

MORNING CMO REPORT

10.01.2014

FROM THE DESK OF:
Anthony P. Weiss, MD, Chief Medical Officer,
Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs,
Upstate University Hospital

UPSTATE
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Position Announcements

[Applies to All Physicians](#)

Thought I would pass along three position announcements regarding critical roles within the Department of Surgery that have implications throughout the Hospital. I am personally excited that each of these physicians will be taking a more prominent clinical leadership role here at Upstate.

Bill Marx, DO, FACS
Informational

It is my pleasure to announce that **Bill Marx, DO, FACS** has accepted the position of Adult Trauma Program Medical Director and Chief, Division of Trauma, Critical Care, Burn and Emergency Surgery at SUNY Upstate Medical University effective September 22, 2014. Bill succeeds Dr James Gregory, who served in this role from January 2013 to March 2014.

Dr. Marx obtained his medical degree from the University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kansas City, MO. He completed his General Surgery and Critical Care training at Letterman Army Medical Center in San Francisco, CA. He joined the faculty at Upstate Medical University in 1993. From 1993 to 2006 he held multiple leadership positions in Trauma and Critical Care including: the Director of Surgical Critical Care, the Associate Director of Trauma and interim Director of Trauma. During this same time period he rose through the academic ranks to be appointed as Professor of Surgery at Upstate Medical University.

In 2006, Bill was named the Chief of Staff at the Syracuse Veterans Association Medical Center. Despite his many administrative duties he has remained active at Upstate as the Associate Dean for Veterans Affairs, a member of the Admissions Committee and as a faculty member in the Practice of Medicine Course. He has also volunteered as a Surgical Intensivist in the SICU at Upstate where he has received many accolades as a clinician and educator.

Dr Marx has an established track record of regional and national leadership in the care of the injured patient. He served as vice-chair of the NY state Committee on Trauma and the Region Chief for Region II (NY, NJ and Puerto Rico). He is a member of the American College of Surgeons National Committee on Trauma and has served on the Performance Improvement and Verification subcommittees. He has been a member of the State Trauma Advisory Committee (STAC) since 1992 and now serves as the Chair of the STAC. He has contributed over 22 peer-reviewed manuscripts, the majority of which are on the clinical management of emergency surgery, critically ill and trauma patients. In addition to his leadership responsibilities as the Division Chief and Trauma Program Medical Director at Upstate, Bill will also serve as the Chief of Surgery at the Syracuse VA Medical Center.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Marx to his new roles at the VA and at Upstate.

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Moustafa Hassan, MD,
FACS
Informational

It is my pleasure to announce that **Moustafa Hassan, MD, FACS** has accepted the position as Chief of the Acute Care Surgery Service at Upstate Medical University effective September 1, 2014. Dr. Hassan obtained his medical degree from Ain Shams University in Cairo, Egypt. After completing a Urology Residency at Ain Shams he did a General Surgery Residency at the Polyclinic Medical Center and Harrisburg Hospital in Harrisburg, PA. He went on to complete a Fellowship in Surgical Critical Care at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

From 2001 to 2004, Dr Hassan was an Asst. Professor of Surgery at Michigan State University. From 2005 to 2007 he served as an Asst. Professor of Surgery at the University of Southern Alabama. He joined the faculty at Upstate in 2007 as an Associate Professor of Surgery. Over the last five years, Dr Hassan has held multiple leadership positions at Upstate including: Trauma Program Medical Director, Surgical Director of Critical Care and Division Chief of Trauma and Critical Care.

Dr Hassan is well known in the Upstate community as a caring, collegial and technically gifted surgeon. In addition to developing a busy referral practice for complex hernia surgery, one of his most significant accomplishments over the last seven years was the development of an Acute Care Surgery service at Upstate University Hospital. The ACS service was developed to expedite the surgical evaluation and care of patients with "urgent surgical conditions". In conjunction with the general surgery faculty, the ACS service provides 24/7 care for Upstate patients with emergency surgery conditions. Over the next year Dr Hassan plans to enhance the education aspects of this service and focus on developing evidence-based management algorithms to reduce hospital length of stay by minimizing variability and time to definitive treatment. .

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Hassan to this new leadership position at Upstate.

Robert Dunton, MD
Informational

It is with great pleasure we welcome **Robert F Dunton, MD** as the Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery at the Upstate Medical University effective September 15, 2014. Bob will succeed Dr. Greg Fink as the Chief of Cardiac Surgery at Upstate. I would like to thank Greg for his many contributions to Cardiac Surgery at Upstate over the last 14 years. Greg will be working closely with Bob and Columbia Heartsource to rebuild cardiac surgery services at Upstate.

Following graduation from Albany Medical College, Bob completed his General Surgery training at Hartford Hospital and went on to complete his training in Cardiothoracic Surgery at the Deaconess Hospital in Boston, MA. Bob has held academic appointments at Harvard, Dartmouth, Tufts, University of Kansas and Columbia, and has served in leadership roles in several cardiovascular programs, including the Northern New England Cardiovascular Diseases Study Group and the Virginia Cardiovascular Surgery Quality Initiative. He is a member of the American College of Surgeons and the Society of Thoracic Surgery. Over the last 26 years he has worked as a Cardiothoracic Surgeon in Portsmouth VA, Concord NH,

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Wichita, KS and Boston MA and developed a reputation as a thoughtful clinician who is technically skilled and works well as part of a multidisciplinary cardiovascular care team.

Dr Dunton moved to Syracuse in September 2012 and has held a part time position in Cardiothoracic Surgery at Upstate since his arrival. Over the last two years he served as the Chief of Surgery at the Syracuse VAMC. He will now be full time at Upstate Medical University while continuing to provide thoracic surgical coverage at the VAMC. The specialty of Cardiothoracic Surgery is at a crossroads nationally and particularly in our hospital. The changing nature of the specialty and market force changes has had an impact and present challenges which are unique and need seasoned and time tested leadership. Dr Dunton fits the bill perfectly and will provide the much needed stability and direction to both Cardiac and Thoracic Surgery. I am confident that he will inspire confidence not only in members of the Cardiothoracic Surgical team but also among Cardiology and Pulmonary colleagues here at Upstate and outside.

The affiliation with Columbia Heart Source represents a major initiative to enhance programmatic growth in cardiovascular services at Upstate. I am confident that Bob's leadership and plans for programmatic development with Heartsource will foster the dawn of a new era in Cardiothoracic Surgery here at Upstate.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Dunton to this new role.

Mandatory Flu Vaccinations for Medical Staff

[Applies to All Physicians](#)

Influenza
Informational

Last month, the Medical Staff affiliated with Upstate University Hospital voted to make mandatory that all physicians be immunized against influenza on an annual basis. A few days ago, Dr. Mitchell Brodey, Interim President of the Medical Staff, sent a memorandum detailing the rationale for the mandate and the consequences of non-compliance. If you have any specific questions regarding this change in Bylaws, please contact Dr. Brodey at mbrodey@fcmg.org.

Although this is an action of the Medical Staff and not of the Hospital, I want to lend my voice of support for the importance of this requirement. Last year only 78 percent of physicians here at Upstate reported vaccination against influenza, a strikingly low number when compared to our colleagues at other academic medical centers. Not only is non vaccination a potential risk to the patients we serve, but it also sets a poor example for the residents we train and students we teach regarding the important role that physicians play in maintaining a healthy environment. I am excited that the Medical Staff has taken this strong stance and am hopeful it will have positive affects in reducing the transmission of influenza here in Central New York.

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