Greetings from the Society of Genitourinary Reconstructive Surgeons. During this year we plan on several new initiatives from GURS. Firstly we are excited to be co-sponsoring with the AUA a course on gender affirming surgery. The course will be run by Drs. Daniel Dugi and Miro Djordjevic. We are excited by the course and we hope it will be the beginning of an ongoing cooperative effort with the AUA to highlight important areas of GU reconstruction.

In addition, this year we are planning a resident fellow research competition during the GURS scientific session of the AUA. The format of this competition will involve presentation of the top three research projects during the session with voting from the audience on the best work. This should provide a lively session with lots of audience engagement.

I have been busy planning the scientific session, partnered this year with the Society of Urologic Prosthetic Surgeons (SUPS). My vision for the session will be to cover interesting and engaging areas of reconstructive urology that spans the breadth of our specialty.

We have a very engaged board that is bringing multiple initiatives forward for GURS, including additional functionality for the website, expansion of social media engagement, and a drive to increase our membership internationally. It should be an exciting year for GURS.

Kurt McCammon, MD
President GURS 2018-2019
Gender-Affirming Surgery Course

The incoming president of GURS, Dr. Miro Djordjevic, and Daniel Dugi will be codirecting a course May 2, 2019, the day before the official start of the annual AUA meeting in Chicago on May 3rd. This course is sponsored by the AUA and organized by the Society of Genitourinary Reconstructive Surgeons (GURS).

We will have a full afternoon schedule of expert lectures on all facets of gender-affirming genital surgery, particularly phalloplasty and vaginoplasty. We intend this to be a very technical, practical, and surgically-detailed conference, heavy on surgical pictures and videos where possible. There will also be a morning session discussing knowledge gaps and research opportunities in gender-affirming genital surgery, led by GURS Secretary Jeremy Myers, which we intend to lead to publication of a white paper.

So please save the date if you have an academic and or clinical interest in gender-affirming surgery. This promises to be a great discussion of surgical management of patients.

We look forward to your participation!

Cheers,

Daniel Dugi III, MD, FACS
Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon USA

Fellowship Committee

GURS verification of fellowship training is a critical function of the society. This year there are 5 new fellowships participating in the match. These include Columbia University, the Lahey Clinic, UC San Diego Health, Emory University and School of Medicine of the Hospital Italiano, Buenos Aires, Argentina. The addition of these fellowships bring the number of verified fellowships to 20 (17 US based and 3 international). We will add another international verified fellowship for the 2020 match. My hope is we will continue to see more international fellowships as our society mission is to improve the care of complex GU patients around the world.

It continues to be an exciting time for the field of Reconstructive Urology. Anchored by the continued focus on urethral stricture disease, the GURS verified fellowships offer a broad array of training. Many of the fellowships incorporate robotic reconstruction, complex urinary diversion, male incontinence surgery, GU plastic operations such as buried penis repair, gender affirming surgery, traumatic genital injury reconstruction and more. The fellowship remains highly sought after based both on the number of applicants applying each year and on the very positive responses of a recent GURS survey of graduated fellows. Fellows continue to find jobs in academia and large group private practices that are looking for well-trained and equipped GU surgeons. The fellowship committee is committed to reflecting the needs of our society, our members and the larger urologic community. We are in a continual state of assessment and reflection to ensure we continue to graduate the most up to date, relevant, and highly trained GU reconstructive surgeons.
We are looking forward to a great match this coming year. The future of our reconstructive society could not be brighter.

Sincerely,

Jill C. Buckley MD, FACS
GURS Fellowship Chair

Message from the Secretary

We are excited about the programs and changes that are coming for GURS in the next year. This newsletter only highlights some of the exciting proposals that have been put forward by members of the board. We also are anticipating new material and functionality on our website for members.

GURS Journal Club
GURS will be hosting a journal club focused on trauma, reconstructive urology, and prosthetics. The journal club will be accessible via Twitter handle @GURSjc. We will aim to engage the first and senior authors about their manuscripts and this venue should provide an excellent forum for discussion of the articles. The journal club will run every 2 months and be open for 48 hours for discussion via Twitter.

GURS Visiting Professor
The University of Puerto Rico was selected as the first site to host a GURS sponsored visiting professor. This trip will occur in January 2019 and we are hoping this will become a successful and fruitful program in engaging centers with reconstructive educational needs. Applications for 2019 are due by April 1st, 2019.

Membership Fees
Over the years our membership fees have been kept as low as possible, since we understand that our members belong to multiple other organizations. However, we are anticipating a change in management of GURS, as the AUA will no longer be providing management services for societies after 2019. There are several very good options for management outside of the AUA, however, we anticipate these will be somewhat more costly. For this reason we have elected to increase our yearly membership from $100 to $150 per year. Especially with the increased value through our website we hope that this will still be a great bargain.

Jeremy B. Myers, MD
Secretary GURS 2018-2021

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