



THE SCALPEL

November 2023 Newsletter

Our New Reality

In the last several decades, we have seen considerable changes in the healthcare landscape, especially with large healthcare corporations acquiring hospitals and academic institutions. These changes have led to the emphasis on clinical productivity and at the same time accentuate the concerns about the sustainability of the academic mission. There is no doubt that the old academic model of the past is slowly fading away. Our best hope forward in maintaining the academic mission is to lean into this new changing model, our new reality, and try to help shape the outcome as best as we can. Pulling back is certainly not our best option.

We are currently in the interview season for our next year's intern class. This gives us impetus to reflect and to recommit ourselves to the training of the next generations of surgeons. Due to the rapid changes in technology, innovations and treatment modalities, our commitment at LSU Surgery is to train our residents to be surgeons not just for today but also for tomorrow by providing them with tools to be lifelong learners. We do this by holding ourselves to a higher standard and leading by example. It is our pledge to provide the highest quality of care to our patients and our community. We can do this together.

Sincerely,

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





Many of our faculty, staff, residents, and students attended and presented at the ACS Clinical Congress. They also gathered for an LSU Surgery Family Dinner, Alumni Reception, and Association of Women Surgeons Dinner and Reception.



RESIDENCY INTERVIEWS

General Surgery

November 10th

November 17th

December 8th

December 15th

January 5th

January 12th

Vascular Surgery

December 18th (virtual)

January 11th (virtual)

Plastic Surgery

December 8th

December 11th (virtual)





Resident Wellness Day

This month, our General Surgery Residents gathered for a fun-filled wellness day! They enjoyed a competitive field day followed by an afternoon at Rock 'n' Bowl. They ended the day with a Meet and Greet Dinner with our General Surgery Residency Candidates.



Special thanks to our Chiefs and Residency Coordinators for putting this together

Congratulations!

Dr. Anna Garbuzov

Logan Hornung



**1st Place: Best
Overall**

**3rd Place: Best
Student Podium
Presentation**

Resident/Fellow

Podium Presentation



SOUTHERN REGION

BURN

BIRMINGHAM . ALABAMA

in the Ham.

11/1/2023 - 11/05/2023

STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT 2023

In place of conference on Thursday, November 9th, Dr. Nfonsam, the Department Chair, addressed the Surgery Faculty, Staff, Residents, and Fellows and provided a recap of the past year. This recap included our growth as a department in a clinical, financial, research, philanthropic, and educational perspective.



Dr. Mohamad Masoumy named Interim Chief, Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery



Mohamad Masoumy, MD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery
Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Dr. Mohamad Masoumy has been a member of the LSU Surgery Faculty since 2019. He serves as Associate Program Director for the LSU Integrated Plastic Surgery Residency and Surgical Director of the Vascular Anomalies Clinic at Children's Hospital of New Orleans.

Dr. Masoumy received his medical degree from the University of Missouri - Columbia School of Medicine in 2009. He went on to complete a residency in both General Surgery in 2015 and Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery in 2018, at Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University and Emory University, respectively. He also completed a Fellowship in Craniofacial and Pediatric Plastic Surgery at Texas Children's Hospital, Baylor College of Medicine in 2019.

"I'm thrilled to accept the role as the Interim Chief, Division of Plastic Surgery," said Dr. Masoumy. "Plastic Surgery is a specialty built on innovation and problem solving and over the years, LSU has been at the forefront with our world renowned microsurgical and craniofacial experience. We will continue curating a dynamic educational and clinical environment that prioritizes resident education, shaping the next generation of surgical leaders."

Dr. Masoumy is a widely published researcher and leader in the field of craniofacial surgery and surgical education. He is a well-respected member of many national organizations including the American Council of Academic Plastic Surgeons and American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association.

"I am glad that Dr. Masoumy has agreed to step into this new role," said Dr. Nfonsam, Department Chair. He has proven, in the last few years, to be a dynamic and innovative leader. I am confident of his abilities to lead the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery during this transition period. I also want to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Hugo St. Hilaire who has led this division over several years. The division has grown exponentially under his leadership, and we will always be grateful for his dedication to the division and the department."

— 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



www.lsuhscc.peopleadmin.com

JOIN OUR STAFF

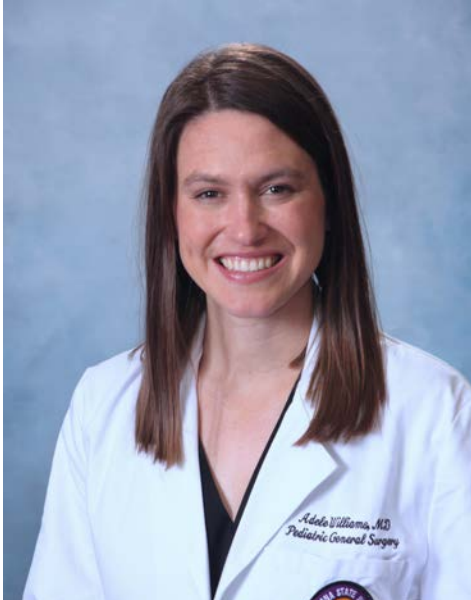
- Staff Scientist / Staff Scientist Sr
- Residency Coordinator
- Associate Business Manager
- Department Coordinator (2)



www.lsuhscc.peopleadmin.com



Alumni Spotlight



Adele P. Williams, MD

Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery

Division of Pediatric Surgery

Hometown: River Ridge, LA

Medical School: LSU Health Sciences
Center New Orleans

Residency: LSU Health Sciences Center
New Orleans

Fellowship: University of Alabama
Birmingham

I chose LSU Surgery because I love this city and the people who call it home, and I wanted to put my hard work and passion back into the city that has given me so much.

My proudest moment at LSU so far has been sitting in conference next to my best friends from training, who are also LSU faculty now. They are mentors, they are change makers, they are fantastic surgeons, and I am so proud to have the opportunity to be in that number.

I am becoming a member of the Children's Oncology Group, a National Cancer Institute supported clinical trials group, so that I can help keep our team up to date with the most recent surgical techniques and national protocols for pediatric cancer.

Faculty Spotlight



Amit Chawla, MD, FSVS

Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery

Division of Vascular Surgery

Joined Faculty: 2017

Hometown: New Orleans, LA

Medical School/Residency/Fellowship: LSU

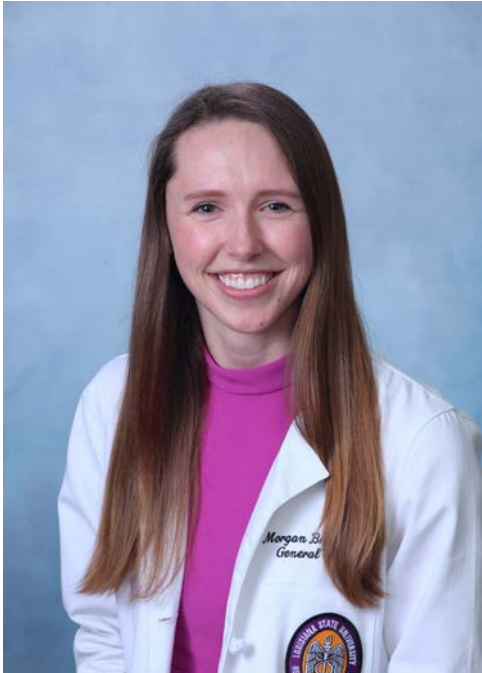
Health New Orleans

I chose LSU Surgery because ever since I was a medical student, the LSU Surgeon was synonymous with someone who you would call when you needed a problem solved (surgical, medical, housekeeping - didn't matter).

What makes me proud of LSU Surgery is that ethos has remained. The ability to operate despite high levels of complexity because of the volume of patients we see has always set us apart. Our reputation as quality operators is renowned. We have made great strides recently of translating those numbers into actionable research which will shape the way we practice medicine. That progress while not losing sight of our ultimate mission (training doctors to serve our underserved population) gives me hope and excitement to where we will go as a department in the future.

The LSU Vascular Surgery Department is currently doing research on healthcare literacy and combating physician burnout.

Resident Spotlight



Morgan Brown, MD

PGY-3, General Surgery Resident

Hometown: Shreveport, LA

Medical School: LSU Health - New Orleans

Future Plans: Research Fellowship at UAB
in Pediatric Solid Tumor Research

When searching for a residency program, I was drawn to the balance of culture and clinical experience that LSU offers. The faculty and co-residents are incredibly supportive, and I couldn't imagine being anywhere else!

In the future, I hope that LSU General Surgery Residency as a program is able to continue to expand resources to pursue productive research while still maintaining our strong clinical experiences among New Orleans, Baton Rouge, and Lafayette.

Staff Spotlight



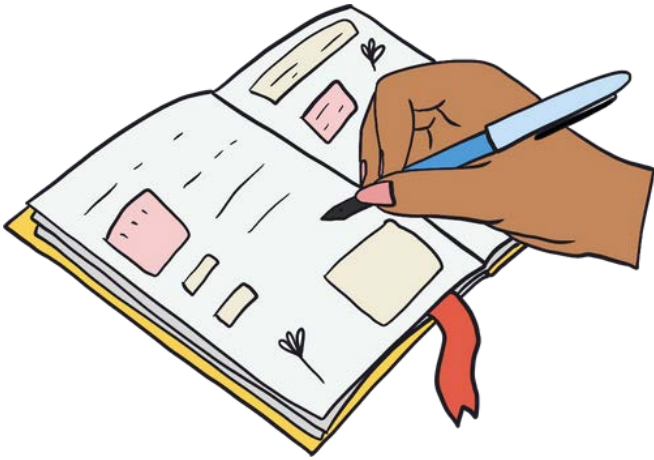
Jeanne Zar, BS
Residency Coordinator
Joined the Department of Surgery in 2020

Besides being able to work with such an interesting and diverse group of people, I really enjoy onboarding season, intern bootcamp and all that that entails! It's so nice to see the residents, faculty, and staff coming together for the common goal of enhancing our program.

I'd have to agree with my co-coordinator, Brandi, one of my greatest accomplishments so far is surviving graduation 2022. It's my LSU war story!

Yes, I'm a thriftie! You'll find me most weekends scouring thrift stores and estate sales to find some hidden treasures

Wellness Corner



How to Form Good Habits

As we approach the end of the calendar year, we have the opportunity to reflect on the past year and be intentional about future goals and plans. A good way to implement these positive changes is habit forming. Studies show that it takes an average of 66 days to form a habit. There's no better time than today to start forming good habits. Click [here](#) to learn more about good habit forming.



Follow and Subscribe!

