



THE SCALPEL

January 2024 Newsletter

Happy New Year, and welcome to the first newsletter of the year! At the beginning of each year, we all make new year's resolutions that are at times difficult to keep, though, having an aspirational goal at the beginning of the year is worth it. It is at least a starting point.

We started the year with significant wins. Dr. Jeff Carter, who is our phenomenal Burn Surgery Director was elected to the position of President-elect by the American Burn Association. This is a very prestigious national accolade which continues to put LSU surgery in the national limelight. We are very proud of Dr. Carter.

In addition, Dr. Alison Smith was selected as the recipient of the 2024-2025 AAS Joel J. Roslyn Faculty Research Award for her research proposal. This award is not only very competitive but well respected. We are enthralled by this national recognition of LSU surgeons and all the great work they do to improve the health of our patients.

In 2024, our foremost goal is to double our effort to improve faculty and staff development in addition to residents' education. We will also put more emphasis on research by supporting research grants and sponsoring our faculty to attend development courses. The department will accentuate its commitment to staff, residents and faculty wellness programs and emphasize team building and collegiality.

2024 brings a lot of excitement and opportunities and we are ready for it!!!

Valentine N. Nfonsam, MD, MS, FACS, FASCRS
Professor and Chair
Isidore Cohn Jr., MD Endowed Chair of Surgery
Department of Surgery
School of Medicine
LSU Health New Orleans

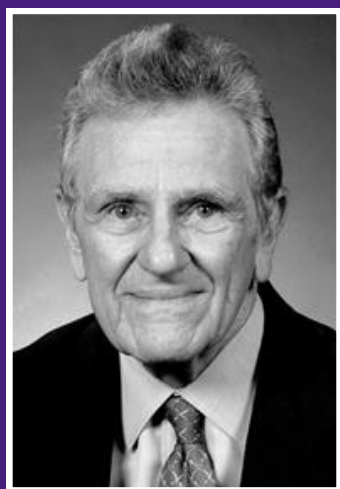


Cohn-Rives Surgical Society

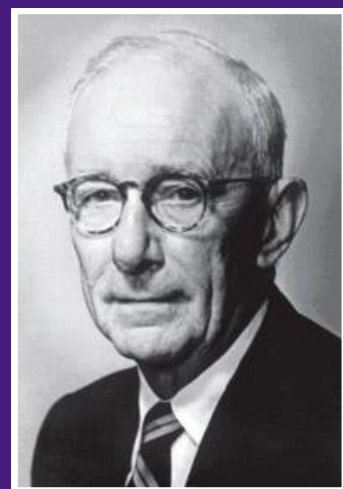
Annual Meeting

Our 2024 Cohn-Rives alumni event is fast approaching! Email reminders for dues payments were sent out to alumni this week. We look forward to the nostalgic fellowship that this event provides!

Friday, March 22, 2024



Isidore Cohn, Jr, MD

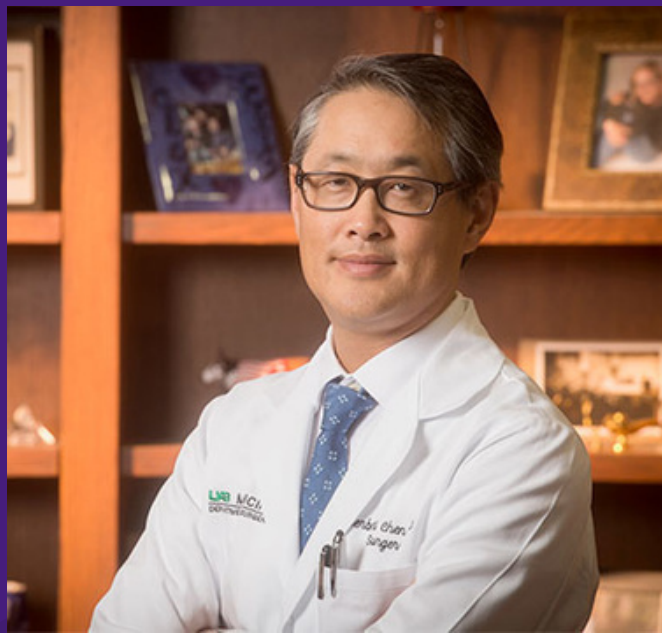


James Rives, MD

LSU HEALTH
DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

2ND ANNUAL

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM 2024



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

HERBERT CHEN, MD

Chair, Department of Surgery
Surgeon-in-Chief, UAB Hospital and Health
System

May 9, 2024

Congratulations

2024-2025 American Burn Association President Elect



Jeffrey Carter, MD, FACS



Congratulations

***Recipient of the 2024-2025 AAS Joel J. Roslyn
Faculty Research Award***



Alison Smith, MD, PhD, FACS

***Proposal Entitled: “Mechanisms of Alcohol-Induced
Immunometabolic Dyshomeostasis of Adipose-Derived Stem Cells
following Major Injury”***

Faculty Spotlight



Kelly Babineaux, MD, FACS

Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery

Division of Plastic Surgery

Joined Faculty:

Hometown: Rayne, LA

Medical School & Residency: LSU Health
Sciences Center

Fellowship: Yale University School of Medicine,
Plastic Hand and Microsurgery

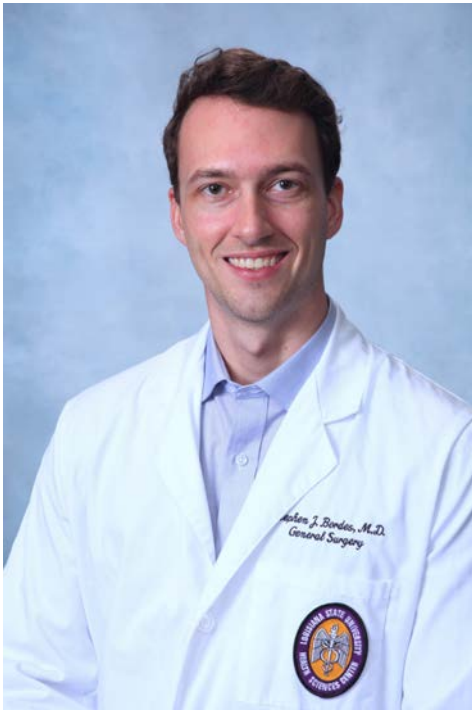
In 2002, I rotated on the LSU trauma surgery service at Charity Hospital and was sold. I was able to experience hands on training very early on inserting a central line in an ICU patient and excising a dorsal hand basal cell carcinoma then covering the defect with a full thickness skin graft from the groin under the direct supervision of the upper-level general surgery residents, who ran the trauma service. That is when I knew that I wanted to do surgical residency at LSU Surgery in New Orleans.

LSU Surgery has such an amazing legacy of service dating back to "Big Charity" days. I feel so privileged to have been a part of that service in the physical Charity Hospital setting during medical school and the first three years of my general surgery residency training. That legacy does live on in the work that is currently being done at UMCNO, which is where I have chosen to continue my academic surgical career in plastic hand and microsurgery within the LSU Department of Surgery, which is like home to me. I am so grateful for the patient care experience and educational opportunity that I have been afforded through the LSU Health system for 22 years in total to date. I hope to continue this rewarding journey.

My clinical research is combined at LSU Health and UMCNO looking at surgical outcomes for lunate and perilunate fracture dislocations of the wrist, hand trauma volume and transfers after joining the ASSH/ACS National Hand Trauma Network in 2019, review of the hand replantation program since its launch in May 2020, and the epidemiology of gunshot wounds to the hand and wrists within an urban level 1 trauma center.

In the future, I hope to see the implementation of an ACGME accredited LSU Plastic Hand Surgery Fellowship, the first in the state of Louisiana, where we can train future hand surgeons to continue to serve the underserved.

Resident Spotlight



Stephen Bordes, MD

PGY-3, General Surgery Resident

Hometown: New Orleans, LA

Medical School: St. George's University

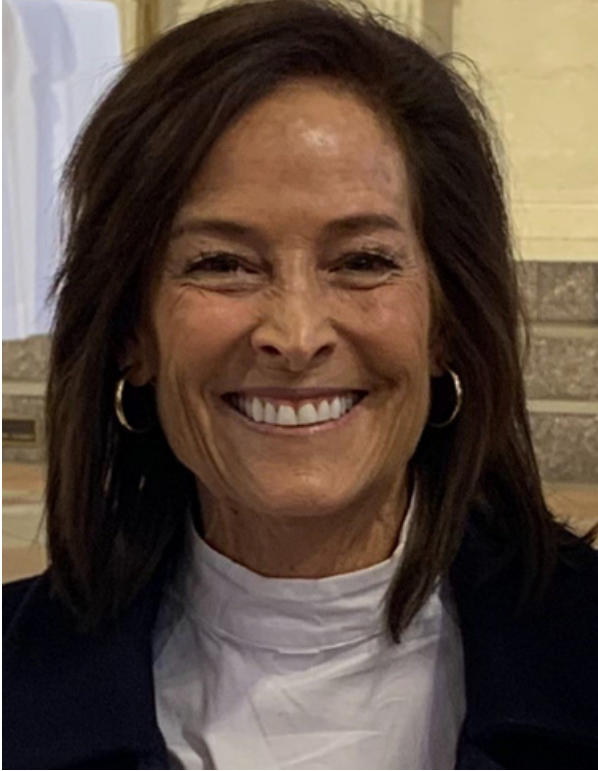
School of Medicine

Future Plans: Cardiothoracic Surgery

LSU is known for turning its residents into surgeons confident in their judgment and skill set. Our all-encompassing patient population, amazing faculty, and high operative volume give us that ability. The camaraderie is unbeatable, and the opportunities available to us throughout residency are unrivaled. Choosing LSU Surgery was easy.

The program has recently pushed to expand research opportunities and increase our presence at national meetings. Efforts are also underway to create a global surgery rotation in the years to come. These endeavors will continue to diversify the resident training experience and make us all the more competitive for fellowship. I hope that our program continues to invest in these areas.

Staff Spotlight



Terie Capella, MSW
Residency Coordinator, Plastic Surgery
Joined the Department of Surgery in 2022

My first day was September 28, 2022 right in the middle of interview season, prior to the big move to CALS!

I have two favorite parts of the job. The first is getting to experience the camaraderie amongst the plastic residents and how they help each other at work and at play! The second favorite part of this job is seeing a resident win an award or prepare for a presentation.

As the Academic year rolls through, they always include me as part of the team as I get to watch and participate in some of their accomplishments along the way! I am constantly in awe of their daily work schedules, and how they adapt to handle the day!

When is anyone proud at their job? When challenges arise and are overcome.

You'll have to ask my family and friends about my "fun facts." However, I never miss an opportunity to workout. I am an accomplished painter. Glue gun extraordinaire. Love, love having grands!

Wellness Corner



Poverty Awareness Month

January is National Poverty Awareness month. New Orleans is home to a poverty rate of 22.9%, which is well over the national rate. Service to the underserved is an endeavor that our surgeons are very familiar with. They dedicate their time and skills to changing the tide of healthcare in the Greater New Orleans area, and they offer compassion to those who may not be fortunate enough to receive it from others. Click [here](#) to learn more about what you can do to impact community efforts and to reduce poverty.

— WE ARE —

HIRING

JOIN OUR FACULTY

- Chief, Colorectal Surgery
- Chief, Pediatric General Surgery
- Burn Surgery
- Colorectal Surgery
- Surgical Oncology (2)
- Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgery
- Plastic Surgery
- Thoracic Surgery



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JOIN OUR STAFF

- Staff Scientist / Staff Scientist Sr
- Associate Business Manager
- Department Coordinator (2)



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