

POST-OP

*News update from the
Department of Surgery*

*Stony Brook University
School of Medicine*

Introducing Dr. Mark A. Talamini, Our New Chairman of Surgery

Renowned Surgeon and Leader; Authority in Minimally Invasive Surgery



PHOTO: JEANNE NEVILLE

“I am honored to have the opportunity to serve the Department of Surgery at Stony Brook to fulfill the surgical aspect of the Stony Brook Medicine vision.”

Dr. Mark A. Talamini

We are very pleased to introduce Mark A. Talamini, MD, who in September joined our faculty as chairman of surgery.

Dr. Talamini came to Stony Brook from the University of California, San Diego, where he led the surgery department for the past eight years. He is the Stony Brook Department of Surgery's fifth chairman since its establishment in 1974.

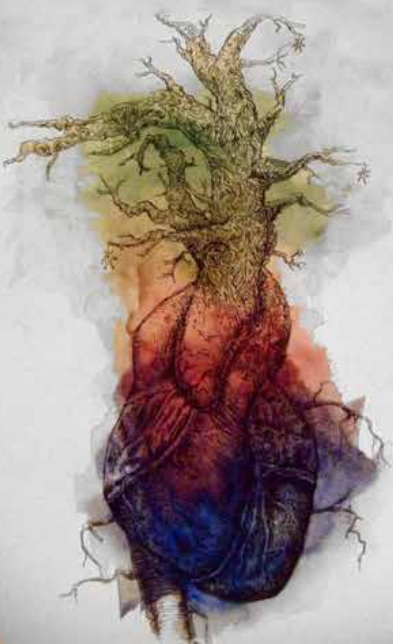
In addition to his position as chairman of surgery, Dr. Talamini will also serve Stony Brook Medicine as founding director of the Stony Brook Medical Innovation Institute, where he will be charged with developing and testing new techniques and devices that solve challenges in surgical and procedurally-based medical, pediatric, and radiological specialties.

“Through his myriad accomplishments, Dr. Talamini has become a national and internationally-known surgeon as well as a highly respected innovator, researcher, and teacher,” says Kenneth Kaushansky, MD, dean of the Stony Brook University School of Medicine.

“With his remarkable clinical expertise and leadership skills, Dr. Talamini will be an inspirational mentor to our medical students, surgical residents, and young faculty members, while helping Stony Brook reach its goal of creating a world-class medical center.”

Dr. Talamini specializes in gastrointestinal surgery, with an emphasis on the treatment of inflammatory bowel disease (Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis). He is considered a pioneer in minimally invasive

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Introducing Dr. Mark A. Talamini

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abdominal surgery, and is recognized as one of the leading authorities on laparoscopic and robotic-assisted surgery in the United States.

A native of New Jersey, Dr. Talamini received his undergraduate and medical degrees from Johns Hopkins University, and remained at Hopkins to perform his surgical residency. He spent a year at the University of Cincinnati for fellowship training in surgical nutrition, before returning to Hopkins for his chief surgical residency and then joined the faculty there. His area of surgical expertise is gastrointestinal and minimally invasive surgery. A surgical innovator and prolific scholar, he rapidly rose through the academic ranks at Hopkins to become professor of surgery.

MODEL OF GREAT ACADEMIC SURGEON

Recognized for his expertise in advanced laparoscopic surgery, Dr. Talamini was appointed director of minimally invasive surgery at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, a post he held from 1992 to 2004. He was one of the first surgeons there to use robotic-assisted laparoscopic techniques for general abdominal procedures such as gallbladder removal and treatment of gastroesophageal reflux.

In 2005, Dr. Talamini was recruited by UC San Diego to lead the Department of Surgery. In 2008, his surgical team gained worldwide attention for pioneering natural orifice transluminal endoscopic surgery (NOTES), the practice of removing diseased organs through natural body openings. Part of the UC San Diego Center for the Future of Surgery, the team was the first in the United States to remove an appendix through the mouth.

In partnership with engineers and computer scientists, he and his team developed a new surgical camera that boasts auto focus and optical zoom. Designed for NOTES, the prototype—called SurgiCam—can be inserted through a half-inch incision to provide enhanced visual imaging.



With more than 200 scholarly publications to his name, Dr. Talamini is the editor of *Advanced Therapy in Minimally Invasive Surgery* (2006), an in-depth exploration of new and emerging surgical practices.

He serves on the editorial boards of multiple surgical journals, and is editor-in-chief of *Surgical Endoscopy*, one of the highest impact general surgery journals. From 2008 to 2009, he served as president of the Society of American Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Surgeons. He has also held key roles with the American College of Surgeons and the Association for Academic Surgery.

About his new position here, Dr. Talamini says, “The Department of Surgery at Stony Brook has a strong and longstanding tradition of excellence. I am honored to have the opportunity to serve the Department of Surgery at Stony Brook to fulfill the surgical aspect of the Stony Brook Medicine vision.”

In his first official public appearance as our chairman, Dr. Talamini delivered the prestigious Excelsior Surgical Society/Edward D. Churchill Lecture on “Surgery & Technology: A Complicated Partnership” at the 2013 American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress, held in October in Washington, DC.

MESSAGE FROM DR. MARK A. TALAMINI

“I believe that departments of surgery have their greatest impact through innovation and excellence. The Department of Surgery at Stony Brook Medicine has a long tradition of surgical excellence. This tradition provides a strong foundation on which we can further define and practice surgical excellence.”

“The Department of Surgery at Stony Brook has great potential to improve surgical care through innovation in the coming years. Why?”

“First, we have a spectacular faculty brimming with energy and creativity. Second, we are part of a major university with great strength in engineering and computer sciences. In particular, our bioengineering department is deeply engaged in device and procedural innovation. Third, we are located on Long Island, where the development of new ideas can be fostered.”

“I am tremendously excited about putting all of these pieces together and seeing great success here in our efforts to advance surgery and patient care.”