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UW Layton Rikers Surgical Society Newsletter

The Society Scoop: Faculty lead PPE innovation

Featuring [Hau Le, MD](#) and [Michael Bentz, MD](#)

As personal protective equipment (PPE) needs continue to increase during the COVID-19 pandemic, Department of Surgery physicians have been working in collaboration with the [UW-Madison College of Engineering](#), [UW Makerspace](#), and the [UW-Madison Division of Information Technology Printing Services](#) to develop innovative devices that protect healthcare providers as they come in contact with patients.

- **Michael Bentz, MD**, has developed a [face shield](#) that can accommodate scopes, cameras, and loupes, protecting providers from exposure to patient droplets while preserving the limited stock of PPE.
- **Hau Le, MD**, has developed a device called [The BADGER](#). The first of its kind, the box uses “negative pressure” to reduce airborne transmission from patients with COVID-19, and prevents direct splashing of droplets on healthcare providers and others who are caring for them.

Our physicians have mobilized to create solutions to protect themselves, other healthcare workers, and their patients when providing care for COVID-19.

[Learn more about the development of these devices >>](#)



Face Shield



The BADGER

[Learn more about the Surgical Alumni Society >](#)





convalescent plasma to treat COVID-19

After residency graduate and pediatric oncology surgeon Dave Lal, MD, MPH, tested positive for COVID-19, he wanted to be among the first convalescent plasma donors to help treat COVID-19 patients. In this interview on Wisconsin Public Radio, he explains how antibodies in plasma may help treat the disease.

[Hear his story >>](#)

Telehealth creates new options for patient care

FOR ALUMNI, FRIENDS, FACULTY AND STUDENTS OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Quarterly



Telehealth
Innovative Programs Offer Convenience and Broaden Experts' Reach

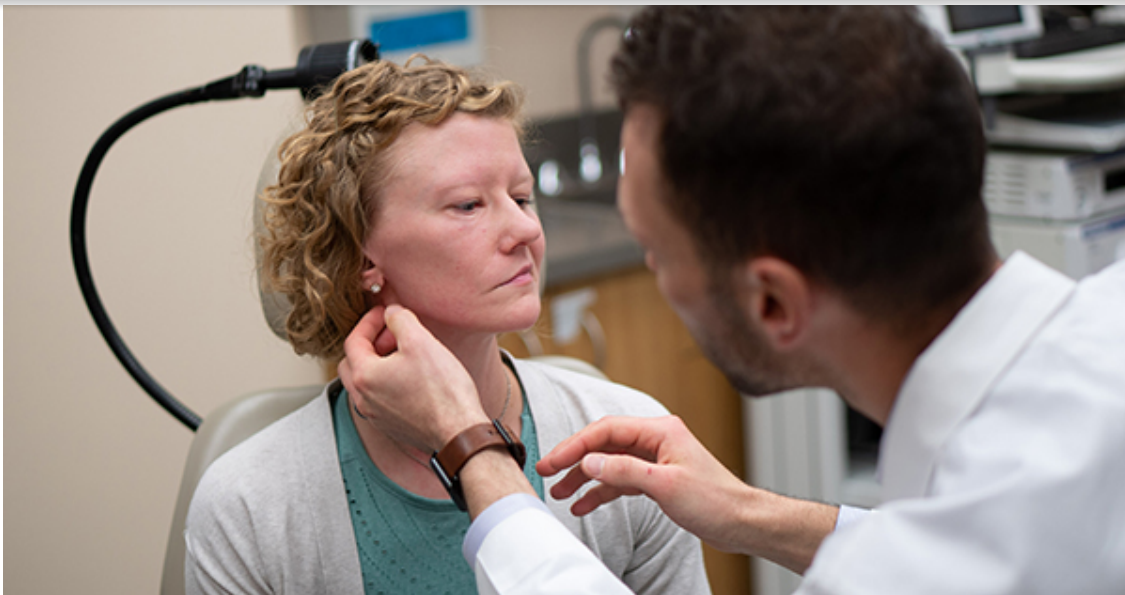
WOMEN IN MEDICINE AND SCIENCE p. 8
WISCONSIN STATE LABORATORY OF HYGIENE p. 10
OUTSTANDING WOMEN OF COLOR AWARDS p. 19

 School of Medicine and Public Health
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

 **There's More Online!**
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The ability to talk with a health provider from home is more important than ever. In this article from *Quarterly Magazine*, health professionals discuss how video appointments can allow caregivers to evaluate, diagnose, and treat patients. Pediatric surgeon Jonathan Kohler, MD, discusses how a virtual platform can also be used to share medical expertise with other practitioners.

[Read more about virtual options for care and education >>](#)



Kayla Stankowski with Dr. Scott Chalet

Kayla Stankowski was born with right-sided facial paralysis, preventing her from smiling on the right side. Her sister, General Surgery resident Trista Stankowski-Drengler, MD, MS, told her about a procedure called facial nerve graft that would allow Kayla to have more facial motion. The procedure was performed at the UW Health Facial Nerve Clinic by Scott Chalet, MD, MBA, and Aaron Weiland, MD.

[Read Kayla's story >>](#)

Understanding Parkinson's disease through research

UW-Madison biology major Natalie Pahapill focused her research on the presence of anxiety in early-stage Parkinson's disease. The research, performed in the lab of Otolaryngology Professor Michelle Ciucci, PhD, may lead to earlier detection, earlier treatment, and better outcomes. Learn how this academic experience helped Natalie to better understand the disease in this [Wisconsin State Journal article](#).



Updates from Madison



Health Innovations Toolkit

Vascular surgeon Gretchen Schwarze, MD, MPP, and Toby Campbell, MD, MS, have developed a toolkit to guide clinicians in daily conversations with patients' families who are not permitted to visit the hospital due to the COVID-19 pandemic. [Learn more about this resource >>](#)



for the ACS Clinical Congress and for everyone's safety, we have decided to cancel this year's Layton Rikkers Surgical Society reunion dinner. We will miss seeing you and having the opportunity to reconnect you with your fellow alumni. We hope to see you next year and we know it will hold even more meaning and cause for celebration.

We are still inviting you to celebrate your colleagues by nominating recipients for the Forward Award. This award recognizes outstanding alumni contributions by current or former residents, faculty, and fellows of the Department of Surgery. We'd love to hear how our Badgers have answered this year's adversity with innovations, community service, and exemplifying the Wisconsin Way. Nominations are due August 21. [Submit your nomination today >>](#)



Welcoming New Faculty

Join us in welcoming these new faculty to the Department of Surgery:

- [Jennifer Racz, MD, MBA](#), Associate Professor, Division of Surgical Oncology
- [Michael Puricelli, MD](#), Assistant Professor, Division of Otolaryngology



Congratulations to Dr. Caprice Greenberg, 2020 recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Chicago Medical and Biological Sciences Alumni Association. Dr. Greenberg was recognized for her work in surgical oncology and research on improving the quality and safety of surgical care. [Learn more about the award >>](#)



Cardiothoracic education transformed during COVID-19

Congratulations to Drs. Erik Lewis, Lauren Taylor, Joshua Hermesen, Amy Fiedler, and Daniel McCarthy, on a recently accepted publication in The Annals of Thoracic Surgery: "Cardiothoracic Education in the Time of COVID-19: How I Teach It." [Read the article >>](#)



UW BIRCWH Program Scholar

Evie Carchman, MD, has been selected as a UW-Madison Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health Program Scholar. The mission of the program is to improve women's health by developing a scientific workforce capable of leading independently funded research programs. [Read more about the program >>](#)



the Surgery Sett podcast, which recently produced its 100th episode. The podcast, led by Jonathan Kohler, MD, has been downloaded more than 45,000 times by listeners. [Listen to the latest episode >>](#)

In the Spotlight

- **Save the Date:** The 11th Annual Current Topics in General surgery course is moving online for 2020. The session will take place on October 16 and feature updates of breast and colorectal surgery, highlight difficult cases in colorectal surgery, and a new COVID-19 curriculum. [Details and registration are available online.](#)
- **UW Now livestream discusses implications of COVID-19**
The Wisconsin Alumni Association interviews medical experts, UW leaders, and guests about the impact of COVID-19 on campus and beyond in livestream sessions. [See the livestream schedule and listen online.](#)

Do you have an accomplishment, life update, or other news we can share with your colleagues? Send it to alumni@surgery.wisc.edu to share.

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