

# Vascular Surgery Fellowship Program

## University of Wisconsin, Madison

---

Paul D. DiMusto, MD

Associate Professor of Surgery

Program Director, Vascular Surgery

Division of Vascular Surgery

University of Wisconsin, Madison



# Our Mission

---

- To train the **future leaders** in Vascular Surgery
  - Compassionate physicians
  - Technical excellence
  - Mature judgement
  - Leadership skills
  - Research experience



# Departmental Leadership

---



**Rebecca M. Minter, MD**  
A.R. Curreri Distinguished Professor  
Chair, Department of Surgery



**John E. Rectenwald, MD**  
Susan Behrens MD (Class of 1975)  
Surgery Education Chair  
Vice Chair of Education  
Interim Chair, Division of Vascular Surgery



**Girma Tefera, MD**  
Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery  
Vice Chair of Global Surgery

# Program Leadership

---



**Paul D. DiMusto, MD**  
Associate Professor  
Program Director, Vascular Residency  
& Fellowship



**Kyla M. Bennett, MD**  
Associate Professor  
Associate Program Director, Vascular  
Residency & Fellowship

# What is Special about Surgical Training at Wisconsin?

- Breadth of advanced clinical experience
- Depth of faculty experience across fields
- Diversity of training backgrounds of the faculty
- Commitment to resident education
  - Progressive educational opportunities
- Commitment to resident research and academic development
- Commitment to development of leadership skills
- 50/50 Complex open/endovascular case mix





# Global Vascular Surgery: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

- Began in 2018
- The first vascular residency in Africa (outside South Africa)
- Opportunity for PGY-6 Vascular fellow to rotate for 1 month when UW faculty present
- Board approval to count towards training



# Programs and Clinical Trials

---

- Limb Salvage Angioplasty Program
- Hemodialysis Access
  - Percutaneous AV Fistula
- Thoracic Outlet Syndrome
- Complex Thoracic Endograft Program
- Fenestrated EVAR Program
- BEST CLI Trial
- GORE® TAG® Thoracic Branch Endoprosthesis (TBE)
- GORE TAMBE Trial
- CREST 2 Trial; CEA vs CAS vs Medical Management

# Research within the Division

---

- Division of Vascular Surgery has funded faculty researchers!
    - NIH, AHA, PCORI, NPCRC, etc.
  - Basic Science - AAA - Dr. Liu
  - Outcomes - WiSOR
  - Data and Data Analysis - Dr. Bennett
  - AAA - Dr. Yamanouchi
  - Global Surgery - Dr. Tefera
  - Bioethics, Studies to change clinical practice - Dr. Schwarze
  - Clinical Trials - Gore Core Lab, BEST-CLI, TEVAR/EVAR, etc...
- 
- Vascular Residency now requires 2 years of mandatory research after PGY2 clinical year.



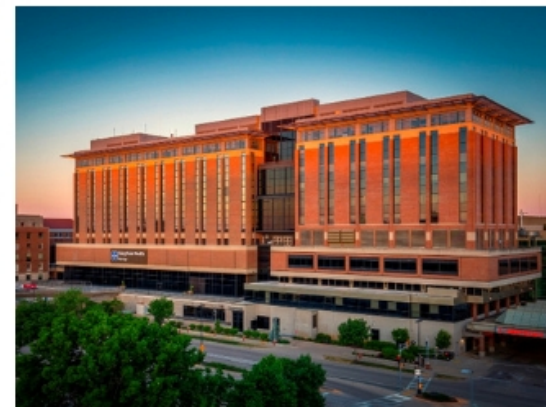
# Vascular Surgery Fellowship

---

- Provide incremental, progressive training in vascular surgery (VS) during the two-year program
- Four integrated sites:
  - University Hospital
  - William S. Middleton VA Hospital (connected by corridor)
  - Meriter Hospital (10 minute drive)
  - Arbor Gate Vein Center (15 minute drive)
- Affiliated Rotations:
  - UW Health Northern Illinois - Swedish American Hospital in Rockford, IL

## MAJOR CLINICAL FACILITIES

- UW Hospital - 505 beds
- Meriter Hospital - 450 beds
- Veterans Hospital - 90 beds
- American Family Children's Hospital - 87 beds
- East Madison Hospital - 56 beds





# UW Health Main Campus



# University Hospital



- Tertiary referral center
- Hybrid operating room
- Dedicated OR Team
- Cardiovascular Anesthesia
- Closed SICU
- Dedicated IMC/general care floor
- Vascular lab
- Any vascular operation can be done here
- Faculty are “on service” for the week
- Two APPs during the week, one on weekends



# VA Hospital

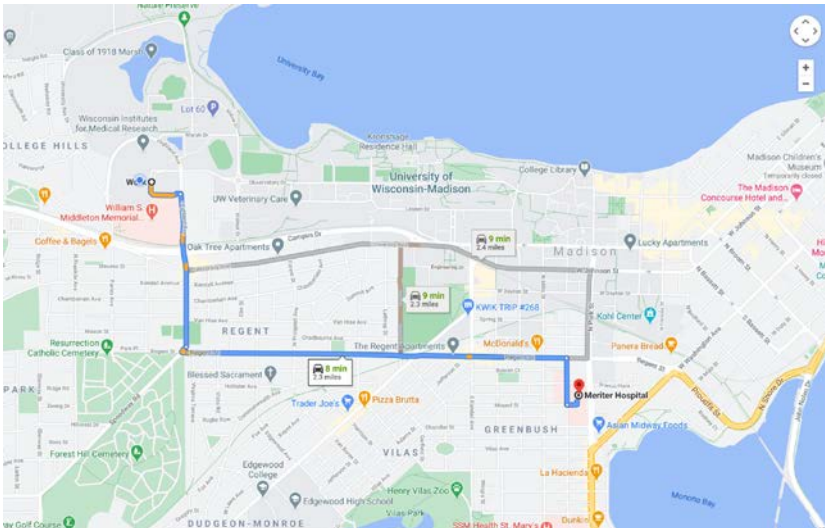
---

- Hybrid Operating Room
- Weekly Clinic
- Vascular Lab
- Almost all vascular procedures done here
  - Complex aortic surgery done at the University
- Inpatient and outpatient APP support





# Meriter Hospital



- Community hospital
  - JOA with UW
- Dedicated Vascular Service
  - Senior vascular trainee and general surgery PGY 3
  - APP support during the week
  - APP, general surgery, and vascular lab residents help cover weekends
- Peripheral endovascular, dialysis access, varicose vein, carotid endarterectomy
- Faculty “on service” for a week

# UW Health Northern Illinois, SwedishAmerican Hospital



- 357 beds
- New ICU and moderate care tower
- New Women and Children's tower
- Level II Trauma Center
- 3 vascular surgeons and 2 APPs
- 75 miles from Madison
- Practice the spectrum of community vascular surgery
- Complex procedures referred to Madison

# Vascular Surgery Fellowship Curriculum

---

- Follow the Vascular SCORE (VSCORE) for our weekly didactic curriculum
  - Topics/schedule known in advance to allow for pre-reading
  - Interactive lectures given by faculty and residents
- Indications and M&M conference alternate weekly
- Monthly multi-disciplinary Complex Aortic Disease Conference
- Faculty-sponsored Monthly Journal Club
- Monthly simulation sessions – FEVS curriculum
- UCLA/SVS Vascular Review Course in September of PGY 6
- RPVI Exam in PGY 7 year (Division covers cost)

# Vascular Rotations PGY 6 and PGY 7

---

- UW Vascular Service (12 months total)
- 6 two-month blocks over the PGY 6 & 7 years
  - Fellows work opposite the senior residents (ACGME rule)
  - Vascular PGY 2 or 3 also on service
  - General Surgery PGY 1
  - Inpatient APP support
- Do the range of vascular surgery – particularly complex open, endovascular and hybrid procedures
- Night and weekend call q4 from home – shared with the other senior trainees
- Trauma team sees the ER consults at night and staffs them directly with the faculty

# Vascular Rotations PGY 6 and PGY 7

---

- **Meriter Rotation (6 months total\*)**
- 3 two-month blocks as chief over the PGY 6 & 7 years
  - General surgery PGY 3 and APPs
- Endovascular and open arterial cases
- Vein care in the Vein Clinic at Arbor Gate
- Clinic time at 1 South Park clinic
- Rockford rotation during this time
- IR rotation one month
- Ethiopia rotation would be during this time
- Share night and weekend call with the other senior residents (q4)



# Vascular Rotations PGY 6 and PGY 7

---

- **VA Rotation (6 months total)**
- 3 two-month blocks as chief over the PGY 6 & 7 years
  - APPs, occasional general surgery PGY 1
- Responsible for running the service
  - Faculty rotate by the day
- Complete range of vascular surgery cases
- Run the outpatient clinic with faculty supervision (1 day/week)
- Share night and weekend call with the other senior residents (q4)

# Vascular Call

---

- Backup night-float intern from home every 4th night during week
- Work every 4<sup>th</sup> weekend (in rotation with other senior trainees)
- Weekend Midlevel NP support at UH

# Policy on V-SITE

---

- Vascular Surgery In-service Training Exam
- Exam is required both Fellowship years
- Preparation for the Vascular Surgery Qualifying (“Written”) examination.



**Department of Surgery**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

*Remarkable People, Remarkable Results.*