fatty acid supplements may cut babies' colds](#)

August 1, 2011

"The data suggested that for most of the symptoms we looked at, duration of symptoms was less when mothers received DHA. And, in the case of colds, the probability of a cold was slightly less. The effects seemed to be strongest early on after birth," said study senior author **Usha Ramakrishnan (WLA 2008)**, an associate professor in the Hubert Department of Global Health at the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University in Atlanta.

August 1, 2011

Fadlo Khuri (WLA 2003) has been selected as the new Editor-in-Chief for *Cancer*, a peer-reviewed journal of the American Cancer Society. Dr. Khuri will begin his term on September 1, 2011. He succeeds Dr. Raphael E. Pollock, who leaves the position after 11 years of service. Dr. Khuri has accepted a 5-year term for the editorship.



USA Today | [Fish oil in pregnancy may ward off babies' colds](#)

August 1, 2011

"The data suggested that for most of the symptoms we looked at, duration of symptoms was less when mothers received DHA. And, in the case of colds, the probability of a cold was slightly less. The effects seemed to be strongest early on after birth," said study senior author **Usha Ramakrishnan (WLA 2008)**, an associate professor in the Hubert Department of Global Health at the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University in Atlanta.

ABCNews.com | [Colleagues behaving badly: Stress of rude co-worker can affect home life](#)

August 23, 2011

"It can lead to anxiety, depression and other problems," said **Nadine Kaslow (WLA 2004)** professor and vice chair of the Department of Psychiatry at the Emory School of Medicine in Atlanta. "Chronic work stress is not good for one's mental or physical health. It can lead to headaches and stomach aches and other physical ailments."

U.S News and World Report | [U.N. Summit Seeks to Tame 'Non-Communicable Diseases'](#)

September 16, 2011

Health experts and leaders from 193 nations meet at the United Nations in New York City to discuss strategies to lower the death toll of non-communicable diseases like cancer, heart disease and diabetes. "This will be the first time that the U.N. has actually focused on the major killer of most people," said **Otis Brawley (WLA 2004)**, chief medical officer for the American Cancer Society, and a professor of oncology and epidemiology at Emory University in Atlanta.

CNN.com | [Patient, doctors encouraged by ALS trial](#)

September 28, 2011

Jonathan Glass (WLA 2008), who is overseeing the clinical trial at Emory, and **Nicholas Boulis, MD**, who invented the surgical procedure used to inject the stem cells, explained to patients that participation in the trial would not cure or even benefit them personally, but it would help doctors learn more about how to treat ALS in the future.

Forbes.com | Cervical cancer virus fuels oral cancer type, too

October 4, 2011

"There is an urgency to try to figure out how to prevent this," says **Amy Chen (WLA 2010)**, of the American Cancer Society and Emory University, who wasn't part of the new research. | [USA Today](#)

New York Times | [Can cancer ever be ignored?](#)

October 5, 2011

As chief medical and scientific officer of the American Cancer Society, **Otis Brawley (WLA 2004)** — who is also a professor of oncology and epidemiology at Emory University — is the public face of the cancer establishment.

Atlanta Journal-Constitution | [Major Award](#)

October 10, 2011

Sigma Theta Tau International (the Honor Society of Nursing) recently bestowed an honorary membership award on Emory University's **Ken Hepburn (WLA 2007)**. Hepburn, a professor and associate dean for research with Emory's Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, was one of five people from around the world honored as "highly influential leaders in the advancement of global health and wellness."



Reuters | [Folic acid in pregnancy tied to better toddler talk](#)

October 11, 2011

"Clearly it plays a role in development that starts very early in pregnancy," said **Usha Ramakrishnan (WLA 2008)**, a maternal and child nutrition researcher from Emory University in Atlanta who wasn't involved in the new study.

Atlanta Journal-Constitution | [Know Your Leader: Deena Gilland, MSN, RN, OCN](#)

October 10, 2011

Current job: **Deena Gilland (WLA 2009)**. What makes a good leader? "There are several values I believe a leader must exemplify. First, a leader must have integrity; trust is vital. Communication is crucial, and an important element of communication is active listening. Thirdly is collaboration; a leader must recognize the importance of working together in order to have dynamic results."

FoxNews.com | [Hospital drug shortages threaten patient health, prove costly](#)

October 13, 2011

"We're forced to go to a different regimen," says Emory University Hospital medical oncologist Donald Harvey, PharmD. "Sometimes that regimen may be inferior. Instead of changing from one therapy to another, we simply put it off in the cases of say, bone marrow transplants. Hospitals complain that they get little – or no – warning of a shortage, nor are they told how long it will last. **Amir Emamifar (WLA 2008)** runs the pharmacy at Emory. Every day is a juggling act to make sure patients get some kind of medication. "We're dealing with 286 different shortages," Emamifar told me. In addition to a staff of four that's dedicated to sourcing medications on shortage, Emamifar spends a couple of hours each day dealing with the fallout.

Atlanta Business Chronicle | [Research advances propel promise of health](#)

October 14, 2011

In essence, it "washes" the bad cholesterol out of the plasma of patients who are at high risk for atherosclerotic disease complications resulting from elevated cholesterol, explained **Larry Sperling (WLA 2008)**, professor of medicine (cardiology) and director of The Center for Heart Disease Prevention at the Emory University School of Medicine...On another medical front, there are increasing, albeit controversial, reports that low testosterone may be safe in prostate cancer patients, according to **Chad Ritenour (WLA 2005)**, an Emory urologist...In a recently published paper, **Boadie Dunlop, MD**, director of Emory's Mood and Anxiety Disorders Program, hypothesized that men, particularly those hard-hit by the recession, have found their work productivity impacted, possibly compromising their esteem.

MedPageToday.com | [Less surgery done in advanced laryngeal cancer](#)

October 18, 2011

The proportion of early-stage laryngeal cancer patients getting primary surgery rose from 20% in 1985 to 33% in 2007, found researchers led by **Amy Chen (WLA 2010)**, of Emory University in Atlanta and the American Cancer Society.

Atlanta Journal-Constitution | [AIDS drug program funding enhanced](#)

October 25, 2011

The Infectious Disease Program at Grady Memorial Hospital been dependent on help from pharmaceutical companies, said **Wendy Armstrong (WLA 2011)**, the program's medical director and associate professor of medicine at Emory University.



Atlanta Business Chronicle Paid subscription | [Emory researchers move to ALS phase I](#)

October 28, 2011

"Our next objective is to demonstrate that we can deliver the cells safely to the cervical spinal cord, which is particularly important because therapy in this region may help patients better maintain their ability to breathe," said **Jonathan Glass (WLA 2008)**, director of the Emory ALS Center.

CNN.com | [Prostate cancer screening may do more harm than good](#)

November 1, 2011

This article was written by **Otis Brawley (WLA 2004)**, chief medical and scientific officer of the American Cancer Society and professor at Emory University. His book, "How We Do Harm," is scheduled for publication by St. Martin's Press.

The GA Voice | [Get ready to ride for HIV research](#)

November 3, 2011

Action Cycling Atlanta hosts a recruitment party tonight for the annual AV200, a 200-mile bike ride to be held May 19-20 to raise funds for HIV vaccine research at the Emory Vaccine Center..."It's a tremendous resource and advantage to benefit from the AIDS Vaccine 200. We have federal grants to pay for much of our work, but we have needs that aren't covered by federal dollars," **Mark Mulligan (WLA 2008)**, Emory Hope Clinic executive director, told GA Voice last year.

NorthFulton.com | [Emory professor of surgery named new surgeon-in-chief of Grady Memorial Hospital](#)

November 2, 2011

Sheryl Gabram-Mendola (WLA 2008), MBA, FACS, a renowned breast surgical oncologist and professor of surgery at Emory University's Winship Cancer Institute and School of Medicine, adds another distinguished title to her professional honors: Surgeon-in-Chief at Grady Memorial Hospital. "We are thrilled that Dr. Gabram has accepted this important role," says **Chris Larsen (WLA 2003)**, chairman of the Department of Surgery at Emory University School of Medicine.

HealthCanal.com | [New valve revolutionizes the treatment of aortic stenosis](#)

November 3, 2011

The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has given the green light to a new transcatheter heart valve, under study at Emory since 2007, and expected to revolutionize the treatment of severe aortic stenosis. **Vasilis Babaliaros, MD** and his colleagues in interventional cardiology, including **Peter Block, MD**, helped lead the Emory clinical trial, along with their cardiac surgical colleagues, **Robert Guyton, MD** and **Vinod Thourani (WLA 2011)**.

Atlanta Journal-Constitution | [Ill priest answers the call to heal](#)

November 9, 2011

Well-known at Emory University's Winship Cancer Institute and within Atlanta's Catholic community, Rev. Joseph Peek is a go-to spiritual adviser for the sickest of the sick...**Amy Langston (WLA 2010)**, a bone marrow transplant physician at Emory's Winship Cancer Institute, directs Peek to patients who need help putting their own lives in perspective.

ABCNews.com | [Suicide prevention tool useful in teens, adults](#)

November 9, 2011

Despite decades of public health agency discussions about lowering suicide rates, suicides and attempted suicides remain "a serious public health problem," said **Nadine Kaslow (WLA 2004)**,



adolescent suicide specialist and chief psychologist at the Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta.

Nurse.com | [Girls with depression at higher risk of CVD deaths](#)

November 12, 2011

"This is the first study looking at depression as a risk factor for heart disease specifically in young people," said senior author **Viola Vaccarino (WLA 2010)**, chair of epidemiology at Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health.

Atlanta Daybook | [ALS Association gala to honor Phil Niekro and Dr. Jonathan Glass](#)

November 17, 2011

What do Atlanta Braves pitching great Phil Niekro and Emory University neurologist Dr. **Jonathan Glass (WLA 2008)** have in common? On Saturday, November 19, they will both be honored by the ALS Association of Georgia at the group's inaugural "A Season of Gratitude" fundraising gala at the Ritz Carlton Buckhead.

The Daily Beast | [After Geron, stem cells' new saviors](#)

November 18, 2011

The procedure has been attempted on 12 ALS patients so far, starting in January 2010. They received either five or 10 injections of 500,000 or 1 million neural stem cells, respectively, into the lower (lumbar) region of the spine, in a procedure developed and performed by neurosurgeon **Nicholas Boulis, MD** of Emory University, under the direction of Emory neurologist **Jonathan Glass, MD (WLA 2008)**.

CNN | [Operation marks another step forward in stem cell research](#)

November 21, 2011

The team of researchers in this clinical trial is headed by University of Michigan neurologist Dr. Eva Feldman, who designed the trial; neurologist **Jonathan Glass (WLA 2008)**, who is in charge of the clinical trial at Emory University in Atlanta, where patients are getting the injections; and Emory neurosurgeon **Nicholas Boulis**, who invented the structure used to safely inject the stem cells into the patient.

FoxNews.com | [Throat-cancer deaths drop in US, but rise for white men](#)

November 21, 2011

The recent decline in throat-cancer deaths is likely due to progress in smoking cessation, said study researcher **Amy Chen (WLA 2010)**, of Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta. However, the new study suggests we need to do more to prevent deaths from this cancer.

Reuters | [Oral cancer deaths declining among well-educated](#)

November 22, 2011

Deaths from mouth and throat cancer have dropped since the early 1990s, according to a new study - but only among people with at least a high school education...The study, led by **Amy Chen (WLA 2010)** at the Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, included mouth and throat cancer data from 1993 through 2007 in 26 states. Among adults age 25 to 64, there were about 19,300 deaths during that period.

Nurse News | [NINR celebrates 25 years of nursing research](#)

November 28, 2011

Sandra Dunbar (WLA 2006), associate dean for academic advancement at Emory University in



Atlanta, presented research on the development and testing of interventions to improve medication adherence in patients with heart failure, including those who have both heart failure and diabetes.

Nursing Review | [Depression increases risk of heart disease: study](#)

November 29, 2011

Depression or a history of suicide attempts in people younger than 40 markedly increases their risk of dying from heart disease, an American study suggests. **Viola Vaccarino (WLA 2010)**, chair of epidemiology at Emory University, Atlanta, said among women, depression appears to be more important than traditional risk factors such as smoking, hypertension and obesity.

CNN | [Pieces of Crystal: Homeless and HIV-positive in Atlanta](#)

November 29, 2011

High rates of poverty, sex trafficking, food insecurity and continued stigma attached to the disease all help make Atlanta a center of the Southeast epidemic. "We see a whole lot of homeless people at our clinic. It's very, very, very common that patients are unstably housed," said **Wendy Armstrong (WLA 2011)**, an associate professor of infectious disease at Emory University School of Medicine, and an investigator at the Emory Center for AIDS Research. The Ponce Clinic is currently seeing 5,100 patients already, **Jacqueline Muther**, interim administrator at the Grady Infectious Disease program says. The epidemic is concentrated in Fulton County, said **Paula Frew**, a researcher at Emory University School of Medicine. Cocaine is an independent risk factor for HIV transmission because of the associated behaviors and social disorganization that it creates, said **Dr. Vincent Marconi**, associate professor in the division of infectious diseases at Emory University School of Medicine.

Healthcanal.com | [Surgery versus chemotherapy or radiation for laryngeal cancer](#)

December 6, 2011

In a study reported in the October issue of Archives of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery, **Amy Chen (WLA 2010)** and colleagues at Emory University and the American Cancer Society, found that surgery performed during early-stage laryngeal cancer (cancer of the voicebox) has increased over the years, with a corresponding decrease in radiation.

CBSAtlanta.com | [Grief counselors sent to school of murdered Canton child](#)

December 6, 2011

"It's hard for them to understand why this happened, but it's hard for adults also," said **Nadine Kaslow (WLA 2004)**, a clinical psychologist who is on the board of directors of the American Psychological Association. I think it is really critical that you validate their feelings and not try to get rid of them. You say you understand, you're sad too, you share those feelings and then I think you answer every question they have to the best of your ability."

ABC News | [Clinical trial targets stroke victims](#)

December 19, 2011

"Let's say that the patient can do 10 percent, then the robot will do 90 percent, and as you get better, if you can move 50 percent, the robot will move 50 percent," said **Andrew Butler (WLA 2011)**, Professor, Emory University Dept. of Rehabilitation Medicine.

ABCNews.com | [Tips for staying healthy during holiday travel](#)

December 21, 2011

"You don't want to be a hermit, and you want to enjoy the holidays, but try to use some common



sense principles to avoid getting sick," said **Lisa Bernstein (Class of 2010)**, associate professor of medicine at Emory University School of Medicine.

CNN | [The 40-year war on cancer](#)

December 23, 2011

This article was written by **Otis Brawley (WLA 2004)**, chief medical and scientific officer of the American Cancer Society and professor at Emory University. His book, "How We Do Harm" is scheduled for publication next year by St. Martin's Press.

MensHealth.com | [The better-sex workout](#)

January 11, 2012

Young men who regularly exercise may have better erectile functioning than those who don't, suggests a recent study published in the International Journal of Sexual Medicine. Though other research has linked exercise to a lower risk of erectile dysfunction (ED), this was the first study to observe the connection in younger guys, says **Chad Ritenour (WLA 2005)**, senior investigator and associate professor for the Department of Urology at Emory University School of Medicine.

Psychiatric News | [Depression-cardiovascular link found in young adults](#)

January 20, 2012

And now it appears that depression can contribute to fatal cardiovascular disease not just in older individuals, but in younger ones as well, scientists reported in the November 2011 Archives of General Psychiatry. The study's senior investigator was **Viola Vaccarino (WLA 2010)**, a professor of medicine at Emory University.

ABC News | [Mom who survived Connecticut Christmas fire attempted suicide](#)

January 26, 2012

"Losing one person is sad and painful, but losing multiple people can be really overwhelming...the pain has just got to be so intense and overwhelming that it's hard to find much solace," said Dr. **Nadine Kaslow (WLA 2004)**, Professor and Chief Psychologist at Emory the Emory University School of Medicine.

ABC News | [Premature c-sections raise risk of infant breathing problems](#)

February 9, 2012

The seemingly rare condition can develop if an expectant mother has severe hypertension or kidney disease, or if a baby is malnourished, according to **Lucky Jain (WLA 2003)**, neonatologist and medical director of the Emory Children's Center at Emory University.

Georgia Trend | [The state of the heart](#)

February 8, 2012

At Emory University in Atlanta, patients treated in the cardiac cath labs are asked for consent to have their blood genetically analyzed, says **Larry Sperling (WLA 2008)**, founder and director of Preventive Cardiology at the Emory Clinic and co-director of the Cardiovascular Disease Fellowship Program at Emory.

CNN | [Dishonest doctors: Why physicians lie](#)

February 11, 2012

This article was written by CNN conditions expert and Emory University professor, **Otis Brawley (WLA 2004)**. He is the chief medical officer of the American Cancer Society, a world-renowned



cancer expert and a practicing oncologist. He is also the author of the book, "How We Do Harm: A Doctor Breaks Ranks About Being Sick in America."

Virginia-Highlands Druid Hills Patch | [Emory Hospital ER to Get Facelift](#)

February 23, 2012

The Emergency Department at Emory University Hospital is preparing for a major expansion that will double the size of the emergency room space. Emergency physician **Matthew Keadey (WLA 2011)** explains the need for the expansion.

Associated Press | [YouTube phenomenon has girls asking: Am I pretty?](#)

March 4, 2012

"There's this constant messaging about looks and beauty," **Nadine Kaslow (WLA 2004)**, a family psychologist and professor of behavioral sciences at Emory University in Atlanta said. "Their world is taking it to a new level. It can be humiliating, there may be a lot of shame, and you start to become public objects instead of being your own person."

HealthNewsDigest | [New pathway found for regulation of blood vessel growth in cancer](#)

March 2, 2012

Researchers at Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University have identified a new function for a gene that normally prevents the development of cancer. A team led by **Erwin Van Meir (WLA 2006)**, discovered that p14 ARF also regulates tumor-induced angiogenesis, the process by which growing cancers attract new blood vessels. Abdessamad Zerrouqi, PhD, research associate, is the first author of the paper.

Science News | [Excess salt may stiffen heart vessels](#)

March 6, 2012

CFR declined by about 10 percent for each additional 1,000 milligrams of sodium that a man consumed per day compared with his brother. "That's huge," says **Viola Vaccarino (WLA 2010)** of Emory University in Atlanta and coauthor of the study, which appears in the March American Journal of Clinical Nutrition.

Atlanta Journal-Constitution | [\\$1.5 million grant](#)

March 16, 2012

Emory University's **Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing** has received a \$1.5 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to train nurse scientists to develop innovative clinical interventions for patients with chronic illnesses... Led by cardiovascular nursing expert **Sandra Dunbar (WLA 2006)**, the new program will train 18 predoctoral and postdoctoral nursing scholars during the next five years.

CNN | [Epinephrine may save the heart, but not the brain, study says](#)

March 20, 2012

"Community studies have shown that things like bystander CPR and public-access defibrillators have been successful, and that [advanced life support] interventions are not," said **Alex Isakov (WLA 2010)**, director of Emory University's Section of Pre-Hospital and Disaster Medicine.

HealthCanal.com | [Non-invasive imaging can detect mutations within a brain tumor](#)

March 24, 2012

The research was a collaboration between the laboratories of Hui Mao, PhD, associate professor of radiology and imaging sciences and Emory University Center for Systems Imaging, and **Erwin Van**



Meir (WLA 2006), professor of neurosurgery and hematology and medical oncology. The first author of the paper is postdoctoral fellow Juliya Kalinina. Emory undergraduate **Anne Carroll** also contributed to the project.

ABC News | [George Zimmerman and the psychology of judgment](#)

April 13, 2012

"Judgments help us make sense of things. We tend to be uncomfortable if we don't know what to think," said **Nadine Kaslow (WLA 2004)**, a professor and chief psychologist at Emory University's Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. "On the other hand, sometimes we quit seeing the whole picture, quit seeing the complexity of the story and rely on our biases."

Wall Street Journal | [Frustrated ALS patients concoct their own drug](#)

April 15, 2012

Jonathan Glass (WLA 2008), professor of neurology and pathology at Emory University School of Medicine and director of Emory ALS Center, is one of the NP001 site investigators. He said he is concerned that "these people could hurt themselves. Who knows what they are actually making in their kitchen."

NPR | [TEDMED Thursday: Sex, 'Poo Tea' and ALS](#)

April 12, 2012

In the afternoon, Emory's **Jonathan Glass (WLA 2008)** and **Nick Boulis** dove headfirst into the realm of risk, arguing that the current system of regulation is holding back progress in the search for treatments for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. It's time, they say, for regulators to let patients take bigger risks when the alternative is looming death.

CNN | [Study: Chopper trauma transport improves survival chances](#)

April 17, 2012

"The first responder or EMS agency that is evaluating you as a patient and making a decision that you would go by helicopter versus ground is basing it on a wide range of scenarios," says Dr. **Alex Isakov (WLA 2010)**, Director of Emory University's section of prehospital and disaster medicine. He says guidelines do exist on when to send a patient to a trauma center, but "what they fail to answer is whether a patient should be transported in a helicopter or not."

Atlanta Journal Constitution | [Art can reach fading minds](#)

April 18, 2012

Emily Lu, who is graduating in May from medical school at Emory University, has created the new Museum Moments program at the Michael C. Carlos Museum. **Ken Hepburn (WLA 2007)**, a professor in the Emory School of Nursing who helps develop caregiving programs for people living with Alzheimer's, said art can be deeply moving.

CNN | [Beastie Boy's death: What is salivary gland cancer?](#)

May 4, 2012

"Parotid cancers are fairly unusual in general but it can appear in individuals of all ages," said **Amy Chen (WLA 2010)**, a head and neck cancer surgeon at Emory University in Atlanta. "It's just in general, parotid cancer is very rare."

CBS Detroit | [ALS patients approved for more stem cells](#)

May 9, 2012

Results from that cohort recently were featured in the peer-reviewed journal Stem Cells in an article



authored by Feldman and her colleagues at Emory, including neurologist **Jonathan Glass**, and neurosurgeon Nick Boulis, M.D., who performed the implantation surgeries.

ABC News | [Gene predicts Parkinson's progression](#)

May 16, 2012

"The strength of this study is that it uses a population-based approach," said **Gary Miller (WLA 2005)**, professor at Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health.

ABC News | [Girl with dwarfism competes on 'Toddlers & Tiaras'](#)

May 17, 2012

"If she is feeling pressured to do it and other kids give her a hard time and tease her, it's not going to be good for her mental health," said **Nadine Kaslow (WLA 2004)**, professor and vice chair of Emory University's Department of Psychiatry.

Georgia Health News | [Enlist in the war against HIV](#)

May 18, 2012

Last week came news of an FDA panel recommending the use of the drug Truvada to prevent HIV infection in high-risk individuals. But that development, as welcome as it is, should not distract us from the need for an HIV vaccine, says **Mark Mulligan (WLA 2008)**, a professor of medicine at Emory University, in a new GHN Commentary.

CNN Presents | [Selling miracles](#)

May 20, 2012

Doctors at Atlanta's Emory University hospital are preparing to inject fetal stem cells into the neck and back of a patient who has ALS, Lou Gehrig's disease. **Jonathan Glass (WLA 2008)** explains to the patients the procedure that will be done.

CNN | [Prostate cancer screening's false promise](#)

May 22, 2012

This article was written by Dr. **Otis Brawley (WLA 2004)**, chief medical and scientific officer of the American Cancer Society and professor at Emory University. He is the author, with Paul Goldberg, of "How We Do Harm".

LA Canada | [Successful blood cancer therapy identified](#)

May 30, 2012

"That's a pretty important landmark to see, because ultimately that's our goal -- to improve overall survival," said **Sagar Lonial (WLA 2012)**, a professor and vice chairman of clinical affairs at Emory University School of Medicine department of hematology and medical oncology. Lonial was not involved in the current study.

Family Practice News | [Coping With Error: Checklist can help after medical mistake](#)

June 5, 2012

Adverse events need to be approached as learning opportunities, and a short checklist can start the process, according to **Kimberly Manning (WLA 2011)** of Emory University, Atlanta. "What we found from having these discussions with our house staff is that the patients we tend to feel the most terrible about are usually the people that we've invested a lot into," said Dr. Manning, who is the director of Emory's transitional year residency program.



CNN Blog | [What is histrionic personality disorder?](#)

June 11, 2012

"People develop this disorder because they have a need to be appreciated and to feel valued and worthwhile and special," said **Nadine Kaslow (WLA 2004)**, psychologist at Emory University School of Medicine, who has not treated Sandusky.

MedPageToday.com | [ASCO: New myeloma drug looks promising](#)

June 8, 2012

Six of the 58 patients with multiple myeloma achieved at least an objective response, including one person who was found to have a stringent complete response, said **Sagar Lonial (WLA 2012)**, of the Winship Cancer Institute at Emory University in Atlanta.

ABC News | [Jerry Sandusky's alleged victims tell of shame, fear, love](#)

June 15, 2012

"Obviously some of those kids may have wanted a father figure," said **Nadine Kaslow (WLA 2004)**, professor and chief psychologist at the Emory University School of Medicine. "For them, getting some attention from an adult may be better than getting no attention."

Fox 5 News Atlanta | [Study: Heart attack victims could see signs of PTSD](#)

June 21, 2012

Larry Sperling (WLA 2008), Director of the Center for Heart Disease Prevention at the Emory Clinic, says the new findings make sense because heart survivors go through their own traumas.

"I think to extend the patients, to have had a life event, a shocking life event, I think that's an important step to making more physicians and healthcare providers aware of the impact of emotion on the heart," said Dr. Sperling.

11Alive.com | [How do families move on after losing children?](#)

June 21, 2012

Nadine Kaslow (WLA 2004), a professor and family psychologist at Emory University, said that support is crucial... "For most families, they don't want their lives to be an open book to everybody, their feelings, their actions," Kaslow said.

CNN | [Atkins-style diets linked to women's heart disease](#)

June 27, 2012

"It's provocative," said **Larry Sperling (WLA 2008)**, director of the Center for Heart Disease Prevention at Emory School of Medicine in Atlanta. "Yes, in this study there's an association, but you need to be careful about taking that information and walking away with it and changing how you eat for the rest of your life."

Fox 5 News Atlanta | [Staying safe and hydrated during the summer months](#)

June 27, 2012

Kimberly Manning (WLA 2011), with Emory University and Grady Healthcare stopped by Good Day Atlanta with tips on how to stay safe and hydrated during the hot, summer months.



Happy Trails...

Notes from those who have moved on:

Things are going well here, but I am definitely missing my Atlanta people. Here is a little info on the position... let me know if you need more and what kind of information would be helpful.

I've taken the role of Chief of Finance and Administration for the Department of Medicine at Vanderbilt which is a similar position to the one I was in at Emory. I was at Emory for 14 years and am so grateful for the opportunity I had to learn and grow while working alongside some of the world's best physicians. Emory and Atlanta were great to me and my family, so we are sad to be leaving. But, the opportunity at Vanderbilt is exciting and I look forward to, for the first time in my life, being at a school that has a football team. Ok, at least a football stadium.

Thanks,
Derek Miller (WLA 2008)

Dear Friends,

As some of you know, I've been taking some personal leave time for the last several months. I'm writing to let all of you know that I've recently decided not to return to Emory and will be pursuing another practice opportunity. Needless to say, it was a difficult decision.

Having been at Emory since starting medical school in 1989, and having known some of you for that entire time, I couldn't leave without offering my thanks and appreciation for the time we've spent together while caring for patients, as well as teaching and learning with the residents, medical students and staff. I'll miss all of you, but look forward to the future knowing that our paths will likely cross again.

Take care,
Larry Ray (WLA 2007)

My new contact information follows –
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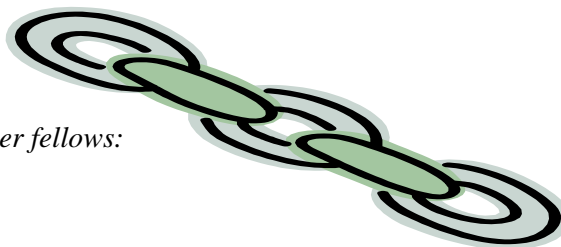
Feel free to call or text me on my cell – 404-783-0671



Staying Linked

A new feature to keep you connected with other fellows:

Featuring John D. Puskas, MD
Professor of Surgery (Cardiothoracic)
Associate Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Emory University
Chief of Cardiac Surgery, Emory University Hospital Midtown



I was a member of the WLA class of 2004. Since that time, I have founded our Clinical Research Unit within the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery/Department of Surgery. Starting with one database manager and a single clinical research nurse, we now have a team of 15 FTEs devoted to clinical research in cardiothoracic surgery. We now have three multi-year funded NIH grants totaling approx \$3M and numerous corporate grants. We are actively enrolling patients in 26 clinical research trials, including several investigator initiated studies. Our work was recently recognized by a grateful patient who made a significant philanthropic gift, providing discretionary funds that I hope will accelerate our growth and productivity.

As Associate Medical Director of the CT Surgery ICU at EUHM, I am partnering with Dr Joel Zivot (Center for Critical Care Medicine) to develop and implement a multidisciplinary model of collaborative co-management of patients after cardiothoracic surgery. This continues to be an engaging and challenging leadership opportunity that holds the promise of improved patient care in our ICU.

Our Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery faculty continues to develop new and innovative surgical techniques for complex cardiothoracic conditions. This has recently included a rapid expansion of our robotic cardiac surgical program with the development of multidisciplinary hybrid coronary revascularization, in which the surgeon (myself or my mentee Dr Michael Halkos) performs a truly minimally invasive bypass procedure to the left anterior descending coronary artery with the robot, followed by implantation of stents into other coronary artery “targets”. One of our NIH grants is to lead a national network of sites investigating this promising new therapy for selected patients with coronary artery disease. Another is to mentor Dr Halkos in his career development as a clinical/translational researcher.

In brief, we are busy! The WLA experience opened my eyes in many ways and gave me an active focus on leadership outside my own operating room team for the first time. For that I am grateful.

