The Department of Surgery

Presents

The 25th Grasberger Research Symposium Lecture and Visiting Professorship

Diana L. Farmer, MD
Chair and Pearl Stamps Stewart Professor
Department of Surgery, UC Davis
Surgeon-in-Chief, UC Davis Children's Hospital

Friday, May 20, 2016
7:00 am – 8:00 am  Grand Rounds
Diana L. Farmer, MD: “Global Surgery – A New Paradigm”
Bakst Auditorium

8:00 am – 9:00 am  Morbidity and Mortality Conference
Bakst Auditorium

9:15 am – 10:15 am  Open Discussion: “How Choices Affect Your Career”
Dr. Farmer, Senior Faculty, Senior and Chief Residents
Grasberger Library – Collamore 5

10:30 am – 1:00 pm  Poster Session with Lunch
Carter Conference Center, FGH

1:30 pm – 4:00 pm  Department of Surgery Research Presentations
Bakst Auditorium
- Introductory Remarks: Gerard Doherty, MD
- Bedabrata Sarkar, MD, PhD – “Mitochondrial DNA Regulates Cytokine MRNA Stability Through AUFI”
- Matthew Brady, MD – “Post-operative Venous Thromboembolism in Patients Undergoing Abdominal Surgery for Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD): A Common but Rarely Addressed Problem”
- Elliot Pennington, MD – “The Impact of Gestational Age on Amniotic Cell Profiling in Experimental Neural Tube Defects”
- Matthew Egyud, MD – “Detection of Tumor-specific Mutations in Circulating, Cell-free DNA: Potential for a Biomarker in Esophageal Adenocarcinoma”
- Elizabeth King, MD – Healthcare Disparities and Risk Factors for Readmissions after General Surgical Procedures”
- Christopher Graham, MD – “Donor Mesenchymal Stem Cell Trafficking after Trans-Amniotic Stem Cell Therapy (TRASCET) in a Normal Rodent Model”
- Jian Zheng, MD – “Hypophosphatemia after Hepatectomy and Pancreatectomy”
- Krista Hachey, MD – “Navigational Bronchoscopy-guided Near-infrared Tumor Localization and Sentinel Lymph Node Staging of Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer”

3:45 pm – 4:00 pm  Break

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm  Grasberger Awards

Keynote Address
Diana L. Farmer, MD: “Standing on the Shoulders of Giants: A Personal Journey in Surgical Service”
Bakst Auditorium

Closing Remarks
Gerard Doherty, MD
Dr. Diana L. Farmer, an internationally renowned fetal and neonatal surgeon, is chair of the Department of Surgery at UC Davis Health System, where she oversees more than 250 faculty, volunteer clinical faculty, post-doctoral fellows, residents, students and staff who provide highly skilled, specialty services in bariatric, burn, cardiothoracic, gastrointestinal, plastic and reconstructive, oncology, transplant, trauma and vascular surgery.

A recognized leader in pediatric surgery, Farmer is known for her skilled surgical treatment of congenital anomalies and for her expertise in cancer, airway and intestinal surgeries in newborns and for her investigations on the safety and effectiveness of providing spina bifida treatments before birth. She is researching a novel stem cell therapy for repairing damaged neural tissue in spina bifida patients. Farmer has authored more than 100 peer-reviewed research articles, including studies of neuroblastoma, Chiari II malformation, twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome, fetal trauma and necrotizing enterocolitis."Dr. Farmer is a worldwide innovator in treating complex birth defects and diseases in very young children," said Claire Pomeroy, vice chancellor for human health sciences and dean of the School of Medicine at UC Davis. "Her technical insights, expert leadership and dedication to patients will assure that our surgical team continues to offer compassionate care together with the latest technologies."

Farmer came to UC Davis in 2011 from UC San Francisco, where she was chief of pediatric surgery, vice chair of surgery, surgeon-in-chief of the UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital and a professor of surgery, pediatrics, and obstetrics, gynecology and reproductive sciences.

After receiving a bachelor's degree in marine and molecular biology at Wellesley College, Farmer completed her medical degree and internship at the University of Washington in Seattle. She completed her general surgery residency training at UC San Francisco and pediatric surgical training at Children's Hospital of Michigan.

In 2010, Farmer was inducted as a fellow into the Royal College of Surgeons of England, becoming only the second woman surgeon from the United States to receive this prestigious honor. In 2011, she was elected to membership in the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies, one of the highest honors in medicine.

Farmer consistently has been recognized for her teaching and service by UC San Francisco, including the 2008 Family House Volunteer of the Year Award, 2009 Golden-Headed Cane Award (the highest faculty teaching award), 2001 and 2002 Outstanding Women Faculty Chancellor's Recognition Award, 2002 and 2008 Department of Surgery Excellence in Teaching Award and 2011 Holly Smith Award for Exceptional Service. She is included in the 2010 edition of Who's Who Among American Women and the 2011 edition of Best Doctors in America. She has appeared on the Lifetime television network and the "Oprah Winfrey Show" to discuss surgical innovations.
Robert Grasberger was born in Media, Pennsylvania on December 3, 1953. He graduated in 1975 as a member of Phi Beta Kappa and as a Rhodes Scholar nominee from Colby College. He then attended Jefferson Medical College and graduated in 1979.

Bob joined the Boston University Medical Center Surgery Residency Training Program in 1979 with aspirations of becoming a surgeon. During his training, Bob worked hard both clinically and academically and he was an ambitious researcher.

During his years with us, we watched Bob grow and mature. We taught him, and we learned from him. We took care of patients with him and did research with him. We raced against him and played tennis with him. Sometimes we even argued with him. When he graduated in 1986, he was truly a member of our “family”… and he was an outstanding surgeon.

Bob continued his training at Montefiore Hospital in New York, where he began a two-year fellowship in peripheral vascular surgery. He had been there only a short time when he died suddenly on January 31, 1987 while playing basketball. He was 33.

During his general surgical training, Bob completed a two-year research fellowship in our trauma research laboratory (1981-83). His research focused on the use of high frequency ventilation in head trauma and on the endocrine responses to trauma and shock. He was the author or co-author of sixteen publications during his residency.

In 1990, the Department of Surgery established The Grasberger Research Symposium in his memory. In recognition of Bob’s outstanding academic and research accomplishments the Grasberger Symposium provides an opportunity for our department to share our research progress.