

Surgeon Volunteers to Treat Injured Soldiers

Alexandre C. d'Audiffret, MD, associate professor of surgery, volunteered to fill a slot in the surgery rotation of Landstuhl



Regional Medical Center at Ramstein Air Force Base in Germany where many of the soldiers injured in Iraq and Afghanistan are treated.

Dr. d'Audiffret began his stint July 4 and returned July 19. He joined 51 other members of the Society for Vascular

Surgery (SVS) in relieving the limited number of vascular surgeons in the military who are filling positions in military hospitals in the United States and internationally.

"Our members understand how important expert surgeons are to the military in saving the lives and limbs of these young military heroes," said K. Wayne Johnston, SVS past president. "We were contacted by SVS member retired Col. David Gillespie, who at the time was the vascular surgery consultant, Office of the U.S. Army

Surgeon General, and a professor of surgery at Walter Reed Medical Center, and our members quickly responded. I am proud to represent a specialty that unselfishly contributes where they are needed."

Injuries incurred in the Iraq war are unique in that they include blast injuries from IEDs (improvised explosive devices) and high-velocity injuries from crashes. Vascular surgeons repair the damaged arteries and veins that are injured as a result of the IEDs, using both minimally invasive and open surgery.



Niles Charon, PhD, (far right), talks with his former graduate school classmate, William Ramsey, PhD, (center), and their former PhD advisor, Russell Johnson, PhD, of the University of Minnesota Department of Microbiology.

Bioscientists Gather to Honor Charon

More than 100 researchers from across the globe gathered in Morgantown June 6 to exchange information about the latest studies of spirochetes, a form of bacteria best known as the cause of Lyme disease, syphilis, and diseases of livestock and other animals.

The meeting was held at WVU to honor the lifelong work of Nyles Charon, PhD, whose research since his arrival at WVU in 1974 has made him one of the leaders in the field.

In more than three decades of work at WVU, he has served as principal investigator on several million dollars worth of competitively funded research projects that produced scores of published

papers in highly prestigious peer-reviewed journals. His current research is centered on a specific bacterium, *Borrelia burgdorferi*, which causes Lyme disease.

He was awarded the School of Medicine Dean's Award for Research in 2006. He has also taught microbiology courses to hundreds of medical and dental students.

Justin Radolf, MD, of the University of Connecticut Health Center, helped plan the event. "Nyles has been inspirational to many people in the profession," Dr. Radolf said. "It's not just the research he's done or the papers he's published. He's fostered the field, he's championed great science and he's trained outstanding scientists."

Doyle to Serve on Roundtable

Edward Doyle, MD, professor in the Department of Community Medicine, has been selected to serve as a member of the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) Roundtable on Environmental Health Sciences, Research, and Medicine. His appointment begins immediately and ends December 2011.

The IOM's Roundtable provides a structured opportunity for communication among interested parties from a variety of government, academic, industry, and consumer groups in a neutral setting. Specific agenda topics are determined by the Roundtable membership and focus on broad areas of environmental health.

Driver Named Chair of Anesthesiology

Richard Driver, MD, has been named chair of the Department of Anesthesiology. Driver has most recently served as interim chair of the department. He is also the director of the anesthesiology residency program, as well as the director of obstetric anesthesiology.