

Emory Anesthesiology

Ready for the Future

From the Interim Chair



Dr. Anne Marie McKenzie-Brown

Emory University is home to many outstanding anesthesiology subspecialty experts. This year we will highlight our Neuroanesthesiology, Cardiothoracic anesthesiology, Research and Pain subspecialties and of course our residency program. Neuroanesthesiology at Emory is known for delivering exceptional anesthetic care for complex neurosurgical procedures, including awake craniotomies, skull base surgeries, aneurysm clippings, neurointerventional techniques, and advanced treatments for trigeminal neuralgia. Under the direction of Dr. Alexander Papangelou, the expert faculty actively contributes to national committees such as the Society for Neuroscience in Anesthesiology and Critical Care (SNACC) and the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA). They are also recognized for their expertise in intraoperative EEG, stroke management, and post-craniotomy pain.

Beyond clinical care, Emory's Department of Anesthesiology is at the forefront of innovative research in pain mechanisms and treatment approaches. Dr. Daniel Harper, Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology, was awarded funding from the NIH's National Institute of Dental & Craniofacial Research for his study on

nociplastic mechanisms in temporomandibular disorders, aiming to distinguish between sensory input and pain perception in these conditions. The department's Vice Chair of Research, Dr. Anna Woodbury, also received notification of intent to fund her VA Merit I01 study on auricular neuromodulation for veterans with fibromyalgia.

Education is central to our mission. Our residency program is one of the strongest in the nation, offering rigorous clinical training, mentorship, and opportunities for scholarly growth. We are committed to fostering an environment where our residents thrive, equipping them with the skills and knowledge to become exceptional anesthesiologists and leaders in the field.

We invite you to discover all of the exciting accomplishments and strides our Department has made over the past year. We have an incredible faculty, dedicated to training the next generation of anesthesiologists, while providing excellent state of the art clinical care.

Anne Marie McKenzie-Brown, M.D.

Professor and Interim Chair

Emory Department of Anesthesiology





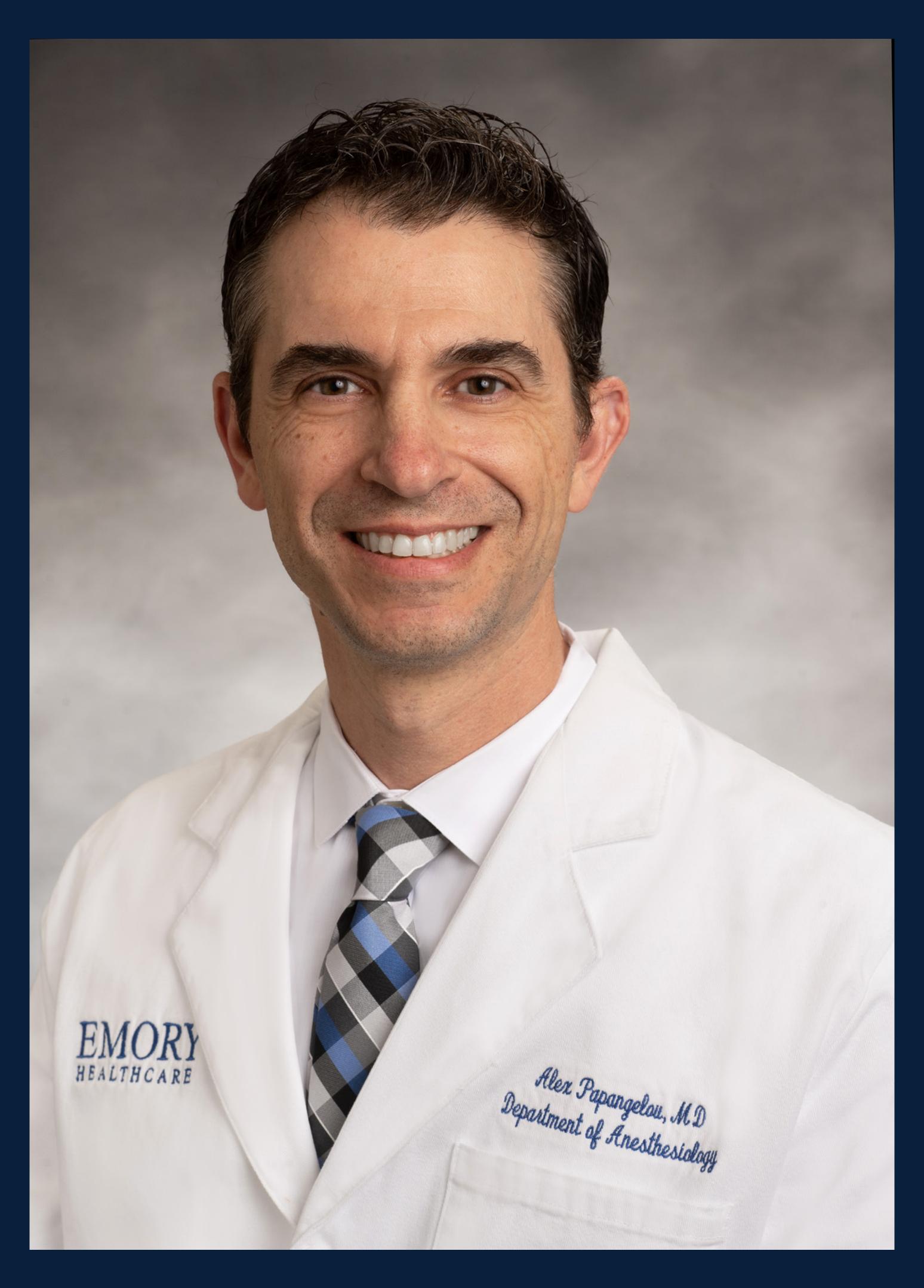
Photo by Ryan Patterson

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Neuroanesthesiology

Surgical Specialties

Surgical Specialties



Dr. Alexander Papangelou Chief, Neuroanesthesiology Surgical Specialties Division

The Neuroanesthesiology section of the Surgical Specialties division at Emory is making significant strides in patient care, education, and research, driven by a dedicated team of physicians. Dr. Papangelou leads the team, fostering the growth of rising stars like Dr. Cassandra Dean and Dr. Ian McCullough. "Seeing Dr. Dean and Dr. McCullough grow into national leaders has been incredibly rewarding," Dr. Papangelou shared, highlighting the importance of mentorship in developing the next generation of neuroanesthesiologists. He expressed pride in mentoring Dr. Dean, who completed Emory's Neuroanesthesia Fellowship in 2021, and Dr. McCullough, both of whom have become national leaders within the Society for Neuroscience in Anesthesiology and Critical Care (SNACC) and the ASA, contributing significantly to research and education.

Innovative Techniques

The surical specialties division has implemented innovative technology, including the integration of intraoperative electroencephalogram (EEG) monitoring into all operating rooms. Dr. Dean explained that EEG is instrumental to personalized anesthetic care. "Integrating EEG monitoring into every OR has been a game-changer," Dr. Dean explained. "It allows us to truly personalize anesthetic care and fine-tune our approach for each patient, especially in complex cases. It's not just technology, it's about better patient care." This technology enhances patient care by allowing for individualized anesthetic and analgesic management and is particularly critical in cases requiring total intravenous anesthesia (TIVA). Beyond patient care, the standardization of this monitor at Emory has facilitated the development of faculty expertise, leading to opportunities nationally as leaders in intraoperative EEG education, as well as substantial research opportunities and collaboration with other institutions.



Dr. Cassandra Dean, Dr. Alexander Papangelou Dr. Ian McCullough



Seeing Dr. Dean and Dr. McCullough grow into national leaders has been incredibly rewarding

Dr. Papangelou

Surgical Specialties

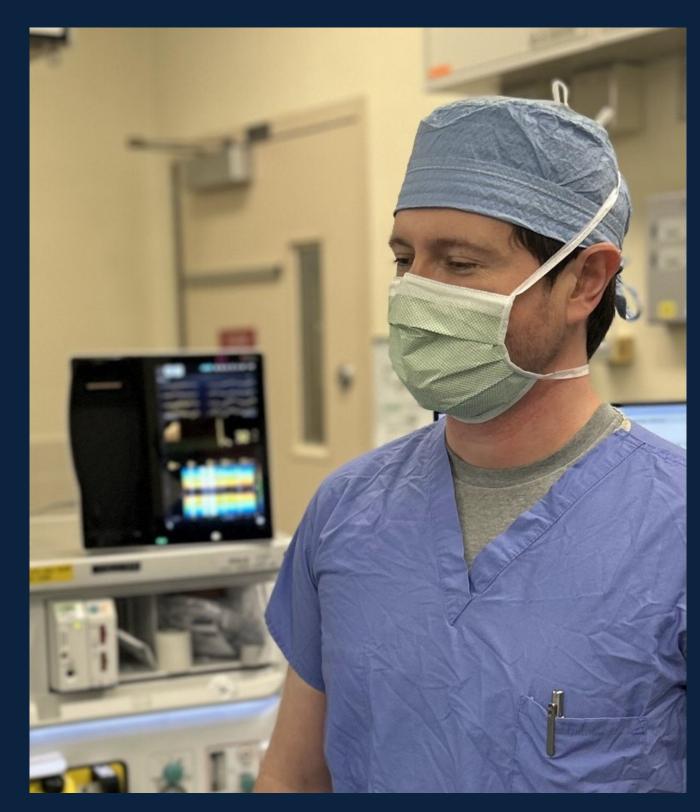
Collaborative Efforts

Collaboration is a key element of the division's success. Dr. Papangelou emphasized the power of teamwork, citing an exciting study with neurosurgery that explored an opioid-free craniotomy technique. "Our opioid-free craniotomy study, led by Dr. McCullough, really highlighted the power of teamwork," he noted. "Working hand-in-hand with our neurosurgical colleagues allowed us to achieve something truly impactful for patients. It's a testament to what we can accomplish when we break down silos and collaborate." Their prospective study evaluated an opioid-free craniotomy technique, which demonstrated noninferiority in terms of 24-hour pain management and opioid consumption endpoints. It won the Editor's Choice Award in the Journal of Neurosurgical Anesthesiology and was featured in a SNACC podcast. This research has inspired further planned studies in post-craniotomy analgesia.

Patient Outcomes and Challenges

The team's impact on patient outcomes is evident in their approach to postoperative pain management. Dr. Dean described the rewarding experience of providing relief to patients in severe pain through regional anesthesia techniques like scalp blockade. "There's nothing quite like seeing a patient in severe pain find relief after a scalp blockade," Dr. Dean reflected. "Those moments remind us why we do what we do. It's a privilege to be able to make such a tangible difference in someone's experience." She explained that patients undergoing craniotomy or cranioplasty often experience significant pain, and finding effective treatments is a rewarding aspect of anesthesiology. The team utilizes regional anesthesia, including scalp blockade combined with multimodal analgesic regimens.

Dr. Dean also acknowledged the challenges of transitioning the neurosurgical skull base service line to Emory Midtown, highlighting the team's dedication to maintaining resident education and building a neuroanesthesia presence at the new location. "The Midtown transition was a big undertaking, but our team really pulled together," Dr. Dean commented. "We're committed to ensuring that residents continue to get the experience they need, and we're excited to keep building a neuroanesthesia presence at Midtown." This shift brought a highly specialized case load to the Midtown team and initially redirected critical cases away from the anesthesia resident education experience. However, through the dedication of skilled faculty who split their time between EUH and Midtown (such as Drs. Sanford, Bhatt, Collins), as well as talented full-time Midtown faculty, a remarkably smooth transition was ensured. Dr. Papangelou provided a detailed subspecialty lecture and remained a resource throughout the process. Residents have now resumed neuroanesthesiology rotations at Midtown, regaining hands-on experience, and the division aims to solidify the transition by hiring a Neuroanesthesia-trained faculty member at Midtown.



Dr. Ian McCullough

Surgical Specialties

Research and Education

Research remains a priority for the Neuroanesthesiology section. Dr. Papangelou discussed his work on a novel preoperative screening test for cognitive impairment, the Visual Pair Comparison (VPC) task, aiming to make accurate cognitive assessment a routine part of preoperative evaluations. "Beyond our opioid-free study, I led a two-part study funded by a departmental Team Based Science grant, assessing the efficacy of a novel preoperative screening test in detecting cognitive impairment and predicting postoperative delirium," Dr. Papangelou explained. The VPC task has shown promise in both areas. The results from the preoperative portion of the study has been published, while the postoperative delirium manuscript is in preparation. The goal, Dr. Papangelou explained, is for an accurate cognitive screening tool, whether VPC or another test, to become a routine component of preoperative assessments.

The Surgical Specialties Division also contributes significantly to education and training and has fostered strong relationships with the neurosurgery department and neurocritical care service. Dr. Dean highlighted the division's contributions to education and training, emphasizing the strong relationships built with these trainees. Neurosurgery interns and neurocritical care fellows rotate in anesthesiology during their first year, establishing a long-term connection. This provides an opportunity to foster a positive working relationship from the start of their training programs. The neuroanesthesiology section also hosts biannual joint meetings with neurosurgery, sharing updated knowledge of mutual interest and reinforcing collaboration

Looking Ahead

Looking to the future, the division aims to continue building its Neuroanesthesiology team, pursue further research, and enhance patient outcomes. Dr. Papangelou was hopeful about the potential of emerging technologies that measure a patient's real-time autoregulation curve. "I'm particularly excited about the potential of autoregulatory-based management," he stated, envisioning personalized blood pressure targets for patients with acute brain injury. He believes this could be a revolutionary advancement in perioperative care, and he's optimistic about a potential role during acute stroke thrombectomy procedures. He also envisions AI may play a role in guiding autoregulation-based blood pressure goals. This, he noted, remains a very active area of research.

Through innovation, collaboration, and a commitment to excellence, Emory's Neuroanesthesiology faculty are shaping the future of neuroanesthesia and enhancing surgical outcomes.

Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology

Cardiothoracic Anesthesia



Dr. Ellen Richter Division Chief, Cardiothoracic Anesthesia

Cardiothoracic Anesthesia

Leadership Transitions and Team Growth

I am honored to have transitioned into the role of Division Chief last spring, assuming the mantle from Dr. Sujatha Bhandary after working alongside her as our group's Operations Chief for 5 years. Dr. Bhandary joined our group in 2019 after many years on faculty at the Ohio State University, and over the course of her tenure as Division Chief, she led the group through the challenging early days of the COVID crisis and a sustained period of growth and change culminating with the opening of the Heart and Vascular Center 3T operating platform last March. The cardiothoracic anesthesia group has expanded its clinical footprint at both EUH and EUHM, now covering a total of up to 20 daily anesthetizing locations in the cardiothoracic ORs, EP suites, and cardiac catheterization labs. The group now includes 25 faculty and 25 anesthetists, with several new members slated to join in the coming months. Dr. Andrea Corujo-Rodriguez took on the role of Operations Chief during this time of unprecedented expansion and has adeptly synthesized rapidly changing scheduling and staffing logistics alongside our Chief Anesthetist, James Morrison, CAA, and Lead Anesthetist Bob Coste, CAA.



Dr. Andrea Corujo Rodriguez, Cardiothoracic Anesthesia Operations Chief

We are fortunate to have welcomed eight wonderful new faculty members to our group over the past two years: Nadim Choudhury, Lawrence Delrosario, Nicho Flores-Conner, Ragini Gupta, Ron Leong, Mario Pimentel, Diana Tiwari, and Amy Yan. With training and faculty backgrounds at a diverse array of institutions (Cleveland Clinic, Duke, Temple, Thomas Jefferson, and Vanderbilt, to name a few), they have brought a reinvigorating energy to the division, assuming various service and education leadership roles.



Dr. Nadim Choudhury, MD, co-director of the residency cardiothoracic anesthesia rotation, Dr. Ragini Gupta, MD, lung transplant liaison, and Dr. Amy Yan, MD, adult congenital and high-risk OB liaison

Cardiothoracic Anesthesia

Tower Opening and Cardiothoracic Surgical ICU Relocation

The Emory Heart and Vascular Center opened the 3T Cardiac Procedural Platform in March 2024, and since then, the cardiothoracic anesthesia team has provided care for over 3,500 patients having procedures in this new procedural area. The launch of the 3T space has brought the daily operations of the cardiac and thoracic operating rooms, EP labs, and cardiac catheterization suites at EUH into one cohesive unit, uniting several service lines as never before on one platform. This has allowed an unprecedented sharing of resources and provided multiple opportunities to streamline and unite workflows.

During the initial months of operations on 3T, the cardiac surgical ICU remained geographically split with cohorts of patients housed in units on both sides of Clifton Road. Minimizing lengthy

transports for complex and often unstable cardiac surgical patients became the focus of a safety-based initiative undertaken by our team in partnership with leaders from the critical care and cardiothoracic surgical teams. A large multidisciplinary group met to consider complex operational impacts on numerous service lines and ultimately concluded that the relocation of the MICU to the 5E space would best answer the safety concerns voiced by the heart and vascular teams by allowing the colocation of all cardiac surgical patients in the Tower. The energy and trust required to consider, plan, and execute this relocation is a testament to the dedication of EUH hospital leadership to promoting patient safety and has made a meaningful difference in the day-to-day care of some of the most acute patients in the hospital.

Milestones in Transplant and Mechanical Support

The past year has seen momentous clinical achievements in the Heart and Vascular center, from the recognition of surgical milestones to the introduction of cutting-edge procedures. Our team cared for the 1000th patient to receive a durable LVAD at Emory, the first patient to receive beating-heart transplant from a donation after circulatory death (DCD) donor at Emory, and the first patient in the country to undergo implantation of the new BrioVAD device as part of the INNOVATE trial.



Cardiothoracic Team celebrating the 1000th patient to receive a durable LVAD at Emory

Cardiothoracic Anesthesia

Over the past year, our team has collaborated with our colleagues on the High Risk Obstetric Anesthesia service to facilitate the safe delivery of several infants born to mothers with complex cardiac comorbidities, including severe pulmonary hypertension and congenital heart disease. Recently, Drs. Amy Yan and Stephen Ellwood worked alongside leaders on the obstetric and cardiac surgical services to oversee the successful delivery of an infant born to a mother with a HeartMate III, one of only a handful of births reported in women with durable LVADs.

Global Health and Ultrasound Education

Ultrasound education features prominently in Emory's Global Health program, and members of our anesthesiology teams provide Multisystem Point of Care Ultrasound Educational programs across several continents. Last summer, Dr. Bhandary, along with Dr. Tina Shah and Dr. Andrew Bowman, traveled to Manipal, India, to teach a Point-of-Care Ultrasound (POCUS) course at Kasturba Medical College. The simulation-based course offered the opportunity for residents and faculty from the Emergency Medicine, Critical Care, and Anesthesiology branches to gain invaluable hands-on ultrasound experience and fostered the exchange of cross-cultural perspectives on patient care. The team hopes to return in the future to continue laying the foundation of excellent ultrasound education and further strengthen the professional connections forged in this inaugural trip.



Drs. Bhandary, Shah, and Bowman instruct course participants in the Multisystem Point of Care Ultrasound Education Course at Kasturba Medical College in Manipal, India.

Cardiothoracic Anesthesia

Exciting collaboration in ultrasound education continues on the home front as well. Multiple members of the cardiothoracic anesthesia division delivered invited talks at national society meetings last year, several with a prominent focus on echocardiography. At the ASA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, Drs. Bhandary and Shah proctored an Advanced Perioperative and Critical Care Transthoracic Echocardiography workshop, Vice Chair of Education Dr. McKenzie Hollon led a POCUS workshop focused on the ASA's certificate program, and Drs. Ron Leong and Nicho Flores-Conner spoke in a hands-on workshop on Basic POCUS and TEE in Critical Illness. Vice Chair of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Dr. Michele Sumler led a 3D TEE workshop at the SCA Annual Meeting in Toronto.



Drs. Muath Bishawi, Bola Faloye, and Ellen Richter at the SCA Echo Conference in Atlanta in February, 2025.

Here in Atlanta, Dr. Bola Faloye and I were recently joined by Dr. Muath Bishawi, Emory's newest addition to the transplant and mechanical support surgical team, as lecturers at the Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists Annual Echocardiography Conference (SCA Echo). Dr. Bishawi participated in a surgical anatomy heart dissection demonstration and an interdisciplinary panel addressing echocardiography-based clinical dilemmas. Dr. Faloye, who currently serves as a Director-at-Large of the SCA and Director of Emory's Mentors in Medical Education Program, discussed Imaging for Heart Transplantation and the use of 3D Echo to assist with challenging intraoperative anatomic diagnoses.



Graduates emerge eminently prepared to manage patients at the extremes of cardiothoracic pathophysiology...

Dr. Ellen Richter

Cardiothoracic Anesthesia

New Heights for the ACTA Fellowship

Emory's Adult Cardiothoracic Anesthesia (ACTA) fellowship is one of the largest and oldest programs in the country, having trained nearly 250 fellows since its inception. The program continues to thrive under the leadership of Program Director Dr. Ratna Vadlamudi, Associate Program Director Dr. Andrea Corujo-Rodriguez, and Program Coordinator Julie Rodriguez-Davenport. Emory ACTA fellows receive the highest caliber training in cardiothoracic anesthesiology management and perioperative echocardiography. Graduates emerge eminently prepared to manage patients at the extremes of cardiothoracic pathophysiology, navigate the rapidly evolving landscape of mechanical circulatory support, and achieve

certification in Adult Cardiac Anesthesiology (newly launched by the ABA in 2023) and Advanced Perioperative Echocardiography.

The most recent fellowship match was an unprecedented "perfect" result, with our 6 fellowship positions filled by our 6 highest-ranked candidates. We have also recently expanded the program to include a 7th fellow who will complete dual training in Critical Care Medicine and Adult Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology. The ACTA program is a testament to Emory Department of Anesthesiology's commitment to excellence in the tripartite mission of education, clinical service, and research, and is supported by a dynamic an engaged faculty.



Dr. Ratna Vadlamudi conducts a fellow didactic session including an expert lecture and guided perioperative TEE reading.

Residency Program

Anesthesiology Residency Program



Entire Class 2024/2025

Anesthesiology Residency Program

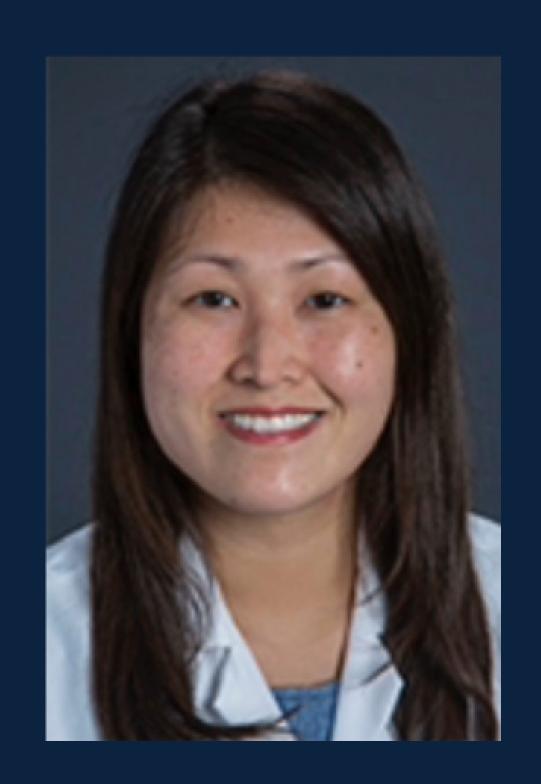
Meet our Team!



Program Director Dr. Susan Smith



Associate Program Director - Grady Dr. Sona Arora



Associate Program Director - EUH Dr. Michelle Romej



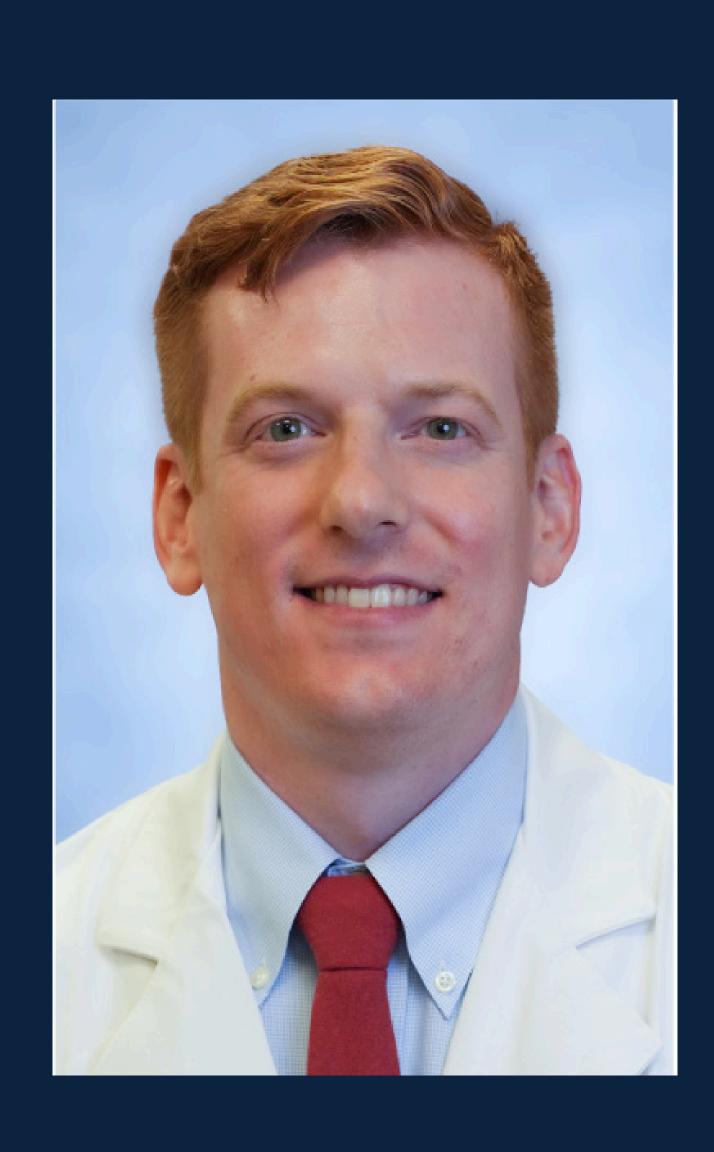
Internship Director Dr. Austin Debeaux

It has been another fantastic year for our residents! Our residents work hard to take excellent care of our patients every day while also excelling at academic excellence. Our fellowship match shows the widely diverse interests of our residents and highlights their high caliber as candidates. Our residents have worked to also represent us well at a wide variety of conferences around the country. We are grateful for all of their hard work and look forward to another productive year!

Chief Residents 2025



Joe Nalbone - Grady Chief



Adam Kvinta - EUH Chief



Jordan Samo - Recruitment Chief

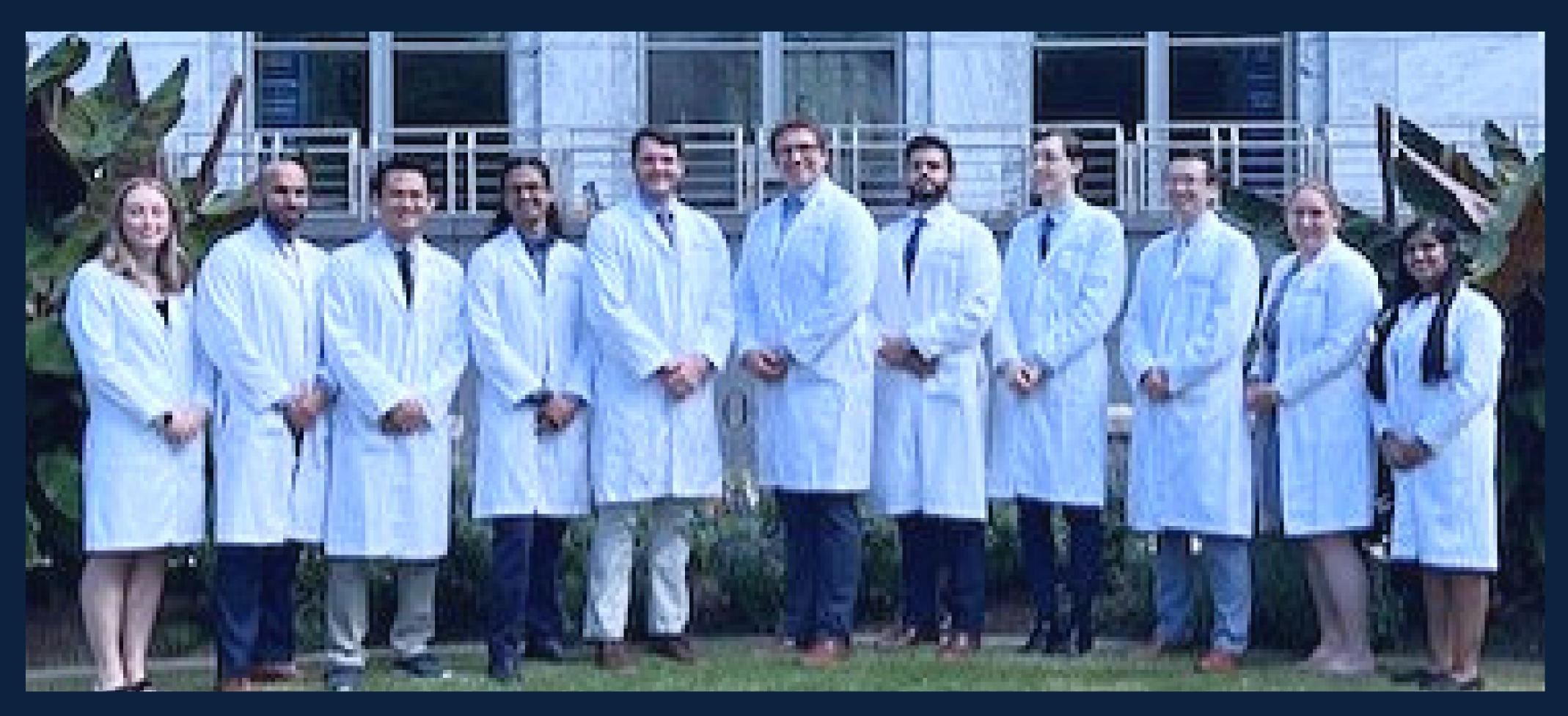
Anesthesiology Residency Program

Welcome to our Interns!

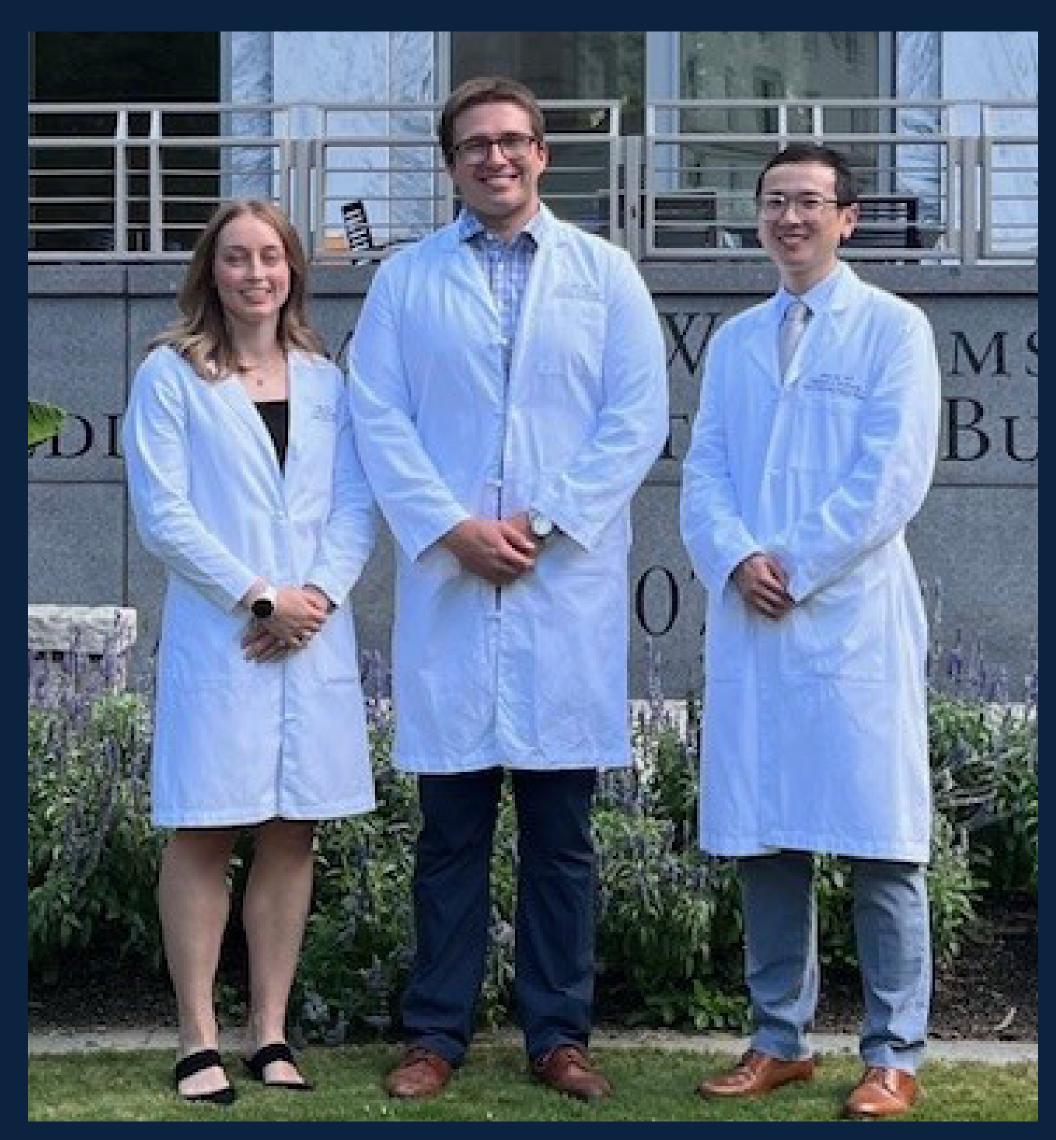


2024-2025 Interns

Anesthesiology Residency Program



Resident Class of 2024 CA3's



Chief Residents 2024

Dr. Madelinn Fink Rice Dr. David Reehl Dr. Gang, (Jimmy) Chen

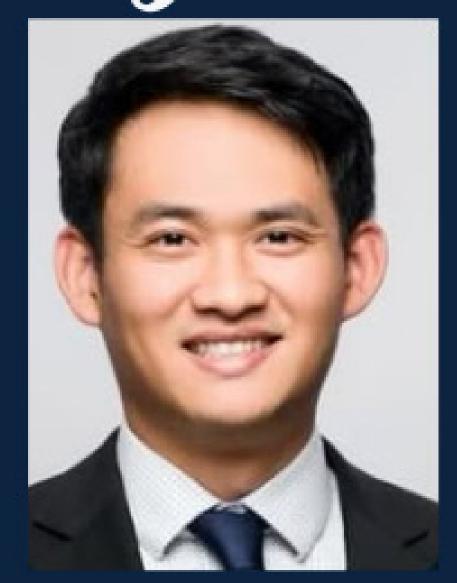
Anesthesiology Residency Program

Fellowship Matches

Congratulations



Gang (Jimmy) Chen, MD Adult Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA



Brandon Hou, MD Pediatric Anesthesiology TEXAS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL



Jordan Moraczewski, MD Pediatric Anesthesiology LURIE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL CHICAGO



Adult Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER



Srish Shama, MD Pediatric Anesthesiology CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF ATLANTA



Vyshakh Shibu, MD Critical Care Anesthesiology

MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL



Lindsay Sterling, MD Pain Medicine Anesthesiology

NORTHWESTERN



Pavani Vantipalli, MD Pediatric Anesthesiology CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF ATLANTA

CONGRATS

CHIEFS' RESIDENT OF THE MONTH, 2024-2025

Anesthesiology Residency Program

January



Dr. Tiana Hudson-Jerman



Dr. Jimmy Chen



Dr. Shukan Patel

Dr. Joe **Nalbone**



Dr. Brandon Hou



Dr. Adnan Raslan

March



Dr. Vats Ambai



Dr. David Reehl



Dr. Jena Salem

April



Dr. Tye Chang



Dr. Charlie Dr. Mandy Baker



Tate



Dr. Dabin Ji

May

Dr. Brandon Hou



Dr. Matt Potter

August



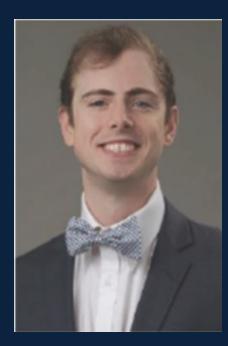
Dr. Katie Jackson



Dr. Jordan Samo



Dr. Lindsay Sterling



Dr. John Crumpler



Dr. Chi Ohanu

September



Dr. Kamryn Lewis



Dr. JD Howard



Dr. Vyshakh Shibu

CONGRATS Constitution of the constitution of t

RESIDENTS OF THE MONTH AS HIGHLIGHTED BY OUR CHIEF RESIDENTS, 2024-2025

Anesthesiology Residency Program

October



Dr. Laura Merlano



Dr. Rachel Nyenhuis



Dr. Ajay **Patel**



Dr. Mason Triay



Dr. Laura Merlano



Dr. Brandon Hou



Dr. Ashley Kim



Dr. Lauren Pomerantz

December



Dr. Pavani Vantipalli



Dr. Jena Salem



Dr. Taylor Patterson



Dr. Benjamin Schepergerdes

2025

January



Dr. Charlie Baker



Dr. Joe **Nalbone**



Dr. Kevin Flood



Dr. Aksal Vashi

Febraury



Dr. Shrish Sharma



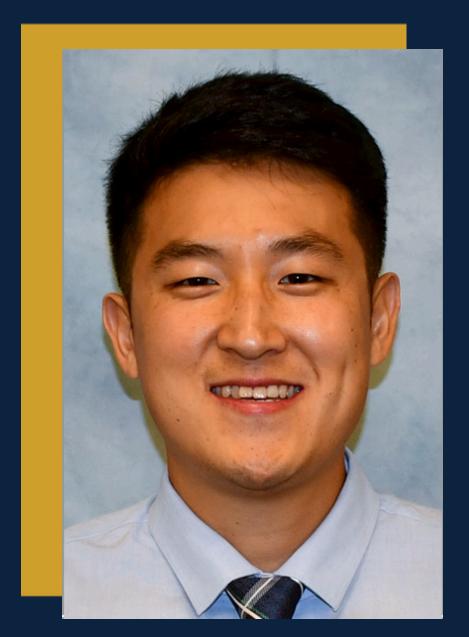
Dr. Mandy Tate



Dr. Carolyn Miller



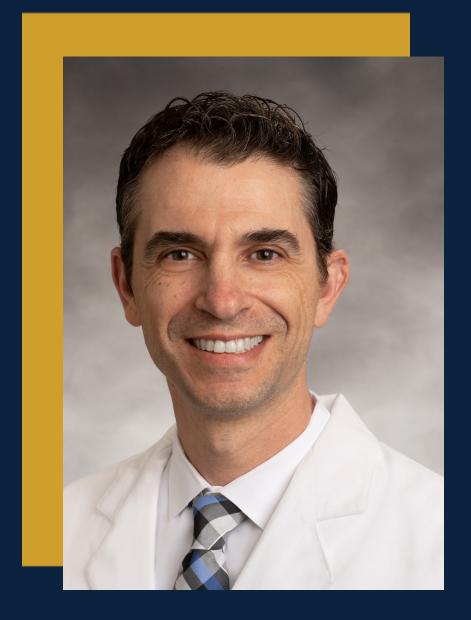
Dr. John **DeStefano**



Dr. Dabin Ji

Outstanding Resident Award

Voted on by the Faculty of the Department of Anesthesiologyto the outstanding graduate resident



Dr. Alex Papangelou

Excellence in Clinical Teaching

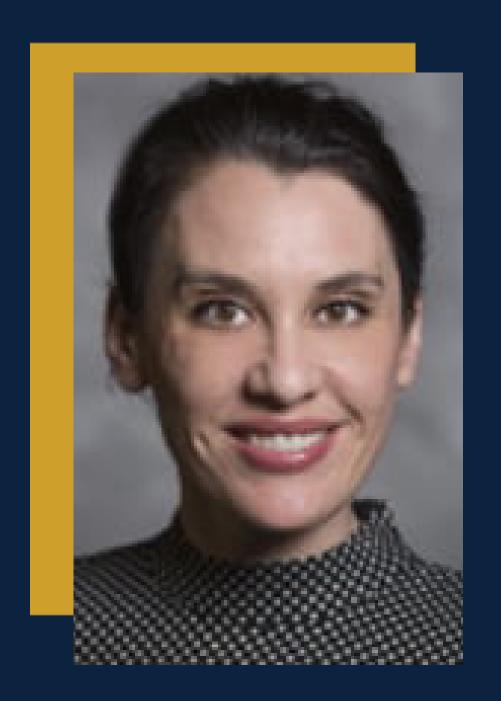
Awarded by the first year residents to the faculty member recognized as most committed to teaching the foundations of anesthesiology



Dr. Erica Johnson

Excellence in Subspecialty Teaching

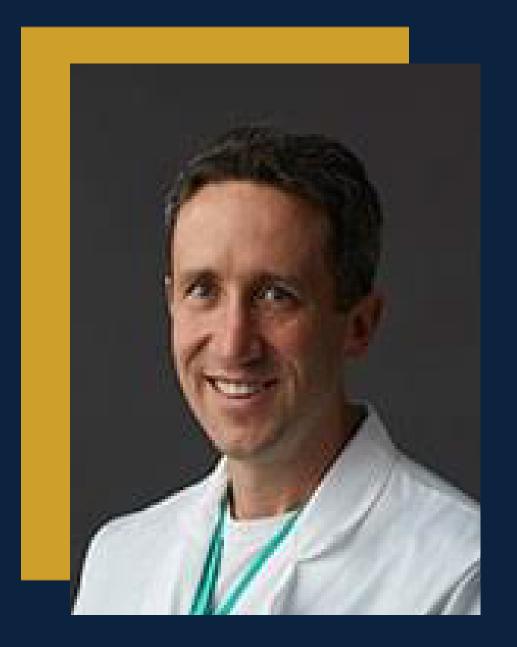
Awarded to the faculty member recognized by the second and third year residents as most committed to the advancement of resident education at the subspecialty



Dr. Joanna Schindler

Clinical Excellence

Awarded to the faculty member recognized by the Department of Anesthesiology as a faculty member who provides excellent clinical service, and goes above and beyond to give excellent patient care.



Dr. Matthew Whalin

Most Valuable Player

Awarded to the faculty member recognized by the Department of Anesthesiology as a faculty member who is most likely to help their colleagues, a true team player.



Dr. Andrew Bowman

Rising Star

Awarded to the faculty member recognized by the Department of Anesthesiology as a junior faculty member who displays significant service contributions to the department



Dr. Susan Smith

Excellence in Mentoring Award

Awarded by the graduating residents to the faculty member regarded asmost influential in their development as a scholarly physician



Dr. Sam Khan

Excellence in Critical Care Medicine Teaching

Awarded by the graduating residents to the faculty member regarded asmost influential in their development as a scholarly physician



Dr. McKenzie Hollon

Carl C Hug Award

For her dedicated teaching, support, inspiration and motivation by the Fellows of the Class of 2023 - 2024

Ahmet Sezgin Resident Award

Awarded by the residentsfor the resident exhibiting

Exemplary interpersonal skills
A unique desire to teach and
A contagious zest for life



Dr. Kitae Chang

Anesthesiology Residency Program

American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) Annual Meeting - October 2024

The Emory Department of Anesthesiology made a significant impact at this years ASA Annual meeting in San Francisco during October. Emory was represented by an impressive turnout of over two dozen of our faculty, residents, fellows, and researchers contributing to the dynamic platform of over 350 live and virtual educational sessions. We take particular pride in our learners performance - under the mentorship of the whole faculty group, our residents and fellows represented themselves and our department with great aplomb. As the future guardians of our specialty, the future looks very bright!

4:5	50F	EST	

"Oh, My Pierre! Difficult Airway Management in a 5-Day-Old Neonate with Undiagnosed Pierre-Robin Sequence"

Gilbertson, L; Hou, B

SUNDAY

10:00A EST

"Neuraxial Anesthesia for the Pregnant Syphilis Patient"

Johnson, E; Rice, M; Syed, L

10:00A EST

"VADs for VSD, A case report of BiPella support used as bridge to surgical treatment of a post-MI VSD"

Barger, J; Heyman, J

1:00P EST

""Prune Belly Syndrome-Caution with Paralytics?"

Hasan,S; Ismail, S; Patel, C

1:00P EST

"Challenging Management of Sudden Vasoplegia after an Uncomplicated SAVR Resulting in Angiotensin II Administration"

Bakshi, A; Groff, R; Sholes, P

1:00P EST

"Recognizing Malignant Hyperthermia in a Pediatric Patient"

Chai, N; Chen, G; Raslan, A; Singer, K

1:50P EST

"Placement of an Impella 5.5 in the Morphologic Right Ventricle with Transposition of the Great Arteries"

Bhandary, S; Potter, M

2:30P EST

"Rapid cardiac pacing in a patient undergoing ascending arch pseudoaneurysm repair"

Chai, N; Schubert, M; Shibu, V; Triay, M; Whalin, M; Yan, R

2:45P EST

"Anesthetizing the Electric Brain: History of Anesthesia as Told through The Bell Jar"

Schindler, J; Sharma, S; St. John, D

3:15P EST

"Biventricular Failure Post Cardiopulmonary Bypass after RV-PA Conduit Revision"

Hollon, M; Kvinta, A; Oluyinka, M

3:45P EST

"Calming the Electrical Storm: Percutaneous Stellate Ganglion Block for Ventricular Tachycardia"

Horres, C; Vaidyanathan, U

5:00P EST

"Safety of Cervical Transforaminal Epidural Steroid Injections"

Beckworth, J; Taylor, B

MONDAY

9:30A EST

"Intercostal Nerve Ablation for Refractory Post-Sternotomy Pain"

Nalbone, J; Singh, V

9:30A EST

"Anesthetic considerations for pediatric patients with Pierre Robin Sequence"

Shibu, V; Patel, C; Vilas, C

10:00A EST

"Postoperative Management of Aggression in a 4-yearold Child with Autism Spectrum Disorder"

Hou, B; Sterling, L; Patel, C; Yalamanchili, V

10:20A EST

"Alpha Stim: A Non-Opioid Approach to Chronic Pain Management"

Patterson, T; Woodburry, A

10:20A EST

"Re-dosing of Rocuronium and Sugammadex for an Emergent Re-exploration in a Kidney Transplant Patient"

Ohanu, C; Varias, J

10:50A EST

"To proceed or not to proceed: Unique considerations for epidural blood patches."

Oluyinka, M; Shibu, V; Xiang, N

11:10A EST

"Anesthetic Management of Cesarean Section in a High Risk Patient with Large Goiter and Airway Obstruction Concerns"

Chai, N; Johnson, E; Triay, M; Vantipalli, P

Resident Grand Rounds

Anesthesiology Residency Program



Each year Dr. Andrew Bowman coaches our CA3's to develop a Grand Rounds presentation. These presentations are scored by a standardized group of faculty and a winner is selected. The winner is coached and then presents an in-person formal Grand Rounds presentation for the entire department.

Thank you, Dr. Bowman!

This year's winner is Dr. Vyshakh Shibu, he was mentored by Alex Papangelou, MD

"Methadone Madness: A Case For Increasing the Use of Perioperative Methadone"
Mentor: Alexander Papangelou, MD



Pain Research

Pain Research



Dr. Anna Woodbury, MSCR, C.Ac Vice Chair of Research

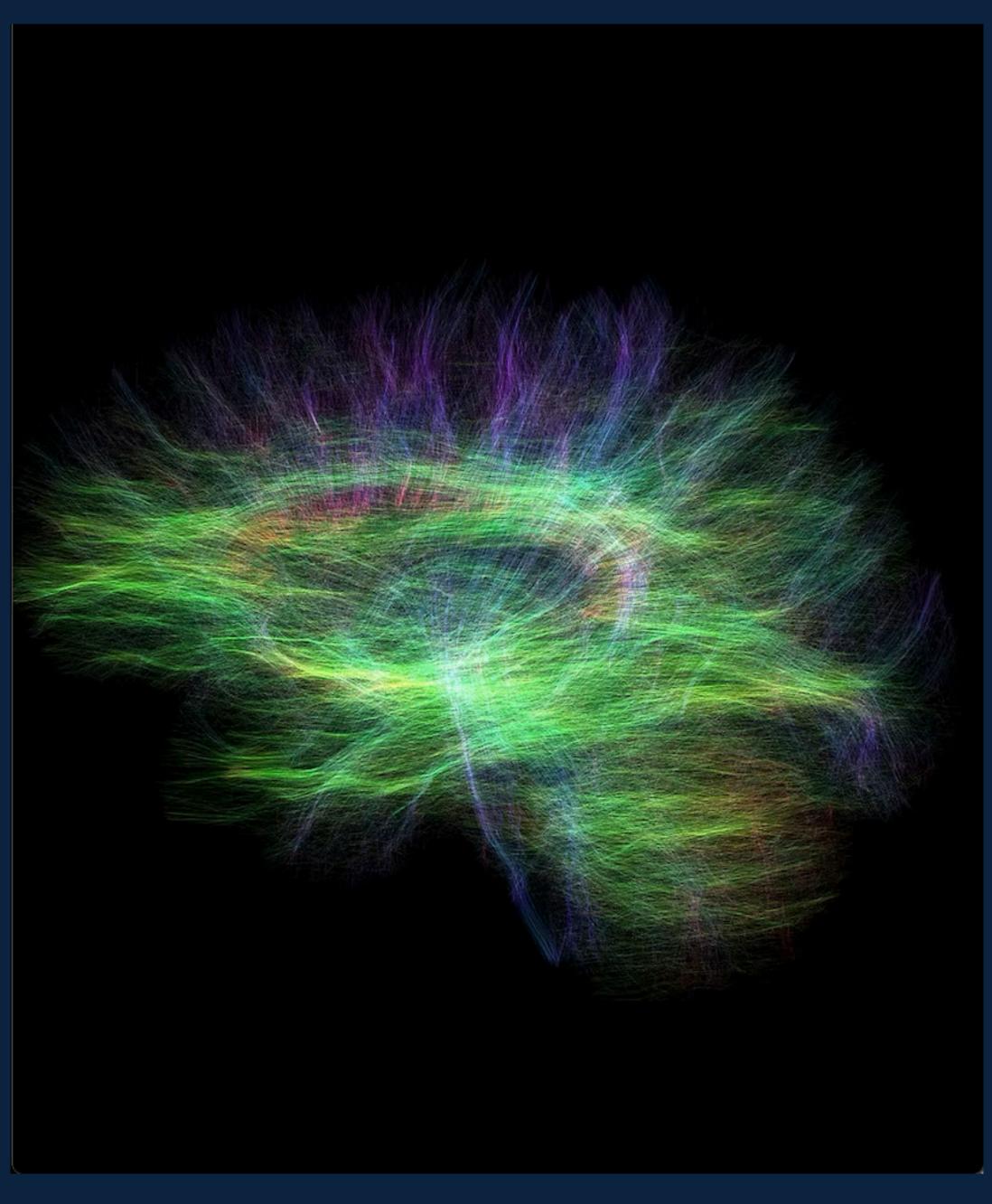
Exploring New Frontiers in Pain Management:

From Novel Therapies to Groundbreaking Measurement Techniques

Could a therapy combining the principles of acupuncture with cutting-edge neuroscience offer new hope for those battling fibromyalgia? Meet PENFS (percutaneous electrical nerve field stimulation). This FDA-cleared treatment targets the external ear and stimulates key cranial nerve branches, particularly the auricular branch of the vagus nerve. Early research suggests that PENFS could be a game-changer for individuals battling fibromyalgia, a condition marked by widespread and often debilitating pain that's notoriously difficult to manage. Remarkably, patient improvements have been linked to observable changes in brain activity captured through advanced MRI scans. Now, a newly funded, 4-year \$1.2 million study in 240 veterans, led by Dr. Anna Woodbury, aims to rigorously test PENFS on a larger scale, specifically focusing on Veterans living with fibromyalgia, while uncovering the mechanisms behind this innovative treatment.

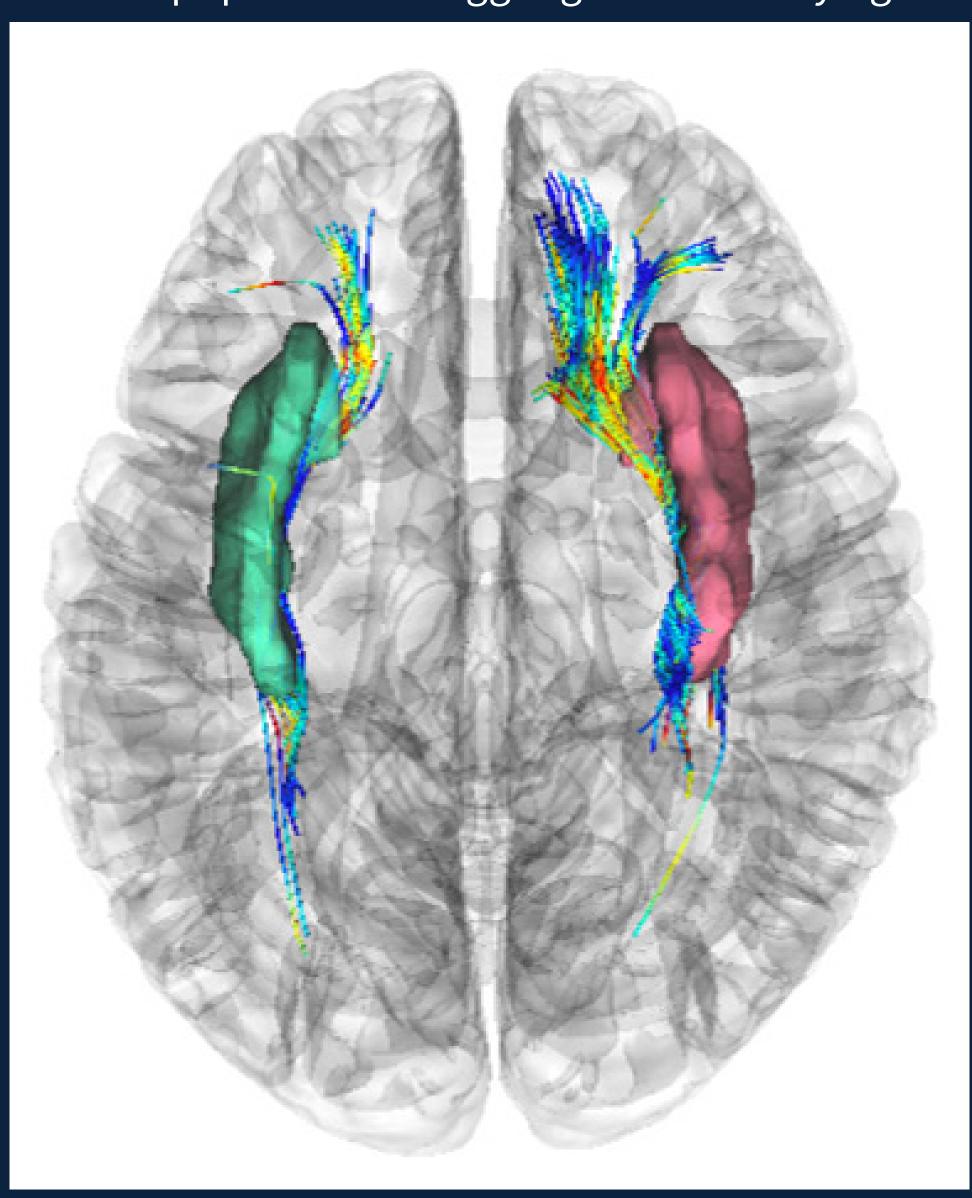
By exploring non-drug therapies like PENFS, Dr. Anna Woodbury hopes to boost the quality of life for those suffering from fibromyalgia, enhance daily functioning, and lessen the reliance on opioids and other medications known for their side effects. This is particularly relevant given the significant challenges posed by chronic pain and the ongoing opioid crisis. Chronic pain affects millions worldwide, and the over-reliance on opioids for

pain management has contributed to widespread issues with addiction, overdose, and other adverse effects. Finding effective non-pharmacological alternatives is crucial for improving patient outcomes and addressing this public health crisis. This challenge is further complicated by the subjective nature of pain, making it difficult to measure and research effectively.



White matter tractography

With a focus on PENFS, a non-pharmacologic solution, the study addresses the urgent need for alternative pain management strategies. While the 2012 statistic that nearly one-third of Veterans grappling with chronic pain were prescribed opioids highlights past challenges, it's important to acknowledge that efforts have been made to reduce opioid prescriptions. However, the need for effective pain management remains, and this study explores a promising avenue. By investigating the potential of PENFS and pioneering resting-state functional MRI (rs-fcMRI) as a valuable biomarker, this research aims to unlock safer and more effective pain management options for Veterans and potentially for the broader population struggling with fibromyalgia.



White matter tractography

This research into novel pain therapies is complemented by other critical efforts: the drive to better understand and measure pain itself. Emory researcher Daniel Harper, PhD, recently received a National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director's New Innovator Award through its Helping End Addiction Long-Term (HEAL) Initiative. Harper's \$2.3 million, three-year grant will support his study to test a novel method of measuring pain in patients with fibromyalgia, potentially revolutionizing how individual differences in pain experience are assessed and researched. Fibromyalgia is a chronic disorder causing widespread pain and tenderness, along with fatigue and sleep problems. While its causes remain incompletely understood, individuals with fibromyalgia experience increased pain sensitivity.

Harper's work addresses a core challenge in pain research: its subjective nature. As Harper, an assistant professor of anesthesiology in the Emory University School of Medicine, explains, each person's pain perception is unique, leaving researchers and physicians without an objective measurement tool. The commonly used pain scale of one to 10 relies on patient self-reporting. One reason pain is so difficult to measure lies in the organization of the body's sensory system. Nociceptors signal pain, while innocuous somatosensory receptors detect non-painful stimuli like touch and temperature. The challenge is that innocuous receptors are far more sensitive, making it difficult to isolate the activation of nociceptors and distinguish between sensations of warmth, cold, pressure, and pain.

This has long stumped pain researchers. However, in his Psychophysics and Imaging Neuroscience (PaIN) Lab, Harper has developed a novel method to selectively stimulate nociceptors without activating innocuous receptors. His work leverages the fact that innocuous heat-detecting receptors are the least concentrated fiber type in the skin. Using a thermal contactor, Harper can scan subjects to find areas devoid of these warm fibers. He can then apply a warm stimulus, increasing intensity until nociceptors are triggered and the subject reports pain. In his current study, Harper will compare responses of fibromyalgia patients to a control group to determine if nociceptors in fibromyalgia are hypersensitive.



Daniel E. Harper, Ph.D.

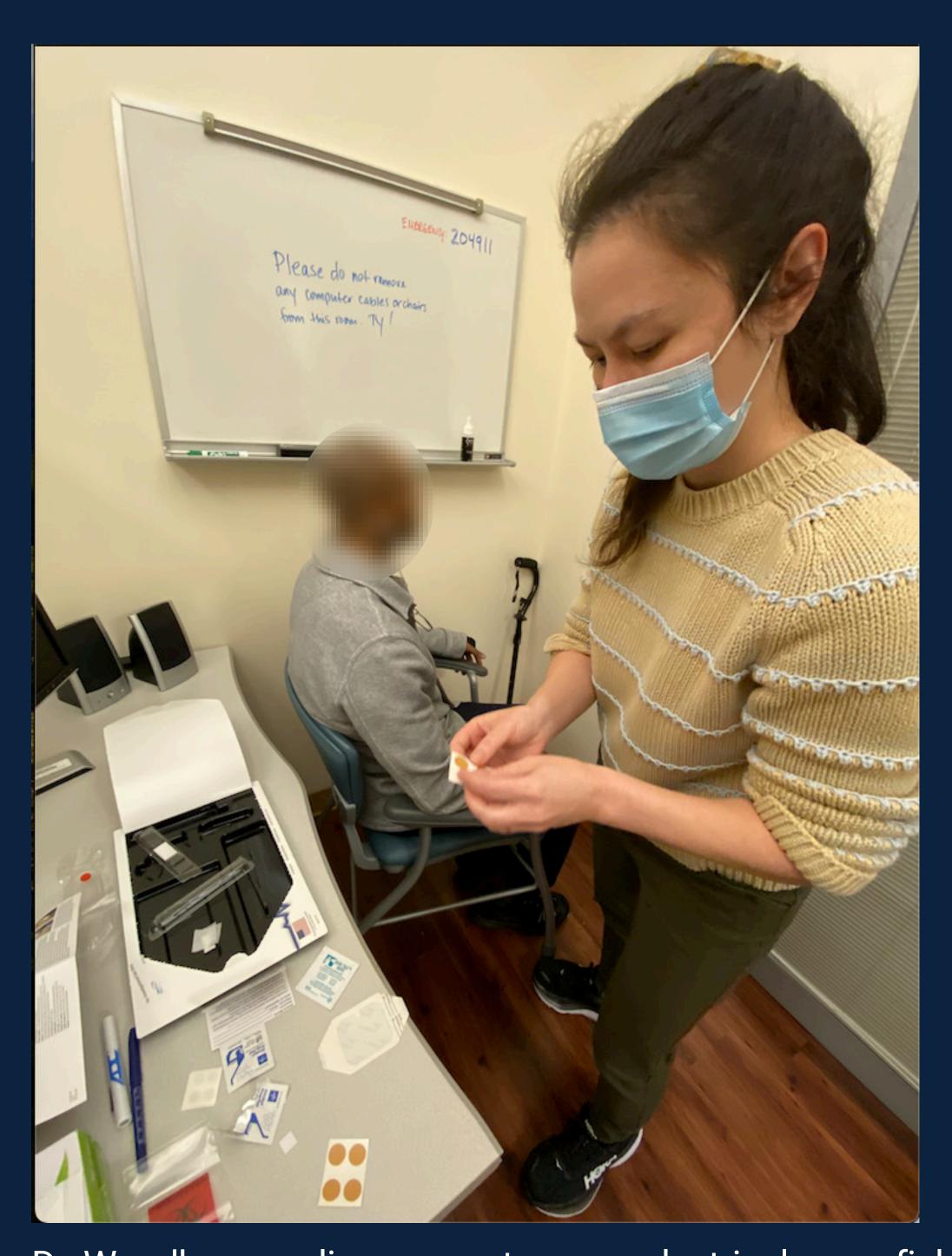
Subjects will undergo stimulation in an MRI scanner, measuring brain activity associated with nociceptor stimulation. This allows for a "cleaner" measurement of pain processing in the brain, without the confounding signals from the innocuous system. "This is a much cleaner way to measure the processing of pain signals in the brain, enabling us to measure a 'pure pain' signal," Harper explains. While his current study focuses on fibromyalgia, Harper envisions his method being useful for other conditions. "My goal for this technique would be to make it easy for researchers to put the protocols out there in an open science framework," he says. "That way, researchers all over the world could use this technique to measure the sensitivity of nociceptors in a noninvasive, unbiased fashion. And with that, hopefully make it more widely applicable in the research setting." Ultimately, Harper hopes his research will lead to better treatments for fibromyalgia and other chronic pain conditions.



My goal for this technique would be to make it easy for researchers to put the protocols out there in an open science framework

Daniel E. Harper, Ph.D.

Pain Research



Dr. Woodbury applies a percutaneous electrical nerve field stimulation device to the external ear of a study participant, targeting the auricular branch of the vagus and other cranial nerve branches.

From Novel Therapies to Groundbreaking Measurement Techniques

Peripheral Artery Disease (PAD) is a prevalent condition that affects circulation, particularly as we age. It occurs when arteries narrow, limiting blood flow to the limbs—a process often driven by atherosclerosis. Unfortunately, Veterans are at a heightened risk for PAD, facing lifestyle factors like smoking and physical inactivity, as well as specific exposure risks tied to their military service. Alongside these factors, comorbidities can further complicate their health journey. Researchers are actively exploring innovative approaches to combat PAD, including investigating the molecular and cellular mechanisms underlying the disease and developing targeted therapies to improve vascular health and function. These efforts hold promise for developing more effective treatments and improving the quality of life for Veterans and others affected by PAD.

Anna Woodbury, MD, CAc, MSc is a research scientist at the Atlanta VA Center for Visual and Neurocognitive Rehabilitation. She is also the founder of the Division for Pain Management at VA Atlanta and Vice Chair of Research at the Department of Anesthesiology at Emory University. Dr. Woodbury has presented nationally and written extensively on integrative medicine and neuromodulation for chronic pain management, anesthesia, and neuroprotection. She will also be featured on PBS' docu-series, Your Fantastic Mind, airing locally in Georgia in April 2025 and nationally in September 2025, where she will discuss her work with various neuromodulatory devices, including PENFS.



Catch Dr. Woodbury on an episode of the Emmy Award Winning series "Your Fantastic Mind" on April 14th at 9 PM. https://www.pbs.org/show/your-fantastic-mind/

For more information about Dr. Woodbury and the work her team is dong go to https://www.woodburypainlab.com/

Teen Thrives Despite Having Four Limbs Amputated



Dr. Vipin Bansal with Natalya Manhertz after Natalya experienced septic shock and had to have her hands and legs amputated. Courtesy of Manhertz family.

Dr. Vipin Bansal, a pediatric anesthesiologist at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, played a crucial role in the recovery of Natalya Manhertz, a teen who lost all four limbs due to septic shock. Bansal, who specializes in acute and chronic pain management, recognized the severity of Manhertz's phantom limb pain and pioneered the use of nerve stimulators—an approach typically used at Emory but never before at Children's—to retrain pain signals in her leg and brain. This groundbreaking intervention was successfully implemented within a week, significantly alleviating her pain. "Everyone at Children's came together to help this girl—we all love her," Bansal said, underscoring the collective effort behind Manhertz's care.

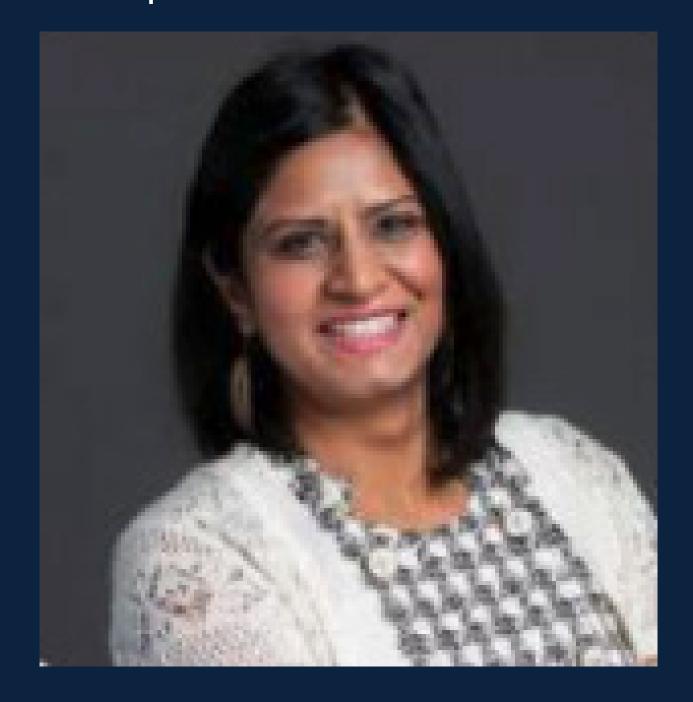
This story was reported by Keri Janton for "The Atlanta Journal-Constitution" on February 21, 2024.

Undergraduate Pain Course

Emory Anesthesiology Pain Faculty Teach Undergraduate Course in Pain



Dr. Vinita Singh and Dr. Anna Woodbury lead a dynamic course that gives undergraduate students a broad perspective on pain and its societal impact. With lectures from Anesthesiology faculty—including Dr. Mercy Udoji, Dr. Daniel Harper, Dr. Olabisi Lane, and upcoming speakers Dr. Jamie Kitzman and Dr. Rachel Hadler—students explore the biological, psychological, and cultural dimensions of pain.



Dr. Vinita Singh



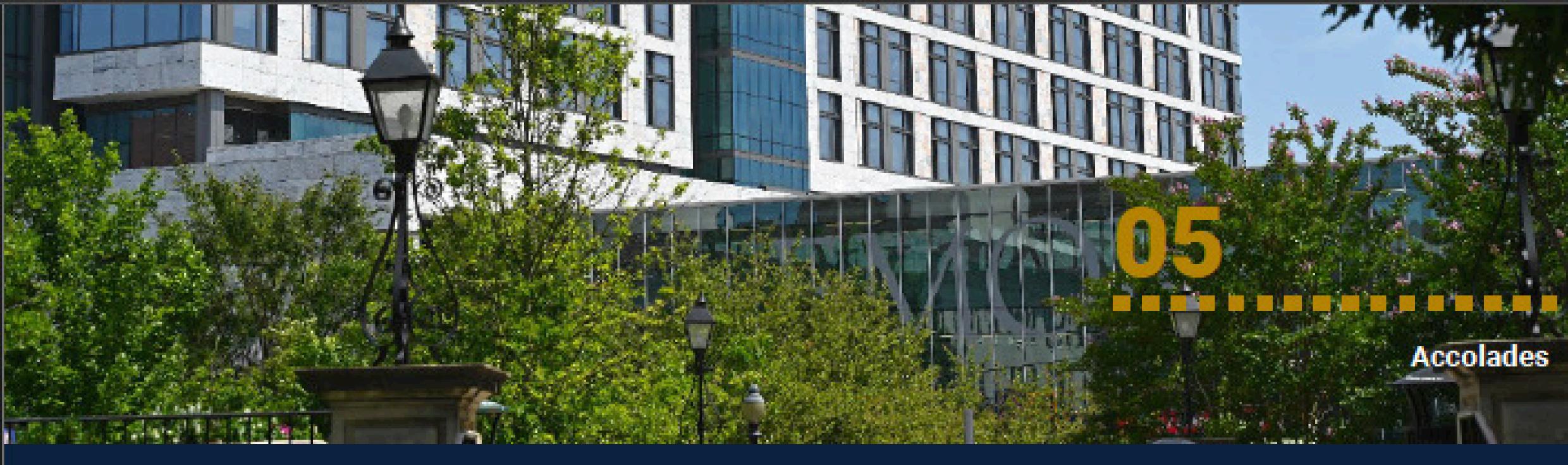
Dr. Anna Woodbury

Pain, Its treatment Biophychosocial Impacts

A key feature of the course is the community project, where students design and implement initiatives related to pain, from public health efforts to research studies. By the end of the semester, they present their findings, applying their knowledge to real-world challenges.

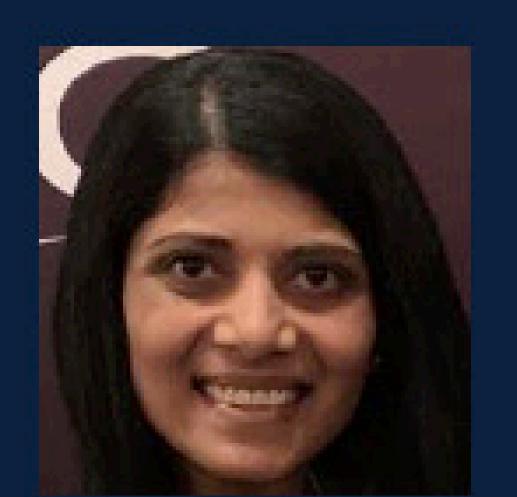
This course goes beyond the clinical aspects of pain, inspiring students to approach pain management holistically and with empathy, preparing them to make a meaningful impact in healthcare and research.

Accolades



SOM Faculty Awards 2024

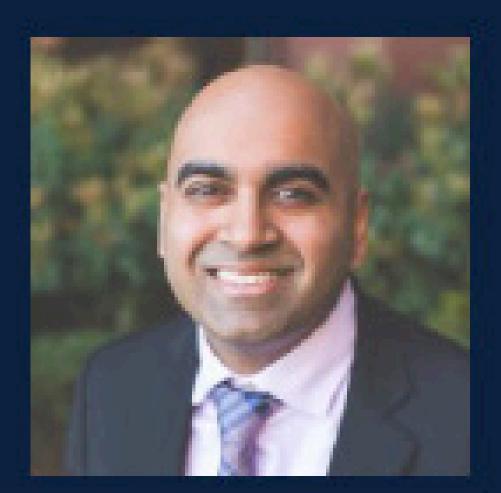
Celebration of Faculty Eminence Associate Professor



Dr. Chhaya Patel



Dr. Ellen Richter



Dr. Sudheer Potru



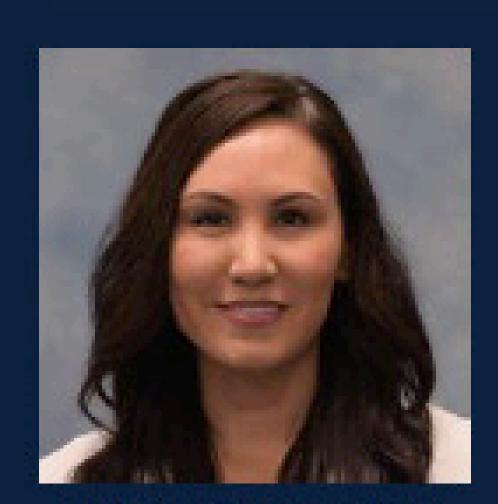
Dr. Amit Prabhakar



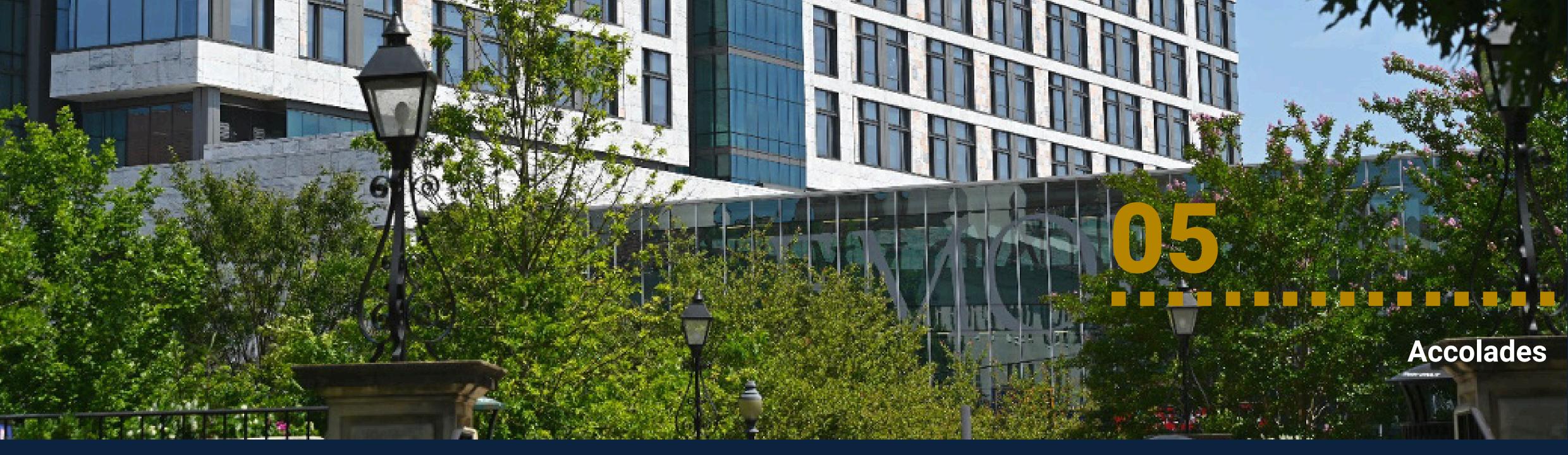
Dr. Stephanie Grant



Dr. Laura Gilbertson



Dr. Jaimie Kitzman



SOM Faculty Awards 2024

Celebration of Faculty Eminence

Clinical Distinctions

Hidden Gem

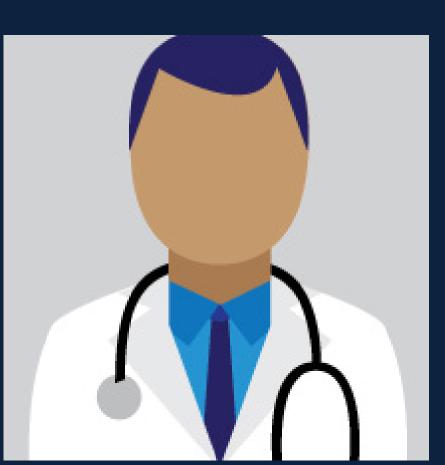


Dr. Dawn Manning-Williams

Senior Physician



Dr. Christina Faya

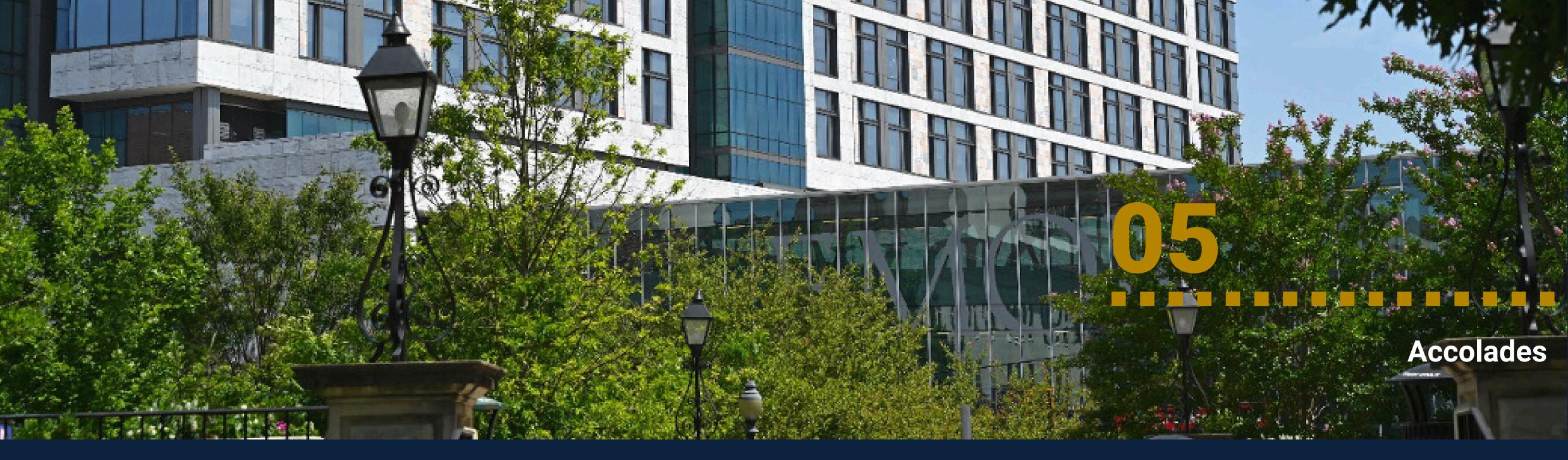


Dr. Vinai Vishwanath





Dr. Ravi Pathak



SOM Faculty Awards 2024

Celebration of Faculty Eminence

Clinical Distinctions Distinguished Physician



Dr. Thanayi Barone



Dr. Brian Bobzien



Dr. Christina Noyes



Dr. Andrea Dillard



Dr. James Dolak



Dr. Boris Spektor



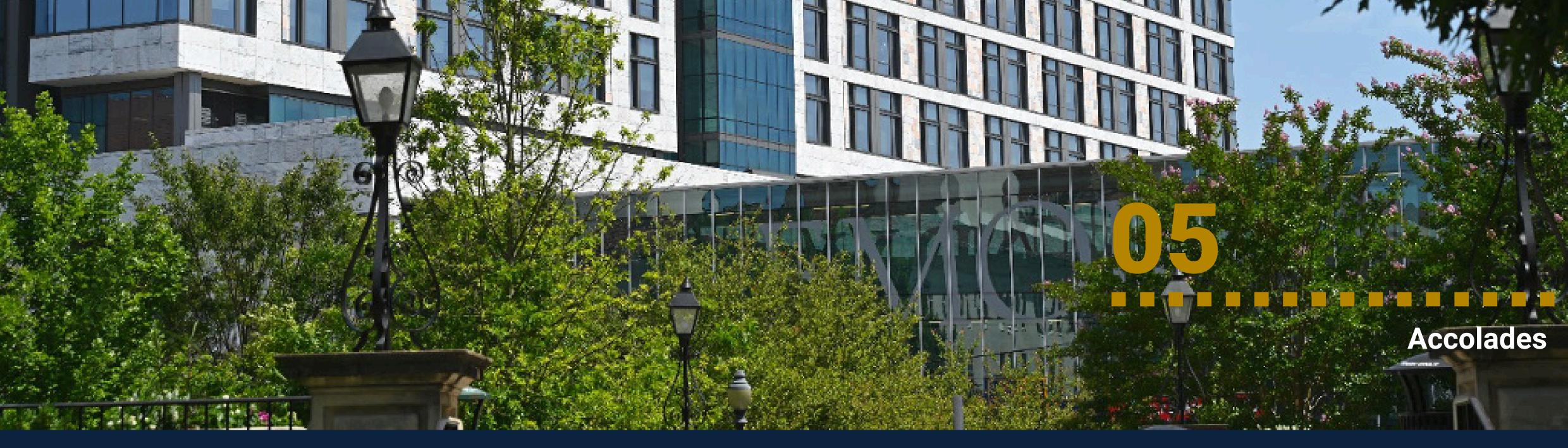
Dr. Joanna Schindler



Dr. Gautam Sreeram

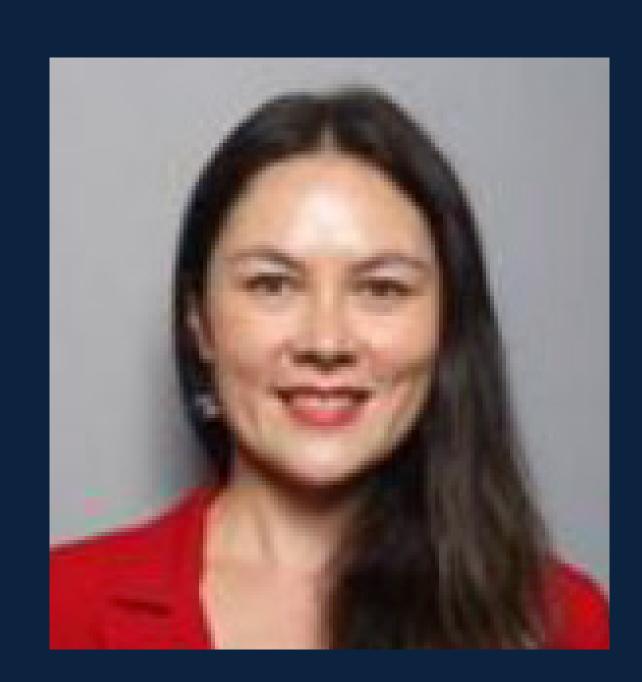


Cinnamon Sullivan

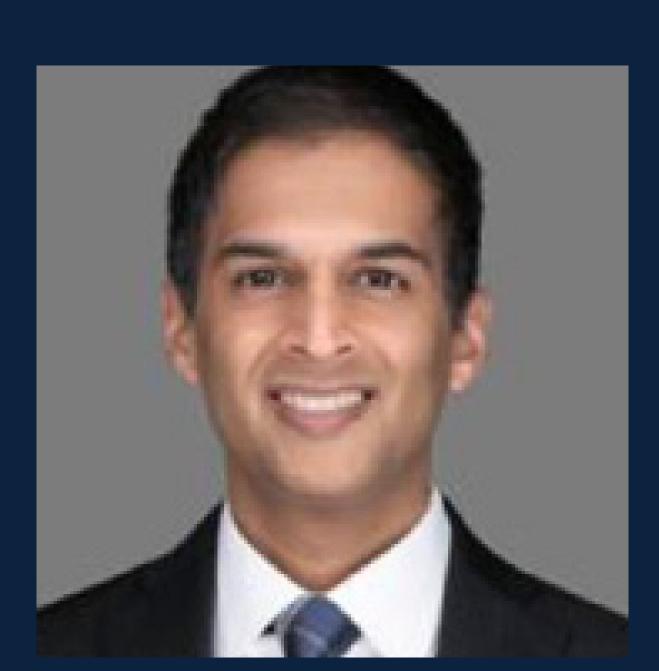


School of Medicine FCAP Committee

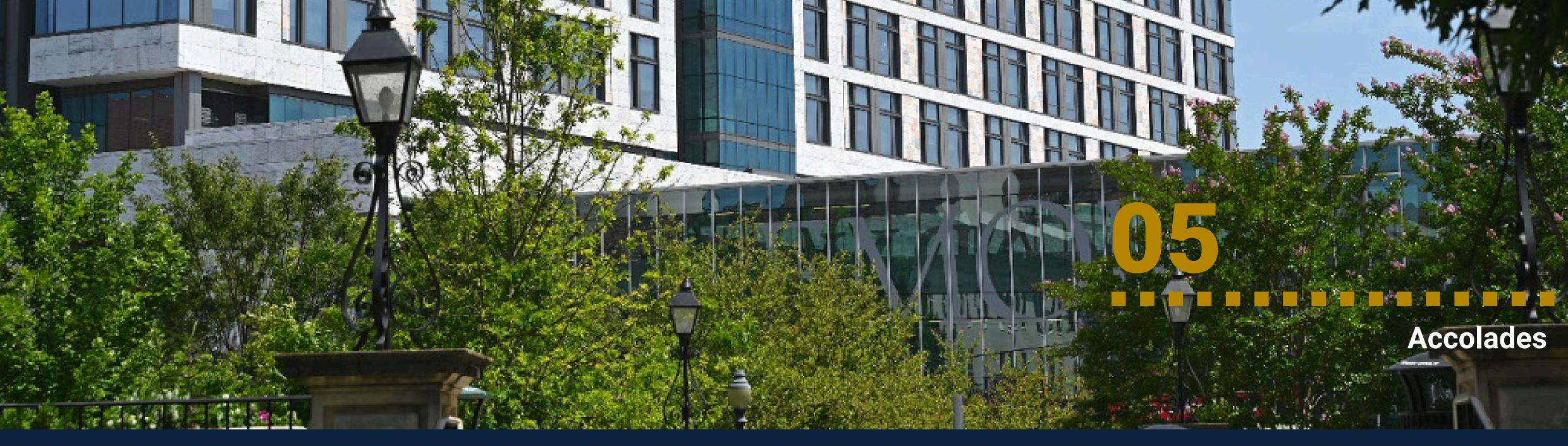
School of Medicine Appointments and Promotions Committee



Dr. Anna Woodbury Vice Chair Research



Dr. Gaurav Patel
Division Chief, EUH
Medical Director, AA Program



Regional, National and International Accomplishments



Dr. Bola Faloye
 Chair, Training & Certification Advisory Committee, Fellow of the American Society of Echocardiography (FASE)

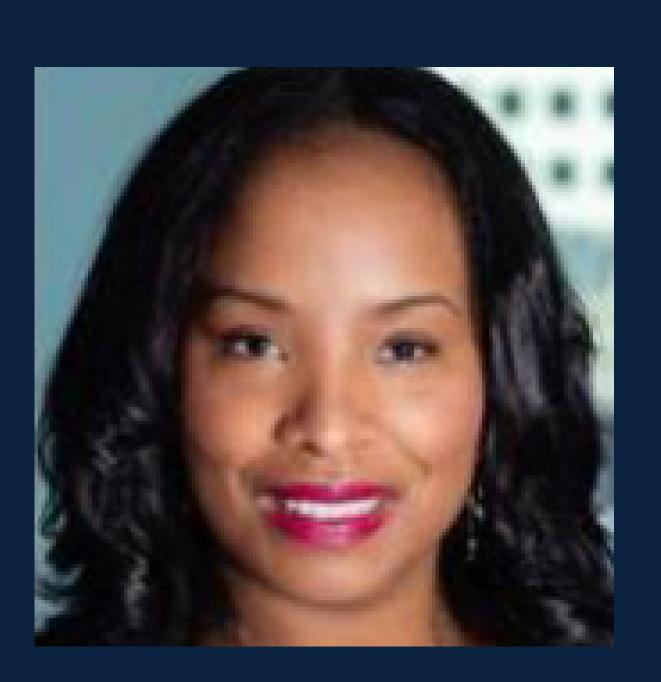




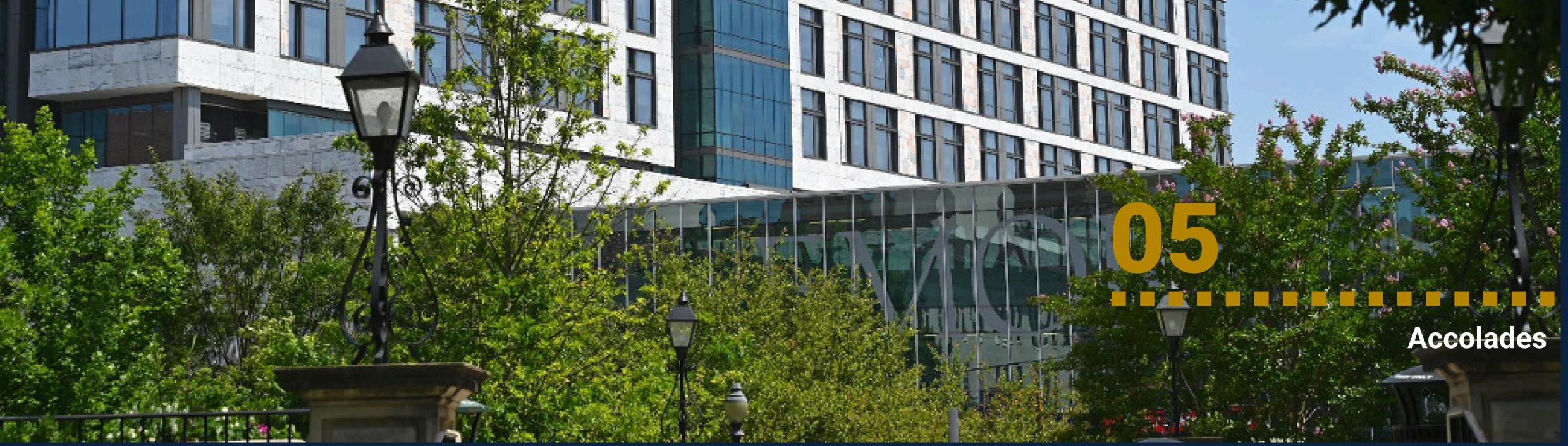
 Dr. Craig Jabaley
 Secretary, Board of Directors, Society of Critical Care Anesthesiologists (SOCCA)



 Dr. Vinita Singh
 Lisa Sterna Award, North American Neuromodulation Society (NANS)



Michele Sumler, MD
Chair, Ethics committee
Society of Cardiovasculat Anesthesiologist



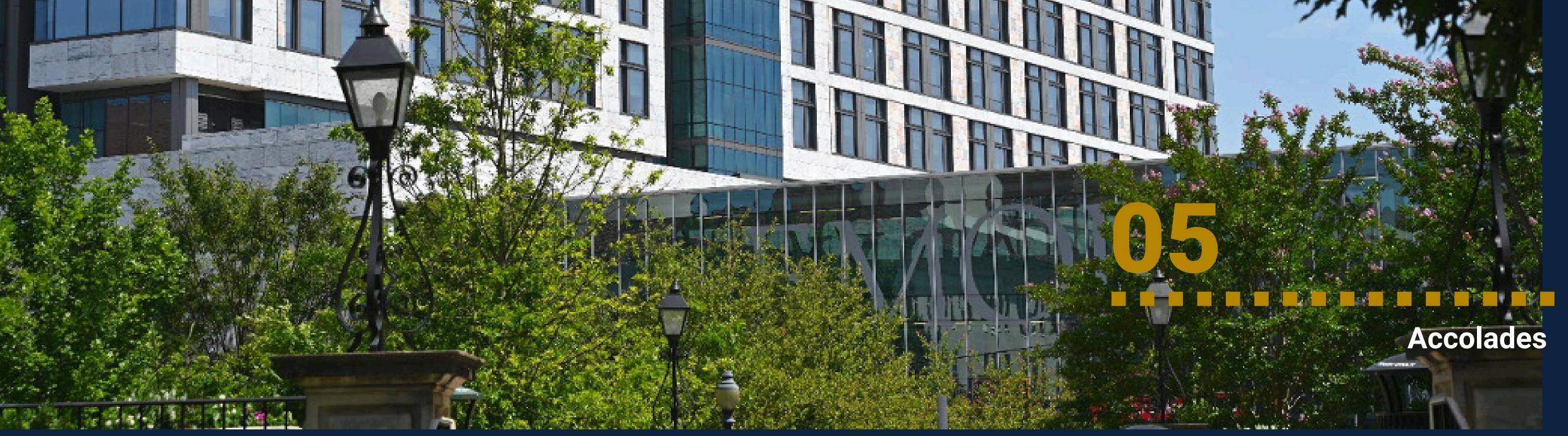
Congratulations

Dr. Klopman on selection to the Workforce Optimization work group in the new Emory Healthcare Perioperative Core Service

Dr. Klopman will focus on recruitment, training, staffing models and retention



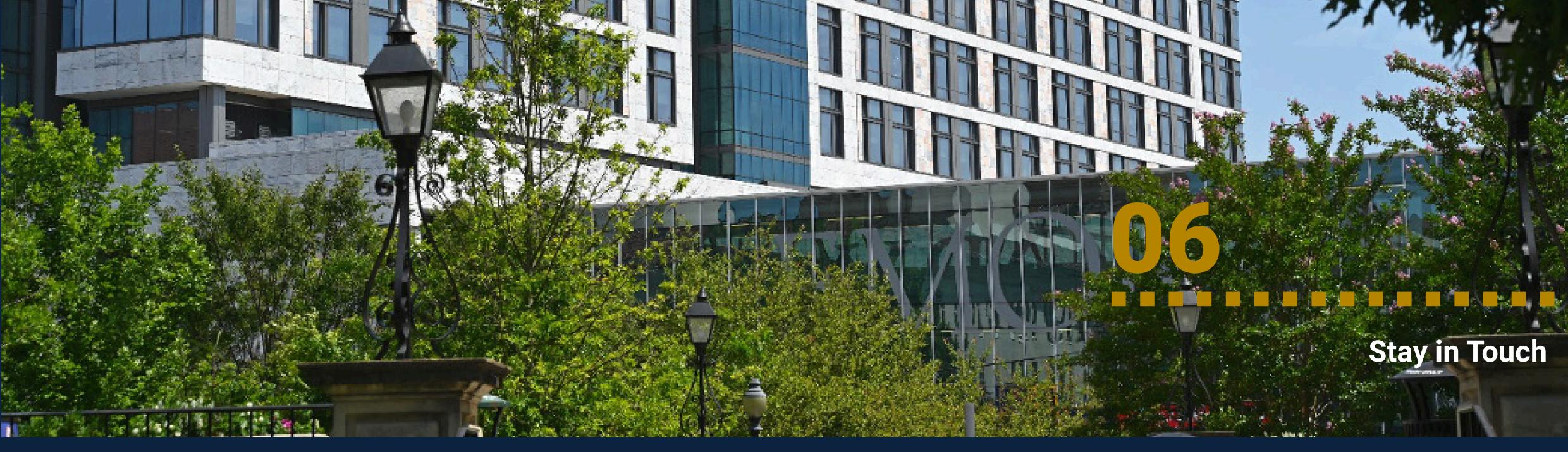
Dr. Matt Klopman



Congratulations



Jerry Kalangara, MD
Chief, Pain Division at the VA Presented the Coin of
Recognition for Excellence in Clinical Leadership from
the VA Deputy Secretary Tanya Bradsher



GIVE

The Power of Giving: Why It Matters Now More Than Ever

In times of change and challenge, the support of our alumni makes all the difference. Your generosity fuels scholarships, innovative research, and transformative experiences that shape the next generation. Every gift—big or small—creates opportunities and strengthens our community.

Thank you for considering a gift to Emory University. If you have questions or need assistance making a gift, contact:

Matt Drohan Senior Administrator Department of Anesthesiology Emory Healthcare | Emory University mdrohan@emory.edu

Anne Marie McKenzie-Brown, M.D. Professor and Interim Chair Vice Chair, Professional Development Emory Department of Anesthesiology amckenz@emory.edu

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