



# THE WARREN H. COLE SOCIETY

The Alumni Association of the Department of Surgery of the  
University of Illinois, College of Medicine

MAY 2009

## A Message from the President

Dear Colleagues,

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for electing me President of the Warren H. Cole Society. Many internationally known and highly respected surgeons have held this office in the past and I am truly honored to be included among them.

Our surgical community was extremely saddened with the news of Dr Nyhus's death in December of 2008. Dr Lloyd M. Nyhus was the Warren H. Cole Professor and head of the Department of Surgery at UIC for over 20 years. He was a committed academic surgeon and mentor of many residents and fellows from the US and around the world. He organized a superb surgical program at UIC and gained international recognition as a surgeon and educator.

An annual lectureship was established in his honor by the Department of Surgery at UIC, in accordance with his family's wishes. We hope that you will all want to honor our Professor and we are counting on your generous support.

The Council of the WHC Society unanimously decided to dedicate our next annual meeting to the memory of Dr Nyhus. Please mark your calendar, plan to attend our meeting on October 12th, 2009 at the Mid-America club and participate in the presentation of personal stories related to your experience and encounters with Dr Nyhus.

In an effort to strengthen relationships with our former graduates and provide additional educational programs to our members we will be co-sponsoring with the Department of Surgery at UIC the 2nd annual Olga Jonasson Symposium on June 5th, 2009 in Chicago. Former graduates Drs. Charlie Stolar and Rich Kagan have been included in the program. A hands on course on Robotic surgery will also be offered to a small group of participants. Please check your mail for details and plan to attend. Chicago is beautiful in June!!!!

Our society is healthy and continues to grow and expand. This year, graduates, residents and staff members from the affiliate programs of the Department of Surgery, Metro and Sinai were invited and started joining our society.

Our executive secretary Mrs. Teena Jops will be retiring in September after eight years of fine service. We wish Teena all the best on her retirement and welcome our new executive secretary Mrs. Mary Mouw.

I look forward to working this year with all council Members to further improve the functions of our Society and strengthen the ties with our Alumni. Please feel free to contact me with suggestions, comments or recommendations ( [mncohen@uic.edu](mailto:mncohen@uic.edu)).

Have a great year and hope to see many of you in Chicago during the scheduled meetings in June and October.

*- Mimis Cohen, MD, FACS*



## COUNCIL

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## MEMBER NEWS

### Gunner named top surgeon at VA in Washington.

On Nov. 23, Dr. William P. Gunner was named National Director of Surgery, Department of Veterans Affairs, of the United States Veteran Health Administration in Washington, D.C. Suburban Life, Wednesday March 25, 2009 by Valerie Kunz. See: [www.snapshots.mysuburbanlife.com](http://www.snapshots.mysuburbanlife.com)

## SAVE THE DATE

### Monday, October 12, 2009

The Warren H. Cole Society Annual Meeting/Reception/Dinner to be held in Chicago, Illinois in conjunction with the American College of Surgeons meeting. Our event will be held at the Mid-America Club, 200 East Randolph in the Aon Building.

# REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY/TREASURER

**THE COUNCIL OF THE WARREN H. COLE SOCIETY MET ON 23 JANUARY 2009 AT THE UNIVERSITY CLUB IN CHICAGO.**

All associate members of the society (recent graduates and in some cases more distant graduates who have not previously been moved) were moved to active membership on unanimous vote of the Council. Furthermore, associate memberships were extended to all residents in the training programs of the Metropolitan Residency program and the Mt. Sinai Residency program.

The Society has begun a campaign to bring into membership all UIC graduates since 1977 who are not currently members of the society. Invitations to join have been issued to all graduates who qualify for membership.

The Society has arranged for payment of yearly dues by credit card. All those who have cards that provide flier or frequent use benefits should avail themselves of this new method to provide support to the Society and receive a point bonus at the same time.

Finally, the Society reports a healthy balance sheet with almost \$30,000 cash on hand and two CD's of \$50,000 invested safely in this time of perilous money management.

The Society Council will meet next to transact business on 19 June 2009 at the University Club. Any member who wishes business addressed at that time should send the item to the Secretary/Treasurer.

*- Robert Arensman, MD, FACS*

## UIC DEPARTMENT REPORT

### OLGA JONASSON SYMPOSIUM/WARREN H. COLE SCIENTIFIC MEETING

In remembrance of our beloved mentor, teacher, colleague and friend, the University of Illinois Department Of Surgery will host the 2nd Annual Olga Jonasson Symposium/Warren H. Cole Society First Scientific Meeting. A pioneer in transplant surgery, Dr. Jonasson's contributions to medicine spanned over 40 years and it is honor to acknowledge her leadership and life long commitment to surgical education.

Please join us Friday, June 5th at the University Club of Chicago for this CME accredited event. Featured speakers include Olga Jonasson Honored Alumni Drs Charlie Stolar, Rich Kagan and Gary Merlotti and Key Note Speaker Dr. Barbara Bass, MD, FACS, John F. and Carolyn Bookout Distinguished Endowed Chair, Professor of Surgery, Weill Cornell Medical College.

Please look for your formal invitation in the mail and RSVP as soon as possible. For immediate information, please visit [www.uicsurgeryofevents.org](http://www.uicsurgeryofevents.org).

On Saturday, June 6th, 2009, the Department of Surgery is pleased to welcome all the former Alumni and Members of the Warren H. Cole Society to our new Robotic Training Laboratory. In honor of the "2nd Annual Olga Jonasson Symposium, Warren H. Cole Society First Scientific Meeting", the Department is offering, free of charge, an introduction to robotic technology in our state of the art laboratory under the guidance of our Chief of Robotic Surgery, the Lloyd Nyhus Professor, Pier Cristoforo Giulianotti.

The training session will take place at the University of Illinois Robotic Training Laboratory in the College of Medicine Research Building, 909 S. Wolcott, Chicago, IL 60612, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Please RSVP directly to Rachel Paus at 312.996.1673 if you are interested in participating.

We look forward to you joining us for these special occasions.

*Enrico Benedetti, MD, FACS*

Warren H. Cole Chair in Surgery  
Professor and Head  
Department of Surgery  
University of Illinois at Chicago

**SAVE THE DATE**

**2009 Olga Jonasson Surgical Symposium**

**Friday, June 5, 10 am**  
University Club of Chicago  
Adjourn to the  
Art Institute of Chicago  
for a cocktail reception  
and UIC Surgical Graduates  
dinner.

**Saturday, June 6, 8 am**  
UIC Robotic Surgery Lab

The Olga Jonasson Symposium celebrates advances in surgery in the spirit of Dr. Jonasson, a beloved mentor, teacher, colleague and friend. Scientific talks highlighting state of the art advances in surgery will be given by Drs. Charles J. Stolar, Richard Kagan, James A. Kavic, as well as other friends and colleagues who knew Dr. Jonasson will. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Barbara Bass. Following the symposium, please join us at the Art Institute of Chicago for a cocktail reception and dinner honoring distinguished alumni and the graduating surgical residents of the University of Illinois Department of Surgery. The following morning, a robotic wet lab will be available for those interested.

For more information regarding the symposium including rates for the University Club of Chicago accommodations, please go to <http://www.uicsurgeryofevents.org>.

## LLOYD M. NYHUS LECTURESHIP ESTABLISHED AT UIC

Dear fellow Warren H. Cole Society members,

During his 20 years as head of the University of Illinois at Chicago Department of Surgery, Dr. Lloyd M. Nyhus had a major influence on many of our careers. Dr. Nyhus passed away from natural causes last December at age 85. With the blessing and encouragement of his family, the department of surgery is encouraging alumni and friends to make contributions to raise \$100,000 to establish the Lloyd M. Nyhus, MD, Memorial Lecture in Surgery. We plan to host the first Lloyd M. Nyhus, MD, Memorial Lecture in Surgery in December, 2009.

A small group of Dr. Nyhus' former trainees and colleagues is reaching out to fellow residents and friends to ask for tax deductible support of this lectureship. However, you don't need to wait to be called. Please be generous and join us in making a gift to honor Dr. Nyhus's memory. For your convenience, we have included a contribution gift card with this newsletter.

If you have any questions about making a gift, please contact Kathy Wohlhuter in the Office of Medical Advancement at (312)996-4417 or via e-mail: [kwohlhut@uic.edu](mailto:kwohlhut@uic.edu).

Many thanks to those of you who have already sent your contributions, and many thanks to you who will join us in this effort.

Gratefully,

*Mimis Cohen, MD, FACS*

Chief, Division of Plastic, Reconstructive and Cosmetic Surgery  
President, Warren H. Cole Society

## UICCOMP (PEORIA) DEPARTMENT REPORT

Our department's faculty numbers have increased to 165, of which 19 are full time. We continue to remain active in academic and professional organizations.

- Dr. Richard Anderson serves as President, West Central Region Board, American Cancer Society; the Illinois State Chair for the Commission on Cancer, American College of Surgeons; Chief, Dept. of Surgery OSF Saint Francis Medical Ctr.; and is a member of the Development Committee, Central Surgical Association Foundation.
- Dr. David L. Crawford serves as a member of the Board of Directors, W.D. Boyce Council, Boy Scouts of America.
- Dr. Eric T. Elwood, served as Honorary Chair, Children's Hospital of Illinois, Children's Miracle Network Telethon.
- Dr. Norman serves as Chair UIC Faculty Appointment, Promotion, and Tenure Committee.
- Dr. Ravindra K. Vegunta is Chair, Operative and Invasive Committee, OSF SFMC Children's Hospital of IL.
- Dr. Lorin D. Whittaker, Jr., is a Member of the Board of Governors, American College of Surgeons and American College of Surgeons IL Chapter; and Chair, UIC Surgery Education Coordinating Committee.
- Dr. Denise M. Mammolito is a Board Member, Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, Peoria Memorial Affiliate.
- Dr. Amy B. Stanfill serves as an Advisory Board Member, IL Emergency Medical Services for Children.
- Dr. Ravindra K. Vegunta continues as Director of the Training Center for Procedural Skills (TraP) for the Department of Surgery. This is a simulation training program for residents, where procedural skills are taught every Friday by various members of the faculty.
- Dr. Amy B. Stanfill serves as Assistant Director of the Surgical Skills Laboratory. Dr. Stanfill has been named the Coordinator of the Surgical Resident Oral Board Examination and Preparedness Course and has added a Mock Oral Board Examination which is given twice a year.
- Dr. John Murray will serve as Chair and Dr. Denise Mammolito will serve as Vice Chair of the Second Annual Breast Cancer Symposium to be held this October 2-3, 2009.

### Our faculty have received the following awards:

- Dr. James R. DeBord received the UICOM-P 2008-2009 Faculty of the Year Award.
- Dr. J. Stephen Marshall received the UICOM-P 2008-2009 Outstanding Service Award.
- Dr. Amy B. Stanfill received the UICOM-P 2008-2009 Outstanding Teaching Award.
- Dr. Ramayya U. Gowda received the UICOM-P 2008-2009 Outstanding Teaching and Service Award for Community Based Faculty.
- Dr. Syed Hussain received the 2008 Faculty Teaching Award from UICOM-P's surgery residents for "outstanding ability and interest in personal and professional growth".
- Recipient of the Lorin D. Whittaker Sr. 2008 Teacher of the Year Award was Dr. Richard C. Anderson
- Recipient of the Lorin D. Whittaker Sr. 2008 Resident of the Year Award was Dharmesh Patel.
- Dr. Richard C. Anderson was recognized as one of America's Top Surgeons, 2009.
- Dr. James R. DeBord is a Registered Physician in Vascular Interpretation, 2008.
- Dr. Eric T. Elwood, Glyn E. Jones, Dr. John Murray, and Dr. Lisa A. Whitty with Illinois Plastic Surgery were nominated for the Who's Who Leader in Plastic Surgery.

The Department sent two senior students to the American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress held October 12-15, 2008 in San Francisco, CA.

Two of Peoria's medical students were honored with awards - Sean Hill M-4 received the Warren H. Cole Scholarship and Alexander Orem M-4 received the Lloyd H. Nyhus Prize.

*- Norman C. Estes, MD, FACS*

# IN MEMORIUM

## Lloyd M. Nyhus, MD, FACS

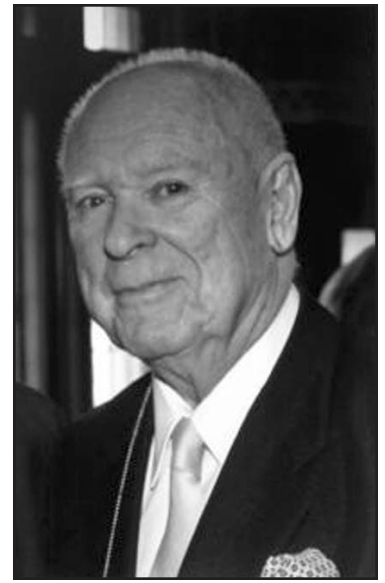
*Warren H. Cole Professor and Head Department of Surgery, UIC College of Medicine*

Dr. Nyhus passed away on December 15th, 2008. He was 85 years old. For over 22 years he was the Warren H. Cole Professor of Surgery and Head of the Department of Surgery. In 1989 until his death he was the emeritus professor of surgery. In 2005 the Lloyd M. Nyhus Chair in General Surgery was initiated. He was from the beginning of his tenure at Illinois a champion of the Cole Society and he added much to its prominence as the alumni association of the Department of Surgery. His many accomplishments in surgery as well as his unique ability to build a team of world class teachers, researchers and surgeons at the University of Illinois will remain a lasting legacy. You may like to visit the UIC Department of Surgery website to see his obituary.  
<http://www.uic.edu/com/surgery/>

On February 7th, 2009 a memorial service was held in Northfield, IL. Many attended and the tributes paid to him were those of a true man of character, integrity and passion for family, the art and science of surgery and the passion of teaching and learning surgical skills and knowledge in the care of the patient.

The importance of these gifts has been honored in the establishment of the Lloyd M. Nyhus Lectureship in Surgery. This was jointly proposed by the Department of Surgery as well as the W.H. Cole Society. It would be a fitting tribute if each member of the Cole Society donated to this lectureship. This can be found on the UIC Department website:  
<http://www.uic.edu/com/surgery/nyhus.htm>

A biography of Professor Nyhus is in final edit and should be available in the fall of 2009. The title is: Lloyd M. Nyhus, MD, FACS Surgeon, Mentor, Visionary for 20th Century Surgery. Michelle G. Rapaport, with Donald K. Wood, MD, FACS.



Please visit [www.uic.edu/com/surgery](http://www.uic.edu/com/surgery) for all the latest news, up-coming events, and current Department newsletter of the University of Illinois at Chicago Department of Surgery



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