

University of Louisville School of Medicine

Division of Plastic Surgery

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Volume 8, Issue 1

August 2024



From left to right: Drs. Palazzo, Rosser, Azzolini, Bruce, Westrick, Calobrace, Wilhelmi, Prescott, MacDavid, Quintero, Choo, Sparks, Katsnelson, Huett, Peake, Brooks, Paul.

A word from Plastic Surgery Chief & Program Director:

We had a tough year with the loss of both Leonard J. Weiner MD, the father of our program, and Gordon R. Tobin MD, his mentee and worthy, natural successor. They were Batman and Robin in plastic surgery over the last 50 years. They were both pioneers in plastic surgery and we owe them for all their contributions and advances in our field. Let's take a moment to honor them both, for all they did for Plastic Surgery in general and specifically Plastic Surgery at the University of Louisville.



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Donate now to the
Janet Wilhelmi Award
<http://give.louisville.edu/psaaf>

Donate now to the
Kasdan Award
<http://give.louisville.edu/kasdan>

In memoriam of Dr. Tobin

[SOS International](#), [Whitney/Strong Inc.](#), [The Healing Place](#)

In memoriam of Dr. Weiner

donations are suggested to the Leonard J. Weiner MD Endowed Fund (account E0360) at the University of Louisville Foundation, Inc., PO box 772050, Chicago, Ill. 60677-2050

Our Academic Faculty

Bradon J. Wilhelmi, M.D.

Leonard J. Weiner, M.D. Professor and
Chief of Plastic Surgery
Plastic Surgery Residency Program Director

Joshua H. Choo, M.D.

Associate Program Director of Plastic
Surgery Associate Professor of Surgery
Director of Complex Wound & Lower
Extremity Reconstruction

Terry M. McCurry, M.D.

Associate Professor of Surgery

Ryan L. Shapiro, M.D.

Assistant Professor of Plastic Surgery

Michelle Palazzo, M.D.

Associate Professor of Plastic Surgery
Program Director of Hand Fellowship

Dexter W. Weeks, M.D.

Assistant Professor of Plastic Surgery

Welcome Dr. Dexter Weeks!

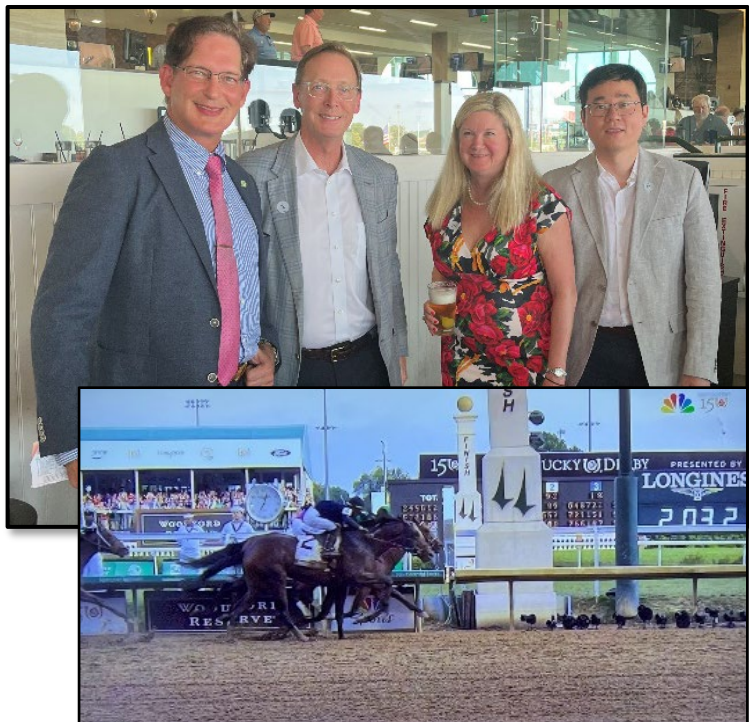


Dexter W. Weeks, MD. Graduated from UofL Med School in 2017 and received the Morton & Ann Kasdan award in 2017 as the outstanding student in Plastic Surgery. He completed a Hand Fellowship at Ohio State (2023-2024) and an Integrated Plastic Surgery program at University of Texas Medical Branch (2017-2023). We are very excited to welcome him home to the University of Louisville as faculty of Plastic & Reconstructive Program this September.

Faculty Retreat 2024



Dr. & Mrs. Wilhelmi
celebrating at the General
Surgery Graduation at the
Olmstead.



In True Kentucky Fashion
The Plastic Surgery Faculty enjoyed the last night
of Downs After Dark at the Turf Club.



Plastic Surgery Graduation Hats Off to Our 2024 Graduates



This year's UofL Plastic Surgery graduation theme was **Endurance**. Cameron Hanes, the fitness enthusiast said, *"Endurance is not about being the fastest or the strongest, it's about being the one who never gives up."* This quote characterizes this year's Kentucky Derby winner, *Mystik Dan*. He wasn't the fastest horse in the derby, but he gained first position on the inside lane and never gave up – ultimately enduring and holding first place in the historic three-way photo finish of this year's 150th Kentucky Derby race. Those of you that know our two PS graduates, Josh MacDavid (Expert Weight Trainer) and Evan Westrick (Triathlete), will agree that they too personify the term **Endurance**. They both have worked extremely hard over the years and have achieved so much, won multiple awards, cranked out solid scores on exams, and are in the **best physical fitness** of any plastic surgeons in the country! These two have demonstrated amazing endurance in the library, the gym, the pool, and the road. When they are not working or studying ...they are working out. They look more like professional athletes

than surgeons. William Barclay the Scottish author, Glasgow University Professor, and radio TV personality once said, "Endurance is not just the ability to bear a hard thing, but to turn it into Glory." Evan and Josh – we wish you both the very best in the next endeavor of your life and trust your gift of endurance and hard work will thrust your careers successfully into Glory. Congratulations!

ANNUAL AWARDS



Dr. Wilson Huett won this years' **Academic Achievement Award** for scoring the highest InService Score. InService Exams are taken every March.

**Congratulations
Dr. Huett!**



Clinical Award
Dr. MacDavid receives the clinical award for his excellence in clinical service, clinical work performance, and completion of 3500 operations!

**Congratulations
Dr. MacDavid!**



Research Award
Dr. Westrick receives the Research Award for winning 1st place in the 2023 KSPS Annual Conference and having the most publications this year.

Congratulations Dr. Westrick!

The Faculty Teaching Award

This award is selected by the residents, who have again, chosen Dr. Choo as the deserving recipient.

Congratulations Dr. Choo!

The Gratis Faculty Award

We are very grateful to have an outstanding network of private practice plastic surgeons who are committed to the education and excellence of our residents.

Congratulations Dr. Gossman!



University of Louisville Graduation



From the Olmstead where Plastic Surgery Fellows, Drs. Westrick & MacDavid, celebrate their accomplishments at the General Surgery Graduation with Dr. Wilhelmi



Welcome our NEW Residents & Fellows

Fellows

Chief Fellows

Anthony G. Azzolini, M.D.
Jacob Y. Katsnelson, M.D.

Second Year Fellows

Joshua D. Spiegel, M.D.
Wilson G. Huett, M.D.

First Year Fellow

Alessandra A. Spagnolia, M.D.



Alessandra Spagnolia, MD
University of North Dakota

Residents

Fourth Year Residents

Candice L. Nguyen, M.D.
Mitchell B. Peake, M.D.

Third Year Residents

Brian J. Paul, M.D.
Shelby M. Graham, M.D.

Second Year Residents

Arrin C. Brooks, M.D., Ph.D
Chris Bruce, M.D.

First Year Residents

Carter G. Prewitt, M.D.
Brandon D. Rosser, M.D.



Brandon Rosser, MD
University of South Alabama



Carter Prewitt, MD
University of Louisville

Our 2025 MATCHED Fellow



Joseph "Preston" Bethea, MD
University of South Carolina

Visiting Professor: Dr. John Fischer, MD, MPH, FACS



Dr. John Fischer is a Professor of Surgery in the Division of Plastics and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania Health System. We were honored to host him as a visiting professor in April. An expert in complex wound care, he gave an outstanding lecture on complex wound reconstruction and directed our Acland Fresh Tissue Lab activity, demonstrating lower extremity flap reconstruction with our residents.



Visiting Professor: Dr. Dennis Hammond



Dr. Dennis Hammond, of the Michigan State Plastic Surgery Program, was a guest speaker for our Plastic Surgery Grand Rounds. The topic: *Shaping the Future of Breast Reconstruction: Innovations in ADM & Fat Grafting* in June 2024.

A Glimpse of the Action



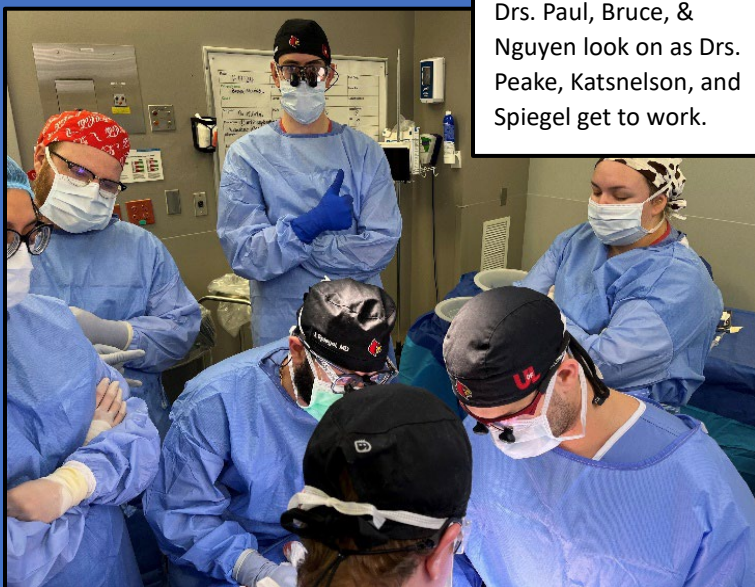
Dr. Arrin Brooks
in the lab.

Chiefs, MacDavid &
Westrick working well
together as usual.



Katsnelson,
Spiegel, & Brooks
work as a team.

Our resident and fellows in Plastic Surgery at UofL enjoy a strong and diverse operative experience working together in complex and challenging cases under dedicated faculty surgeons, who double as excellent photographers!



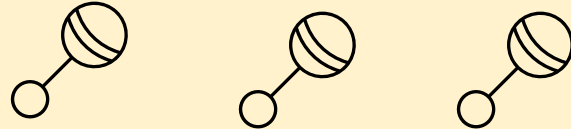
Drs. Paul, Bruce, &
Nguyen look on as Drs.
Peake, Katsnelson, and
Spiegel get to work.



Drs. Spiegel,
Katsnelson, Huett



Welcome all the new **BABIES** to
our Plastic Surgery Family!



**Leo Charles
Bruce**
**Born May 31
to Chris &
Wendy**



**Archer
Graham
Goldstein**
**Born June 4
to Shelby &
Tyler**



**Inara Shahnaz
Chowdhry**
**Born June 30 to
Dr. Chowdhry**

THE BONDS THAT **ENDURE**



Bruce Family celebrates in the 4th in true Buc-ees fashion!



PS Alum Steve Gunn with PGY1 Brandon Rosser



The traditional round of golf for the graduating Chiefs – Drs. Westrick and MacDavid

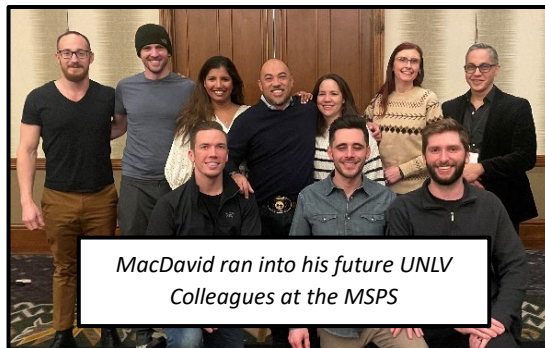


Swapnil Kachare & Sam Corey hanging out with Donald Duck

One thing we love most about our residents & fellows, are the lasting bonds that form across the years and cohorts! Alumni mentor new residents, Chief's form lasting friendships, families come together.



The Katsnelson's hit the slopes in Whistler, BC, Canada



MacDavid ran into his future UNLV Colleagues at the MSPS



Baby Archer makes his first public appearance with Dr. Brian Paul

WORK HARD – PLAY HARD



The Annual Wellness Breakfast & Program Review



Dr. Katsnelson matched one of the top programs for microsurgery fellowship at the University of Pittsburg. Congrats Dr. Katsnelson!



Celebrating our graduates



Dr. Rosser is quick to make new friends during orientation week.



The annual resident retreat at Churchill Downs Turf Club



Katsnelson testing out the new Mitaka© Microscope



FaceTime with Dr. Gossman to receive The Gratis Faculty Teaching Award

Fellow Academic Award

We Need a Helping Hand to Reach Our Goal!

In 2017 we renamed our Academic Achievement Award for the late Janet Wilhelmi, in recognition of her commitment to education and her own efforts in academics. Undaunted by any obstacle, Mrs. Wilhelmi went back to college at the age of 40 and achieved a 4.0 GPA while completing her bachelor's degree in education. She then went on to devote her life to teaching others, and always stressed academic excellence for both her students and her family!

To recognize the similar hard work and commitment from our Fellows & Residents, we would like to provide a monetary award in addition to the plaque given annually for the best in-service exam score.

Please consider [donating a tax-deductible gift](#) so that we can not only recognize, but also reward a deserving Resident for their commitment to excellence.



Dr. Wilson Huett receives his Academic Achievement Award from Dr. Wilhelmi.

Recipients of the Academic Award

2024: Wilson Huett, M.D.
2023: Alexander Nixon, M.D.
2023: Jacob Katsnelson, M.D.
2022: Samuel Corey, M.D.
2021: Samuel Corey, M.D.
2020: Michael Ablavsky, M.D.
2019: Adam O'Toole, M.D.
2018: Jared Davis, M.D.
2017: Jared Davis, M.D.
2016: Joshua Choo, M.D.
2015: Joshua Choo, M.D.
2014: Joshua Choo, M.D.
2013: Ron Brooks, M.D.

Contributors to the Janet Wilhelmi Academic Achievement Award

Leonard & Jane (Schultz) Weiner, MD
Claudiu Muresan, MD
Nitin Engineer, MD
Yaron Hazani, MD
Michelle Palazzo, MD
Bradon Wilhelmi, MD

Donate now to the Janet Wilhelmi Award

<http://give.louisville.edu/psaaf>



Morton & Ann Kasdan Award

Dr. Kasdan is known for his lifelong service as a plastic surgeon to the community, at the VAMC, and his enduring commitment to teaching medical students and residents. His "Suture Sundays" remain legendary at the School of Medicine, in which Dr. Kasdan warmly welcomes students into his home to learn and practice valuable skills. Suture Sunday's have provided a teaching and learning forum for UofL Plastic Surgery residents for over 20 years. In that spirit, this scholarship recognizes the best UofL School of Medicine student who matches into a plastic surgery program with a farewell gift as they leave the nest. This award was initiated by UofL Plastic Surgery residents in his honor.



UofL Medical Student, Carter Prewitt, receives the 2024 Morton & Ann Kasdan Award at the Senior Honors Night

Recipients of the Morton & Ann Kasdan Award

2024: Carter Prewitt
2022: Brooke Barrow
2019: Christina Kapsalis
2018: Andrea Hiller
2017: Dexter Weeks
2016: Matthew Zeiderman
2015: Blake Sparks
2014: Virginia Bush
2013: Travis Boyd

Donate now to the Kasdan Award

<http://give.louisville.edu/kasdan>

2023-2024 Publications

[Accurate Plane Fat Grafting in Gluteal Augmentation: An Anatomic Study.](#)

Kelishadi SS, Chiemi JA, Chowdhry S, Colorado A, Herring NR, Kinney B, Wilhelmi BJ. *Aesthet Surg J.* **2023 Sep** 14:;sjad298. doi: 10.1093/asj/sjad298. Online ahead of print. PMID: 37707558

[The Double Donut: A Safe and Simple Option for Immediate Nipple Areolar Complex Reconstruction in Skin-Sparing Mastectomy Patients With Contraindications to Nipple-Sparing Mastectomy.](#)

Westrick E, Mostovych A, MacDavid J, Simpson A, Wilhelmi BJ. *Eplasty.* **2023 Jun 20**;23:e37. eCollection 2023. PMID: 37465479 [Free PMC article.](#)

[Does Size Really Matter? A Review on How to Determine the Optimal Umbilical Size During an Abdominoplasty.](#)

Fell C, Kachare MD, Moore A, Wilhelmi BJ. *Eplasty.* **2023 Jun 20**;23:e38. eCollection 2023. PMID: 37465474 [Free PMC article.](#) [Review.](#)

[Obesity and the Latissimus Dorsi Flap: A Radiologic Study.](#)

Choo JH, Vivace BJ, Meredith LT, Kachare S, Lee TJ, Kachare M, Wilhelmi BJ. *Plast Surg (Oakv).* **2023 May**;31(2):132-137. doi: 10.1177/22925503211031927. Epub 2021 Jul 14. PMID: 37188129

[Wine, Honey, and Boiling Oil: A Modern Understanding of Ancient Wound Care Practices.](#)

Barrow BE, Alur AA, Kasdan ML, Wilhelmi BJ. *Am Surg.* **2023 May**;89(5):2150-2153. doi: 10.1177/00031348221078981. Epub 2022 Mar 1. PMID: 35232246

[Centralizing the Umbilicus in Abdominoplasty: Eccentric versus Concentric Fascial Plication in Addition to Medializing at the Skin.](#)

Vavra JM, Kachare SD, Vivace BJ, Choo JH, Wilhelmi BJ. *Plast Reconstr Surg.* **2023 Mar 1**;151(3):526-531. doi: 10.1097/PRS.00000000000009910. Epub 2022 Nov 21. PMID: 36730529

[The 5 D's to Dunk the Dog: A Retrospective Clinical Review to Prevent Dog-Ear Contour Abnormalities in Vertical Breast Reductions and Breast Lifts.](#)

Kachare SD, Kachare MD, Vivace BJ, Barrow BE, Ablavsky M, Abell S, Choo JH, Wilhelmi BJ. *Eplasty.* **2023 Feb 27**;23:e13. eCollection 2023. PMID: 36919153 [Free PMC article.](#)

[Breast Implants Save Lives: Gunshot Wound to a Silicone Gel Implant.](#)

Barrow BE, Kachare MD, Simpson AM, West NJ, Corey SL, Wilhelmi BJ. *Eplasty.* **2023 Jan 30**;23:QA4. eCollection 2023. PMID: 36846083 [Free PMC article.](#)

[Unexpected Complication Involving a Retrosternal Biloma: A Guide to Managing Sternal Wound Infections.](#)

Mostovych AL, Kachare MD, Azzolini A, Moore A, Tranthem LA, Fell C, Prewitt C, Shapiro RL. *Eplasty.* **2024 Apr 22**;24:QA11. eCollection 2024. PMID: 38863655 [Free PMC article.](#) No abstract available.

[Drainless Implant Removal: A Technique to Minimize Breast Disfigurement After Explanation](#)

Fell C., Mostovych AL., Cantrell C., Major E., Dodwani S., MacDavid J., Wilhelmi BJ. (Accepted on 6/21/24). *Eplasty* 00060.

[Factors Predicting Overnight Admission after Same-Day Mastectomy Protocol and Associated Financial Implications.](#)

Caminiti, N., Maung, A. A., Gaskins, J., Jacobs, E., Spry, C., Nath, S., Scoggins, C. R., Wilhelmi, B. J., McMasters, K. M., & Ajkay, N. (2024). *Journal of the American College of Surgeons*, 10.1097/XCS.0000000000001164. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1097/XCS.0000000000001164>

[The "Clinda-Clumper" - A Quick and Efficient Method to Remove Free Silicone After a Breast Implant Rupture Using a Clindamycin Solution.](#) *Eplasty.* 2024 Apr 15:24:QA8. eCollection 2024.

Claire Fell¹, Milind D Kachare², Alex Nixon², Alec Moore¹, Lauren A Tranthem¹, Alexander L Mostovych¹, Carter Prewitt¹, Ryan Cantrell¹, Bradon J Wilhelmi²
PMID: 38715633 PMCID: PMC11076054

[A Cost Effective, Simple, and Reliable Intraoperative Breast Sizer for Selecting Implant Volume in Breast Reconstruction with Double Drape, Double Donut: Standard Lap Pad Approximates 100cc.](#)

Ryan A. Cantrell, B.S. Alexander L. Mostovych, MS Carter Prewitt, BS Claire Fell, BS Sierra M. Shockley, MS Bradon J. Wilhelmi, MD *Eplasty.* In Press

[Short Scar Belt Lipectomy: Improved Outcomes with a Shorter Scar and Operation](#)

Kachare, S, MD, Kachare, M. MD, Webb, J. MD, Vivace, B, Safeek, R, Wilhelmi, BJ, MD. *Eplasty.* In Press