



SSC/AASA Joint Session: HOW BIG IS TOO BIG? **Friday, October 22, 2021**



Gilbert R. Upchurch Jr., MD, FACS, is the Edward M. Copeland, III and Ann & Ira Horowitz Chair of the University of Florida (UF) Department of Surgery. He joined UF in 2017 with an international reputation as an acclaimed clinician, researcher and educator in the study and treatment of vascular disease, especially aortic disease. In addition to his role as Chair, Dr. Upchurch serves on the Shands Hospital Board and President of the Faculty Group Practice.

Earning his medical degree at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, Dr Upchurch trained at Harvard University's Brigham and Women's Hospital, as well the Cleveland Clinic. Prior to joining UF, Dr. Upchurch served as the chief of vascular and endovascular surgery in the department of surgery and the medical director of the Heart and Vascular Center at the University of Virginia, where he was also the William H. Muller Jr. professor of surgery. Prior to moving to Charlottesville, VA, Dr. Upchurch spent 11 years at the University of Michigan going from Assistant Professor to the Doan Professor of Surgery and Director of the Aortic Center.



Lonm McDowell MHA, FACHE, FACMPE, is the Vice Chair and Director of Administration for the University of Florida Department of Surgery. Prior to his current role, his experience included working as a director for an international healthcare consulting firm, serving as the Chief Operating Officer of a large multispecialty practice, Chief Executive Officer of a cardiovascular physician practice as well as serving in executive leadership positions within other medical groups and integrated health systems. He is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives, and a Fellow in the American College of Medical Practice Executives. He has participated in many committees of the Association of Academic Surgical Administrators and has held various appointments on the Board of Directors, including President of the organization in 2020. He has also been an adjunct instructor for the University of Florida's Masters of Health Administration program since 2005, served as a preceptor for UF MHA administrative interns for several years and current holds an affiliate professorship appointment in the program. He received both his MHA and BS from the University of Florida.



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Nita Ahuja, MD, MBA, FACS joined Yale School of Medicine in 2008 as the Department of Surgery's first female chair. A world-renowned surgical oncologist and clinician scientist, Dr. Ahuja has developed an international reputation for the management of gastrointestinal cancers and sarcomas, as well as for her seminal research in cancer epigenetics. She is a passionate advocate for her patients and a champion of multidisciplinary care. In 2020, Dr. Ahuja was appointed Chair of the Yale Medicine Faculty Practice Plan. She currently serves as interim director for Smilow Cancer Hospital, Smilow Care Centers, and the Yale Cancer Center.

Dr. Ahuja was recruited to Yale from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, where she served as division chief of surgical oncology, vice chair of academic affairs and associate director of surgical oncology of the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins. Her NIH-funded laboratory focuses on developing novel cancer therapies and predictive biomarkers for colorectal and pancreas cancers. She is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine, and has published over 200 papers and book chapters contributing to the fields of both clinical surgery and translational science.

Dr. Ahuja's vision for Yale Surgery—to lead as the preeminent academic surgical system, supported by excellence in clinical care, research, and education—is founded on the core values of collaboration and caring.



Julie Ann Sosa, MD MA FACS MAMSE FSSO is the Leon Goldman MD Distinguished Professor of Surgery and Chair of the Department of Surgery at the University of California San Francisco (UCSF), where she is also a Professor in the Department of Medicine and affiliated faculty for the Philip R. Lee Institute for Health Policy Studies. Dr Sosa came to UCSF in 2018 from Duke. Her clinical interest is in endocrine surgery, with a focus in thyroid cancer.