Conferences
Didactic conferences with close interaction between faculty, residents, and medical students are hallmarks of effective teaching. The Department of Urology provides a rich calendar of such learning opportunities designed, not only to address the ACGME mandated competencies of Patient Care, Medical Knowledge, Practice-Based Learning, Interpersonal Communication Skills, Professionalism, and Systems-Based Practice, but also prepare them for the radiology and pathology portions of Part I of the American Board of Urology Examination, heighten their understanding of and promote participation in research taking place at the institution, and familiarize them more intimately with the different urologic subspecialties as well as expose them to the local private practice urologists to better enable them to make decisions regarding their options for fellowship and/or academic practice after residency versus a private practice career.

All conferences are posted in the monthly conference schedule. The urology schedule is also posted on-line for ready access dates, times, locations, and any changes. To access the on-line calendar, go to: [http://urology.uthscsa.edu/conf_schedule_current.html](http://urology.uthscsa.edu/conf_schedule_current.html) click on the top of the list of calendars and it will take you to the previous or next month.

TEACHING CONFERENCES
GRAND ROUNDS
Time/Location: 1st – 3rd Monday of every month at 5:00pm
Location: 444B, Medical School
Responsible Faculty: Joseph Basler, MD
Invited speakers from UTHSCSA and other academic institutions give a one hour lecture reviewing the topic for which they are a recognized expert. They may also present their current clinical or basic science research rationale, approach, and results to the residents, faculty, clinical nurse specialists, physician assistants, and area private practice urologists.

PYELOGRAM IVP
Time/Location: 1st – 3rd Monday of every month at 6:00pm
Location: 444B, Medical School
Responsible Faculty: Joseph Basler, MD
This conference has a case presentation format that mimics part III of the ABU examination. Interesting and challenging cases are presented by senior residents to others unfamiliar with the specific details. Residents are encouraged to develop a methodical approach to evaluation, management and problem solving. Their core knowledge is tested as well as their ability to ‘think on their feet’ in working through the case. Faculty in attendance is encouraged to use a variety of teaching methods to bring out the salient issues and areas of controversy. Two to three cases are presented per conference.

JOURNAL CLUB:
(See monthly schedule for reading assignment)
Frequency: Last Monday of the Month
Location: 221E – Johnson Center
Responsible Faculty: Robert Marcovich, MD
All residents will read articles in Journal of Urology or other articles in journals (e.g., Urology, BJU, Prostate, Endourology, Andrology, NEJM, JAMA) assigned by the faculty as part of their personal home study routine. At monthly Journal Club, all
residents will be asked at random to summarize articles and will be asked to categorize the methodology of the study (e.g., case series, controlled, blinded, etc.), appropriateness of the statistical analysis, alternative study designs that might better answer the hypothesis presented by the authors, and how, if any, the article(s) would change their clinical practice. A subscription to Journal of Urology is provided by the Department of Urology. Other Journals are available on-line as part of the University Library system.

MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY CONFERENCE:
Frequency: Last Monday of the Month
Location: 221E – Johnson Center
Responsible Faculty: Joseph Basler, MD
All Adult and Pediatric Morbidity and Mortality cases are presented by the PGY-4 or PGY-5 residents on the corresponding rotations. The clinical course, complication, and outcome are presented followed by discussion by all faculty and residents to designate any point in the clinical course that the complication could have been avoided, what actions could have prevented or minimized the complication, and how to prevent such complications in the future. **A modified version of the VA QA Case reporting form is used to report the group consensus and identify systems-based problems that may contribute to future problems.**

URODYNAMICS CONFERENCE:
Frequency: 1st and 3rd Friday of every month
Location: 221E – Johnson Center
Responsible Faculty: Dr. Stephen Kraus
An introductory lecture to the principals and technical aspects of urodynamics will be followed by subsequent lectures in which the clinical histories of patients with voiding dysfunction are presented and tracings, values, and fluoroscopic images of their urodynamic testing are displayed. Residents are called upon to interpret the urodynamics. Once a consensus interpretation is agreed upon, another resident may be called upon to propose treatment plans. These suggestions are discussed and potential alternatives presented. Typically, 3 to 6 cases are discussed over the course of the hour.

URO-ONCOLOGY CONFERENCE:
Frequency: 2nd, 4th and 5th Friday of every month
Location: 221E – Johnson Center
Responsible Faculty: UroOncology Fellow
Lectures are presented by UTHSCSA faculty and SUO Fellow. Often these lectures are scheduled to reinforce the information in the Campbell’s textbook. Not only do urology faculty present various oncologic urologic disease processes, but the research faculty present the background, methodology, results, and clinical correlation of their basic science studies in respect to UroOncology. Occasional visiting professors are invited to speak on an area of Oncologic expertise.
PRE-OPERATIVE PLANNING CONFERENCE
Time: Every Wednesday at 7:00am
Location: 239D – C&SB Conference Room
Responsible Faculty: Ian Thompson, MD
All Adult and Pediatric surgical cases from the VA, Santa Rosa and University Hospital (other than emergencies) for the following week are presented at pre-op planning conference. Cases are presented by the residents on each of the corresponding rotations. Residents compile the patient history, present requisite radiology studies, and discuss the proposed treatment planning including the operative approach. The indications, alternatives, potential additional studies required, and expected surgical outcomes of each case are discussed at length with input from all faculty. A short didactic review of a pertinent topic is presented periodically to emphasize teaching points. The latter is usually presented by the MS-3 or MS-4 on the service.

PATHOLOGY CONFERENCE
Time: 1st Monday of Every month 7:00 am
Location: UH Pathology Conference Room
Responsible Faculty: Dr. Jamie Furman
A designated Pathology faculty presents specimens from surgical cases with discussion of histologic features, common treatment and outcomes expectations. This provides the residents with unique continuity of care experience.

TUMOR CONFERENCE
Time: Bi-weekly at 5:00 pm
Location: 239 D-VA or CTRC
Responsible Faculty: Dr. Joseph Basler, Dr. Ian Thompson
This conference focuses on discussion of complex cases in Urologic Oncology. A true multidisciplinary conference, the medical oncologists, radiation oncologists and urologists discuss cases presented by the residents and fellows. The conference functions in direct patient care activities and as a sounding board for resident questions and direction.

PROCEDURE LAB CONFERENCE
Time: Varies
Location: 221E – Johnson Center
Responsible Faculty: All
This is a new conference being developed at various sites in the medical center (including the Johnson Center for Surgical Learning IN THE SURGERY DEPARTMENT AT UTHSCSA) that emphasizes development of technical skills and patient safety in various areas of Urology. The skills lab is in the planning stages but will eventually meet weekly for demonstration and training in selected aspects of urologic procedures and surgery. Recently, the endoscopic skills lab brought in representatives from several companies involved in the manufacture of urologic equipment and supplies. Each representative provided equipment and instruction on a one-on-one basis so that the resident could more clearly understand its function and safe use. This included training in Holmium laser systems, ureteroscopic deviced, cystoscopic resection/biopsy devices and various stents. The most recent effort included a one-on-one hands on demonstration and skills training in basic robotics technique (suturing, basic dissection, etc) utilizing the new DaVinci Robotics unit at
SRNW. This was attended by all residents as was a success.

RESEARCH CONFERENCE
Time: Weekly at 7:00 am
Location: C7SB Conference Room
Responsible Faculty: Research Faculty
The research faculty meet to discuss both the clinical and basic research activities in the department. While mostly administrative, there are presentations of data and updates on pertinent clinical and basic science topics presented periodically. Resident participation is optional but encouraged for residents on the research rotations.

UROLOGY SAN ANTONIO CASE CONFERENCE
Time: Weekly
Location: Private Office of Urology San Antonio
Responsible Faculty: Dr. Juan Reyna
This conference is held in the offices of the private practice group associated with Methodist Hospital. Attending surgeons present interesting cases for group discussion and recommendations. Residents on the Methodist rotation are encouraged to attend and discuss their perspectives on the cases.

URODYNAMICS COURSE
Time: Annually
Responsible Faculty: Dr. Stephen Kraus
This course occurs annually as a SUNA sponsored training course for nurses and professional staff. It is taught by the nurses and physician staff from UTHSCSA providing didactics, a course handout of UDS procedures and hands on training. Registration costs for one or more interested residents is supplied annually.

VISITING PROFESSORS
Visiting Professors are invited annually for the year end chief resident’s graduation celebration. This usually involves an internationally known professor with expertise in a specific area of Urology who presents several lectures, may operate with the chief residents and hosts a patient presentation seminar to test the resident’s knowledge base and skills. Additional visiting professors are invited for ad hoc conferences throughout the year. In general, all resident clinical responsibilities are suspended for the time of the conferences.

RESIDENT FEEDBACK MEETINGS (Educational Portfolio Updates)
Time: Quarterly
Responsible Faculty: Dr. Joseph Basler
These meetings are held quarterly to allow the residents an open forum to discuss improvement projects to enhance the residency program. This time is also open for the Program Director to announce any changes or coming events to the program or department as a whole. The meeting is one hour and is followed by individual resident to program director meeting. This meeting is to update each resident’s educational portfolio or check progress on the current set of goals and objectives set forth by the resident.