Dr. John Hansbrough was born in Virginia, graduated from the University of Wisconsin with Honors in Chemistry and attended Harvard Medical School where he graduated Magna Cum Laude in 1972. During this time, he began his career in basic science and his M.D. thesis involved the isolation and purification of RNA from lymphoid tissue.

He subsequently completed his internship and general surgery residency at the University of Colorado and then joined its faculty at University of Colorado where he quickly rose to Associate Professor of Surgery while directing the Surgical Intensive Care Unit, the Emergency Department, and the Burn Unit. During this time, he continued his fundamental interest in basic research and was recruited to UCSD in 1984 as Director of the UCSD Burn Center.

For 17 years, he single-handedly developed the UCSD Burn Unit into an internationally recognized center that not only emphasized excellence in care but opened the frontier for describing the immunosuppressive effects of injury, and the challenge of developing wound coverage using artificial skin.

Dr. Hansbrough was instrumental in developing alternative skin substitutes and, after years of collaboration with both NIH, basic scientists, and industry, he was singularly responsible for the development of Dermograft-TC which has become a standard tissue coverage.

During his career, he had continuous extramural funding, served on the editorial board of every major journal related to injury care and participated in visiting professorships throughout the world.

Dr. Hansbrough’s commitment to research was classical. He took clinical problems for which he was directly responsible and aggressively pursued solutions which led to real changes in care. He was truly a renaissance surgeon.

His interests were not limited to clinical care and biology. He was deeply interested in ongoing education and the rehabilitation of the injured patient. During the course of his career, he developed resources including a burn camp for injured children and was awarded the Chancellor’s Associate Award for Community Service at UCSD. In addition, he was visionary in developing a video-based learning center which focused on teaching patients the difficulties of dealing with burn injury and was intimately involved in training residents and peers in the fundamentals of burn care.

As a tribute to his efforts, a CD demonstrating the fundamentals of burn care was distributed to all physicians caring for soldiers placed in harm’s way during the Iraq Gulf War conflict of the 1990s.

John was quiet, but an internally passionate physician. His commitment to his family was the focus of his life. His dedication to the care of the injured patient was amplified because of this.

Dr. Hansbrough’s untimely death left a huge void in the Department of Surgery, throughout UCSD, and in the San Diego community. His loss extended internationally and was recognized by a special award from the American Burn Association. He was in line to become president. John gave of himself much more than he received. He saw this as his responsibility to medicine and to the injured patient. Perhaps this alone is his legacy. Dr. Hansbrough was one of the truly great surgeons of his time.
Steven E. Wolf, M.D.
The Bob and Betty Kelso Distinguished Chair in Burn and Trauma Surgery, Vice Chairman for Research and Professor, Department of Surgery, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA)

Steven E. Wolf, M.D. is the Bob and Betty Kelso Distinguished Chair in Burn and Trauma Surgery, Vice Chairman for Research and Professor in the Department of Surgery at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA). He serves as Chair for the Institutional Review Board UTHSCSA. He is Burn Surgeon and Chief of Clinical Research at the United States Army Institute of Surgical Research at Fort Sam Houston and Pediatric Burn Program Director at University Hospital. Dr. Wolf received his medical degree from UTMB Galveston and completed his post graduate training at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and at Shriners Hospital for Children in Galveston. Dr. Wolf has previously held the position of Director of the US Army Institute of Surgical Research Burn Center at Brooke Army Medical Center and Assistant Chief of Staff at Shriners Hospital for Children. He has authored over 150 peer reviewed publications and is nationally and internationally recognized for his work in burn and trauma care and regenerative medicine. Dr. Wolf received the 2009 Health Care Heroes Outstanding Physician Award. Dr. Wolf is Editor-in-Chief of Burns and on the editorial boards of Journal of Burn Care and Rehabilitation and Surgery News.

Welcome
Mark A. Talamini, M.D.
The M.J. Orloff Family Professor & Chairman, Department of Surgery, University of California, San Diego

Remembering John F. Hansbrough, M.D.
Bruce Potenza, M.D.
Professor of Surgery, Director of Clinical Burn Care, Department of Surgery, University of California, San Diego

Introduction of Guest Speaker
Raul Coimbra, M.D., Ph.D., F.A.C.S.
The Monroe E. Trout Professor of Surgery, Executive Vice-Chairman, Department of Surgery, Chief, Division of Trauma, Surgical Critical Care, and Burns, University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine

The Eighth Annual John F. Hansbrough Memorial Lecture
"Burn Care 2010: Lessons and Advances from Combat Casualties"

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