

*The agenda is approved for 6.50 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™

Saturday, May 16th, 2026

- 7:30 AM **Breakfast**
- 8:15 AM **Welcome / SCW State of the Organization**
Dr. Elise Lawson
- 8:30 AM **Strengthening Rural Surgery in Wisconsin**
Dr. Annie Zeug – *Moderator*
Dr. Mel Johnson – *Training the Next Generation of Rural Surgeons*
Jeremy Levin – *Advocacy, Policy, and Workforce Challenges in Rural Surgery*
Dr. Jill Ties – *National Trends and Opportunities in Rural Surgical Care*
- 9:45 AM **BREAK**
- 10:00 AM **Reducing Low-Value Surgical Care – An initiative to reduce preoperative testing for low-risk patients undergoing low-risk surgery**
Dr. Chey Collura
- 10:30 AM **OncoLLM and Generative AI for Clinical Trial Matching**
Dr. Anai Kothari
- 11:00 AM **Endoscopic Essentials for the General Surgeon**
Dr. Luis Lomeli - *Diagnosis and management of UGI conditions seen on endoscopy*
Dr. Patrick Pfau - *Colonoscopy challenges: management of difficult polyps, GI bleeds, and colitis*
- 12:00 PM **Lunch**
- 1:15 PM **Optimizing Ventral Hernia Repair: Review of Challenging Cases**
Dr. Victoria Rendell, Dr. Matthew Goldblatt, and Dr. Wen Hui Tan
- 2:15 PM **BREAK**
- 2:20 PM **Breast Cancer Case Conference: Surgical Decision-Making in Real Time**
Dr. Chandler Cortina, Dr. Amanda Kong, Dr. Meeghan Lautner, and Dr. Joseph Weber
- 3:20 PM **BREAK**
- 3:30 PM **Practical Tips for Creation and Management of Challenging Ostomies**
Dr. David Nelms, Dr. Ana De Roo, Emily Staudt, and Melissa Mitchell
- 4:30 PM **Cocktail Hour (families are encouraged to join!)**
- 5:30 PM **Dinner (families are encouraged to join!)**

Speaker Information

Chey Collura, MD, FACS

Assistant Professor
Division of Acute Care and Regional General Surgery
UW School of Medicine & Public Health

Chandler Cortina, MD, MS, FSSO, FACS

Associate Professor, Division of Surgical Oncology
Froedtert & Medical College of Wisconsin

Ana De Roo, MD, MSc, FACS

Assistant Professor, Division of Colorectal Surgery
UW School of Medicine & Public Health

Matthew Goldblatt, MD, FACS

Professor of Surgery
Froedtert & Medical College of Wisconsin

Mel Johnson, MD, FACS

General Surgeon
General Surgery Residency Program Director
Emplify Health System

Amanda Kong, MD, MS, FSSO, FACS

Professor, Division of Surgical Oncology
Froedtert & Medical College of Wisconsin

Anai Kothari, MD, MS, FACS

Assistant Professor, Division of Surgical Oncology
Director, Bud & Sue Selig Hub for Surgical Data Science
Director, MCW Integrated Cancer Data Resource
Froedtert & Medical College of Wisconsin

Meeghan Lautner, MD, MSc, FACS

Associate Professor, Division of Surgical Oncology
UW School of Medicine & Public Health

Jeremy Levin

Director of Advocacy
Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative

Elise Lawson, MD, MSHS, FACS

SCW Executive Director
Associate Professor, Division of Colorectal Surgery
UW School of Medicine & Public Health

Luis Lomeli, MD, MPH

Associate Professor
Esophageal Section Chief
Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology
UW School of Medicine & Public Health

Melissa Mitchell, BSN, RN

Wound and Ostomy Care Nurse
UW Health

David Nelms, MD, FACS

Colorectal Surgeon
Emplify Health System

Patrick Pfau, MD

Professor
Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology
UW School of Medicine & Public Health

Victoria Rendell, MD, FACS

Assistant Professor
Division of Minimally Invasive Surgery
UW School of Medicine & Public Health

Emily Staudt, PA

Physician Assistant, Colorectal Surgery Clinic
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Wen Hui Tan, MD, FACS

Assistant Professor
Division of Minimally Invasive and Gastrointestinal Surgery
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Jill Ties, MD, FACS

General Surgeon
St. Croix Health

Joseph Weber, MD, FACS

Medical Director, Breast Center of Excellence
Aurora Medical Center – Grafton

Annie Zeug, MD, FACS

General Surgeon
ThedaCare